# Digital NEPAL CONCLAVE 2024

## HARMONIZING
## DIGITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

A Mega Congregation in
**KATHMANDU**
after Digital Karnali Conclave
(Pre-event)

## **CONCEPT** NOTE

**EVENT DATE**
Friday, 7th June 2024 (2081 Jestha 25)

**Venue**
Kathmandu Marriott Hotel
Naxal, Kathmandu

ORGANIZED BY

**IFN**
ICT FOUNDATION NEPAL

www.digitalconclave.org | www.digitalsamvad.org

## Summary

**Digital Nepal Conclave 2024** is an initiative to incline all the concerned actors, stakeholders, and champions toward the overarching vision of Digital Nepal.

This year's two-day conclave serves as a platform to discuss various dynamics of the digital capability for digitizing Nepal and make recommendations with the participation of concerned stakeholders, people, and parties. The participating panellists include ministers, senior bureaucrats, ICT professionals, entrepreneurs, academicians, and thematic champions from Nepal and abroad.

The event will focus on assessing the digital capability of Nepal that covers the sub-topics including digital infrastructure capability, digital innovation and entrepreneurial capability, digital literacy and citizenry capability, digital security and data capability, and digital and emerging technology for digital transformation.

The conclave will be an open platform for facilitating the effective dialogue to implement Digital Nepal and will feature keynotes from various renowned national and international experts and domain champions.

It will highlight the issues of digital and development through various power panel Samvad sessions, lightning talks, thematic presentations, feedback, and opinions from the domain champions and the audiences.

This will be a grand concluding event to be organized after the completion of its pre-event titled **Digital Karnali Conclave 2024**.

The conclusion will be drawn as a collective result that comes out as a drafted policy recommendation to fulfill the goal of Digital Nepal.

**Event Type** : Conference and showcase of emerging technologies. Physical event with the presence of over 800 participants. It will be broadcast live from Kantipur TV HD and different social media platforms.

**Participants** : Ministers, Secretaries, and high-level officials from federal, provincial, and local governments. Political leaders, policymakers, thematic domain champions, academicians, industry and corporate representatives, startups, entrepreneurs, tech enthusiasts, media, and other relevant stakeholders. Pre-registration will be arranged for limited seats to encourage public participation in the event.

Yours sincerely,

*Razan Lamsal*

**Razan Lamsal**
Chairperson, ICT Foundation Nepal

# About the
## Digital NEPAL CONCLAVE 2024

Digital Nepal Conclave is a grand annual conference conducted as a concluding event of the **Digital Pradesh Samvad 5.0** Initiative. This is the second event of this kind and will continue in the upcoming years.

**Digital Nepal Conclave 2024** will be organized on the theme **'Harmonizing Digitalization and Development'.** This year's focus will be on underlining Digitalization and Development. The event will feature high-level deliberations along with policy-level discussions among senior government officials, sectoral experts, and relevant stakeholders from within and outside the country.

The event is expected to bring together more than 800 participants representing government agencies, corporate sectors, Startup founders, entrepreneurs, guests from different countries, sectoral experts, thematic domain champions, and media, among other stakeholders.

The two-day event also aims to dwell upon and draft a policy-level recommendation that will be sent to concerned authorities and government agencies. This event will make a dedicated effort to prepare and provide a neutral forum for all actors and stakeholders to learn about and contribute to the transformation of Nepal into a Digital Nepal.

**'Digitalization and development'** is a crucial topic for the conclave because it addresses the intersection of technology and progress, shaping the future across various sectors. Exploring these themes allows participants to understand and leverage digital tools for sustainable development, innovation, and global connectivity. It fosters discussions on strategies to bridge the digital divide, promote inclusive growth, and address challenges in an increasingly interconnected world.

In the context of a digital country, digitalization is the foundation for the development of a digital economy, society, and government. To achieve this, a digital country must have a highly skilled workforce, robust strong digital infrastructure, and supportive policies and regulations that promote the development and adoption of digital technologies.

## Objectives of the
## Digital Nepal Conclave 2024

1.  **Foster Collaborative Partnerships :** Encourage stakeholders from the government, private sector, academia, and civil society to collaborate and develop strategies for harmonizing digitalization efforts with sustainable development goals in Nepal.

2.  **Promote Inclusive Digitalization :** Explore ways to ensure that digitalization initiatives in Nepal are inclusive and accessible to all segments of society, including marginalized communities, to bridge the digital divide and promote social equity.

3.  **Enhance Digital Infrastructure :** Identify key areas for investment and development in digital infrastructure, including broadband connectivity, cybersecurity measures, and digital literacy programs, to create an enabling environment for digitalization and economic growth.

4. **Facilitate Innovation and Entrepreneurship :** Provide a platform for showcasing innovative digital solutions and startups that contribute to socio-economic development in Nepal and facilitate discussions on how to support and scale these initiatives through policy, funding, and capacity-building measures.

5. **Foster Policy Coherence :** Facilitate dialogue between policymakers, regulators, and industry representatives to ensure that digitalization policies and regulations are coherent, transparent, and conducive to sustainable development objectives, while also addressing emerging challenges and opportunities in the digital landscape.

6. **Inclusive Digital Development :** Prioritize inclusivity in digital development, ensuring that marginalized communities and regions benefit from and participate in the digitalization process.

7. **Digital Governance and Citizen Engagement :** Promote transparent and effective digital governance practices, incorporating citizen engagement to enhance public service delivery.

8. **Building Digital Leadership Capabilities :** Underlining the digital leadership capabilities for transforming Nepal into a digitally empowered nation.

## Why is the
## DIGITAL NEPAL CONCLAVE
## Necessary ?



This initiative recommends necessary policy interventions to encourage the participation of private sectors in Digital Nepal and focuses on transforming the way the government machinery works and investing in citizen-facing digital functions/ technologies.

The discussion on various digital services and their providers in various provinces and Nepal as a whole focuses on the impacts they have been creating along with the ways to support them as a community. The event helps promote compulsory IT education in schools and colleges of the country and increases the education system's capacity to provide advanced ICT education.

It will also focus on digital literacy programs discussion and planning, for rural communities and underprivileged classes. This will set the ground to analyze the phases and make necessary recommendations for the way forward for the development of dependable and scalable digital infrastructure and connectivity in Nepal.

**The Digital Nepal Conclave is important for several reasons:**

1. **Promote Synergy :** Foster collaboration between digitalization and development stakeholders to create synergies that amplify positive impacts on socio-economic growth.

2. **Inclusive Innovation :** Explore ways to ensure that digitization efforts contribute to inclusive development, addressing the needs of diverse communities and minimizing potential disparities.

3. **Policy Frameworks :** Discuss and formulate policy frameworks that facilitate responsible digitalization, balancing innovation with ethical considerations and societal well-being.

4. **Capacity Building :** Identify strategies for enhancing digital literacy and skills, empowering individuals and communities to actively participate in and benefit from the digital revolution.

5. **Sustainable Solutions :** Encourage the exploration of sustainable digital solutions that not only advance economic development but also address environmental concerns and contribute to long-term sustainability.

6. **Global Connectivity :** Discuss initiatives to enhance global connectivity, ensuring that digitalization contributes to a more interconnected world while respecting cultural diversity and local contexts.

7. **Resilience and Security :** Deliberate on approaches to enhance the resilience and security of digital infrastructures, acknowledging the importance of safeguarding against cyber threats and disruptions.

8. **Measuring Impact :** Develop metrics and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of digitalization on development goals, allowing for evidence-based decision-making and continuous improvement.

9. **Cross-Sector Collaboration :** Facilitate cross-sector collaboration by bringing together professionals, policymakers, and experts from various fields to share insights, experiences, and best practices.

10. **Future Roadmap :** Outline a collaborative roadmap for the harmonious integration of digitalization and development, ensuring that advancements contribute to the betterment of societies globally.

Overall, the Conclave is an important initiative that can help realize the vision of a digitally empowered Nepal. It can support transforming Nepal into a knowledge-based economy, where digital technologies are used to drive growth, innovation, and development.

## Agenda in Provincial Conclave(Pre-Event)

1. **Enabling Policies and Institutions**
- **Digital policies and regulations :** A digital country must have supportive policies and regulations that promote the development and adoption of digital technologies while protecting the privacy and security of individuals and organizations.
- **Digital Leadership :** Digital leadership for a nation requires a deep understanding of the potential of digital technologies to transform society and a willingness to take bold actions to realize this potential. It involves setting ambitious goals, engaging stakeholders, and building the necessary capabilities to drive digital transformation at scale.

2. **Human Capital**
- **Digital skills :** A digital nation requires a workforce skilled in digital technologies, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and software development.
- **Digital literacy :** Citizens in a digital nation must be digitally literate, which means they have the skills to use digital technologies, understand digital security and privacy, and navigate the online world.

3. **ICT and Data Industry**
- **Digital innovation :** A digital country must have a culture of innovation that encourages the development of new digital technologies and the adoption of new ideas and approaches.
- **Digital entrepreneurship :** Digital entrepreneurship is the ability to identify and exploit new opportunities in the digital economy. A digital nation requires a culture of entrepreneurship that encourages innovation and risk-taking.
- **Data management and analytics :** Digital technologies generate vast amount of data, which can be used to inform decision-making and drive innovation. A digital country must be able to manage and analyze data effectively to derive insights and create value.

4. **Digital Infrastructure**
- Digital Infrastructure: A digitally Saksham country must have a robust as well as functioning digital infrastructure that provides reliable and high-speed internet connectivity and access to digital tools and platforms.
- Digital connectivity: Digital connectivity has become increasingly important in today's world. However, there are still many parts of Nepal where digital connectivity is limited, due to factors such as inadequate infrastructure, geographic situation, high costs, or lack of digital skills.

5. **Digital Transformation**
- **Digital government :** The digital government for a digital nation involves using digital technologies to transform the way the government interacts with its citizens, businesses, and other stakeholders. On the other hand, a digital nation is a country where digital technologies are fully integrated into society and everyday life.
- **Digital security :** Cybersecurity (Digital Security) is a critical component of digital capabilities for a nation. Cybersecurity measures are essential to protect the digital capabilities of a nation and ensure the safe and secure use of digital technologies for economic growth, social development, and governance.

**INAUGURAL AND OPENING SESSION**

**Theme 1 : Digital Transformation for Sustainable Development**

- Keynote Presentation : Digitalization and sustainable Development for Digital Transformation
- Power Samvad : "Digital Transformation in Governance" with the Ministers, GoN

**Theme 2 : Innovations in Digital Infrastructure**

- Lightning Presentation and Panel Session

**Theme 3 : Digital Inclusion and Equity**

- Lightning Presentation and Panel Session

**Theme 4 : Data and Digital Governance in Nepal**

- Lightning Presentation
- Power Panel Session with Federal and Provincial Ministers

**Theme 05 : Digital Skills, AI and Workforece Development**

- Ideas and initiatives for Digital Transformation (Nepal) (10x5 mins each)
- Keynote Presentation : Digital Skills, AI and Workforce Development

**Theme 06 : Digital Entrepreneurship and Investment for Sustainable Digital Nepal**

- Keynote Presentation : Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Digital Economy:
- Panel Session

**Theme 07 : Harmonizing Digitalization and Development (Digital Agenda and Leadership)**

- Keynote Presentation : Harmonizing Digitalization and Development
- Power Panel Session with national key-leadership.

**EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

| 10+ Sessions | 50+ Resource Persons/Speakers |
| --- | --- |
| 3+ International Keynote speakers | 800+ Participants | 3+ Broadcasting Partners |

## About the
## PRE-EVENT CAMPAIGNS for
# DIGITAL NEPAL
# CONCLAVE 2024

As a pre-event campaign, ICT Foundation Nepal is organizing programs in different provinces of Nepal with the signature name 'Digital Province Conclave'. Last two years we conducted 'Digital Pradesh Samvad' in all 7 provinces of Nepal. This year we are organizing the Digital Pradesh Conclave in a few provinces. It will be one of the most significant events in every province of the country.



## Digital Karnali Conclave 2024

The **Digital Karnali Conclave 2024,** a two-day event held in Birendra Nagar, Surkhet, came to a successful close on Falgun 19. Attended by over 700 individuals, the conclave focused on the crucial theme of 'Harmonizing Digitization and Development for Digital Karnali', leaving a significant mark on the region's technological landscape.

Organized jointly by the **Government of Karnali Province** and **ICT Foundation Nepal**, the conclave witnessed a gathering of more than 50 experts and stakeholders from Kathmandu, who shared insights and perspectives on digital development and its ecosystem within Karnali.

The inauguration of the Karnali Conclave saw the esteemed presence of **Chief Minister Raj Kumar Sharma**, along with Home Affairs and Law Ministers, as well as Secretaries from other provinces, underscoring the event's importance on the national agenda.

Key highlights of the conclave included a power session featuring **Former Chief Ministers Jeevan Bahadur Shahi** and **Mahendra Shahi**, alongside presentations from prominent figures such as **ICT expert Manohar Kumar Bhattarai**.

**Minister Krishna Bahadur G.C.** outlined 14 commitments aimed at fostering digital progress in the province, including support for startups and innovation, signalling a promising future for technological endeavors in Karnali.

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## Glimpses of the
# DIGITAL NEPAL CONCLAVE 2023

The 2-day Huawei MNC Digital Nepal Conclave 2023 organized by ICT Foundation Nepal has been completed with enthusiastic participation. With the slogan of Fostering Digitally Sakshyam Nepal, more than 15 sessions were conducted on 6 themes in the conclave held on 22nd and 23rd June 2023 at The Soaltee Kathmandu.

On opening day, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' was the chief guest and Communication and Information Technology Minister Rekha Sharma was present as a special guest. For the closing event, Former finance minister Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat was present as a special guest.
In the program that lasted for 2 days, parliamentarians, ministers, senior officials of the government of Nepal, representatives of partner organizations, representatives of the private sector, national and international speakers, subject experts, and various personalities working in the field of information and communication technology were present.

Digital Nepal Conclave 2023 was organized to support initiatives envisioned by the Digital Nepal Framework 2019. The primary focus of the conference in 2023 was on underlining the Digital Capabilities of Digital Nepal. The event featured high-level deliberations along with policy-level discussions among senior government officials, sectoral experts, and relevant stakeholders from within and outside the country.

The event brought together more than 900 participants representing government agencies, corporate sectors, Startup founders, entrepreneurs, guests from different countries, sectoral experts, thematic domain champions, and media, among other stakeholders. The two-day event also aimed to draw a policy-level recommendation that was sent to concerned authorities and government agencies. This event made a dedicated effort to prepare and provide a neutral forum for all actors and stakeholders to learn about and contribute to the digital transformation of Nepal.
As a part of this initiative, a successful pre-event campaign "Digital Pradesh Samvad 540" was organized in all seven provinces of Nepal. Similarly, "Digital Pradesh Paridrishya 3.0," a research book showcasing the digital capability of all provinces of Nepal was published at the event (DNC).
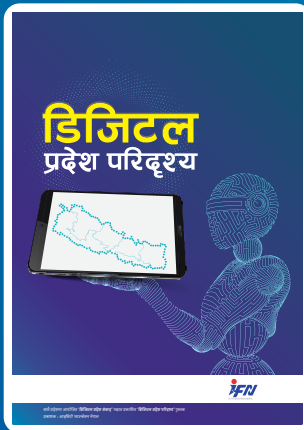
Online Radio Nepal

**Government's policy is to reduce 'digital divide': PM Dahal**

Radio Nepal · June 23, 2023

Kathmandu: Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' has said the government has been making preparation to bring laws related to information technology into

नेपालखबर

**डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ : ६ विषयवस्तुमा १५ बढी सत्र सञ्चालन**

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महापुरुष

**Existing Law is an Impediment to Telco Infrastructure Sharing- Speakers Remark on Day 1 at The Digital Nepal Conclave 2023**

सकियो हुवावे डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ, डिजिटल इकोसिस्टम निर्माणबारे छलफल

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हुवावे डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ सम्पन्न

nepalkhabar

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TECHNOLOGY

**Digital Nepal Conclave 2023 begins in Kathmandu**

PM Dahal inaugurates

Nepalkhabar

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**'हुवावे एमएनसी डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ २०२३' को इन्टरनेट पार्टनरमा डिसहोम**

nepal views

**'हुवावे एमएनसी डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ २०२३' को इन्टरनेट पार्टनरमा डिसहोम**

दुई वर्षभित्र दोब्बर बनाइने

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**डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ : प्रविधिको पूर्वाधारमाथि बहस**

'Digital Nepal Conclave 2022 concludes

**'डिजिटल्ली सक्षम, सबल नेपाल' नाराका साथ डिजिटल नेपाल कन्क्लेभ २०२३ सुरु**

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# TRENDING:

SPECIAL REPORT

**Huawei Mobile Nepal Congress and Digital Nepal Conclave 2023 Started**

KathmanduPati · June 24, 2023

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Business360

'Digital Nepal Conclave 2022 underway in Kathmandu'

biz

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**Digital Nepal Conclave-2023 to be held on June 23 and 24**

Ratopati

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# Glimpses of PAST EVENTS

# Our Research & Publiations



# About the ICT Foundation Nepal

ICT Foundation Nepal (IFN) is a non-profit organization aimed to work towards the country's mission of digital transformation. It works in policy-level plans, discussions, and execution of various ICT initiatives in collaboration with local and central-level government bodies. It has been supporting Nepali startups and innovations that work in the field of digital literacy for their growth and opportunity scalability.

The IFN engages and organizes a global network of public and private sector partners who develop community, national, and regional innovative project models as the foundation to build a digital ecosystem. The IFN proposes a series of initiatives at the local, provincial, federal, and regional levels for research, mass campaigns, lobbying, advocacy, and capacity enhancement.