

A summary of activities/partners supported since March 2017 under the Australian Government-The Asia Foundation Partnership in Nepal. The Partnership aims to promote an enabling environment for the development of strong, effective, and inclusive subnational governance in the country.

Note: The summary is not exhaustive and excludes activities under development.

Generating Evidence and Data on Subnational Governance

- **Policy Dialogue Series**
Regular series of informal policy dialogues among government representatives, development partners, and key stakeholders to identify and discuss salient issues in subnational governance.
- **Survey of the Nepali People**
Inter Disciplinary Analysts
An annual survey deployed during August-September, providing data on public perceptions of Nepalis that can be disaggregated to local government level.
- **Reflections on a Survey of the Nepali People**
Social Science Baha
A periodic companion volume to the annual survey that explores federalism and subnational governance issues in more depth.
- **Political economy audit of subnational governance**
Nepal Center for Contemporary Studies
A biannual mixed-method audit of the political economy of ongoing governance transition in all seven provinces.
- **Media Scrutiny for Local Governance**
Center for Investigative Journalism
Production of a series of stories by monitoring and tracking the performances of newly elected leaders to contribute to a broader narrative on federalism unfolding in the country.

Support for Nepal's Transition to Federal Governance

- **Election Violence Monitoring**
Collective Campaign for Peace; Democracy Resource Center Nepal
Analyses and updates on electoral violence produced for each election cycle. Relevant reports can be found at <http://democracyresource.org/political-violence-monitoring/>.
- **Election Observation**
Citizens Campaign for Clean Elections
For the three phases of local elections, 3,975 short-term election observers, 172 long-term observers, and 25 eminent observers were deployed.

- **Voter Awareness**
BBC Media Action
 Two episodes of Sajha Sawal program and seven public service announcements broadcast on Nepal Television, radio, and social media.
- **Engage Legal Practitioners**
Nepal Bar Association; Office of the Attorney General
 Examine and deliberate on major issues and intricacies of federal constitutionalism and the existing jurisdictional responsibilities of federal entities.
- **Engage Human Rights Issues**
Democracy for Freedom and Human Rights Institute
 Support discourse between Former Commissioners Society and National Human Rights Commission on emerging challenges surrounding human rights provision, protection, and promotion in a federal context.
- **Strategize Law and Order in a Federal Context**
Samarpan Academy
 Design comprehensive policy guidelines for law and order agencies to establish functional links across central, provincial, and local governments.
- **Regional Dialogue Forums**
Backward Society Education Nepal; Dhanusha Sewa Samiti; Sahara
 Expansion of regional dialogue (*Sambad Samuha*) program to help manage socioeconomic and political disputes in conflict hotspots in all seven provinces.
- **Mediation**
Community Mediators Society; Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center-Nepal; Tamakoshi Sewa Samiti; Mandwi and Association of Community Radio Broadcasters
 Baseline research to ascertain the impact of state restructuring on mediators and mediation centers, capacity building for local mediators, and expansion of mediation to new local governments.
- **Support Capacity Development of Subnational Governments**
Nepal Administrative Staff College; Niti Foundation
 Support engagement of public and private sector actors in designing a comprehensive program of capacity development for governance and service delivery by subnational governments.
- **Strengthening Skills and Capacity of Elected Women Representatives in Local Governance**
Samjhauta Nepal
 A needs assessment study to identify the skills, capacity and operational knowledge of newly-elected women representatives to inform the development of training/skills development curriculum that are responsive to identified priorities.
- **Province-level Consultation Workshops with Elected Local Leaders**
National Association of VDCs in Nepal
 Provincial-level consultation workshops in Provinces 1, 3, 4, and 5 participated by newly-elected chairpersons and vice-chairpersons from most rural municipalities of the respective provinces.

- **Support to the Reorganization of National Association of VDCs in Nepal (NAVIN) and Development of Model Laws for Local Governments**
National Association of VDCs in Nepal
Revision of NAVIN’s constitution to respond to its new role given the restructuring of VDCs into rural municipalities, and support to the development of model laws on identified thematic areas for local governments.
- **Discussions on Fiscal and Monetary Policy**
Nepal Administrative Staff College
Workshop on the “Coordination between Fiscal and Monetary Policy” held on 23 June 2017 to help strategize institutional and operational arrangements for coordination of fiscal and monetary policy in a federalized context.

Improving Urban Service Delivery and Economic Governance

- **Municipal Profiling and Planning**
Community Members Interested
Profile emblematic municipalities and establish a tested planning and development process to address urban service delivery challenges through innovative approaches, particularly in education and health.
- **Framework for Subnational Infrastructure Investment and Development**
VRock & Company
Assist in establishing the framework within which subnational infrastructure investment and development can flourish.
- **Legal and Regulatory Support for Subnational Economic Growth**
Kathmandu University School of Law
Establishment of KUSL Chair of Economic Law; legal support for drafting local economic laws and policies for economic growth.
- **Policy Research, Analysis, and Dialogue on Subnational Economic Governance**
Samriddhi Foundation
Formation of Economic Intelligence Units (EIUs) at the provincial level to promote evidence based policy making.
- **Data for Local Government Decision making**
Bikas Udhyami
Generate evidence and data on subnational governance to support program partners in the implementation of data-related activities in municipalities.