

UKaid Skills for Employment (सीप) Programme Factsheet

UKaid सीप is brokering transformational partnerships with the private and public sector to propel growth of employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in priority sectors – commercial agriculture, light manufacturing, tourism, ICT, and construction – primarily in Madhesh Province and Lumbini Province. सीप uses an innovative Challenge Fund and Technical Assistance mechanism to build a more productive and equitable market-based skilling, access to finance, and ethical migration service and system linked to livelihood generation for Nepali youth. Using a collaborative impact approach, सीप unlocks private and public capital and facilitates system-wide collaborations—aimed at addressing systemic job and labor market constraints and harnessing the benefits of migration.

UKaid सीप Supported Partnerships

To support revival of the Palpali Dhaka industry for sustainable job creation and enterprise growth, सीप, with support from the Lumbini Province and Tansen Municipality, catalyzed creation of and co-funding for **Palpali Dhaka Association (PDA)**. Comprising firms in and around Tansen, PDA provided coordinated platform to improve stronger skilling practices, including through standardized three-months apprenticeship-based curriculum on weaving, business literacy, and soft skills; set fair-trade standards; enhanced trainer skills; built marketing capabilities; and improved linkages with diverse actors like NMB Bank, Triveni Spinning Mill, international buyers and Label STEP.



Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) - सीप partnership draws strong nexus with the CNI's Make in Nepal - Swadeshi Campaign and its vision to expand and improve job-centric skilling and industry growth models, by onboarding two CNI/Swadeshi member firms into the folds of industry-led skilling and job creation partnerships in the initial round. While Litmus Cable and Goldstar Shoes are roped in, in the initial stage, more industries are expected to follow the suit given increasing and visible interest from other firms—with clear co-investment commitment and value proposition over the course of this partnership, making way for other Swadeshi/CNI members to join and contribute to Skill Nepal partnership.

KEY IMPACTS

Eighteen enterprise-driven partnerships established on a co-funding basis with the potential to enable skilling/employment/migration management services for 70,000 youth by 2023.

Over **30,000 Nepalis have benefitted**, to date, from market-aligned skilling, job placements, and access to migration and enterprise development financial products.

Replicable Public Private Partnerships and industry collaborations established and demonstrated to help revive and drive inclusive growth of both traditional & new-age Nepali industries – such as handwoven Dhaka and high-end carpets.

Introduction of new market-aligned curriculum for emerging job roles in the product delivery sector (logistics); improved and standardized curricula by competing corporates in one of Nepal's top export industries (e.g. yarn) to scale a proven apprenticeship-based model.

Expansion of job roles in transformative & emerging industries such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Heavy Equipment Mechanics, poultry, feed, and logistics delivery.

Expediting digitization in the country through support for e-logistics and agribusiness platforms.

Facilitated & enabled **business recovery and expansion** for several partners, including via injection of private equity (PE) capital, amounting to a total commitment of over \$ 2 million from leading PE players.

Promoting **new and emerging job roles for women**, including as Heavy Equipment Operators, drivers, and Cloud Computing.

Global IME Bank is bridging a dedicated funding/credit line enabled through investments by global social impact investors seeking modest yields and impact data, targeted towards migrants and their households whose incomes continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Laxmi Bank is expanding and refining the use of block chain technology by integrating an Application Programming Interface platform to make loan against remittance and other services more accessible and affordable for migrant households in Madhesh Province and Lumbini Province—targeting migrants already working in and traveling to the Dubai and Malaysia corridors. Through its micro finance partner Laxmi Laghubitta, the Bank is also extending tailored financial products, coupled with business development skilling, to promote enterprises—especially for women-led enterprises in the agri-sector.

Financial institute partners **Nepal SBI Bank** and **Prabhu Bank** served the migrant/migrant household population in Madhesh Province with an integrated array of financial products, including financial literacy and credit to promote enterprises.



Shreenagar Agro Farm (SAF) has established classroom and farm-based skilling capability in Lumbini Province. Drawing on its linkages with diverse firms, SAF has developed and tested new modules covering five job roles: poultry, livestock, agri-business, maize, and aquaculture. In addition to hands-on skilling, SAF's end-to-end solutions include provision of access to input such as day-old-chicks and feed and market linkage with buy-back guarantees—to upskill and expand market access for smallholders and agri-enterprises, while also strengthening the firm's supply chain.

Sana Kisan Bikas Laghubitta Bittyasanstha Ltd. Builds entrepreneurial capabilities of returnee migrants, women, and disadvantaged groups—through improved access to tailored and bundled financial products, including credit and insurance, coupled with skilling—across 12 districts in Madhesh and Lumbini Province. For this, Sana Kisan is collaborating with 101 Small Farmer Agriculture Cooperatives.

MAW Earth Movers Pvt. Ltd offers job-linked skilling and certification, aligned with JCB and CTEVT, in Heavy Equipment Operator and Mechanics roles. With सीप's support, MEPL is on its way to introduce multi-tracking capability skilling in multiple and simulator-based skilling for the first time in Nepal; upgraded the capacity of local skilling institutes in Nepalgunj and Bhaktapur; set up a practical skilling centre in Janakpur; and is promoting inclusion in an industry heavily dominated by men.

Upaya: CityCargo is accelerating transformation of the intra-city logistics industry as well as farm-to-market delivery of agriculture produce to close supply chain logistic gaps and boost digitally powered self-employment—for drivers and farmers. सीप has helped integrate skilling (covering digital literacy, financial literacy, customer relations, road safety and vehicle maintenance) in Upaya and agri-business partner **Kheti's** business model to drive up adoption of digital technologies; financing solutions; and inclusion. Upaya has entered the two-wheeler segment (in addition to four-wheelers), expanded to Butwal, Bhairahawa and Pokhara, and integrated with agriculture to expand market access for farmers.





Label STEP is developing fair-trade based weaving workshops and skilled weavers linked to the carpet value chain to cater to the global high-value luxury carpet industry. This partnership has taken Nepal's carpet manufacturing hub from Kathmandu to an underserved geographic area – Sarlahi which has traditionally served as the origin of Nepal's weaving community, and is creating jobs for local women, primarily from migrant households, and disadvantaged and PwD groups.

Nepal Yarn Manufacturers' Association and सीप's multi-factory partnership is enabling quality job-linked skilling and employment and improved factory capability at the Triveni Spinning Mill, Jagadamba Spinning Mill, Reliance Spinning Mill, Tricot Industry, and Jay Spinning Mill. This partnership has led to the development of a standardized industry-adopted curriculum covering five job roles alongside upgraded infrastructure, inclusion, and streamlined operations.

Rojgari Services, a medium-sized job placement service provider, is expanding skilling-linked job placements for blue-collar job roles. सीप's partnership has improved Rojgari's digital and physical infrastructure and service quality. To onboard and connect job seekers with industry clients, Rojgari uses a combination of brick-and-mortar *Rojgari Pasals*, mobile outreach vehicle *Ghumti Rojgari Pasal*, and mobile and web application <www.rojgari.com>. सीप also brokered support from Rojgari for Lumbini Province Government's digital job portal.

Genese Cloud Academy helped enhance skilling capabilities of 50 academic institutes, including Institute of Engineering (IoE), Pulchowk Campus, by facilitating adoption of globally recognized cloud computing skilling and certification by Amazon Web Services. Using online and in-person instruction approach, aided by skilling of trainers, this partnership is building students' work-readiness. With catalytic support from सीप, in 2020, to promote participation of women in ICT, Genese also enabled the introduction of the U.S. based Girls in Tech in Nepal.

Fusemachines has established a state-of-the-art AI centre to impart skills and enable high-value jobs. Fusemachines' short-term curricula—covering Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, and Natural Language Processing—were iterated, tested, and refined and have been adopted by five colleges to build broader skilling capability and democratize access for Nepali students.