

Empowering Mountains : Nepal Wireless Networking Project

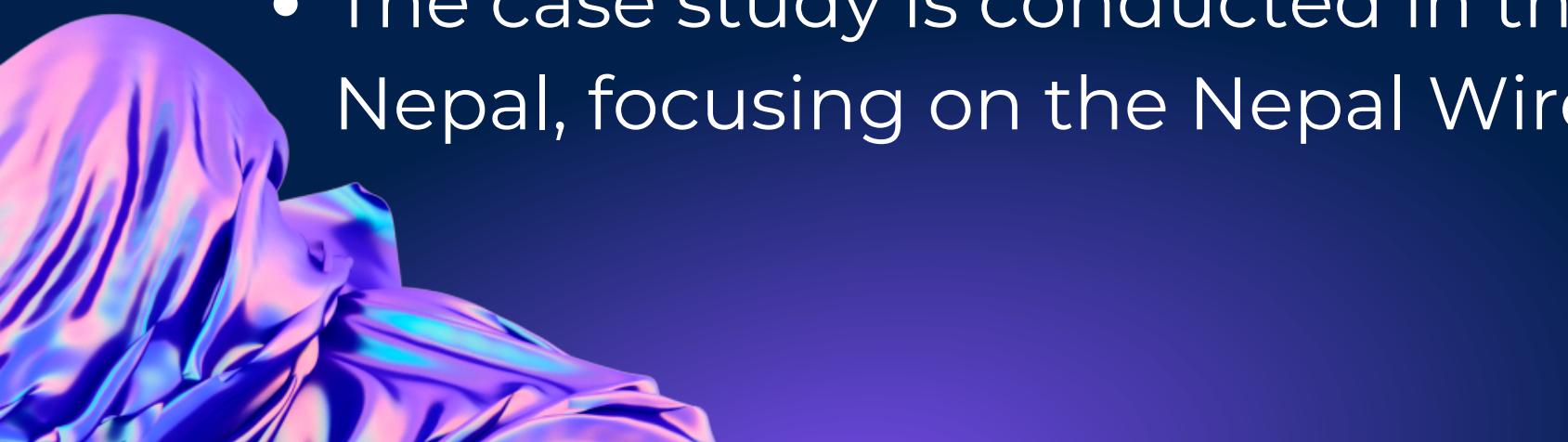


S.M.W.P.W.Bandara
21020116

Introduction



- **The case study :**
 - "The Role of ICT Actors and Networks in Development: The Case Study of a Wireless Project in Nepal" by Devinder Thapa.
- **Research Question :**
 - How do different ICT actors form and extend ICT4D projects, and how do extended networks foster socio-economic development?
- The case study is conducted in the Myagdi district in the mountain region of Nepal, focusing on the Nepal Wireless Networking Project (NWNP).



Background



- NWNP, led by Mahabir Pun, transformed remote Nepali villages with crucial ICT services.
- Mahabir Pun: Visionary founder leveraging ICT for socio-economic development.
- Initial Challenges:
 - Lack of infrastructure
 - Political instability
 - Economic constraints in the mountain regions.



Objectives

01

- Bridging education gaps

02

- Enhancing healthcare

03

- Generating economic opportunities in remote villages.

Implementation Strategies

- Use of TV dish antennas
- Collaboration with international volunteers
- Setting up micro-level hydro power stations.



Stakeholders



Mahabir Pun



- Local Communities
- International Volunteers



Supportive Organizations like the World Bank

Challenges Faced

- Lack of infrastructure
- Political instability
- Restrictive trade policies
- Financial constraints.



Success and Recognition



Project Success

NWNP extended its reach to around 150 villages, fostering socio-economic development.



Awards and Recognition

Mahabir Pun's acknowledgment with prestigious awards for his visionary leadership.

Affordances

Educational Impact

- Connected high school students to the Internet.
- Facilitated access to educational resources and global communication through email.

Healthcare Enhancement

- Enabled health workers to communicate with city doctors, improving healthcare services.

Economic Opportunities

- Established a website for local e-commerce with the help of student volunteers

Broader Changes

Social Impact

- Empowered local communities, making them active participants in the digital world

Economic Growth

- Reduction in transaction costs, improved market access, and socio-economic opportunities.

Cultural Shift

- Influenced cultural practices, ensuring technology blends with local lifestyles



Thank You

References

- <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/j.1681-4835.2011.tb00345.x>
- <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/j.1681-4835.2011.tb00345.x>
- https://youtu.be/-v_9N-jTNQw?si=SGeCRi6NkibHf0L4