

European Union-Nepal Business Forum

Unleashing opportunities for EU trade and investment in Nepal

(08 - 09 May 2023)

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the EU-Nepal Business Forum to be held in Kathmandu at Hotel Yak and Yeti during 8-9th May 2023.

Nepal's potential for investment and trade has been steadily increasing over the years. The country's diverse geography, abundant natural resources, and young labour force make it an attractive destination for investment in various sectors, including manufacturing, agro-processing, energy, tourism, and other service sectors. Nepal's growing middle class population and advantageous location between two rapidly growing economies, India and China, also provides investors with access to a large domestic market as well as a preferential market access to neighbouring countries.

Nepal has made remarkable progress towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in recent years and is set to graduate from its Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2026. The graduation also signals Nepal's readiness for business. However, unleashing business opportunities will need additional efforts such as organization of business forums to enhance networking and collaboration between business communities and the public sector.

The EEC-Nepal has joined hands with **the Government of Nepal, EU Delegation in Nepal and GIZ** to organize the first EU-Nepal Business Forum 2023. The business forum will provide a platform for EU and Nepali investors and governments together to explore opportunities that exist in Nepal and the EU member states.

The objectives of the Forum are to showcase business, trade, investment, and FDI opportunities in Nepal; provide a platform for Government to Government (G2G), Government to Business (G2B) and Business to Business (B2B) dialogues and networking opportunities to promote trade and investment between Nepal and the EU; raise awareness of the various trading arrangements between the EU and Nepal; and explore/discuss policy and legal measures that can be undertaken to facilitate investment.

Looking forward to seeing you in the business forum. Alternatively, you can join the event virtually. Please visit our website for more information, program agenda and registration.

Please register at: www.eunepalbusinessforum.com

Please email us at info@eunepalbusinessforum.com

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Day 1, May 8th 2023

Session 1: Opportunities for Business in Nepal

- A Short documentary on: Investment Opportunities in Nepal by IBN (10 Minutes)
- **Keynote Remarks on: Investment Opportunities in Nepal**

(This session will provide an overview of Nepal's business environment and discuss opportunities and challenges in doing business in Nepal).

Session 2: The policy, legal environment and infrastructure for export and investment led growth

- A Short documentary on: SEZ (5-10 Minutes)
- **Presentation on: The policy, legal priorities and infrastructure to support export and investment led growth in Nepal by Mr. Ramesh Khana**

(Based on the **Nepal Trade Integration Strategy 2022 Action Matrix**, this session will primarily cover priorities and changes required in policies and regulatory environment to promote trade and investment led growth in Nepal).

Session 3: LDC Graduation and market entry requirements for Nepal's export potential products in EU markets

- Presentation on: **LDC graduation and market entry requirements for Nepal's export potential products in EU markets**

(This session will focus on market entry requirements for Nepal's priority export products as identified in the NTIS 2022 to the EU markets. The session will also explore the benefits of GSP + schemes – presenting success stories from other South/East Asian countries in the context).

Session 4: Successful Foreign investments in Nepal: Experience sharing

- Successful EU FDI businesses in Nepal: Experiences

(In this session, selected EU investors in Nepal will share their experiences in doing business in Nepal. This will also include the experience sharing of - Private Equity Fund - investing in SMEs, FMO/NMB Bank and Impact Investment from the EU in Nepal and other countries in the region).

Followed by Networking reception & dinner

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Day 2, May 9th 2023

Session 5: Sector Specific Consultations (Parallel Sessions)

These parallel sessions will explore the investment opportunities in priority investment and export potential sectors of Nepal. At the same time, the session will also provide an opportunity to discuss the **contribution of specific sectors in the green and socially inclusive** development of Nepal. More precisely, the sessions are expected on how EUD Nepal, Member States and private sectors are aligned with Global Gateway by boosting private sector engagement during implementation of Global Gateway (GRAPE, Energy, SUSWA, TIP) with concrete examples. Global Gateway includes multiple instruments such as grants, concessional loans and guarantees to de-risk private sector investments, technical assistance, trade and investment agreements as well as policy dialogue to facilitate these investments and push for policy reforms

Parallel Session 1: Investment opportunities in Agriculture/ Agro-processing, Non Timber Forest Product, Manufacturing and Recycling

Parallel Session 2: Investment opportunities in Tourism and related services

Parallel Session 3: Investment opportunities in IT/BPO/Industry 4.0

Parallel Session 4: Investment opportunities in Energy

Followed by Business Networking and Lunch