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MAY NEWSLETTER: New Projects, Renewed Determination

Our Newest Computer Learning Environment Center: Biratnagar



In partnership with **Build Better Biratnagar** and **The Office of Mayor Nagesh Koirala**, Digital Bridges has delivered our latest innovative, collaborative and technologically advanced Computer Learning Environment Center in the city of Biratnagar.

Biratnagar expands our network to **6 CLECs**, all added in just over 2 years.

The network now spans the length of Nepal connecting rural, remote and underserved communities to the internet, to one another, and most importantly to the skills, knowledge and digital tools they need to **build bridges to a better future for all children**.

Thank you to All Our Newest Partners!

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We'd like send an **enormous thank you** to **Somnath Ghimire, Sabina Khanal Aryal** and every member of **Build Better Biratnagar** who contributed to making the latest CLEC possible. Your partnership, collaboration, and support have been absolutely essential in making the newest CLEC a success.

We'd also like to thank **Mayor Nagesh Koirala and his team** for being a steadfast partner. From our first meeting in November 2022, all the way through installation, the Mayor and his team have championed the game-changing impact modern technology, collaborative learning, and innovative teacher trainings can have for young people in Biratnagar.

Finally, we'd like to thank **School Principal Mr. Khagendra Khawas** who is a leader with a clear vision, so much enthusiasm, and a genuine passion for teaching. During planning and installation he inspired our entire team, just as he inspires his own team of teachers and administrators every day.

We look forward to continued partnership with Build Better Biratnagar and Mayor Koirala and his team as we continue to expand our network of CLECs.

New Location, Renewed Determination



There are always challenges when installing a new CLEC.

Whether the team is piling computer equipment onto the backs of donkeys to reach a remote school in the mountains, or navigating unexpected bureaucratic hurdles, each CLEC tests the creativity and resilience of our amazing team in Nepal. And just like in the past, our team met all challenges with the **inner spirit and determination** that drives everyone at Digital Bridges to pursue our mission.

For Biratnagar, our team had to put on their painter pants, and their thinking caps, to get the room prepared for installation. And with a little help from **School Principal Mr. Khagendra Khawas** (*pictured top left*) we rolled up our

Once the paint had dried and all the cables and computers were connected, **the room was quickly filled with the hum of excited voices** as students and teachers started digging into the possibilities opened up by the brand new CLEC.

SEE MORE PHOTOS FROM BIRATNAGAR





New Technology and New Teaching Techniques

Our team conducted two days of training workshops with students, teachers and administrators in Biratnagar to help them take full advantage of the **de-centralized, collaborative, and connected** environment provided by the CLEC.

It was wonderful to hear the students and teachers in the workshop coming up with unique ideas, collaborative research projects, and lots of creative ways to use the CLEC.

The ambition and passion was visible on the faces of the students and the teachers (pictured above) as they discussed their eagerness to work together to master new skills and explore the limitless reservoirs of knowledge and new opportunities the CLEC opens up.

New Leadership & Fresh Potential to Grow Our Impact

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Welcome Uttisikha Adhikari, Our New Team Leader in Nepal

Uttisikha Adhikari is a self-described **connector, educator and explorer**. She possesses a deep, personal passion for learning.

With a **Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology** and **Masters in Business Administration** already completed, Uttisikha is currently pursuing a **second Masters Degree in Educational Leadership** at the Kathmandu University School of Education.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Uttisikha is the co-founder of URB Creations, an organization dedicated to assisting secondary students on their education journey. Through online courses, personalized coaching, individual mentorship and tutoring services, URB Creations is providing young people with the support they need to seize opportunities and succeed.

In her weekly “**URB Talks**” series, Uttisikha helps young people explore the challenges and opportunities in Nepal with a special focus on the growing IT sector. From discussions with software and civil engineers to lawyers, media-makers and scientists, **URB Talks invites viewers to learn and discover the possibilities that information technology is opening up for young people across Nepal.**

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to Digital Bridges 4 Nepal. Uttisikha will act as Digital Bridges' representative in Nepal, ensuring the effective implementation of our projects, and managing our relationships with our partners. She will be selecting and working with our local implementing partners to ensure that Digital Bridges' funds are used properly, and that the quality of our CLECs and accompanying support services continue to improve.

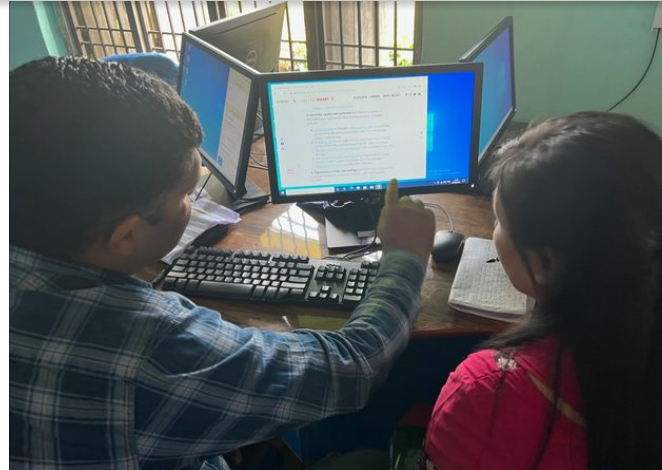
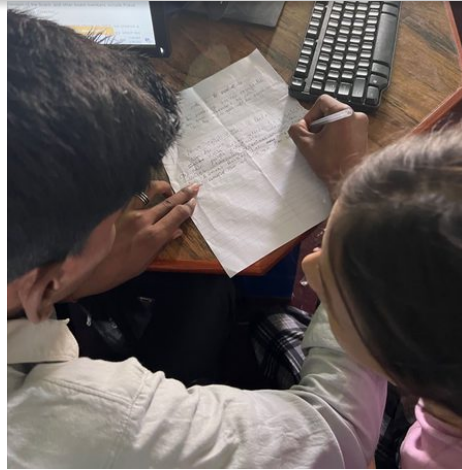
Uttisikha will also be the point person for the impact research project we are undertaking in partnership with Kathmandu University School of Education (see below).

We are very excited for Uttisikha to join us and direct her passion and professionalism towards strengthening communities through education.

Welcome Uttisikha!

[LEARN MORE ABOUT UTTSIKHA](#)

New Insights & New Ways to Increase Our Impact



In-depth Research Study in Partnership with Kathmandu University School of Education

Together with **Research Assistant Prativa Rai** and **Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, Shesha Kanta Pageni**, and in partnership with **Kathmandu University School of Education**, Digital Bridges is conducting a research project to measure and study the impact of our CLECs for students, teachers and administrators.

Our the team will use the surveys, interviews and analysis from the research report to **identify opportunities to increase our impact, and improve the support services we provide to schools in our network.**

We plan to **publish the results of our study in the coming months** and are eager to share what we learn with all of our supporters and everyone in our CLEC network.

Stay tuned!

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As our network grows, our need for your support grows too.

Can you help us connect to more people, partners and supporters? Can you give a small donation every month to support the schools, teachers and students we serve? We need your help.

Become a monthly donor and help us unlock the passion and ambition of Nepalese youth.

BECOME A MONTHLY SUPPORTER

Do You Have Ideas, Connections or Questions?

We want to hear from you! Please reach out with your ideas, connections and questions to Keefe Murren, who is leading our efforts to increase support and grow our network.

Contact Keefe at keefe@digitalbridges.org

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BOARD HIGHLIGHT: Bill Johenning Receives Environmental Award

Congratulation to Digital Bridges Board Member and Secretary, Bill Johenning on receiving the Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP) Award for the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to reduce waste campaign at Bargain Basket in Marco Island, Florida.



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