

Kathmandu Cycle City 2020
For environment friendly cities

Kathmandu Cycle City project is an ambitious program for improvement of cycling in Kathmandu Valley which over the coming years includes developments to cycling infrastructure, training and participation. The overall aim is to make the number of cycles (could be manual or electric) plying in the street more than the number of automobiles being used, with the main target being people who currently use their motorbikes and private vehicles rather than cycling or by foot for short journeys in and around Kathmandu Valley and other possible places of Nepal.

The 10 years of Cycling promotion doesn't only include increase in number of cycle users but also the necessary infrastructures for safe and sound cycling. Our plan is to include and engage the residents of valley; particularly young people encourage them to cycle more often by supporting them through training and participation, with the aim of making cycling one of the most obvious transport choices for journeys around most of Kathmandu.

We believe improvements to key cycling infrastructure and the establishment of city centre cycle access will add to the attraction of cycling as a transport mode, with this idea, Team for Nature and Wildlife (TNW) has launched Kathmandu Cycle City 2020 Campaign on June 5th 2009 (World Environment Day) to make Kathmandu city as a cycle friendly city by the year 2020.

Through this campaign, TNW aims to contribute particularly in the reduction of air pollution in Kathmandu city and valley, which has been scientifically reported as one of the most polluted cities in Asia.

The campaign is coordinated by Cycle City Network (CCN) Nepal formed under the patronage of TNW to implement the campaign activities. The CCN consists of cyclists and students from Kathmandu University, Tribhuvan University and Pokhara University.

Activities till now:

- A talk program at Kathmandu University on: 'cycle as an eco-friendly means of transport' (11th October 2009)
- Kathmandu Cycle Rally on 21st November 2009 with 500 participants

- Signature campaign for world cyclist Mr. Pushkar Shah for his Everest Peace Expedition (14th-16th February 2010)
- A farewell Cycle Rally from Kathmandu to Dolakha for Pushkar Shah's Everest Peace Expedition (7th-9th April 2010)
- Eco Rally on June 5, 2010 to promote Nepal Tourism Year 2011
- Kathmandu Cycle Rally on 21st November 2010
- Advocacy with the concerned governmental and non governmental institutions, donor agencies, politicians and policy makers for cycle friendly infrastructure development

Output:

1.

The Government of Nepal has asked Chinese Government to extend support for the development of cycle infrastructures in Kathmandu Valley.

2. The campaign got email response from ADB to include cycling component in its Kathmandu Sustainable Urban Transport Project

dmargonsztern@adb.org

Sun, Jul 25, 2010 at 9:56 PM

<dmargonsztern@adb.org>

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Dear Mr. Dalit,

Thank you for your email. Through the Kathmandu Sustainable Urban Transport Project, the ADB and the Government of Nepal are trying to improve and reform the urban transport system of the Kathmandu Valley by focussing on Public Transport and Non Motorized Transport. In this project, one of the main component is the pedestrianization of heritage routes and improvement of sidewalks in in the city center. While no component is currently focussed on bicycles, we agree that this could be a significant improvement, Under the Project, an international consulting team will study those issues and possible solutions and will make propositions for a second Project which could include the bicycle component.

Let's keep in touch and maybe meet during my next mission in Kathmandu. I would like to hear about your views.

Best regards,

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For further information:

www.kcc2020blogspot.com

http://tnwuk.org/TNW_UK/cycle_cities.html