WAKE

Tech2Empower Nepal 2023

Impact Report

ENHANCING THE IMPACT OF WOMEN LEADING IN STEM AND SOCIAL CHANGE
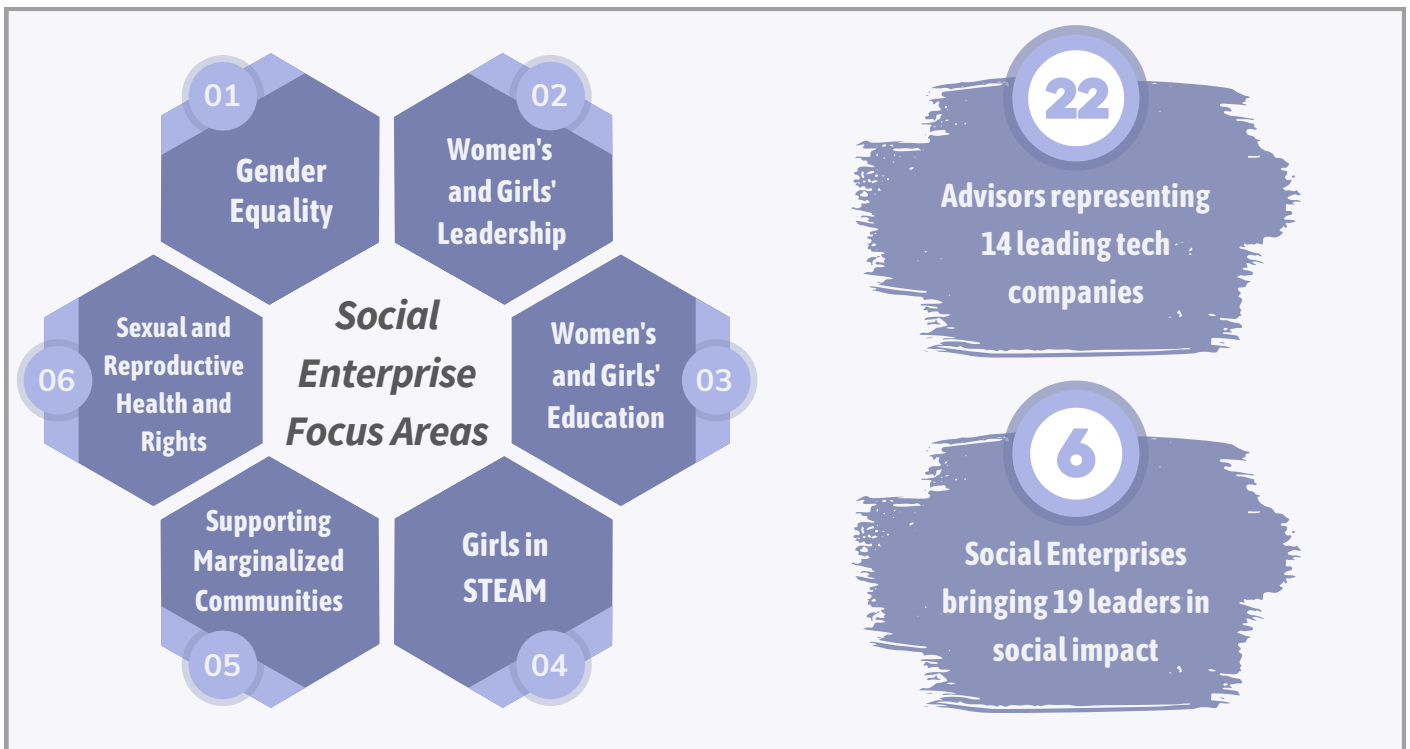
t2e

Tech2Empower Nepal 2023

In April 2023, WAKE brought a delegation of 22 volunteer Advisors from top technology companies to Kathmandu for a week of consultancy, mentoring activities, tech and leadership workshops for university women, and cultural and networking events. This was WAKE's first program in Nepal and was made successful through meaningful partnership with UKAID, The Asia Foundation and Data for Development. We also acknowledge and appreciate our local partners, especially Impact Hub Kathmandu, for providing invaluable local context and connections.

Impact at a Glance

Social Enterprise Focus Areas

01 Gender Equality

02 Women's and Girls' Leadership

06 Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

03 Women's and Girls' Education

05 Supporting Marginalized Communities

04 Girls in STEAM

22 Advisors representing 14 leading tech companies

6 Social Enterprises bringing 19 leaders in social impact

WAKE's mission is to harness the power of technology, volunteerism and collaboration to help move the needle for equality, equity and social justice.

tech2empower

WAKE

Tech2Empower Nepal
Impact Challenge

The Impact Challenge was a collaborative, three-day event in Kathmandu, Nepal, supplemented by 6 weeks of subsequent virtual collaboration. Nepali women-led social enterprises designed projects to increase the reach and impact of their social initiatives and WAKE matched them with skilled Advisors. Program participants demonstrated incredible teamwork towards their project goals, while simultaneously fostering deep connections. Building community is a key element of what makes Tech2Empower programs special. Tech2Empower emphasizes cultural humility, mutual learning, and centers the voices and intentions of our partners.

> My experience working with the WAKE team and advisors was truly phenomenal and the most special one. We shared a beautiful, kind and fun memories during our three days' stay in Kathmandu that we shall always cherish. It was great knowing and thinking things from a different perspective and we look forward to achieving the target goals together.
> - *Shilpa Lamichhane,* **Visible Impact**

100% of organizations met their program goals by the end of the Impact Challenge.

100% of teams expressed that the Advisors were well matched to their proposed projects.

100% of teams reported acquiring new skills that will positively impact their organization through Tech2Empower

100% of organizations responded that their needs were prioritized during the Impact Challenge

tech2empower

WAKE

Tech2Empower Nepal
Impact Challenge Projects

Learn more about the Tech2Empower Impact Challenge projects and their intended impact:

Smart Cheli's team created pitch decks for their key stakeholders; one for local schools, and one for funders, allowing them to promote their workshops and mentorship programs to bridge the gap in STEAM fields as well as acquire sustainable funding to scale their programs.

Visible Impact's team developed digital communication tools and resources to generate an effective online presence and communications plan. This included formulating a concise and compelling elevator pitch, establishing comprehensive brand guidelines, conducting an analysis of social media platforms and developing an effective social media strategy, donor mapping and researching fundraising best practices.

Women Empowerment Centre's team streamlined operational processes by creating an online system to collect beneficiary data and reduce staff time spent managing paperwork. The team also developed a curriculum for women entrepreneurs to learn about email literacy in service to the Centre's mission to bring economic empowerment to Dalit and other traditionally marginalized women.

tech2empower

WAKE

Tech2Empower Nepal
Impact Challenge Projects

Women Leaders in Technology (WLiT)'s team developed a master pitch deck for all of their programs with multiple templates for easy adjustment to their pitching needs. They also created a donor portal to diversify their income streams to sustainably fund their mission to empower women as innovators and leaders in tech.

Shequal Foundation's team collaborated on optimizing tech tools to create a more efficient workflow by upscaling their data management systems and reporting practices. They worked on database management, stakeholder mapping, and created templates of important documents to improve and streamline team productivity.

Youth Led Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Advocacy Nepal (YoSHAN)'s team developed an organizational digital strategy and branding guidelines and implemented strategic changes to their website to effectively guide online and digital engagement with different stakeholders.

tech2empower

WAKE

Tech2Empower's
Day for University Women

WAKE organized Tech2Empower Day for University Women in partnership with our hosts, Kathmandu University Computer Club (KUCC), at the University's Dhulikhel Campus. The day of dynamic, cross-cultural learning provided university women studying in STEAM fields the opportunity to attend innovative and creative workshops led by Tech2Empower Advisors. Topics Included artificial intelligence, leadership, overcoming imposter syndrome, as well as personal branding and marketing.

"As a staunch advocate for empowering women in STEM, Tech2Empower's "Day for University Women" - an all-female tech event was a dream come true. The opportunity to be surrounded by esteemed women in technology and young girls eager to pursue careers in STEM was a privilege beyond measure. As both an organizer and participant of the event, I felt a profound sense of pride in our collective success...These are the women I admire and aspire to emulate."
- *Priyanshu Sharma*, **Computer Engineering at Kathmandu University and Executive at KUCC**

VIDEO HIGHLIGHT
Learn from student perspectives through this testimonial video:
CLICK HERE TO WATCH

tech2empower

WAKE

Advisor Community

Tech2Empower Advisors are professionals from top tech companies, who devote their expertise, time and resources to help move the needle for women's rights, girls' education and social justice. The Tech2Empower Nepal Advisor community demonstrated a fierce commitment to learning and co-creating solutions with their Nepali partners.

Tech2Empower Nepal Advisor reported that they:

① Developed cross-cultural competencies, understanding and adaptability.

② Had robust opportunities to use their professional skills in a new way and for the greater good.

③ Left the program inspired to find new ways to use their skills, experience and resources to make a positive impact in the world.

· WAKE Highlight ·
Women in Data Conference

Another element in our partnership with UKAID, The Asia Foundation and Data for Development, and as part of our commitment to bolstering women leaders in STEM fields, two WAKE Advisors traveled to Kathmandu, Nepal, in March 20203 to deliver keynote speeches at the 3rd annual Women in Data Conference hosted by the Shequal Foundation and The Asia Foundation. The conference endeavored to uplift female voices in data and highlighted the incredible milestones in tech made by women throughout history. It connected 200+ students and professionals in STEM fields in Nepal.

"
I went to Nepal thinking I would have a unique opportunity to learn about the Nepali people and culture while providing a little bit of value in return; but I came back with endless self reflections, valuable lessons in my field of work, and exposure to opportunities where I can continue to make an impact. Tech2Empower empowered me while enabling me to empower others - I am out of words for how meaningful this program has been for me!
- *Krishna Morari,*
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
"

tech2empower

WAKE

Learning and
Cultural Competency

Tech2Empower creates opportunities for Advisors to learn through local partners, to gain a nuanced understanding of the social context of the program and to experience ethical and responsible cultural activities.

Partnering with Tewa & Community Leaders

WAKE had the honor of partnering with Tewa, a women-led community philanthropy organization. Together we held a panel with community leaders on women, resilience, and innovation in Nepal. We are grateful to leadership from Tewa, Women Empowerment Centre, and Indigenous Women Legal Awareness Group, for sharing their knowledge and experience with our group.

Conversing and Connecting: Women in Tech and Diplomacy

In partnership with The Asia Foundation, our cohort attended a panel discussion, dialogue and dinner with diplomats, international development practitioners, and local tech industry leaders to build connections and exchange ideas on fostering women in STEM, entrepreneurship and the importance of global collaboration

Ethical tourism with SASANE Sisterhood

WAKE worked with SASANE Sisterhood, an organization that trains survivors of human trafficking to become tour/trekking guides, to lead all of our cultural outings in Kathmandu. We learned about Nepali culture, history, and food, as well as their important work and mission.

> " With the guidance of our exceptional advisors, we have now established clear goals and actionable steps to achieve them. This program not only brought us together as a cohesive group but also connected me with lifelong mentors who will continue to support me
> - *Sarila Ngakhusi*
> **Women Leaders in Technology** "

> " Tech2Empower Nepal was impeccably well-run, inclusive, and inspirational. Joining the Advisor community helped me find the courage to leave my comfort zone. And it gave me the opportunity to learn things I might have missed if I'd traveled on my own. If you've ever wondered how to promote positive change, Tech2Empower might be your answer!
> - *Kate Wilcox,* **Google** "

> " This experience has been very inspiring and the journey is still yet to continue. I am looking forward to learning so much more from this Impact Challenge and bringing my organization to a level where we can have a one stop data management system for our future events, projects, and planning. Thank you.
> - *Urja Newa,* **Shequal Foundation** "

Help us amplify the work of women's rights and social justice leaders and their organizations.
For more information, please visit our website: www.wakeinternational.org

tech2empower

WAKE