

Girls in ICT Day Nepal 2025 – Launch

On 23 May 2025, a high-level inauguration was held at Hotel Himalaya in Kathmandu, officially launching the program and bringing together key stakeholders to set a strong and inspiring tone for the initiatives ahead. In the rapidly evolving digital world, equitable access to technology was not only about connectivity but also about creating opportunities. This year's theme highlighted the urgent need to ensure that young women and girls, particularly those in vulnerable situations, were included equitably in the digital transformation process. By fostering meaningful global connectivity and promoting a barrier-free digital ecosystem, the initiative empowered the next generation while contributing to sustainable and inclusive global growth.

Launch

Program Agenda

Wednesday 23rd May 2025

Venue: Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu, Nepal

Morning session: 9:30h00 - 13h00

Welcome and Introduction

- Welcome Remarks
 - o Mr. Bhupendra Bhandari, Chairman, Nepal Telecommunications Authority
 - o Video message from Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, BDT Director, ITU
 - o Representative, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
 - o Ms. Radhika Aryal, Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
 - o Mr. Jaco Du Toit, Country Representative, UNESCO Nepal
 - o
- Official Launch of Girls in ICT Nepal 2025
- Group Photo

Panel Discussion – Session 1: Get inspired with women leaders in the ICTs

Moderated by: Ms. Palpasa Tuladhar Kansakar, Executive Member, WIIT

Panelists:

Ms. Pratikshya Pandey, Founder, Smart Cheli
Ms. Nhasala Joshi, President, Women Leaders in Technology
Ms. Sarita Lamichhane, Chairperson, Prayatna Nepal
Ms. Sunaina Ghimire Pandey, President, CAN Federation (Virtual)
Ms. Roja Kiran Basukala, Deputy Director, Nepal Telecommunications Authority

Quiz questions for the audience

Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: 14h00-16h00

Panel Discussion – Session 2: Empowering Journeys: Women Leaders in the ICT Industry

Moderated by: Ms Elisha Rajbhandari, Co-founder, Sciever Inc.

Panelists:

Ms. Dibya Tara Shakya, Assistant Manager, Global IME Bank
Humkala Pandey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
Ms. Karvika Thapa, CEO, Kimbu Tech
Dr. Dovan Rai, Executive Director, Body and Data
Ms. Sangita Pahadi, Managing Director, Nepal Telecom

Panel Discussion Session 3: Empowering Journeys: Women Leaders from Academia

Moderated by: Ms. Richa Neupane, Udeshya: Girls in STEM

Panelists:

Ms. Stella Koirala, BCA Coordinator, Kathmandu Business Campus
Ms. Dakshina Shrestha, Principal, Sagarmatha Engineering College
Ms. Deepika Rimal Thapa, Senior Vice-President, Private and Boarding Schools Organization, Nepal
Dr. Tista Prasai Joshi, Senior Scientist, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
Ms. Salina Dangol, IT Director, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

Closing Remarks

Representative, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens

Ms. Pranita Upadhyaya, Head, ITU Area Office for South Asia and Innovation Centre, Delhi

Mr. Min Prashad Aryal , Director, Nepal Telecommunications Authority

Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: 14h00-17h00

Beyond the Screen: Exploring Careers in Emerging Technologies

- Hands-on Icebreaker
 - Career Talk
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Closing Reflections: Sharing, Feedback, and Connection

- Summary of the day's activities.
 - Participants provide feedback on the workshop.
 - Open Floor for questions
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Day 2: Tuesday 24 July 2025

Venue: Surkhet and Itahari, Nepal

Morning session: 9h00 - 13h00

Welcome and Introduction

- Recap & Warm-up

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- Introduction to AI & Machine Learning
 - AI Tools and Demos: ChatGPT and other AI tools

Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: 14h00-17h00

Getting Started with AI: From Idea to Model

- Lab Session – “Build Your First AI Model”
- Group Activity – “Solve a Local Problem Using AI”

Closing Reflections: Sharing, Feedback, and Connection

- Summary of the day's activities.
- Participants provide feedback on the workshop.
- Open Floor for questions

Day 3: Wednesday 25 July 2025
Venue: Surkhet and Itahari, Nepal

Morning session: 9h00 - 13h00

Welcome and Introduction

- Recap & Warm-up

CyberSafety: Staying Safe in the Digital World

- Online Safety for women and Girls (online risks, gender-based threats, safety practices for individuals)
- Group Exercise: What to do in the following situations?

Lunch Break: 13h00-14h00

Afternoon Session: 14h00-17h00

- Cybersecurity Fundamentals (vulnerabilities, threat vectors/techniques, harms from cyber incidents)
- Young entrepreneurs: How do you protect your small business?

Closing Reflections: Sharing, Feedback, and Connection

- Wrap up and Discussion
- Participants provide feedback on the workshop.
- Open Floor for questions