

Access Planet's Activities on Fostering Rights and Empowerment of Women with Disabilities

By Laxmi Nepal

My introduction

Laxmi Nepal

- ▶ Founder and executive director at Access Planet Organization.
- ▶ Working in gender and disability sector.
- ▶ Attended Duskin Leadership Training in 2017, 19th trainee.
- ▶ My major focus of learning in Duskin was related to accessibility, education and employment.
- ▶ Major expertise on women's rights, technology and economic empowerment.

Introduction of Access Planet Organization

- ▶ Led by young women with disabilities
- ▶ working to promote rights, empowerment, and inclusion of persons with disabilities in general and young women with disabilities in specific.
- ▶ established in September 2015 to mainstream young women with disabilities in Nepal through technology and capacity building.
- ▶ We focus on promoting quality education, economic empowerment, wellbeing, and leadership capabilities of these women.

Objectives with activities

- ▶ Contribute at improving quality education of children and youths with disabilities through technology.
- ▶ To economically empower youths/women with disabilities through career counselling, technological skills and stakeholder's sensitization
- ▶ To ensure the rights of women with disabilities through legal literacy, leadership and sexual and reproductive health rights trainings
- ▶ To empower women with disabilities via sports

Contribution in improving quality education of children and youths with disabilities through technology.



To economically empower youths/women with disabilities through career counselling, technological skills and stakeholder's sensitization.



To ensure the rights of women with disabilities through legal literacy, leadership and sexual and reproductive health rights trainings



To empower women with disabilities via sports



Report about the outcome of Pakistan forum in 2019

- ▶ Got opportunity to participate at Pakistan Forum 2019 as the follow-up of duskin training.
- ▶ Learnt many things specially on how social business can be used for disability empowerment.
- ▶ My visit to Pakistan has been key in internalizing how other duskin trainees are playing pivotal role in leading disability empowerment in their countries.

Event about empowerment for visual impairment in Nepal

- ▶ Advocacy interaction program entitled “Enhancing Economic Rights of youths with visual impairments.” (From Charity to Investment)
- ▶ Paper presentation: “Employment status of blind and visually impaired youths in Nepal and the Way Forward.”
- ▶ Panel discussion” “Diversity in Workforce: Opportunity for Inclusive Social Progress”.
- ▶ Interaction on the issue of employment of blind and visually impaired youths
- ▶ The program had the presence of various employers and disability right activists where they shared their views and commitment towards inclusive employment opportunities for blind and visually impaired youths
- ▶ As the follow up, we are planning to organize techno-based pre-employment skill development training and send them to private companies for job opportunities.

Photos



Current Involvement with business

- ▶ Online computer training of trainers in the CSR support of Mega Bank Limited.
- ▶ Conducted interaction programs for promoting employment of youths and women with disabilities.
- ▶ One to one delegation program for supporting employment of persons with disabilities.

Photos

CSR support of Mega Bank Limited



Interaction programs for promoting employment of youths and women with disabilities



Delegation program for supporting employment of persons with disabilities



Future plan for social business and involvement with business persons

- ▶ Disability sensitization in private schools and collecting supports from them.
- ▶ Currently conducting digital accessibility training which can be used for accessibility audit of websites and documents as the form of social business.
- ▶ Will collaborate with business persons for technological empowerment of youths with disabilities through their CSR initiatives.

THANK YOU

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