



We continue to reimagine how to build accountability in Nepal. Our **vision** is a country in which citizens are active, leaders are responsible and institutions are accountable. It is a country in which resources are used wisely, youth are taking leadership responsibly, decisions benefit everyone fairly, and people lead secure lives. Our **mission** is to make governance work for the Nepali people.



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

This year was a particularly busy one as we crowned our latest set of Integrity Icons at a ceremony in Kathmandu following a successful national campaign involving 75 districts and 500 volunteers, who collected over 1,000 nominations. We continued to support the work of our previous Icons and expand the reach of our vision of integrity through the Integrity School, Fellowship and the Summits we hosted across the country. Our Civic Action Teams (formerly Citizen Helpdesks) are turning into a movement through which 500+ open government champions have joined us to close the feedback loop between citizens and local authorities, and to address critical issues in communities. We also continued to support the work of social entrepreneurs interested in accountability through our incubator program. We will grow these programs and others to build accountability in Nepal in the year to come.



Shifting norms to ensure that integrity becomes the expected behavior within societies.



Influencing policies, processes and practices, through growing coalitions and advocating for change.



Equipping reformers - inside and outside government - with the knowledge and tools to push for better governance.



INTEGRITY ICON

Integrity Icon is a campaign to recognise, celebrate and support honest government officials by “naming and faming” them publicly. Since 2014, we have mobilised a massive youth movement around the campaign and built a network of 350 organisations and integrity champions.

This year's top five officials included Gyanendra Kumar Mishra from the Ministry of Forest and Environment's Project Facilitation Department; Ishwar Subedi, Food Investigation Officer at the Department of Food, Technology and Quality Control; Kajjiman Rai, Chief Administrative Officer of Chulachuli Rural Municipality, Ilam; Prem Bahadur Darai, a teacher at Shree Bhanu Secondary School, Dhumsichaur, Tanahu; and Punya Prabha Devkota, a senior A.N.M. of District Hospital, Mugu.

2019 BY NUMBERS

75

Districts

1,190

Nominations

300+

Volunteers

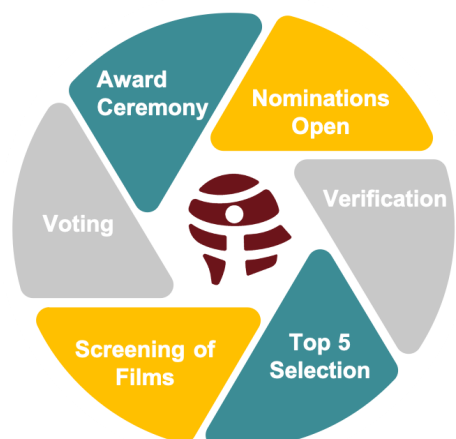
7,328

Reached through the campaign

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- The District Administration Office led by Ram Bahadur Kurumbang, Integrity Icon 2018, was recognized by the Nepal Government as the top district administration office in terms of executing responsibilities in the year 2018/19.
- Bhisma Kumar Bhusal, Integrity Icon 2015 was appointed as director-general of the Department of Foreign Employment, one of the most challenging departments in Nepal; and has been recognized by the media and the public for making the support system for labor migrants more transparent, effective and fair.
- Deepak Shrestha, Integrity Icon 2015 was honored with George John Education Foundation Award for his effort in making his school the top community school of Province 4.

- Punya Prabha Devkota, Integrity Icon 2019, who had been serving as a nurse in a remote village, was highlighted by various media organizations after being recognized as an Integrity Icon.
- More than 25 online and print media outlets have covered the campaign including national dailies such as Republica and The Himalayan Times.





The Integrity School

brings together the most deserving and passionate young government employees to support integrity through an accelerated learning program over the course of a year.

The Integrity Fellowship

provides an opportunity for young people to work with and learn from the Integrity Icons. As a co-learning platform, the fellowship brings together young people with exemplary government officials to re-imagine what public service looks like.

The Integrity Summit

is a platform to build a community for integrity, through which we bring together experts in governance, accountability, citizen engagement and open government from across Nepali society- along with the Icons- to discuss integrity in Nepal.

INTEGRITY ICON ACTIVITIES

The team works with the Icons and their networks through summits, training programs, fellowships, events and retreats, to begin to push for norm-changes within institutions, agencies, civil service training programs and schools/colleges.

By Numbers

- 21 Integrity School participants
- 28 Fellowship participants
- 1,031+ people were directly engaged through 13 Integrity Summits in 12 districts



“The Integrity School for me is a platform that really helps to bring positive change in the mind-set of young government officials to contribute towards development.”

**Laxit Dhital, Integrity Scholar [2019], Accountant,
Financial Comptroller General Office, Makwanpur**



The Civic Action Teams (CivActs) are a pioneering citizen feedback, dialogue and community voice platform to ensure accountability in the development process. These began after the earthquakes of 2015 and have grown across Nepal since then. The CivActs collect critical information from hundreds of communities, solve daily problems for citizens and close the loop on difficult challenges. In Nepal, this model has been tested in disaster accountability, foreign labour migration, open government, fiscal transparency and elections.

2019 BY NUMBERS

15

Local Government Units

500

Open Government Champions

75

Network CSO's

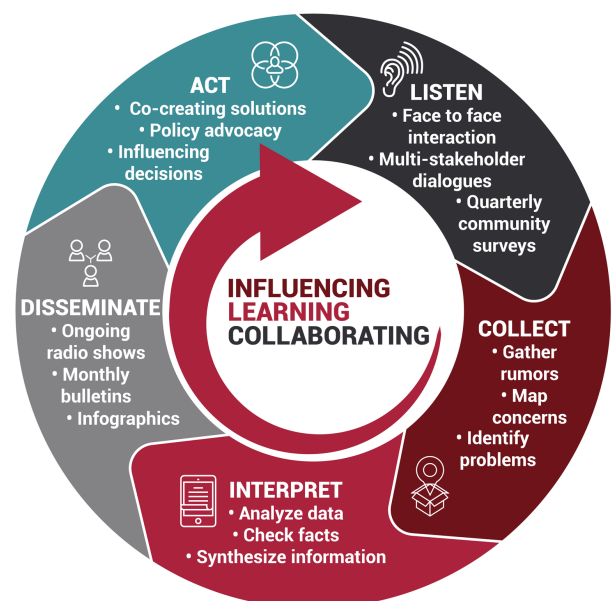
12,460

Citizens Directly Engaged

IMPACT

- 4 wards in Nepalgunj Sub-metropolitan opened up information through digital information boards and are collecting citizen feedback on public financial management issues;
- 500 meetings/orientation and workshops for over 7,500 people on various issues such as foreign labor migration and the use of government problem resolution channels;
- We directly engaged 500+ migrant workers, forming 43 informal groups with a total of 429 returnee migrants;
- 77 active young people (11 in each district) have participated in budget consultations;
- 8 municipalities have allocated about \$55,000 in funding to support returnees in enterprise creation, awareness campaigns and building ward-level databases to improve evidence-based decision making;
- 75 CSOs have indicated an interest in exploring how these issues impact their ongoing programs and have shown willingness to support further collaboration around the issues.

Read more about our impact on our work with fiscal transparency [here](#).





OTHER ACTIVITIES

Accountability Film School

This year Accountability Lab Nepal organized a series of Accountability Film Schools, in collaboration with our accountapreneur Govinda Siwakoti. The three editions were: Her Story; Governance; and Gender, Peace, and Accountability. The two editions-Her Story and Gender, Peace and Accountability were open only to women, and supported them to share their stories through effective visual story-telling and to advocate for change.

Echoing Green Direct Impact Fellowship

Accountability Lab hosted Echoing Green Fellows for a week at the OpenGov Hub in Kathmandu. This included various leadership sessions, visits to various social enterprises, exploration of different historical sites in Kathmandu, and networking and film-screening events. It was a great learning exchange for the Accountability Lab team and helped us understand broader perspectives on social enterprise and non-profit management.

International Fellows

Last year, we hosted seven international volunteers and fellows from diverse fields, including students from the University of Copenhagen, Syracuse University, and Western Sydney University. In addition, we were also supported by two volunteers- an expert in software designing and branding from Chile, and a marketing expert from the United States.

INCUBATOR

The Accountability Incubator is a year-long training and support program for young people with great ideas for accountability. Akin to a business incubator, the Accountability Incubator provides “accountapreneurs” with training (quarterly meet-ups and online modules), hands-on mentorship (support for the development of ideas), communications support (such as promo videos and blogs), networks (through pitch events and “friendraisers”) and financial resources (an innovation fund).

Impact to date

- 24 accountapreneurs, working on 6 themes including local governance; art, theatre, and film; gender and ethnicity; education and civic tech; cultural heritage awareness; and labor migration.
- Pradhanya, our Accountability Film School Fellow for the “Her Story” edition, was inspired to contribute to gender empowerment through film-making.
- Our accountapreneur Hira Bijuli has been successful in promoting Bharta- a popular story-telling method from Mugu- through radio programs promoting culture and accountability in his district.
- Surendra Koirala, another accountapreneur, is working with us to support our CivActs work and is also supporting local government with technology for evidence-based decision making.

If you would like to know more about our other amazing accountapreneurs, please click [here](#).



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Tech Camp 2019: This year, Accountability Lab Nepal collaborated with the US State Department's Tech Camp. One of our team members was a trainer on offline campaigning strategies for the "Tech Camp Clean Air for South Asia" in Kathmandu. In addition, we are taking this forward through a series of follow up events with Tech Camp participants and supporting their needs in 2020.

Speak UP! We won the Speak UP! Championship, on International Peace Day, together with Idea Ghar and Abiral-The Arts Group. We organized an event promoting climate accountability through a bicycle rally and theatre performances.

Deputy Mayor Peer Learning Workshop: With more women in leadership positions after the local elections, these leaders are facing a number of different challenges in their new roles. The Lab team organized a peer learning workshop for Deputy Mayors in Banke.

OPENGOV HUB/ INNOVATION SPACE

There are often very few, managed spaces where young people can come together, get online and collaborate in Nepal. The OpenGov Hub provides the location for our incubator and campaign activities (including training, events, and management) but also serves as a way for us to support the civil society eco-system in Nepal. For us, an important part of supporting a movement for accountability is bringing together a broad set of creative stakeholders- from film-makers to activists to ICT experts to government information officers- in an open, creative space, both physically and intellectually.

Impact to date

- We have already organized more than 200 events at OpenGov Hub Kathmandu including fundraisers, networking events, film-screenings, "lunch and learns", and more.
- We have more than 5 member organizations who are based in our space with 12 virtual member organizations.

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Canada



GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP FOR
SOCIAL
ACCOUNTABILITY



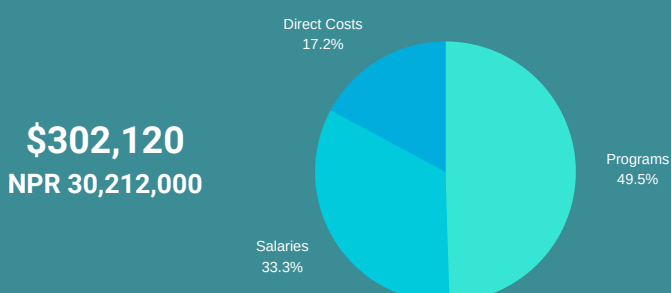
Open Gov Hub



Nepalgunj Sub Metropolitan City
Government of Nepal



2019 FINANCES



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AL Nepal is a registered non-profit based in Kathmandu, and an affiliate of the Global Accountability Lab movement