

Governance and Civic Engagement in Nepal: Knowledge-Sharing Summit

Centre for Social Change, a Kathmandu-based social think-tank and partner organization of The Asia Foundation, organized a knowledge-sharing summit event on 14th January 2022 at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur. The half-day event summarized key findings, lessons, and policy recommendations obtained from CSC's one-and-a-half yearlong effort of governance monitoring, civic space evaluation, grassroots development work in the country's federal governance system.

The speakers and their topics of presentation included:

1. Dr. Prakash Bhattarai – **Introductory Note and Project Brief**
2. Shuvam Rizal – **Governance Monitoring Centre Nepal**
3. Darshan Karki – Findings and results of CSC's study on **Inclusive Civic Space**
4. Nishchhal Kharal – **Governance at Grassroots**
5. Pawan Roy – **Closing Note and Project Wrap**

The event consisted of the above mentioned comprehensive fact sharing presentations, discussions on meta-evidence gathered through the project, and an engaging interaction session with the present audience. Each of the speakers presented detailed accounts of their individual and teams' contributions to the project, and shared key insights obtained through their unique engagement vantage points. Topics included data findings, research results, meta-data, lessons learned, and specific policy recommendations obtained through the aforementioned efforts.

The participants list included academics, activists, scholars, policy makers, and influential personalities active within the space of governance research and civil society practice. The event concluded with an interactive discussion session where participating audience members posed specific questions to each of the presenters of the event. The lively interactive session gave rise to several important and constructive comments, criticisms, and discussions for further research. Additionally, the conversation that followed also contributed to CSC's vision for designing, executing, and planning for future research and engagement frontiers.

Given the ongoing rise in Covid-19 cases and the government's recently announced preventative protocol recommendations, the event was organized with full social distancing provisions, facilitated through a semi-virtual modality. CSC is grateful for all the in-person and virtual attendees for giving the summit their valuable time, sharing their insights and experiences as discussion participants, and making the event a success.