



उच्च शिक्षा अन्तराष्ट्रिय सम्मेलन
HISSAN's 2nd International Conference

Prospects and Challenges of **HIGHER EDUCATION : VISION 2030**

APRIL 16-18, 2020 PARK VILLAGE RESORT, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

INTRODUCTION

Education is a key element of human development as well as the socio-economic and political development of the country. This importance of education is recognized internationally too as it is one of the Sustainable Development Goals. We are therefore pleased to welcome you to the *2nd International Conference on Prospects and Challenges of Higher Education: Vision 2030*. Education makes an enormous contribution to Nepal's development, educating the next generation on millennials, young people whose lives will be very different from that of their parents and most definitely their grandparents.

This three-day conference offers a range of sessions on a wide range of aspects of education and covers many of the different academic disciplines. The conference will be held at the beautiful Park Village Resort in Budhanilakantha, Kathmandu. This international conference offers a unique opportunity to learn from each other in this exciting time in Nepal's development into a federal state.

The four themes of the Conference:

1. Fusion of Teaching, Research and Practice in Higher Education
2. Vocational and Technical Education and Employability
3. Role of Private Sectors and Privately Managed Educational Institutions; and
4. International Students' Mobility and International Students in Nepal

Within above themes, the following discipline specific issues are covered:

1. Science, Engineering and Technology
2. Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health Sciences
3. Management, Education, Law, Humanities and Social Sciences
4. Post-secondary Education Leading to University

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONFERENCE

Nepal is in a transition period, reforming its existing central national system to adopt a federal model. There is an ongoing discussion with attempts to devise and

implement a viable and equitable system to serve the nation. For example, in educational sector, the national government has a leading role among other non-governmental education stakeholders including private institutions, cooperatives and foundations in the restructuring process. The Government of Nepal recently introduced its '**National Education Policy**' based on the reports of High Level Education Commission 2018, enabling the central, provincial and local government for effective delivery and implementation of education services. This development has created curiosity amongst the government and education providers on both policy and implementation levels. Further to this, it vital to adopt the international good practice to overcome national challenges and meet the Vision 2030. Meanwhile, promoting research communication among academicians, policy makers and stakeholders at national and international level through such conference has always been the focus.

The large body of evidence suggests that an effective educational infrastructure is vital in providing quality education. There is need for innovation in education through encouraging a learning environment that incorporates problem solving and critical thinking. The process of educational restructuring offers a unique opportunity to improve our education system.

There are a variety of formal and informal Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes on offer in Nepal's education system. TVET is critical for human capital development in Nepal, especially in light of the country's looming "youth unemployment time bomb." Youth unemployment is rising quickly, and many Nepali youths enter the labor market without marketable skills (or out-migrate from Nepal).

International student mobility in Nepal is predominantly outbound. While there is little public data available on international student enrolling in Nepal, inbound mobility to Nepal is minor by international standards. The lack of top quality universities, scholarships and post-graduate work opportunities in Nepal's lesser economy limit the attractiveness of the country as a destination for international students. There is limited discussion and debates on how to make Nepal as a choice country for foreign students.

This International Conference will bring scholars (researchers/educationalists) from universities in Nepal and abroad together with policy makers to discuss educational

practice and research and ways of organizing and providing education to cater the higher education. The discussions will revolve around contentious issues and prospects of higher education and designing future strategies to address the need in the global context and research to advancing the field.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZER, CO-ORGANIZERS AND PARTNERS

Higher Institutions and Secondary Schools' Association Nepal (HISSAN) is the conference's main organizer and University of Huddersfield in the UK, the University for Peace, Costa Rica and Kathmandu University are its co-organizers. In addition, over 25 national and international universities and organizations are the official partners of this conference.

HISSAN is a national level umbrella association comprising of 1200+ educational institutions. HISSAN's mission is to produce patriotic, disciplined and global citizens by enhancing the quality of secondary and higher education in accordance with the changing national and international situations by strengthening cooperation among schools, colleges and universities and exchanging views with one another. HISSAN is dedicated to providing high standards of education so that they can utilize their skills, talents and abilities in life-long learning and service. HISSAN has become instrumental in delivering high quality education in Nepal and this conference is further evidence of this contribution. It has experience of organizing such large international conferences.

The **University of Huddersfield** is a public university with 24,000+ students in England. It has been a university since 1992 but has its origins in the 19th century. The University is recognised as gold-rated by the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). In 2017, leading educationalists from around the world selected the University of Huddersfield as the first winner of the Global Teaching Excellence Award. The University boasts world leading applied research groups across many subject areas, including biomedical sciences, engineering and physical sciences, social sciences and arts and humanities.

The **University of Peace (UPEACE)** is dedicated to the study of peace located in San Jose, Costa Rica. Created by UN General Assembly Resolution 35/55, UPEACE has been training leaders for peace for the past four decades. It is a

unique global academic institution with over 2,000 Alumni hailing from more than 120 nations. UPEACE trains future leaders to explore and formulate strategies and practices in various contexts to address the causes of multiple problems affecting human and global wellbeing, and thus contribute to the processes of peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The UPEACE experience is experiential and unique, empowering, transformative and cultivates critical thinking in its students.

The **Kathmandu University (KU)** is an autonomous, non-profit, self-funding public institution established by an Act of Parliament in 1991 and located in Dhulikhel, Nepal. It is an institution of higher learning dedicated to maintaining the standard of academic excellence in various classical and professional disciplines. The mission of the university is 'to provide quality education for leadership. The vision is to become a world-class university devoted to bringing knowledge and technology to the service of mankind. The university aspires to serve the nation by fulfilling needs of the society through the motto of taking knowledge and skills from the campus to the community.

Management Committee

Chair: Mr. Ramesh Silwal, Chairperson, HISSAN

Coordinator: Mr. Yuvraj Sharma, Sr. Vice Chairperson, HISSAN

Members

Mr. Nawaraj Pandey, Sr. Vice-Chairperson, HISSAN

Mr. Jiwan Prakash Sharma, Vice-Chairperson, HISSAN

Dr. Swagat Shrestha, Vice-Chairperson, HISSAN

Mr. Ramhari Silwal, Secretary, HISSAN

Scientific Committee

Chair: Prof. Dr. Padam Simkhada, University of Huddersfield, UK

Co-Chair: Prof Dr. Sujana B. Marahatta, MMIHS, Nepal/LJMU, UK

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Dr Bibha Simkhada, Bournemouth University UK

Dr Puspa Pant, University of West of England, Bristol UK

Dr Priyamvada Paudyal, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK

Key Dates

Abstract Submission: January 31, 2020

Abstract Acceptance Notification: February 7th, 2020

Fees for Presenters and Participants

1. International Presenters/ Participants: US\$ 250
(Early Registration by January 15th, 2020: US\$ 200)
2. Nepali Presenter/ Participants (Institutional): NRS 10,000/-
(Early Registration by January 15th, 2020: NRS 8,000)