AMRIT DEVKOTA

Bhaisepati, Lalitpur, Nepal | +977 9843041972 | adevkota28@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/amritdevko

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE SUMMARY

Nepali development cooperation professional with more than a decade of experience in international cooperation, government and institutional engagement, regional programme leadership and multilateral representation across Nepal, Asia and globally. Has held senior responsibilities with the Asia Regional Office of Save the Children International (Singapore) and with Terre des Hommes Germany (South Asia Regional Office), including regional leadership of a programme expanded to 24 countries and management of a Nepal country portfolio exceeding €10 million. Currently Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of IDEAS International, a policy research and technical advisory organisation.

Postgraduate training in political science (specialising in international relations: South Asia and South-East Asia) and in environmental science (specialising in climate change) underpins a record of policy engagement with Nepal Government institutions, donors, regional networks and UN processes, including participation in COP29 (Baku), the Fifth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Doha) and the FAO World Food Forum (Rome). Brings strengths in development and economic cooperation, climate and environmental diplomacy, public engagement, and the management of teams, budgets and compliance in multicultural settings.

Brings a diplomatic orientation shaped by long engagement with government institutions, embassies, development partners, UN processes and civil society: building and sustaining institutional relationships, representing Nepal on official delegations and international platforms, communicating national priorities with discretion and cultural sensitivity, and turning policy goals into partnerships, funding and practical cooperation. Well placed to strengthen Nepal's bilateral cooperation with partner countries across economic, social, climate and people-to-people dimensions, and to support the welfare and protection of Nepali nationals abroad.

CORE COMPETENCIES RELEVANT TO THE ROLE

Representation and policy advocacy	Member, Government of Nepal delegations to India (2017, Ministry of Youth), World Youth Festival, Russia (2018) and COP29, Baku (2024); panelist at the LDC5-related forum, Doha (2023); speaker, FAO World Food Forum, Rome (2023); South Asia representative in advocacy around UN CRC General Comment No. 26. Engaged the German Embassy during high-level visits and donor engagements.
Development cooperation and economic diplomacy	Managed a Nepal portfolio exceeding €10 million (German BMZ-funded) and a regional portfolio of c. €2 million over two years. Resource mobilisation with GEF-linked partners, GCF, GEA and corporate donors; two global funding proposals. Work on climate finance, ethical carbon initiatives, eco-tourism and sustainable tourism policy.
Engagement with government and institutions	Worked with federal institutions, technical ministries, the Social Welfare Council and the Association of International NGOs in Nepal. Contributed to the National Youth Policy and National Youth Vision 2025 (National Youth Council). Engaged parliamentarians and Constituent Assembly committees during constitution-making.

Leadership and institutional management	Second-ranked country-level leader at TDH Germany; led cross-unit governance and working groups at SCI; currently leads IDEAS International. Responsible for budgeting, financial management, reporting and BMZ compliance; supervised and mentored teams and partners across multiple countries.
Public diplomacy, media and knowledge	Host of the youth talk show Yuwa Sambad on Nepal Television; national and regional campaigns (My Planet My Rights); author of training manuals, policy briefs and documentaries; visiting academic roles in international cooperation.
Languages	Nepali (native); English (fluent); Hindi (fluent).

SECTORAL EXPERTISE AND AWARENESS FOR DIPLOMATIC AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Knowledge developed through the design, management and implementation of projects in Nepal and across Asia:

- **Tourism (expertise):** community-based eco-tourism and sustainable livelihoods programmes with Terre des Hommes Germany, and environmental research, feasibility studies and assessments for tourism and hospitality enterprises through IDEAS International.
- **Trade and investment (working awareness):** exposure to the links between tourism, small enterprise, resource mobilisation and private-sector partnership, including engagement with corporate and institutional partners and feasibility work for private-sector clients.
- **Labour migration (working awareness):** understanding of labour migration and its social and economic effects on communities, gained through community-based and youth-focused project implementation, and of the importance of safe migration, worker welfare and consular protection.
- **Education (expertise):** National Youth Policy and Vision 2025, the Climate Smart Education manual, life-skills and training-of-trainers programmes, and academic engagement as visiting faculty and research supervisor.
- **Climate and energy cooperation (expertise):** climate finance, ethical carbon initiatives, ecosystem restoration, clean-cooking feasibility work, and engagement with GEF-linked partners and GCF, and participation in COP29.

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION AND MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENT

- Member, Government of Nepal delegation, 29th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP29), Baku, Azerbaijan, 2024.
- Expert Speaker, international conference “Tribal Renaissance: Cultural Heritage, Empowerment and Global Dialogue”, India, October 2026.
- Panelist, Least Developed Countries climate conference (LDC5-related forum), Doha, Qatar, 2023; participant, Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5), Doha, 2023.
- Speaker, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) World Food Forum, Rome, Italy, 2023.
- Participant, Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Forum, Bangkok, Thailand, 2023.
- South Asia representative contributing to advocacy around the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child’s General Comment No. 26 on children’s rights and the environment.

- Government of Nepal Delegate, World Youth Festival, Russia, 2018.
- Member, Government of Nepal delegation to India on behalf of the Ministry of Youth, 2017.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer *August 2025 – Present*

IDEAS International, Lalitpur, Nepal

Policy research and technical advisory organisation serving civil society, youth networks, government institutions and private clients.

- Founded the organisation and lead its strategy, partnerships, quality assurance, finances and client relationships.
- Completed assignments include youth policy revision, the development of a Climate Smart Education manual, advisory support on a flood impact assessment, and a child-centred assessment for civil society stakeholders.
- Oversee environmental research, feasibility studies and assessments for tourism and hospitality clients, with policy recommendations on sustainable tourism, climate finance and biodiversity conservation.
- Facilitate partnerships among civil society organisations, youth networks and public institutions.
- Current assignments are funded by domestic clients and institutions and are not supported by foreign donor or foreign-assistance funding.

Consultant *November 2025 – October 2026*

Kindernothilfe (KNH) Germany

- Team Leader for a Child Rights Situation Analysis commissioned by KNH Germany, overseeing assessment design, data collection, analysis and reporting; provided training design, mentoring and technical backstopping to KNH Germany's eight partner NGOs. Assignment completed October 2026.

Asia Regional Programme Manager *December 2023 – December 2024*

Save the Children International, Asia Regional Office, Singapore

Regional leadership of the My Forest Child initiative, linking ecosystem restoration, ethical carbon offsetting, child- and youth-led advocacy and climate resilience.

- Led the expansion of My Forest Child from four initial countries (Nepal, Pakistan, Vietnam, Mongolia) to 24 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America, coordinating with regional, global and country offices.
- Managed a portfolio of approximately €1 million annually (c. €2 million over two years), with responsibility for programme alignment, partner coordination, reporting and compliance.
- Developed concept notes, proposals and resource-mobilisation strategies; supported a GEF partnership through Save the Children Japan and Korea and engagement with institutional and corporate partners including GCF, GEA and Brambles; developed two global funding proposals.
- Led cross-unit coordination, including the Programme Governance Committee, and served as member secretary and de facto lead for working groups on business development, resource mobilisation, communications and advocacy.
- Contributed to SCI's Global Programmes Business Strategy (with Oliver Wyman); supported feasibility studies and proposals for clean-cooking initiatives in Nepal and other Asian contexts.

- Represented Save the Children International at COP29 and contributed to child-responsive climate policy advocacy.

Nepal Programme Coordinator; Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator *September 2017 – December 2023*

Terre des Hommes Germany, Nepal / South Asia

Second-ranked country-level leader; contributed to country strategy, programme delivery, regional coordination and external relations.

- Led development and implementation of country programme priorities aligned with regional and global strategies; managed a portfolio exceeding €10 million, including BMZ-funded multi-country programmes on child rights, youth leadership, climate resilience and sustainable development.
- Oversaw community-based programmes in rural and marginalised communities (ecological agriculture, food security, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, eco-tourism, sustainable livelihoods), including Sustainable Utilization of Resources in the Himalaya Region (Phases I–III) and climate financing and ethical carbon offsetting initiatives.
- Worked with implementing NGOs, civil society, youth networks, federal institutions, technical ministries, the Association of International NGOs in Nepal and the Social Welfare Council; coordinated high-level visits, donor engagements and external evaluations, including engagement with the German Embassy.
- Oversaw budgeting, financial management, reporting and compliance with BMZ and organisational standards (BMZ finance and compliance training, 2019 and 2020).
- Supervised and mentored programme staff and partners; supported youth networks across Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan; led baseline, mid-term, endline and impact studies.
- Led national and regional advocacy, including the My Planet My Rights campaign; received the TDH Germany South Asia Best Performance Award (2019).

Consultant *August 2016 – August 2017*

National Youth Council, Ministry of Youth, Government of Nepal

- Contributed to the National Youth Policy and National Youth Vision 2025, including implementation support and youth participation initiatives.
- Supported youth parliament training, SDG localisation and coordination among government institutions, youth networks and civil society.

Child and Youth Advocacy and Campaigns Coordinator *2013 – 2016*

Children-Women in Social Services and Human Rights (CWISH), Nepal

- Led and supported national campaigns on child rights, environmental justice and disaster-related issues, including the Youth in Black Cap and Green Flag movements.
- Engaged parliamentarians and Constituent Assembly committees on child rights during the constitution-making process; facilitated training on child rights, climate justice and life skills.

LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Founder and Chairperson; subsequently Chief Strategic Advisor (Pro Bono) *2010 – 2013; advisory thereafter*

Nepal Youth Network for Sustainable Development

- Established a youth-led national platform with members across all 77 districts and chapters in every province; advocated for a 50 per cent women's participation quota in the National Youth Council.

National Convenor (Pro Bono) *Current*
Youth and Children's Climate Rights Alliance Nepal (YOUCAN)

- Convenes youth- and child-focused climate rights stakeholders and supports collaboration on climate action, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.

Co-Founder and National Chairperson *2023 – 2025*
Environmental Child Rights and Climate Justice Network – Nepal

- Engages civil society organisations, think tanks and intergovernmental platforms to advance environmental rights and climate justice.

Global Advisor *2018 – 2023*
International Youth Network, Terre des Hommes Germany

- Contributed to international youth-network development and cross-country collaboration.

Member (Voluntary)
Resources Himalaya Foundation; National Election Observation Committee (NEOC); Children-Women in Social Services and Human Rights (CWISH)

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental Science, major in Climate Change – Tribhuvan University, Nepal.
- Master of Arts (MA) in Political Science, major in International Relations – Tribhuvan University, Nepal.
- Fellowship – Faculty of Technology and Environment, Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, Thailand, November 2023 – November 2024.

ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Visiting Faculty, International Cooperation and Development – Mid-West University Nepal / University of Pavia, Italy collaboration; Visiting Fellow, Tribhuvan University, 2024 – present.
- Supervised multiple MSc, BSc and MA research on climate adaptation, ecosystem-based adaptation, agriculture, land use and eco-tourism.
- Led or contributed to research and evaluations on sustainable livelihoods, climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, carbon markets, payment for ecosystem services and eco-tourism.
- Authored the Child and Youth Focused Environmental Rights and Climate Action Training Manual and co-developed the Green Life Skills Manual for Youth; produced policy briefs, case studies, documentaries and other knowledge products.
- Host of the youth talk show Yuwa Sambad on Nepal Television.

SELECTED TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Climate Finance Training – Save the Children International, 2024.
- Master Training of Trainers: Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience – Terre des Hommes Germany, 2021.
- Grant Finance, Compliance and Database Management (BMZ) – Terre des Hommes Germany, 2019–2020.
- Safeguarding Essentials; Data Protection and IT Security; Anti-Harassment and Workplace Dignity, 2023–2024.
- Master Training of Trainers on Localising SDG Indicators – Vikas Sambad, India, 2016.
- Project Cycle Management – ISAS, 2017; Project Monitoring and Evaluation – Nepal Evaluation Society, 2019.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Climate Justice Leadership Award, 2023.
- Best Performance Award, Terre des Hommes Germany, South Asia Region, 2019.

REFERENCES

Professional references and contact details will be provided upon request, with the prior consent of referees.

Amrit Devkota
5.11.2026

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