

Professional education in Nepal – status report and perspectives
Report of a conference of German NGOs in Cologne on August 31, 2019

Meanwhile Nepal sees a lack of skilled professional workers. On the one side there are not enough apprenticeships, on the other side many citizens prefer making instant money to going through a training that lasts years.

The German ambassador Roland Schäfer mentioned that Nepal authorities are trying to motivate private investors from Europe to start activities in Nepal. A law on immigration of skilled works enables the embassy to deliver visas. In contrast to the neighbouring countries of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, he sees some upward economic development with orientation on export. He also stated that Nepal has mostly overcome the disastrous effects of the 2015 earthquakes. The German embassy is willing to contribute to contacts between Nepal and Germany.

Mr Schäfer is going to find out in how far collaboration between NGOs in Germany and a Nepal are possible. (A request was sent to him on Sept. 1st)

Ms Prof Beatrice Knerr showed a negative tenor when she reported about her experience in the education of young people in Nepal. She knew of well-educated young women who, after finishing their education, used it as a dowry to get married. Men and women who have got education abroad often do not return so that their know-how is of no use to their home country.

Ms Ulrike Putz gave a report on her institution, the Senior Experts Service (SES) ([URL: www.ses-bonn.de](http://www.ses-bonn.de)). She acts as a broker for expert knowledge and sends senior persons also to Nepal. She has observed positive experience in technology.

A speech of Mr Pawan Dhaka on a future German vocational training system in Nepal was unintelligible.

Mr Krishna Adhikari from Kathmandu gave an overview of the present situation of the Nepali NGOs, saying that there is a growing number of local NGOs but that their work lacks structure and cooperation.

Nepal's health system is improving. More and more foreign projects give help and opportunities. Nepali children often suffer from eye illnesses that can be cured with the help of laser technology.

Lastly, a relatively young organisation was introduced (www.careerdishanepal.org). It is a kind of exchange for vocational guidance in the making, with the idea of giving orientation and helping people in finding their place in the professional world.

Franziska Neugebauer, member of Mahadevi Association