

Project Name: Building University Capacity Supporting Business Incubation in Nepal (BUCSBIN)

Organization(s): Oulu University of Applied Sciences

Dates of Implementation: 2017-2020

Country: Nepal

Partner(s): Kathmandu University School of Management KUSOM (main partner); King's College, Kathmandu, Nepal (main partner); Idea Studio Nepal (associate partner); YoungInnovations Ltd. (associate partner)

Funder(s): Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (HEI-ICI Program)

Website: <https://bucsb.in.org/>

Project description: BUCSBIN is a project designed to increase university capacity in Nepal for developing entrepreneurship education and business incubation programming. The overall goal of the cooperation is to share knowledge and experience gained through the success of the innovative and award-winning incubator programs – Oamk LABs – established in 2012 at the Oulu University of Applied Sciences. BUCSBIN provides teacher trainings and student pilots, and trainings in BUCSBIN is based on industry demands. It employs a globally awarded learning model called LAB Studio Model. Teacher trainings provided by BUCSBIN take places both in person and remotely. Partners and participants have already started implementing new educational method invented in previous sessions and thus sustainable and scalable impact is ensured.

Target Population: 1. Unemployed youth aged 18-25 outside of the Kathmandu area with university degree and has interests in entrepreneurship and career development in the ICT industry; 2. university faculty staff involved in business development activities within their university; and 3. businesses and individuals associated with the ICT industry and startup growth in Nepal.

Results to-Date and/or Target Results:

As a result of empowering training, teachers in Nepal have developed two new LABs: a) **DoLAB** (www.dolab.studio) for students to learn how to develop and build new businesses; and b) **TeachLAB** to inspire teachers to gain enough creative confidence so that they can be innovators in teaching and learning.

The Output indicators are: (indicators are disaggregated by gender)

- New teaching methods, curricula, study programs/modules/courses, quality assurance mechanisms
- New mechanisms created for administration
- New forms of cooperation enhancing participation in local, regional or national level
- New modalities of cooperation enhancing the role of HE at international level

Interesting Features & Innovations:

- The project will cover the CIMO Priority Area of promoting employment, livelihoods and wellbeing in Nepal, which is a priority development country under the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

-Two new labs have been developed as a result of BUCSBIN empowering training and have been integrated into existing curriculums to reinforce the impact for education.

-BUCSBIN targets at both student and teachers thus stimulates innovation in multiple layers