



**NAYA**  
Nepal APFSD Youth Alliance

# LLDC3 Youth Call To Action

'Shaping Nepal's voice for Third United Nations  
Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC)

## Introduction

Nepal, as a landlocked developing country, faces urgent challenges that limit sustainable development and regional integration. The Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) provides a vital platform to address these challenges through innovative, inclusive solutions. Immediate action is needed to prevent widening inequalities and to unlock new opportunities for growth.

This Call to Action was developed from a national youth consultation, and aligns these youth perspectives with LLDC3 priorities and global goals, urging all stakeholders to collaborate in empowering youth, promoting inclusion, improving financial access, and strengthening trade.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Digitization and Technology

- a. Limited access to digital infrastructure and skills in rural and marginalized youth restricts their participation in the tech economy. Promoting digital entrepreneurship through startup support, seed funding, and freelancing skill development can empower youth to innovate and generate income.
- b. The lack of collaboration between government, private sector, and youth limits the development of context-specific technology solutions. Building public-private-youth partnerships can foster co-creation of tech innovations using AI, blockchain, and IoT tailored to local challenges.
- c. Environmental concerns are often overlooked in tech development. Encouraging green digital innovation will align technology growth with sustainability goals, reducing the carbon footprint of digital solutions.
- d. There is a knowledge gap in emerging technologies among youth, which hinders adoption and innovation. Implementing capacity-building programs focused on future tech skills can increase youth engagement and competitiveness.

### Finance for Development

- a. Budget allocation and benefits often lack fairness and transparency, hampering development efforts. Establishing mechanisms for fair and transparent budgeting can improve trust and efficiency.
- b. Many government-owned industries are underperforming or dormant, limiting economic growth. Reviving these entities can create jobs and stabilize markets.
- c. Financing options for startups and individuals remain scarce or overly taxed. Introducing easy financing options, encouraging angel investors, seed funds, and providing tax credits can stimulate entrepreneurship.
- d. Financial markets lack sophistication, with underdeveloped hedging and derivatives systems. Developing domestic, financial markets will reduce risk and attract investments, while emphasizing skill development to prepare youth for emerging opportunities.

## Digitization and Technology

- a. Women, especially from marginalized groups like the LGBTIQ community and women with disabilities, face exclusion from policymaking and leadership roles. Creating inclusive policy spaces will ensure their representation and voice.
- b. Educational curricula at both school and community levels often lack integration of women's education and social inclusion topics, limiting awareness and empowerment. Incorporating these themes can foster gender-sensitive mindsets early on.
- c. Many women's groups have limited awareness and access to digital technologies and topics like import, export, customs and duties, restricting their socio-economic opportunities. Running digital literacy and awareness programs targeted at women's groups can bridge this divide.
- d. Women's economic independence is fragile due to lack of sustained support. They are often looked down upon for their capabilities to lead the business. Supporting women-led initiatives with capacity building and access to resources will promote self-sufficiency and leadership. Actions like provision of low interest rate in loans for women-led business would be a motivating factor.

## Trade and Transit

- a. Nepal's regional trade access is limited by weak trade agreements and infrastructure. Negotiating effective Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) is essential to improve market access.
- b. Export growth is constrained by inadequate infrastructure and policy barriers. Providing infrastructure support and market incentives can boost exports and competitiveness.
- c. Cross-border trade processes remain inefficient and costly. Promoting digital trade facilitation will streamline customs and logistics, reducing transaction times and costs.
- d. Youth-led startups lack access to adequate infrastructure and support to engage in trade. Prioritizing infrastructure development for youth entrepreneurs can open new trade opportunities and foster innovation-driven growth.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We sincerely thank our facilitators — Dr. Basista Shah (YASEN), Ms. Seejan Lamichhane (Visible Impact), Mr. Suraj Neupane, Mr. Arpit Basnet (Visible Impact), and Mr. Sagar Koirala (All In Foundation) — for their expertise and guidance. Our gratitude extends to Mr. Dipesh Limbu (Visible Impact), Ms. Dikshya Subedi (YASEN), Mr. Prajesh Khanal (Centre for Policy and Governance Studies), Ms. Nura Basnet (All In Foundation), Ms. Sheeksha Bastola (YASEN), Ms. Pratisha Khanal (NAYA), Ms. Anuja Khatri (NAYA), Ms. Kritika Laudari (YASEN), Ms. Kusum KC (All In Foundation), and Mr. Sudip Chaudhary (All In Foundation) for their valuable contributions.

