

ISSUE - V

Jan - Jun 2026 Edition

darpanagatha



REFLECTING | IMPACTING | SUSTAINING



**"Reflecting
for Change"**



**"Engaging
for Impact"**



**"Sustaining
for better world"**



It is our pleasure to present the fifth issue of Darpanagatha, the biannual publication of the Shikharapur Community Learning Center (SCLC), highlighting key activities, achievements, success stories, and progress from the past six months.

WWW.SHIKHARAPURCLC.ORG

Special Editorial

Executive Editor Niroj Shrestha

Design and Editing Nisha Bisunke & Rabina Deukota

Learning, Leadership & Legacy

A Milestone in Institutional Transformation

The **Strategic Exposure and Visioning Workshop 2026** marked a major milestone in the institutional journey of SCLC. More than a three-day event, it was a collaborative process of reflection, learning, and strategic planning to strengthen the organization's future direction. The initiative began with preparatory discussions involving Board Members, staff, advisors, and local stakeholders to review SCLC's achievements, challenges, and future aspirations. The three-day residential workshop in Pokhara and Baglung was organized with the support of ONGD-FNEL Luxembourg in collaboration with Hamro Palo, Right for Children (R4C), FAB School, and DIRDC.

The workshop benefited from the expertise of our partner organizations. Ms. Anita Thapa shared practical insights on leadership and institutional sustainability, Mr. Anil Poudel highlighted social entrepreneurship and innovation through the FAB School model, and Mr. Shalik Ram Sharma provided valuable perspectives on governance, technical education, and community empowerment. An exposure visit to DIRDC further enriched participants with first-hand learning from successful vocational training initiatives.

Using a highly participatory approach, participants conducted SWOT and PESTLE analyses, reviewed SCLC's vision and mission, identified strategic priorities, and discussed institutional policies and long-term sustainability. The workshop also advanced planning for the proposed Agriculture and Climate Knowledge Center at Phakhel through presentation and discussion of the preliminary site concept.

Following the workshop, reflection meetings and technical consultations led to the preparation of the first draft of SCLC Strategic Direction 2026 and the revision of key institutional policies. These documents will continue to evolve as living frameworks that guide the organization's growth.

This has been one of the most significant institutional development initiatives in SCLC's history, bringing together Board Members, staff, partners, local governments, technical experts, and well-wishers to shape a shared vision for the future.

On behalf of SCLC, I sincerely thank ONGD-FNEL Luxembourg and our valued partners—Hamro Palo, R4C, FAB School, and DIRDC—for their unwavering support and trust in our mission.

As we move forward, Learning, Leadership & Legacy will continue to inspire SCLC to grow as a stronger, more innovative, and community-driven institution committed to sustainable development.

Niroj Shrestha
Director, Shikharapur CLC

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Objectives of Darpangatha

- To inform the public about the events and completed tasks.
- Engage and update the readers of the newsletter.
- To collect feedback and ensure to inculcate them.

SCLC Personnel



Director
Niroj Shrestha



Field Coordinator
Lalita Lamichhane



Agriculture Technician
Sarita Nagarkoti



Finance Officer
Rojina Shrestha



Office Administrator
Rabina Devkota



Multipurpose Staff
Ambika Tamang



Farm Assistant
Bishnu Khatri



Farm Assistant
Sabita Sunar



Support Staff
Anisha Tamang

SHIKRAPUR CLC

INFOGRAPHICS JAN - JUN 2026

Capacity Building

- 9 International interns from Netherlands, Italy and India
- 18 staff/board members participated in SCLC Strategic Exposure and Visioning Workshop 2026
- 139 youth received specialized and AI, Tally 5 different capacity development training
- 237 Entrepreneurial farmers received special vermi-composting training, organic Fertilizer Making and Packaging training, Nursery training, and Power tiller maintenance training

Education & Training

- Open School Participants: 48 students were studying in Grade 10 and Grade 8 with overall support for outreach program, promotional materials (IEC) and staff support
- Youth and women farmer local Associates to form a new farmers group: 40 participants
- 345 students from different colleges and organizations visited Shikharapur

Community Outreach

- Day Celebration and Campaign with 71 participants
- Earth Day Clearing Campaign 72 youths
- 2 Official visits of CLCs from Devghat CLC and Gorakhanath CLC, total visiting participants 54

CLC Sister Organization and Initiatives

- Shikharapur Campus
- Shikharapur Community School
- Entrepreneurship School and Climate Knowledge Center (Proposed)
- Shikharapur Lit world library
- Shikharapur Open School
- Entrepreneurial Women Farmers and Livestock/Poultry Farming Group
- Shikharapur IPM Entrepreneur farmers group

“A JOURNEY WON THROUGH PERSISTENCE: BABITA’S STORY OF NEVER GIVING UP”

Babita Shrestha, a resident of Ward No. 2, Dakshinkali Municipality, is a living example of how determination and resilience can overcome life's challenges. Due to difficult family circumstances, she was forced to discontinue her education after completing Grade 7 and later got married at a young age. Despite these setbacks, her dream of continuing her education never faded. Driven by a strong desire to learn and build a better future, she remained committed to pursuing her studies whenever the opportunity arose.

In 2080 B.S., Babita enrolled in the Basic Level Open School in Shikharapur CLC. With her involvement in household work and looking after her daughter, she managed to attend classes whenever she had time. Even though she failed some subjects in the Grade 8 exam, she continued studying and eventually passed.

Her efforts towards passing SEE were more difficult than before. This is because her house was quite far away from the school, and there was a forest between her house and the school. Therefore, she couldn't go to school to attend classes. However, she studied on her own from YouTube lessons, continuously encouraged by her teacher, Lalita Lamichhane, and her daughter.



Though Babita was unable to clear both the SEE and the Grade Improvement Exam multiple times, she did not stop there. She prepared patiently, with confidence and determination. Eventually, in the year 2082 BS (2025/26), her efforts bore fruit as she successfully cleared SEE and crossed the so called "Iron Gate" of Nepal.

Currently, Babita is studying for higher education under the Humanities Faculty at Mahendra Bhrikuti Secondary School, Lalitpur. It proves that education is never too late and that determination, support from family, and a second chance to learn can change one's life forever.

Moreover, Babita's case is an example of the contribution made by Shikharapur Open School, as it still offers hope and education to those students who were once deprived of education, paving the way for their bright future ahead.



“I failed more than once, but I never let failure become the end of my journey. Every setback gave me another reason to keep learning, and today I know that determination can open even the strongest iron gate.” ”



Nursery Plant Growing Training for Farmers

उद्यमी कृषकका लागि
नर्सरीमा बिरुवा
उत्पादन तालिम



In coordination with the Agriculture Development Section of Dakshinkali Municipality, Shikharapur CLC successfully organized a two-day Nursery Plant Growing Training on 24–25 Baisakh 2083 at the ALRC. The training brought together entrepreneurial women farmers, livestock farmers, and members of the Siddheshwar Farmers Group with the objective of enhancing their practical skills in nursery establishment, seedling production, and sustainable plant management. Through technical sessions and hands-on demonstrations, participants gained valuable knowledge on quality nursery practices, contributing to improved agricultural productivity and livelihood opportunities while further strengthening the collaboration between SCLC and the local government in promoting sustainable agriculture.

The interactive training created an excellent platform for farmers to exchange experiences, enhance their agricultural knowledge, and build confidence in nursery plant production as an entrepreneurial activity. It is hoped that programs like this will continue to encourage and empower local agricultural groups toward self-sufficiency, healthier soil management, and sustainable livelihoods. From Shikharapur Community Learning Center, we believe that skills, knowledge, and continuous learning can empower every step of the journey – from seedling to enterprise. At the end of the training, cocopeat and seedling trays were also distributed to the participants to support practical nursery plant production activities.



Empowering Farmers Through Nursery Plant Training



Shikharapur CLC, in support of ONGD-FNEL and Indrasarowar Rural Municipality – Ward No. 1, Markhu, has effectively organized the two-day Nursery Plant Production Training on 19–20 May 2026 (5th–6th Jestha 2083).

The training provided farmers, youths, and young agricultural entrepreneurs with knowledge of nursery production, soil preparation, plant care, and sustainable agriculture. The goal of the training was to boost quality nursery production, improve agricultural productivity, and improve livelihoods through sustainable agriculture.



Under the theme “Quality Nursery, Sustainable Agriculture, and a Prosperous Future,” the training encouraged participants to apply the knowledge and practical skills gained to improve local agricultural production, strengthen entrepreneurship, and promote climate-resilient farming practices. The sessions emphasized the importance of quality nursery management, sustainable agriculture, and environmentally responsible farming as key pathways toward enhancing rural livelihoods and building a more resilient and prosperous community.

Inspirational Session on Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship in Pharping



The participants showed interest in the session and enriched themselves with information on market opportunities, entrepreneurship, and business planning. We would like to thank our valued partner, ONGD FNEL, for the continuous support provided in organizing such useful sessions, which are beneficial for the community members.

We would also like to thank Mr. Narottam Aryal, Chairman of King's College, for bringing us together through this collaboration. This activity has been playing a very important role in the process of empowering the local community with new skills and innovative approaches.

On 2026/06/08, an inspirational and very enlightening session was delivered by CA Sandesh Poudel, Agro-Economy Specialist, Agri-Entrepreneur and Leader in Pharping, with the theme 'Inspirational Session on Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship'. The objective of the session is to inspire and motivate aspiring entrepreneurs in Pharping.



In this session, he presented his valuable experience on how agriculture-based businesses can be turned into prosperous and sustainable enterprises through entrepreneurial thinking. He made us aware of the importance of entrepreneurship in promoting economic growth.

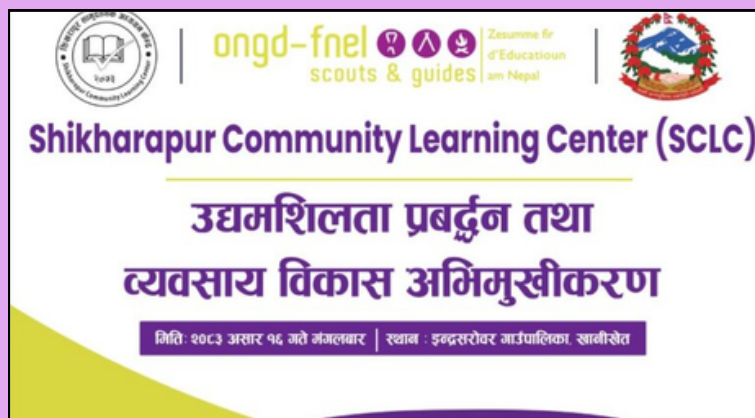
Three-Day Power Tiller Maintenance Training

A three-day practical Power Tiller Maintenance Training for tractor-owning farmers, supported by ONGD FNEL Luxembourg and organized by Shikharapur CLC in coordination with Ward No. 8, Dakshinkali Municipality, was completed.

Facilitated by Mr. Raju Suwal, the training focused on identifying common tractor problems, routine maintenance, and minor repairs. A total of 31 tractor-owning farmers participated and gained valuable hands-on skills to independently maintain and troubleshoot their tractors. Certificates were distributed by Mr. Yosh Kumar Waiba, Chairperson of Ward No. 8, and Mr. Shyam Bahadur KC, Chairperson of SCLC. Participants shared that the training increased their confidence, reduced dependence on external mechanics, and will help lower farming costs while supporting efficient agricultural mechanization.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROMOTION AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ORIENTATION- KULEKHANI, INDRASAROWAR RURAL MUNICIPALITY



Shikharapur Community Learning Center (SCLC), in coordination with the Indrasarowar Rural Municipality, successfully organized an Entrepreneurship Promotion and Business Development Orientation Program at the Rural Municipality Hall, Khanikhet. The program was conducted under the Climate and Sustainable Agriculture Project (102 Project) with the support of ONGD-FNEL Luxembourg.

The orientation brought together aspiring entrepreneurs, youth, women's groups, Community Learning Center representatives, and local stakeholders to strengthen entrepreneurial knowledge and promote self-employment opportunities. Participants gained practical insights into business opportunity identification, entrepreneurial mindset development, business planning, innovation, market opportunities, and enterprise management. The program was inaugurated by Mr. Dev Krishna Pudasaini, Chairperson of Indrasarowar Rural Municipality, who emphasized the vital role of entrepreneurship in creating local employment and fostering sustainable economic development. The technical session was facilitated by Mr. Nirmal Sigdel, Entrepreneurship Development Expert, whose interactive presentation encouraged participants to transform local resources into sustainable business ventures. The event concluded with a shared commitment to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen local enterprises, and enhance collaboration for sustainable community development. SCLC extends its sincere appreciation to the Indrasarowar Rural Municipality, the resource person, and all participants for their valuable contributions to the program's success. The event was managed by Ms. Lalita Lamichhane, the Field Coordinator of the Shikharapur CLC.





From 19–21 June 2026, Shikharapur Community Learning Center (SLC) successfully organized the Strategic Exposure and Visioning Workshop 2026 in Pokhara and Baglung under the theme “Learning from Best Practices, Strengthening Partnerships, and Shaping the Future of Shikharapur Community Learning Centre.” The program was supported by ONGD-FNEL, Luxembourg, in collaboration with Hamro Palo, Right for Children, FAB School, and DIRDC.



The workshop brought together 22 participants, including SCLC board members, staff, and partner organization representatives. Over the three days, participants engaged in exposure visits, experience sharing, and in-depth discussions on institutional achievements, challenges, opportunities, and future strategic directions.

The workshop served as an important step in shaping SCLC's upcoming five-year strategic plan, strengthening institutional development, and advancing the long-term vision of establishing an Agriculture and Climate Knowledge Centre in Phakhel. It also reinforced the organization's commitment to sustainable development, strong partnerships, and community-focused initiatives.

5-Day Training of Facilitators: Empowering Youth for Equal Classrooms, Equal Futures



हाम्रो पालो
our turn
educated empowered equal



Hamro Palo conducted a 5-Day Training of Facilitators (TOF) to develop young facilitators for "Equal Classrooms, Equal Futures" workshops in schools at SCLC focusing students of Shikharapur Campus.

As part of this effort, SCLC collaborated with Hamro Palo to identify and select 10 youths from the community who are willing and motivated to become facilitators. These selected youths attended a 5-day training organized at the ALRC Building of Shikharapur CLC. During the course of the training, they have developed knowledge, skills, and confidence that are necessary for facilitating the sessions with adolescents.



These trainings involved key topics such as facilitation skills and techniques, effective communication with adolescents, gender transformative approach, safeguarding and referral, self-love, self-care, sexuality education, and creating a safe learning environment.

As a result of the training, the young facilitators have understood the issues and challenges of adolescents and also learned how to engage students through participatory methods. Now, these trained facilitators are playing an active role in facilitating Equal Classrooms, Equal Futures workshops in schools.

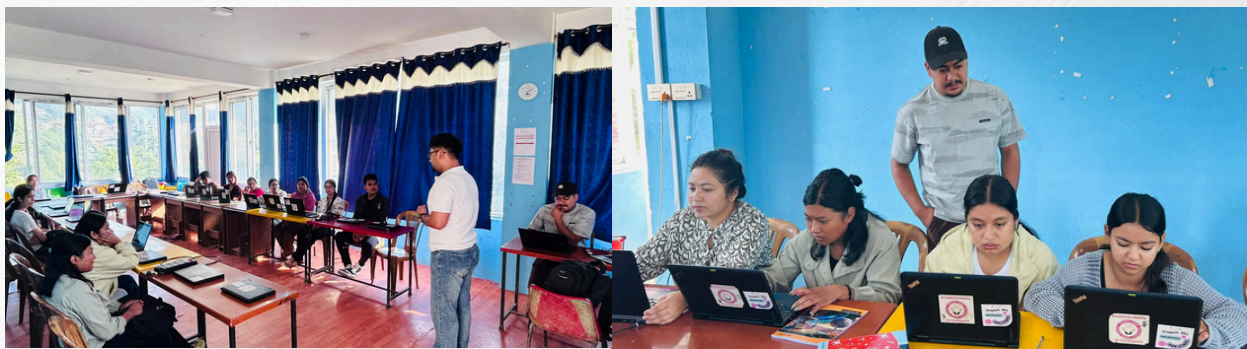
Thanks to Hamro Palo for collaborating with us in this effort and hopes that such efforts will continue in the future.

Specialized AI & IT Training for Youth Entrepreneurship

This intensive training program is designed to equip young individuals with practical skills in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Information Technology (IT) to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. Organized by the Social Development Office, Lalitpur, and coordinated by Shikharapur Campus in collaboration with the Rukmini Foundation, the program combines hands-on learning with real-world applications. Participants will engage in a focused 5-day training, followed by an additional 5-day follow-up session at ALRC Shikharapur CLC, ensuring continuous learning, mentorship, and skill development. The training aims to empower youths with the knowledge and confidence to create digital solutions, enhance employability, and initiate entrepreneurial ventures in the evolving tech landscape.



Empowering Youth through Tally & AI Training



Shikharapur Campus, in coordination with Shikharapur CLC, successfully organized a 15-day Tally and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Training for Youth Entrepreneurship, supported by the Social Development Office, Lalitpur. The program was designed to equip young people with practical skills in digital accounting, modern business management, and the application of AI tools to enhance productivity and entrepreneurial opportunities.

The training was facilitated by Chartered Accountants Mr. Rajesh Shrestha and Mr. Saphal Maharjan, who provided comprehensive sessions on Tally accounting software integrated with AI-based tools and applications. Through a combination of practical exercises and interactive learning, participants developed competencies in computerized accounting, financial record management, and the effective use of AI to improve business efficiency. The initiative reflects a shared commitment to preparing youth with future-ready digital skills, promoting innovation, and enhancing employment and entrepreneurship opportunities within the community.

65-Day Building Electrician Level 1 Training



The 65-Day Building Electrician (House Wiring Electrician – Level 1, 390 Hours) Training was successfully conducted with the support of the Social Development Office, Lalitpur, and coordinated by Shikharapur CLC.

Before the commencement of the training, participant interviews were conducted by Mr. Mohan Dev Bhatt, representative of the Social Development Office, Lalitpur, and Ms. Nisha Bisunke, Secretary of Shikharapur CLC, to select eligible trainees.

The training was formally inaugurated in the presence of distinguished guests, including Mr. Navaraj Nepal, Chief of Social Development Office, Lalitpur, Mr. Ram Mani Kafle, Chief Administrative Officer of Dakshinkali Municipality (Chief Guest); Mr. Laxman Dahal, Chief of the Education, Youth and Sports Section; and other respected officials and guests.

A total of 20 participants attended the training.

The program was provided free of cost, and participants also received skill assessment opportunities upon completion.

With strong determination and enthusiasm to become skilled professionals and entrepreneurs, the participants completed the training.

The training has equipped the participants with practical knowledge and technical skills in residential electrical wiring, enabling them to pursue employment or self-employment opportunities in the electrical sector.

Congratulations to all 20 graduates for completing the training. We wish them every success in their future careers and sincerely thank the Social Development Office, Lalitpur, all resource persons, trainers, and stakeholders whose valuable support contributed to the successful completion of this program.



AIMS International College to Shikharapur CLC



Shikharapur CLC had the pleasure of welcoming 22 students from AIMS International College for an educational exposure visit organized as part of their academic curriculum. The visit aimed to extend classroom learning by providing students with first-hand experience of community-based education, sustainable development initiatives, and social entrepreneurship practiced by SCLC.

During the visit, students explored SCLC's various educational and community development programs, including the Agriculture Learning Resource Center (ALRC), Open School, women and youth entrepreneurship initiatives, and sustainable agriculture practices. Interactive discussions with the SCLC team helped participants understand how community learning centers function as hubs for lifelong learning, local development, and social transformation. The exposure provided valuable opportunities to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world practices while inspiring students to appreciate the role of community-led learning in achieving sustainable and inclusive development.

Such a visit proved to be very fruitful for us as it broadened our understanding of a practical learning system and its necessity in the field of education. We developed many important skills like critical thinking, questioning, communication, etc. during this visit program.





WASTE TO WEALTH WORKSHOP FOR BAGISWORI COLLEGE



Bagiswori College of Management successfully organized a Waste to Wealth Workshop for BBS First-Year students on Chaitra 7 at SCLC. Designed as a practical learning experience, the workshop aimed to demonstrate how waste can be transformed into valuable resources while promoting environmental conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and circular economy concepts among young learners.

The program combined classroom sessions with an educational field visit to the Kevin Rohan Memorial Eco Foundation at Khahare and the Shikharapur (ALRC). The overall training and field coordination were managed by Mr. Niroj Shrestha, Principal of Shikharapur Campus. During the sessions, he introduced the concept of "Waste to Wealth," emphasizing how innovative reuse, recycling, and sustainable resource management can reduce environmental pollution while creating economic opportunities.

Environmental expert Mr. Krishna Gurung from KRMEF guided students through eco-friendly construction techniques using bamboo, straw, bottles, bricks, and other recycled materials. He also demonstrated creative ways of converting discarded materials into useful educational resources and practical products. At Setidevi Bhanjyang Agricultural Farm, local entrepreneur Mr. Shyam Shrestha showcased innovative uses of waste materials, including discarded plastic bottles, water jars, and containers for pot farming, rooftop gardening, and vegetable cultivation.

The practical learning continued at the ALRC, where Ms. Sarita Nagarkoti, Agriculture Trainer from the Shikharapur Agricultural Women Entrepreneurs Group, demonstrated the preparation and application of vermicompost and Effective Microorganism (EM) liquid fertilizer for sustainable farming. Ms. Lalita Lamichhane, Field Coordinator of SCLC, also introduced students to the Center's community-based education model and highlighted its skill development programs, including computer training, house wiring, sanitary pad production, and mobile repair, which have contributed to local employment and entrepreneurship.

The workshop concluded with an interactive reflection session, certificate distribution, and appreciation of the resource persons by Mr. Krishna Prasad Dhanchha, Principal of Bagiswori College of Management. The program successfully bridged classroom learning with real-world environmental practices, inspiring students to adopt sustainable lifestyles and recognize waste as a valuable resource for entrepreneurship and community development.

GYNAE CAMP BY MEERA HADA FOUNDATION



The free health camp for women organized by Meera Hada Foundation in collaboration with Dakshinkali Municipality and Shikharapur CLC was successfully held at Sheshnarayan Health Post with significant impact.

A health camp was organized to improve the health condition of women in the locality and witnessed considerable participation by the members of the society. Free medical services, including health check-up, consultation, and necessary treatment, were provided, thus making a great difference.

The formal program organized parallel to the camp was attended by Mayor Mohan Basnet, Deputy Mayor Basanti Dongol Tamang, Chief Guest Dr. Sundarmani Dixit, Guest Dr. Basudev Shastri, Director of Patan Hospital Ravi Shakya, Former VC of Patan Academy of Health Sciences Dr. Bharat Kumar Yadav, and other representatives from different organizations. Their presence in the program added much more value to it.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who helped in conducting the program and rendering valuable medical service. Our special thanks go to Dr. Meera for her devotion and initiative in organizing the successful program.

We assure that we will continue to conduct such programs in the future to come.



A Meaningful Academic Exchange with the University of Hawai'i



Grateful to Prof. Randy Bollig for connecting us with the Professors from the University of Hawaii (Prof. Shawna and Prof. Linda Oshita). Our students, graduates, and staff at Shikharapur Campus felt truly privileged to host you all. It was a wonderful platform for learning, sharing, and meaningful academic exchange.

Together, we learn. Together, we grow.



“Learning Beyond Borders”

When classrooms stretch across countries and communities, learning becomes transformative. The visit of Development students from Future Generations USA to Pharping Community and Shikharapur reflects the power of shared knowledge, cultural exchange, and development rooted in real lives.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION & CHILD TALENT HUNT 2026

The Science and Technology Exhibition and Child Talent Hunt 2026, organized by the Nepal National Commission for UNESCO (NatCom), coordinated by Shikharapur Community Learning Center (CLC), and supported by Dakshinkali Municipality, was successfully held on 26th Chaitra 2082. The event saw the active participation of over 600 students, teachers, parents, and visitors, including 14 schools from Dakshinkali Municipality and 5 guest schools from Indrasarovar, Kirtipur, and Bhaktapur.



The program was chaired by Dr. Divya Dawadi, Secretary of NatCom, with Mr. Mohan Basnet, Mayor of Dakshinkali Municipality, as the Chief Guest. The event was also attended by Dr. Dhruba Raj Regmi (Education Head, UNESCO Kathmandu), Mr. Bhim Pokharel (Executive Director, ERCDN), along with education officials, principals, teachers, and community members. The overall coordination was led by Mr. Niroj Shrestha, Campus Chief of Shikharapur Campus, while Mr. Shyam Bahadur KC delivered the welcome remarks.

The exhibition provided a platform for students to present innovative, practical projects connecting science and technology with real-life challenges. Key themes included renewable energy, AI, robotics, smart systems, environmental sustainability, water recycling, disaster preparedness, and assistive technologies. Notable projects such as smart dustbins, alternative energy models, assistive devices for visually impaired individuals, and safety systems highlighted students' creativity and problem-solving skills.

Chief Guest Mr. Mohan Basnet appreciated the students' प्रतिभा (talent) and expressed commitment to supporting such initiatives in the future, including potential collaboration and investment at the municipal level.

Competition Results

- **First: Shikharapur Community School**
NPR 15,000
- **Second: Samye Memorial School**
NPR 12,000
- **Third: Kalidevi Secondary School**
NPR 8,000
- **Fourth: Setidevi Secondary School**
NPR 5,000



ENHANCING THE ROLE OF CLCS IN LIFELONG LEARNING

The visit conducted by Devghat Community Learning Center, Tanahun, to Shikharapur Community Learning Center on 27th Chaitra, 2082 (B.S.) was very successful.

Observation visits like these become platforms to share experiences, collaborate, and learn from each other. In this way, participants had the opportunity to observe various programs and initiatives going on as innovations and best practices and thereby developed better insight regarding effective learning and management approaches.



Moreover, such observation visits are beneficial in gaining knowledge about the contribution of community learning centers towards empowerment, skill enhancement, and lifelong learning opportunities in the community. Also, during the visit, ideas on how to explore and mobilize the capacity of learning centers were exchanged. It is believed that these kinds of visits create inspiration to implement some new ideas and initiatives within their own institutions to achieve more meaningful results. This knowledge gathered in the process of visiting the partner institution will help in implementing more result-oriented and innovative approaches in the future.

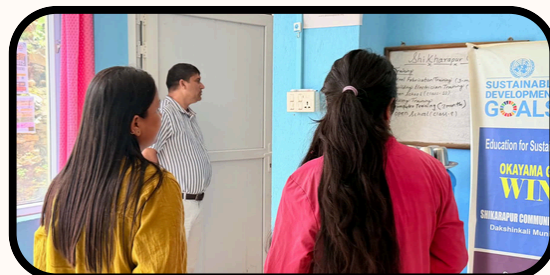
OBSERVATION VISIT BY GORAKHNATH CLC, SAINAMAINA

Date: 2083/02/31

Ms. Sirjana Neupane, Facilitator at Gorakhanath Community Learning Center, Sainamaina, made a visit to Shikharapur Community Learning Center for an observation. The primary objective of this visit was to gain information on the different kinds of programs, activities, and development programs carried out by the CLC.

According to her, she got acquainted with different programs conducted by the Center, which included training programs based on skills, promotion of entrepreneurs, agricultural and environment-related activities, library programs, community involvement techniques, and many other unique programs. The visit also helped her share experiences on how such programs could be replicated in her Community Learning Center.

This kind of observation visit is essential in ensuring the transfer of knowledge and experiences amongst different Community Learning Centers.



COLLABORATING AMAALYA SK FOUNDATION NEPAL



Shikharapur, 2026 — A preliminary discussion took place this year with respect to a potential educational partnership with the Amaalya SK Foundation, indicating a positive move towards enhancing education in Shikharapur and surrounding schools.

At the meeting, representatives from both parties participated in productive talks regarding how they could work together to better their learning experiences, student development, and education quality at large. Representatives of the Amaalya SK Foundation demonstrated willingness to contribute to education development, a prospect that was very well-received by locals. The founder of the foundation, Mr. Anup Tamrakar, also visited to gain basic information and did some assessment during his visit.

The partnership promises a lot for future education opportunities and student empowerment. The participants of the discussions displayed great optimism concerning the partnership, highlighting the need for continuous dialogue towards building a solid foundation for effective implementation.

STUDENT CONSULTATION ON FUTURE COURSES- NEPAL UNIVERSITY



Nepal University organized an interactive higher education course assessment session at Shikharapur Campus to gather feedback and explore the learning needs and aspirations of the new generation of students. The program aimed to assess how future academic programs and courses can be designed to better reflect the interests, expectations, and emerging career opportunities of today's youth.

The session brought together Grade 12 students from Shikharapur, Arunodaya, and Cardinal School, along with educators, academic leaders, and the team from Shikharapur CLC. Through open discussions and interactive engagement, participants shared their opinions, expectations, and recommendations regarding future university courses and higher education.

The program served as a valuable platform for dialogue between students and education professionals, helping Nepal University understand the changing educational landscape and the skills required for the future. The interaction encouraged active participation, innovative thinking, and collaborative learning while contributing important insights for the development of relevant, student-centered, and future-oriented academic programs.

EMPOWERING SCHOOL LEADERS THROUGH INTERACTIVE LEARNING

An eye-opening and highly engaging session on Education Leadership and Institutional Development was successfully conducted with the participation of schools from the Pharping area. The session was skillfully facilitated by Ramila Subedi, whose insightful guidance and practical approach created a meaningful learning environment for all attendees. Throughout the program, participants had the opportunity to explore key aspects of effective educational leadership, institutional growth, and strategic planning. The interactive discussions encouraged school leaders and educators to reflect on their current practices, identify strengths, and recognize areas that require improvement. Professional development.



A major highlight of the session was the comprehensive needs assessment, which played a crucial role in uncovering real challenges faced by schools. This process not only deepened participants' understanding of their institutional needs but also inspired innovative ideas and practical strategies for improvement. It fostered collaboration among schools, enabling them to share experiences, learn from one another, and collectively envision a better future for their institutions.

The session ultimately served as a strong foundation for planning the upcoming academic year. Participants left with renewed motivation, clearer goals, and actionable plans aimed at enhancing the quality of education, strengthening leadership practices, and ensuring a sustainable institution.

HON. BINDU SHRESTHA VISITS SHIKHARAPUR CLC



Honorable Bindu Shrestha, Minister for Industry, Commerce, Land, and Administration of Bagmati Province, visited Shikharapur Community Learning Centre (SCLC) on 24 May 2026 to observe its ongoing programs and community-based learning initiatives. During the visit, the Minister appreciated the Centre's efforts in promoting skills development, entrepreneurship, agriculture, and lifelong learning. She emphasized the important role Community Learning Centres play in empowering local communities and discussed ways to further strengthen their impact.

“ I have observed many of the excellent initiatives being implemented by Shikharapur CLC, and I am truly impressed by the work being done here. The Centre has made a meaningful contribution to the development and empowerment of local youth. I assure you that I, along with my Ministry, will extend every possible support to strengthen and expand these valuable initiatives in the days ahead.- Hon. Bindu ”



The Minister expressed her commitment to supporting the expansion of skill-based and income-generating training programs through CLC and community campuses and highlighted the importance of allocating resources and strengthening collaboration with relevant stakeholders. She also encouraged the Centre to continue designing practical training programs based on local needs, particularly for youth, women, and farmers, to enhance employment opportunities and sustainable livelihoods.

Shikharapur CLC sincerely thanks Honorable Bindu Shrestha for her inspiring visit, valuable insights, and encouraging commitment to strengthening community learning and development initiatives.

Agriculture Minister Visits Shikharapur CLC



Shikharapur Community Learning Centre (CLC) was honored to welcome Hon. Madhusudan Poudel, Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development of Bagmati Province. During his visit, the Minister observed the CLC's ongoing activities and best practices, particularly in the field of agriculture.

A brief discussion was also held on the CLC's agricultural programs, where valuable suggestions and insights were shared to further strengthen community-based agricultural initiatives.

Shikharapur CLC extends its sincere gratitude to Hon. Madhusudan Poudel for his valuable time, inspiring visit, and thoughtful guidance, which will continue to motivate the Centre's efforts toward sustainable agricultural and community development.



Sharing our Progress & Vision with the Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality



Representatives of the Shikharapur Campaign had the privilege of meeting with the Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality, Mr. Sunil Prajapati, to present the campaign's key activities, achievements, and future plans. During the meeting, the team highlighted the campaign's ongoing efforts in community learning, skill development, education, and local empowerment, while also sharing its strategic vision for future growth and impact. The discussion provided an opportunity to exchange ideas on strengthening partnerships and expanding initiatives that benefit local communities.

Mayor Mr. Prajapati appreciated the progress of the Shikharapur Campaign and offered valuable guidance, encouragement, and insights for its future direction. His supportive remarks reinforced the importance of collaborative efforts in promoting sustainable community development.

International Students visit SCLC from UNESCO



unesco



The interaction with the team at the SCLC offered a great opportunity to exchange views and experiences on various aspects of community development, and such international interactions can go a long way in building global relationships and opportunities for cooperation and learning.

GLOBAL LEARNING, LOCAL IMPACT

Shikharapur Community Learning Center (SCLC) had the pleasure of welcoming Alix and her friend from France during a visit coordinated by the UNESCO Office in Kathmandu. During their visit, they learned about SCLC's Open School Program, community learning initiatives, and efforts to promote inclusive education for children and youth. They also explored our sustainable agriculture practices, gaining insight into how education, skills development, and agriculture work together to strengthen community development.

Rotary



VISIT OF ROTARY CLUB DELEGATES

Shikharapur CLC and Community School were honored to welcome delegates from the Rotary Club of Waikiki and the Rotary Club of Kathmandu. The visiting team included Rtn. Arjun Aryal, Representative from Hawaii, USA, and Global Grant Chair of the Rotary Club of Waikiki District, along with Rtn. Rajendra Gautam, President of the Rotary Club of Kathmandu.

The delegation visited SCLC and the school to assess the community and its initiatives in preparation for a proposed Rotary Global Grant (GG) project. During their visit, they observed our education, community learning, and sustainable development activities, interacted with staff and students, and explored opportunities for future collaboration. We sincerely appreciate their valuable time, encouraging feedback, and insightful recommendations, and we look forward to working together on impactful community development initiatives in the future.



Welcoming the Executives of the Meera Hada Foundation

We were privileged to have the executives of the Meera Hada Foundation at our place for a very enriching and productive visit. The visit proved to be a wonderful way to share our thoughts and ideas as well as to work out potential areas of collaboration.

After very enlightening conversations, both sides confirmed that they will definitely cooperate in the future in order to develop new joint projects aimed at community development and sustainable impact. We were privileged to have the executives of the Meera Hada Foundation at our place for a very enriching and productive visit. The visit proved to be a wonderful way to share our thoughts and ideas as well as to work out potential areas of collaboration.

After very enlightening conversations, both sides confirmed that they will definitely cooperate in the future to develop new joint projects aimed at community development and sustainable impact.



Sharing Best Practices with JICA Education Advisor



We were honored to welcome Mr. Ippei Shimizu, Education Advisor of JICA, to Shikharapur CLC. During the visit, we shared some of our best practices and innovative initiatives that have been contributing to quality education and community development.

The discussion focused on how successful practices can be transformed, adapted, and scaled to strengthen education systems while supporting the holistic development of the community. It was a meaningful exchange of ideas, experiences, and mutual learning that reinforced our shared commitment to inclusive and sustainable education.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Mr. Randy Bollig for facilitating this valuable connection and making this inspiring exchange possible.

CONNECTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION WITH COMMUNITY PRACTICE



Shikharapur CLC was pleased to welcome the students and management team of Milton College for a Social Work Learning Exposure. The visit provided students with an opportunity to understand real-life community development practices, observe grassroots initiatives, and learn how organizations work with communities to create meaningful social change.

Field exposure and practical learning are essential for developing successful social work professionals. By visiting community-based organizations, students can connect their academic knowledge with real-world experiences, understand social issues more deeply, and learn different approaches to empowerment, inclusion, and sustainable development.

For more than two decades, SCLC has been serving as a learning platform for students of social work and related fields by providing opportunities for internships, field visits, and practical exposure. Through its community education programs, youth initiatives, and sustainable development activities, SCLC continues to support the growth of future social workers and community leaders.

We sincerely appreciate Milton College for their visit and active participation. We believe such learning exchanges help build stronger connections between academic institutions and community organizations, contributing to the development of compassionate, skilled, and socially responsible professionals.

Shared Commitment to Strengthening CLCs

We were pleased to welcome the Chairperson of the only Community Learning Center in Kaprang, Sisneri, Indrasarobar Rural Municipality, who also serves as the Principal of the local school, to Shikharapur Community Learning Center. Making meaningful use of the early morning hours, the visit reflected a strong commitment to learning, collaboration, and the advancement of community education.

During the visit, we held productive discussions on the activities, achievements, future plans, and sustainable development of Community Learning Centers. The exchange of experiences and ideas highlighted the importance of collaboration in strengthening community-based learning and creating greater educational opportunities.

We look forward to continuing regular meetings, broader discussions, and closer collaboration in the days ahead to promote innovation, sustainability, and the long-term growth of Community Learning Centers for the benefit of our communities.



Earth Day 2026 Clean-Up Campaign in Pharping



On April 30, 2026, a clean-up campaign was organized at the Hanging Bridge area of Pharping to mark Earth Day 2026. The campaign was led by the Rukmini Foundation in collaboration with Shikharapur Community Learning Center (SCLC) and Ward No. 7 of Dakshinkali Municipality.

Students from the Computer Training Class (SEE Batch 2082) actively participated in the campaign and contributed to making the program effective and organized. During the campaign, waste materials were collected from the Ban Ganesh area and its surroundings, including broken glass bottles that could be harmful to people and animals.

The campaign also raised awareness about the importance of keeping public places clean and avoiding waste disposal in open areas. Participants highlighted that protecting the environment is a shared responsibility of everyone. The concerned authorities were also requested to place sufficient dustbins and strengthen waste management systems to maintain a cleaner and healthier environment.



This program carried out a clear message that a combined effort of the citizens and authorities can lead to a positive change in environmental protection. The participants emphasized the need for sustained action to create a clean, secure, and green environment. The active participation of students played a vital role in making this program successful and made them realize that it is their primary duty.



INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES VISIT SHIKHARAPUR FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH LEARNING EXCHANGE



Shikharapur had the privilege of welcoming delegates from various countries representing the Center for International Health (CIH/LMU Germany), in collaboration with Patan Academy for Health Sciences (PAHS).

The visit focused on exploring key public health challenges and learning from the best practices implemented by Shikharapur in community health promotion. During the visit, delegates observed various community-based health initiatives and primary healthcare practices carried out in the area. They also interacted with Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) working in the community to learn about their ongoing activities, awareness programs, and contributions toward improving community health outcomes.

The visit provided a valuable platform for exchanging ideas, experiences, and insights among health professionals and institutions committed to strengthening public health systems. Such collaboration and international partnerships are expected to further support sustainable and community-centered healthcare initiatives.

Shikharapur remains committed to promoting knowledge exchange and advancing impactful community health programs for healthier and more resilient communities.



Lucrezia Santini's Research Journey in SCLC



Hello everyone, My name is Lucrezia, and I am an Italian student currently pursuing a Master's degree in Globalisation and Development Studies at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. I am currently in Nepal conducting my fieldwork thesis, and I have the pleasure of collaborating with Shikharapur CLC. My academic journey began with a Bachelor's degree in Interpreting and Translation, where I studied English, Spanish, and Russian. I have been passionate about languages since high school, which naturally led me to continue in this field. Over time, however, I realized that technical and linguistic skills alone are not enough to fully understand global issues. This is why I chose to pursue further studies in International Relations, where I developed a deeper awareness of how important context is in shaping political and social dynamics. At the same time, although I remain interested in geopolitics, I often felt that it can be distant from the everyday realities of people's lives, particularly those in more vulnerable situations. For this reason, I decided to shift my focus toward Globalisation and Development Studies, with the aim of better understanding how development processes can become more inclusive and responsive to marginalized groups. I am especially interested in themes such as migration, food security, and gender equality. My current thesis represents a natural intersection of all these interests.

Fieldwork Experience with Shikharapur CLC

My research focuses on the feminization of agriculture, exploring how male out-migration for employment is reshaping households and agricultural practices. In particular, I aim to understand whether this process contributes to women's empowerment in terms of decision-making, autonomy, and access to resources, or whether it primarily increases their workload without significantly improving their social position. To explore these questions, I am using qualitative research methods, including participant observation, field notes, and semi-structured interviews. With the invaluable support of Rojina, who translates from Nepali to English, I am conducting between 10 and 15 interviews with women from different caste backgrounds and household structures. Since empowerment is highly context-dependent, it is essential for my research to capture diverse experiences and perspectives. I am deeply grateful to Shikharapur CLC for making this research possible. In particular, I would like to thank Nisha Bisunke, the secretary, who has been instrumental in organizing the interviews across the Dakshinkhali municipality, not only in Pharping. Their support has been vital, and without it, this project would not have been possible. Beyond the academic aspect, this experience has been incredibly enriching on a personal level. Pharping is a beautiful place, surrounded by nature and a peaceful atmosphere that makes everyday life feel slower and more meaningful. The office environment at Shikharapur is lively and welcoming, full of energy, laughter, and a strong sense of community. I truly enjoy spending time there and learning from everyone. Living in Nepal has also allowed me to discover a culture that is deeply rooted in spirituality, kindness, and hospitality. I am constantly impressed by the warmth and generosity of Nepali people, who are always ready to help and share their knowledge. And of course, I cannot forget to mention the food, which has been a wonderful surprise, rich in flavors and an important part of daily life and social connection. Overall, this fieldwork experience is not only contributing to my academic growth but is also shaping me on a personal level. I am slowly falling in love with this country, its culture, and its people, and I feel very grateful to be here. Thank you to everyone at Shikharapur CLC for welcoming me and supporting me throughout this journey.

CONNECTING CULTURES, SHARING EXPERIENCES

A MEMORABLE VISIT FROM NETHERLANDS



An International Experience of Learning with SCLC

The students of Windesheim Honors College from the Netherlands, who are pursuing their studies in the area of Global Project and Change Management, decided to include SCLC of Pharping, Nepal, as an integral part of their educational process through research and learning.

In order to conduct close cooperation with the local community and gain an insight into education, skills development, socio-cultural aspects, and the community-based training system, they came to SCLC for a two-month field study.

During this time, they worked together with the staff and students of SCLC and with the local community and gained a lot of experience and knowledge. This was not only a research trip, but also a great experience of cooperation and learning for different cultures and communities.



Voices from Our International Students



Roos Kuijer



My time at the SCLC was truly unforgettable. One of the highlights of my time at the SCLC was leading a workshop with 14 women from the agricultural course. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and willingness to participate made it an incredibly rewarding experience, and I am so grateful for the time we shared together. I also had the opportunity to speak with the students, whose passion and dedication inspired me just as much as I hope I inspired them. It reminded me how valuable the work of the SCLC is not only for the local community but for everyone fortunate enough to be involved. Thank you once again for your kindness, generosity, and the opportunity to be part of such meaningful work. I cannot wait to visit you all again someday. You are doing incredible work, and every one of you made me feel so welcome. Wishing you all the very best.

Leopold Barasch



We are a group of students from the Netherlands studying Global Project and Change Management. As part of our programme, we spent two months in Pharping working alongside the SCLC with the objective of identifying local challenges shaping SCLC training experiences and using these insights to improve the relevance and effectiveness of training outcomes. During our time at the SCLC, we had the privilege of learning from the staff, students, and local community while carrying out our research. It was an experience that taught us far more than we could have imagined, both professionally and personally. Below, each of us shares our own reflections and experiences from our time in Pharping and at the SCLC.

Silke Koekoek



My time at SCLC has been an incredibly valuable and memorable experience. Being in Nepal and working closely with the organisation allowed me to gain a much deeper understanding of the local context and the important work that SCLC does. One of the things I enjoyed most was that every day was different. Whether we were conducting research, visiting schools, giving workshops, meeting community members, or working together in the office, there was always something new to learn. Seeing how the organisation operates behind the scenes and how the staff continuously adapt to new challenges gave me a great appreciation for their work. I am very grateful for the warm welcome I received and for the opportunity to learn from so many inspiring people. This experience is one that I will carry with me for a long time.

Lonneke Ostmeijer



I had an amazing experience in Nepal while working with SCLC. We were welcomed with so much kindness and enthusiasm from everyone we met. It was wonderful to collaborate, exchange insights, share stories, and learn more about each other's countries and cultures. Nepal is a beautiful country with incredible landscapes, a rich culture, and truly some of the kindest people I have ever met. Everywhere I went, I was greeted with warmth and genuine excitement. Thank you to the SCLC staff and students for making this such a memorable experience. I am really grateful for the opportunity, and I will never forget my time in Nepal. My best wishes to all of you!

Lianne Hoffmann



My time in Nepal has been very educational in many different ways. I have learned about different cultures, about education, about skill development, and myself. Being at the SCLC, doing research and developing our project has provided me with many opportunities I am incredibly grateful for. The whole process of living in a new culture and listening to locals was a very valuable process. I look back with fondness on my time and all the experiences I have been able to enjoy. But there's nothing I will remember as fondly as all the people I got to meet. We were welcomed by the SCLC, the community in Pharping, but also the rest of Nepal. It was amazing to see how an organisation like SCLC works and to be able to contribute a bit. This experience has taught me a lot and left me with many lifetime memories.

OUR SCLC JOURNEY: A STORY OF LEARNING AND BELONGING



From Left: Aashin Reji, Parappattil Subin Varughese & Joseph Bino

More than Volunteers, Forever Family

Students from Amity University, India recently completed their block placement internship at Shikharapur CLC, immersing themselves in a meaningful journey of learning, community engagement, and cultural exchange. Throughout their stay in Nepal, they actively participated in various community-based activities, built lasting friendships, and experienced the warmth of the local culture.

As they conclude their internship, the students share their inspiring stories, memorable experiences, and heartfelt reflections on the lessons they learned, the connections they formed, and the unforgettable moments that made their time at Shikharapur SCLC truly special.

Our journey to Nepal with SCLC was an incredibly enriching experience that the three of us will cherish forever. From the moment we arrived, the entire staff made us feel less like volunteers and more like family, providing a warmth that made us feel right at home. Lalita Ma'am helped us with so many things and truly brought us closer into the family fold. We'll deeply miss the cheerful house help, whose constant smiles and kindness kept our spirits high every single day.

Working side by side with Rabina and Rojina was amazing—they helped us explore so many new things in Nepal, while Nisha went above and beyond, helping us with absolutely everything right up until our very last day. A truly special part of our time was spending days with little Aale—his pure innocence completely captured our hearts. We owe a massive thank you to everyone at SCLC for their support. A very special thanks goes to Niroj Shrestha, who gave us this incredible opportunity and went completely out of his way for us. Despite his incredibly busy schedule, he took the time to show us around different places, guided us, and even invited us into his home, treating us to one of the absolute best meals we have ever had. We are profoundly grateful for the love, lessons, and unforgettable memories

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Nursery Plant Production Training



Nursery Plant Production Training (Markhu)



Dr. Meera Hada in a health camp



Health camp by Meera Hada Foundation



Building Electrician Training opening ceremony



Building Electrician Training class



AIMS International College Students



Lucrezia Santini's at SCLC

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Shikharapur Open School Class – 10 Students



Building Electrician Training- Closing Ceremony



Clean-Up Campaign on Earth Day 2026



Computer Class for (SEE) Groups



Devghat CLC Visits Shikharapur CLC



Amity University Noida and Windesheim Honours College



5 day Specialized AI & IT training



Hon. Bindu Shrestha Visits Shikharapur CLC

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Honorable Madhusudan Poudel, Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development



Architect Roshana Twati, sharing her design



Collecting Bottles



Strategic Exposure and Visioning Workshop



Agribusiness & Entrepreneurship Session with CA Sandesh Poudel



Grade 12 Graduate Recognition and 15-Day Tally & AI Training Closing Ceremony



Rotarian Delegates from USA and Nepal



Organic Fertilizer making training, Markhu

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Glory of Shikharapur CLC- Our Strength



Tally and AI Training Certification Event



Clean-Up Campaign on Earth Day 2026



Windesheim Honours College student's



Land Site Visit by Architect and Expert



with Nepal University Team



Welcoming Rotarians



Diabetes Camp with Lions/Leo Club

A large, bright classroom with wooden desks and purple chairs. The room has large windows with blue curtains, a blackboard, and a speaker. The walls are painted in a light blue color.

Field Coordinator, Lalita Lamichhane at Markhu

**"IF NOT HERE, THEN WHERE. IF NOT NOW, THEN WHEN.
IF NOT ME, THEN WHO."**



**DARPANGATHA
NEWSLETTER ONLINE**

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SUDIP SHRESTHA



CONTACT US:

**info@shikharapurclc.org
01-5927039 || 9851013055**

ongd-fnel    Zesumme fir
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am Nepal

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SCLC Team of Strategic Visioning Workshop 2026 - at Kalika Temple, Baglung