

Report of EASTS Domestic Society (2021-2022)

❑ Name of Country/Region:

- Nepal

❑ Name of the Domestic Society:

- Society of Transport Engineers Nepal (SOTEN)
- Address of Secretariat: Kathmandu, Nepal
- E-Mail: info@soten.org.np
- Website: www.soten.org.np
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/TransportEngineersNepal>

❑ Officers and Secretariat

- **President:**
 - Dr. Padma Bahadur Shahi, PEng (Nepal), Road Safety Consultant, ITECO Nepal Pvt. Ltd.
- **Vice-President:**
 - Mr. Rajendra Raj Sharma, Consultant, Department of Roads
- **Secretary-General:**
 - Mr. Chandra Kumar Subedi, Freelancer Consultant
- **Secretary:**
 - Mr. Hemant Tiwari, Nepal Resident Mission, ADB
- **Treasurer**
 - Ms. Sambridhi Shrestha, Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal

❑ Association

Category	Number of Members	Annual membership fee
Life Member	224	One-time payment NRs. 3000
General Member	7	NRs. 200 (renewal per year NRs. 100)
Institutional Member	1	One-time payment NRs. 3000
Fellow Member	2	One-time payment NRs. 10000

▣ The activity of the Domestic Society

1. Institutional Relations

a. Signing MOU with Department of Roads

- The MOU between the Department of Roads (DoR) and SOTEN was signed on August 4, 2021, with the aim of shared responsibility for knowledge sharing, policy dissemination, and capacity building in the field of transport.
- The main objective of the MOU is to create a common platform for the enhancement of efficiency of road transport service backed by good quality road infrastructure.



Image 1: MoU exchange with Department of Roads

b. Signing MOU with Department of Railways

- The MOU was signed on November 17, 2021, to confirm the collaboration and cooperation between the Department of Railways (DoRW) and SOTEN.
- The main objective of the MOU is to identify the issues related to policy, planning, technical, and management dimensions, and develop ideas for resolving them, based on effective and efficient professionalism in the context of Nepal.

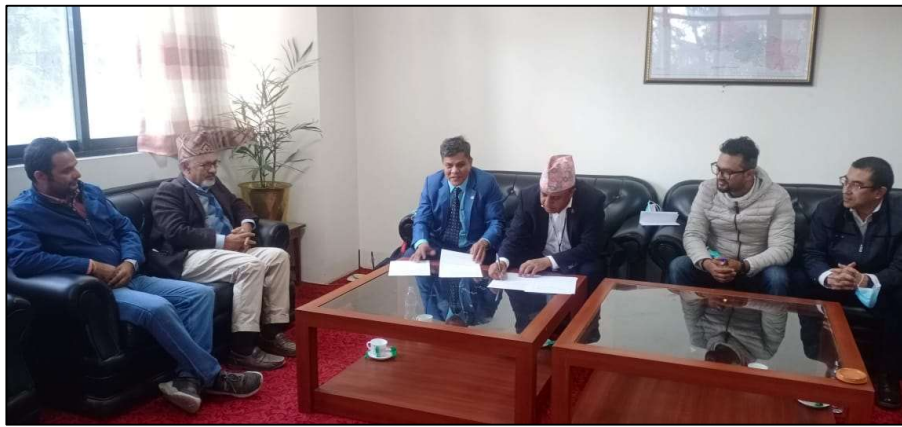




Image 2: MoU signing with DoRW



c. Signing with the Korean Society of Transportation (KST)

The SOTEN and KST signed MoU on 27 January 2022. The intention for MoU is to carry out various programs on mutual benefit. The MoU is aimed at promoting cooperation in organizing seminars, workshops, and conferences for professional development. The MoU signing ceremony was attended by the key persons of both organizations.

MOU Signing Ceremony

between SoTEN and KST
January 27, 2022

Participants from SoTEN

- Dr. Padma Bahadur Shahi, President (Visiting Professor, Institute of Engineering, TU)
- Rajendra Raj Sharma, Vice President (Retired Superintendent Engineer, Department of Roads)
- Chandra Kumar Subedi, General secretary.(Retired Senior Divisional Engineer, Dept. of Roads)
- Hemanta Tiwari, Secretary (Transport Specialist, Nepal Investment Board)
- Sambriddi Shrestha, Treasurer (Deputy Manager, Aerodrome Eng. Dept.)
- Dr. Surya Raj Acharya, Member (Member, University of Nepal Development Board)
- Shreeram Dhakal (Transport Researcher)

Participants from KST

- Seonha LEE, President (Prof. at Kongju National University)
- Jin-Hyuk CHUNG, Vice-President (Prof. at Yonsei University)
- Jangwon JIN, Vice-President (Prof. at Korea National University of Transportation)
- Hyun KIM, Planning Committee Chairman of KST (Prof. at Korea National University of Transportation)
- Young-In KWON, Advisor of KST (Dr. at the Korea Transport Institute)
- Hyerin LEE (Research Associate at the Korea Transport Institute)

Image 3: Participants in the MoU signing ceremony



Image 4: MoU Signing Ceremony with KST (Virtua)

After signing the MoU, KST has offered the Scholarship Program for Nepalese students, and research support for Masters' as well as Ph. D. level Nepalese students. Presently, SOTEN is managing the five research theses supported by the KST.

d. Relations with Korea Transport Institute (KOTI)

SOTEN received a letter from the KOTI (15 March 2022) with the intention to collaborate in the field of Transportation. SOTEN has requested to have an MoU and work together in the research, development as well as organizing of the conference as well as other capacity-building programs.

e. Joint meeting with KST

During the Nepal visit of Dr. Kwon (a representative from KOTI and KST) from 19 to 25 March 2022, SOTEN has organized formal meetings as well as informal discussions about the various aspects of future cooperation among SOTEN, KST, and KOTI. On 20 March, Dr. Kwon visited the SOTEN Office at Babarmahal, Department of Roads. Furthermore, the meeting identified various fields of cooperation and action plans for the future.

f. Relations with National Professional Societies

SOTN has initiated collaboration with national professional societies on mutual benefits. SOTEN has conducted several meetings and joint programs with the Nepal Engineers Association, Nepal Geological Society, Society of Consulting Architectural & Engineers Firms (SCAEF), Safe Sustainable Travel Nepal, and Road Safety Society Nepal.



Image 5: The Dr. Kwon is meeting with DG, DoR Mr. Shiva Hari Sapkota

a. Participating in the 40 Anniversary International Conference

Korean Society of Transportation (KST) has invited SOTEN to participate in the '40 Anniversary International Conference' from 28 to 29 September 2022. It would be an important platform to have more international exposure for collaboration.

2. Annual General Meeting

The SOTEN has organized the Annual General Meeting on 4th December 2021. Most of the members attended the meeting. The previous Executive Committee presented the organizational activities for the duration of the past two years. As per the legal provision, the new Executive Committee was elected for two years period. The meeting has finalized the various activity plan for the upcoming year.



Image 6: Newly formed Executive Committee of SOTEN

3. National Seminar

SOTEN organized a national seminar on “Integrated Transport Infrastructure Development: Issues and Way Forward” on 4th December 2021. The event was widely participated by the professionals in the Transport Sector, decision-makers, high-level government Officials as well as young engineers. The Seminar Opening Session was Chaired by the Dr. Biswo Nath Poudel, Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission as the Chief Guest. The keynote speaker of the Seminar was Mr. Birendra Bahadur Deoja, the former Secretary of the Government of Nepal.

The Technical Session was Chaired by the Dr. Surya Raj Acharya. Five presentations were admitted to the Technical Session from the various Government Institutions such as the Department of Roads, Department of Railways, Department of Local Infrastructure, Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal, and Department of Urban Development & Building Construction. The Seminar has passed the 8-point Resolution for highlighting the issues for integration during the development of transport infrastructure in Nepal. The proceeding of the National Seminar was published. The soft copy is available on the website of SOTEN.



Image 7: Keynote Speech by Mr. Birendra Bahadur Deoja



Image 8: Opening Session of the National Seminar

4. Talk program in collaboration with SSTN

SOTEN has been collaborating with Safe Sustainable Travel Nepal (SSTN) for organizing various talk programs. Recently, the following talk programs were organized:

- 19 July 2022: Strategic Road Safety; Mr. Lewis Martin, Senior Transport Engineer, Australia
- 27 March 2022: Road Asset Management in Nepal; Mr. Prem Prakash Khatri, Executive Director Roads Board Nepal

- 25 February 2022: An overview of Road Improvement and Development Projects in Nepal; Rohit Kumar Bisural, Project Coordinator, Road Improvement and Development Project.

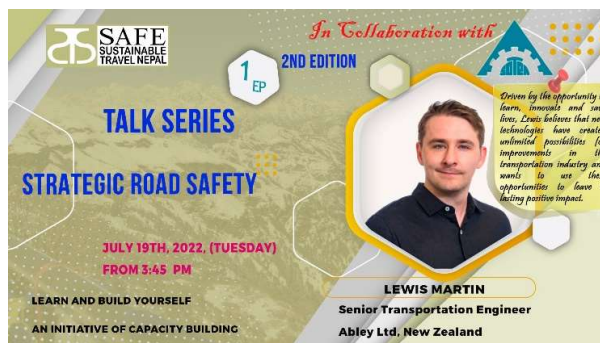


Image 9: Guest Speaker in Tak Program, Mr. Lewis Martin



Image 10: Guest Speaker in the Talk Program Mr. Prem Prakash Khatri



Image 11: Guest Speaker in the Talk Program Mr. Rohit Bisural

5. Road Safety Training for Highway Engineers

As per the MoU between SOTEN and DoR, a Training program on “Safer Roads for saving lives” was conducted from 17 to 22 May 2022. The training program was focused on methods of safer road design and procedures of Road Safety Audit.



Image 12: A group photo of 'Road Safety Training Program'



Image 13: Certification distribution by Acting DG, DoR Mr. Shiva Prasad Nepal

6. Research Support

SOTEN has initiated the research support program for the M. Sc. Level students while carrying the Thesis research in the final Semester. In the first stage of this program, four M. Sc. Students were selected for support. Similarly, five research projects four for M. Sc. Students and one Ph. D. student were selected for the research grant funded by the KST.

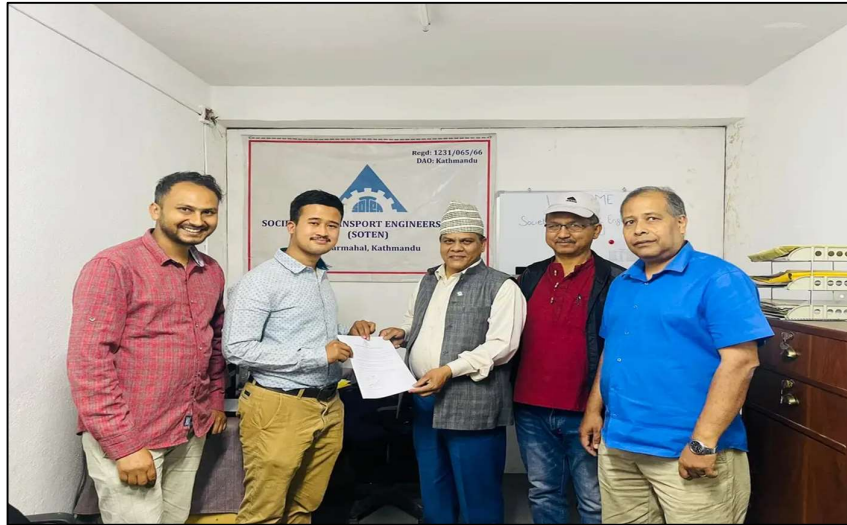


Image 14: Research Support to the M. Sc. Student Mr. Amul Shrestha

7. Transport Dialogue Series-6

SOTEN has planned to organize the Transport Dialogue Series on the relevant and emerging issues in the transport sector. In 22 February 2022 the program was on the “Planning for Sustainable, inclusive and Resilient Urban Public Transport in Asia”. The speaker of the program was Mr. Madan Bandhu Regmi, UNESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand.



Society of Transport Engineers Nepal

TRANSPORT DIALOGUE SERIES
Session 6
 Jointly with
Department of Roads

Planning for Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Urban Public Transport in Asia

Presenter:
Dr. Madan Bandhu Regmi

Dr. Regmi has over 30 years of national and international experience in the areas of sustainable transport, urban mobility, climate change impacts, and sustainability assessment. He currently leads work in the areas of Transport Research and Policy Analysis and works closely with countries and cities to advocate inclusive and sustainable transport policies and facilitates intergovernmental collaboration.

Venue: DoR Meeting Hall,
 Chakupat Lalitpur
 Date: 22 Feb 2022
 Time: 10 AM - 12:30 PM

SOTEN: Together for Better Transport System

8. Training on Sustainable Mobility

A 14 day online sustainable mobility was organized by SSTN in collaboration with SOTEN consisting of 16 participants mainly the fresh graduates from the University level. The training was focused on the main issues of capacity building of fresh graduates, and on the transport themes such as road safety, traffic management, and urban road infrastructure.

9. Co-organizer of an International Conference

An international conference on “International Conference on Contemporary Issues of Climate Change” was organized on 08 April 2022 in Kathmandu. The Conference was jointly organized by Universal Engineering and Science College, Nepal Engineers Association, and NSET others.



UESC Conference 2022

**International Conference
 on
 Contemporary Issues of Climate Change
 (ICCIC)**

Organized By
Universal Engineering & Science College (UESC)

in collaboration with
NSET **SI**
 Science Hub

Kathmandu, Chaitra 25, 2078 (April 8, 2022)

10. Participation on NGS day 2021

SOTEN participated on the 28th anniversary celebration of Nepal Geotechnical Society (NGS) on 18 May 2022. The program was attended by the many stakeholders of in the relevant field. The event had a panel discussion on the topic “Geohazards and Geo-Infra Disaster Mitigation in Nepal and the Role NGS.

11. SOTEN Calendar Publication 2079

SOTEN has published a Nepali Calendar 2079 (2021- 2022 AD) for SOTEN was published in collaboration with various transport projects as well as the institutional body.

▣ List of EASTS Representative Member(s)

1. Representative:

- Name: Dr. Padma Bahadur Shahi PEng (Nepal), President, SOTEN
- Road Safety Expert, ITECO Nepal Pvt. Ltd
- Email: pb_shahi@yahoo.com

2. Alternative Representative

- Name: Mr. Rajendra Raj Sharma (vice President, SOTEN)
- Consultant, Department of Roads
- Email: razendra@live.com