

Nepal



The Asia Foundation supports Nepal's vision for sustainable peace, good governance, development, and prosperity through research, knowledge exchange, and accelerating more inclusive and accountable democratic governance practices. Partnering with government and civil society, we promote inclusive economic development, peaceful conflict mitigation and resolution, women's leadership, and cooperation on environment and human security.

Project Highlights

More efficient and effective government systems

A pilot municipality has registered and issued disability cards to 1,400 people with disabilities on a central data repository hosted on secure government servers.

Increased cooperation on critical regional and international issues

Our report, "Optimizing Screening and Support Services for Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking in Persons," recommended greater regional cooperation on policymaking, screening, and service delivery between government, law enforcement agencies, and service providers working in Nepal, India, and Sri Lanka

Greater women's political voice and leadership

We mentored 21 elected Dalit women representatives to help them increase their leadership and representative skills over two years. Nine won in contested elections, 19 were elected to higher positions, and eight negotiated for ward chair nominations.

More participatory and inclusive governance

TAF supported communities to provide their inputs for more inclusive annual budgets and plans in 252 local governments. We facilitated 34 events with citizen-led committees to inform the public about their rights and increase their engagement.

2022 Snapshot



600+ election observers monitor local and general elections



70+ investors and industry leaders connected with tech innovators



Online transportation management system benefits 1.6 mil+ taxpayers



Flagship Initiatives



Regional cooperation

The South Asia Grants Program supports research institutions and think tanks to serve a productive role in public discourse on Nepal's foreign policy to advance ambitious domestic development objectives. TAF has invested in building a greater understanding of small state capabilities to navigate complex environments that are diplomatically challenging. We are expanding track 2 dialogues by supporting Nepali civil society and media networks' abilities to engage on foreign policy and development issues at national and subregional levels.

Support for more accountable, effective, and inclusive subnational government

The Subnational Governance Program supports Nepal's subnational governments to recover from the pandemic, strengthen public health systems, and reinforce the stability of the federal governance system. The program works with all three tiers of government to clarify roles and responsibilities, reduce overlaps, close gaps, and improve coordination.

Data governance

We piloted an integrated data management system to break data silos and improve data accessibility and facilitated capacity-building efforts to strengthen local governments while fostering collaboration between federal and local authorities. By improving data accessibility and fostering a culture of data exchange, we can unlock possibilities for better local government planning and decision-making. Data for Development focuses on building strong communities and networks in Nepal and globally to advance and support women in data and technology.

Rule of law and access to justice

When judicial committees, courts, legislative bodies, law enforcement agencies, and other public institutions operate in an open, equitable, and predictable manner, the rights of all citizens are more likely to be respected. In Nepal, TAF works with national human rights institutions and organizations to promote a rights-based approach in local policies and programs. We provide training for local judicial committee representatives and support mediation centers. TAF has been engaging with the government, victim groups, and advocacy groups to draft a reconciliation framework for the transitional justice process.

The Asia Foundation is an international nonprofit organization working to solve the toughest social and economic challenges in Asia and the Pacific. Informed by more than 70 years of experience and deep local knowledge, we work with partners across more than 20 countries through 17 offices to improve lives and expand opportunities.