Factsheet: Nepal

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

Nepal's 2010 National Youth Policy defines youth as “woman, man and third gender” persons aged 16-40 years old. Gupta, Kumar & Katwal (2011) describe how this was controversial, with civil society members advocating for a lower upper age (ex. 29).

**CANDIDACY AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lower House</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union, Partially appointed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper House</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union, Unicameral.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MARRIAGEABLE AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opposite Sex</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>Without Parental Consent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Same Sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>With Parental Consent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Source: UNSD, ILGA

**VOTING AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male (18-24)</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**MAJORITY AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male (18-24)</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Minimum Age

- Male: 18
- Female: 18

Source: Children’s Act of Nepal (1992)

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX**

- 142 out of 170 countries.
- Year: 2013
- Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

**LITERACY RATES**

- Both sexes: 91.06% (15-24) %
- Male: 91.06%
- Female: 83.08%
- Year: 2015
- Source: UNESCO

- Both sexes: 58.51% (15-24) %
- Male: 58.51%
- Female: 61.15%
- Year: 2013
- Source: UNESCO

**NET ENROLMENT RATE**

- Secondary School: 59.81%
- Both sexes: 59.81%
- Source: UNESCO

**PREVALENCE OF HIV**

- Male (15-24) %: 0.1%
- Female (15-24) %: 0.1%
- Year: 2013
- Source: World Bank

**TOBACCO USE**

- Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once 30 days prior to the survey.
- Male (15-24) %: 13.00%
- Female (15-24) %: 5.30%
- Year: 2010
- Source: WHO

**POLICY & LEGISLATION**

Nepal's national youth policy aims:

- to make qualitative the role of youths and capacity inherent in them for building prosperous, modern and just Nepal, while integrating the youths in the mainstream of national development, through meaningful participation, capacity and leadership development.

It lists 16 working policies that “shall be adopted in harmony with the sectoral policies of the state”, and includes: education; health and family welfare; control of trafficking in and sale of human beings, and participation of youth in peace-building and conflict resolution. The policy is developed in the context of the Interim Constitution of Nepal 2063 (2007), which mandates that the state “shall pursue a special policy to mobilize youth human resources for the development of the country.”

**BUDGET & SPENDING**

- What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the national youth policy, as described in the policy itself. The ministry was formed in 2009 and was preceded by the Ministry of Education and Sports, as described by Gupta et al. (2011). A 2011 youth survey conducted by British Council Nepal revealed that a vast majority of the youth population surveyed was not aware of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The report recommends the creation of district level offices may help to address this problem.

Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The youth policy mandates that “an autonomous and executive national youth council shall be formed”, consisting of “representatives of the concerned bodies […] youth organisations and office-bearers” appointed by the government. The National Youth Council objectives include employment training and campaigning against discriminatory acts in society. Similarly, Youth NGO Federation Nepal is a non-profit, national umbrella organisation of youth NGOs. It is self-described as “autonomous and politically impartial” and also lists MoYS as a partner/supporting organisation.

Does the country have a national youth organisation / association (council, platform, body)?

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

On 14 July 2013, Republica reported that the Ministry of Youth and Sports was allocated a budget of NPR 1.265 billion (USD 12.8 million) for the Nepali fiscal year 2070/71 (2013/14). This is almost double the amount it received for the previous year.

According to the World Bank, Nepal spent 20.22% of its government expenditure and 4.72% of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?

NPR 1.3 BILLION

USD 12.8 MILLION

TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND GDP

Source: World Bank

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