



Stakeholders' consultation workshop for developing a policy framework to strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Nepal

Wednesday, 29 September 2021 | ICIMOD Headquarters, Khumaltar, Nepal

About the workshop

Entrepreneurship plays an important role in reducing poverty, enhancing productivity and efficiency through innovation, and encouraging the youth to participate in economic activities, thereby ensuring sustained economic growth of the country. A total of 923,356 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) operating in Nepal contribute to about 22% of the national GDP. These enterprises are vulnerable to highly fragile, volatile, and uncertain situations. The impacts of external shocks and stressors from climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic have further exacerbated and compounded the risks they are already facing. The Government of Nepal, together with development partners and the private sector have undertaken several initiatives to understand and boost the entrepreneurial ecosystem to create a vibrant business environment and contribute to Nepal's economic growth.

To provide a strategic direction at all three tiers of the government, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies (MoICS) together with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is developing a policy framework to strengthen entrepreneurship ecosystem in Nepal. This policy framework will be a guiding document for ministries, provinces, and municipalities as well as the private sector, I/NGOs, and academics promoting entrepreneurship in Nepal.

In this regard, the MoICS and ICIMOD are jointly organizing a half day stakeholder consultation workshop on 29 September 2021 at the ICIMOD headquarters in Khumaltar.

Objectives

- Take stock of the best practices and challenges on entrepreneurship development
 - Discuss and receive feedback on the draft outline of the policy framework to strengthen entrepreneurship development in Nepal
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Programme schedule

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Time (in NPT)	Agenda
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-10:00	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome remarks – Basanta Shrestha, Director Strategic Cooperation, ICIMOD• Opening remarks – Narayan Duwadee, Joint Secretary, MoICS• Objectives and outline of the programme – Anu Joshi Shrestha, Enterprise, and Value Chain Development Specialist, ICIMOD• Introduction of the participants
10:00-10:20	Tea Break/Group photo
10:20-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status and issues on Entrepreneurship: Nepalese context – MoICS (TBD)• DRAFT outline of the Entrepreneurship Framework – Surendra Raj Joshi, Senior Resilient Livelihoods Specialist, ICIMOD
11:00-12:00	Group work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context, process, and guiding principles for framework development• Challenges and opportunities in the context of Nepal• Key enabling factors for entrepreneurship• Strategic thrust and recommended actions <p>(Each group will have 5-6 members with 1 facilitator)</p>
12:00-12:30	Presentation of the group work
12:30 -12:45	Vote of thanks – Ekadev Adhikari , Under Secretary, MoICS and Pratigya Silwal , Adaptation and Resilience Building, ICIMOD
12:45-13:30	Lunch and networking/rapport building

List of participants:

S.N.	List of participants
A.	Government sector
1	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT)
2	Industrial Enterprise Development Institute
3	Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA)
4	Ministry of Agriculture and livestock
5	Ministry of Education
6	Ministry of Forest
7	Ministry of Labor
8	Ministry of Women
9	National Planning Commission (NPC)
10	National Youth Council (NYC)
B.	Private sector and academia
11	Antarprerana
12	CNIYEF/Sastodeal
13	Daayitwa
14	Federation of Woman Entrepreneurs Associations of Nepal (FWEAN)
15	Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM)
16	Kings college
17	KUSOM/ Idea Studio
18	Management Innovation, Training and Research Academy
19	Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs' Forum (NYEF)
20	R&D innovative solutions
21	SAFAL Partners
22	Samriddhi Foundation
23	Startup & Innovation Committee, FNCCI
24	Young Innovations/KCM