



FOUNDER
Bihani Social Ventures
**SANTOSHI
RANA**

Santoshi Rana

Founder, Bihani Social Ventures

Topic 1: What is social entrepreneurship / examples

After attaining a Master's degree in Media & Communication Management from Middlesex University, London and getting a chance to work as a Campaigner, Communication Intern, Media Reader & Training Consultant besides being involved with organisations like OXFAM and Haemophilia Society, after much contemplation, I decided to come back to Nepal.

While working with [ChangeFusion Nepal](#) supporting social ventures and organizing the Surya Nepal Asha Social Entrepreneurship Award – the first ever Nepali award of its kind which recognised hidden heroes – I finally got the courage to move out of my comfort zone.

It was always my dream to start something of my own and during the course of time I tried to figure out what I really wanted to do. I realised that my fear of ageing had to do with the fact that it is not taken in a very positive manner in our society. Over a period of time, I also got to meet a lot of inspiring individuals who were still living their lives despite their age and that is when *Bihani* took shape. It has been created as a platform to provide the support system that our elders needed, where unfulfilled dreams can take shape or where experiences would find a way beyond individuals through various activities.

At *Bihani*, we believe that one should re-engage, re- explore and re-live to have a rewarding life till the end.

The main thought being, one should have lived their life to the fullest and not let any regrets ruin it.



DIRECTOR
The East Port of Spain Development Company
DEBORAH
THOMAS-AUSTIN

Deborah Thomas-Austin

*Director, The East Port of Spain Development Company
(A special purpose State Enterprise established by the
Government of Trinidad and Tobago)*

Topic 2: The poverty challenges facing Trinidad and Tobago,
Gender / literacy

Dr. Deborah Thomas-Austin is the Managing Director of the East Port of Spain Development Company, a special purpose State Enterprise established by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, a position she has held since the Company became operational in 2006. Previously, she served as the Assistant Coordinator and Town Planner with the Town and Country Planning Division of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago from 2003 to March 2006. She holds a BA (Hons) in Planning Studies and an MSc in Urban Planning from Oxford Polytechnic (now Oxford Brookes University), UK, and a PhD in Land Economy from the University of Cambridge (Wolfson College), UK.

Dr. Thomas-Austin served as a part-time lecturer on the MSc Planning and Development programme in the Department of Surveying and Land Information at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad from 2002 to 2016 and for the past five (5) years has also lectured in Land Use Planning on the MSc programme in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health in the Department of Chemistry at UWI St. Augustine. She is a former President of the Trinidad and Tobago Society of Planners. Dr. Thomas has consulted for the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as a land use planner/project manager, working with the governments of Anguilla, Montserrat and Antigua and Barbuda between 1992 and 2001. She has also provided consultancy services to the Organisation of American States in the field of hazard mitigation in the Caribbean and participated in designing a hazard risk management course for the Caribbean Development Bank. Dr. Thomas is also a voluntary, trained tutor with the Adult Literacy Tutors Association of Trinidad and Tobago (ALTA) for the past nine (9) years. Dr. Thomas served for two terms from 2011-2019 as President of the World YWCA (a global movement of women and girls with a presence in over 125 countries advocating for, defending and promoting women's rights, leadership and empowerment and working for justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and the environment)

Connect/ Know More:

<https://www.worldywca.org/wp-content/uploads/ressources/Bio%20Deborah%20Thomas-Austin.pdf>



Co-Founder Teach for Nepal
Founder Nitishala Nepal
Co-Founder Pick N Drop

SHISHIR
KHANAL

Shishir Khanal

Co-Founder, Teach For Nepal

Founder, Nitishala Nepal

Co-Founder, Pick N Drop

Topic 3:

Shishir is serving as Advisor to Mayor in Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City. He is a Co-Founder and former CEO at Teach for Nepal (TFN). Prior to TFN, Mr Khanal worked as the Executive Director of Sarvodaya USA, worked with Sarvodaya Movement in Sri Lanka and started Sarvodaya Nepal. Recently, he has founded a non-profit organization called Nitishala to inspire young people to work in policy and governance reform. He has also co-founded, Pick and Drop, a delivery and logistics company.

He completed Master's degree in International Public Affairs (MIPA) in 2005 from the La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelors in International Political Economy & Diplomacy from University of Bridgeport, CT, USA. In 2012, the University of Wisconsin Alumni Association awarded him with the "Forty Under 40" Award for his outstanding work in sustainable development.

In 2017, Teach For Nepal received VOITH Award of Excellence in Nepal. In 2018, Outstanding Alumni Award, International College, University of Bridgeport. In 2019, he received Young CEO of the Year Award.

Connect/ Know More:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shisir-khanal-2699713/?originalSubdomain=np>



FOUNDER AND CURATOR
Dharavi Reloaded
**ABHIJEET
JEJURIKAR**

Abhijeet Jejurikar

Founder and Curator, Dharavi Reloaded

Topic 4: Experience working in Dharavi Slum

Abhijeet is the founder & Curator of DHARAVI RELOADED, which is India's most-loved junk percussion band, consisting of kids from the slums of Dharavi (one of the largest slums in Asia).

His knowledge imparting methods are exemplary, wherein he teaches music, in a way that it helps all the children recognize their talent quotient. He is of the belief, that this learning tool will inculcate discipline and help kids in finding livelihood opportunities in the future.

This unique band creates music from waste material found in the slums of Dharavi, such as drum barrels, coffee shakers, paint cans, plastic boxes and a lot more, bringing to the fore the concept of Recycle, Reuse & Respect. The initiative aims to enrich these kids' lives, while also aspiring to create a bond between communities.

The band has done more than 300 shows across India and has collaborated with some of the biggest artists and celebrities in the country. This project has helped children get recognized in their community, get rid of all their bad habits and most importantly it has made them financially independent, where they support their families and pay their own school fees.

Abhijeet has given several talks on various platforms about his project Dharavi Reloaded. Recently, he was in the U.S for a professional fellowship program where he spoke at various organisations, public/ private schools, and colleges.

Connect/Know more:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/abhijeet-jejurikar-62429a5/?originalSubdomain=in>

<https://mumbaimirror.indiatimes.com/mirror-heroes/Abhijeet-Jejurikar-Dharavis-bucket-list/mumbaihero/20556799.cms>



International Consultant, Researcher and Lecturer
Co-director of Mental Health UVic-UCC
Coordinator of the Mental Health and Social Innovation Research Group

SALVADOR
SIMÓ ALGADO

Salvador Simó Algado

*International consultant, researcher and lecturer
Co – Director Chair of Mental Health UVic-UCC
Coordinator of the Mental Health and Social Innovation
Research Group*

Topic 5: Significance of the social entrepreneurship in creating meaningful and well-paid jobs for people facing social exclusion

Salvador is an Occupational Therapist, who soon realized the need to learn about entrepreneurship to be able to create meaningful and well-paid jobs for people facing social exclusion. That is the reason he did an MBA first and a post-graduated in Social Entrepreneurship later.

Right now, he teaches 2 subjects related to entrepreneurship at the European Business School, meanwhile keeps teaching and researching, with his job at UVic-UCC (Member of COEHRE). With one of his PhDs he is researching how to measure RSC/ESG.

He is interested in developing projects based on ICT, social innovation and entrepreneurship, Occupational Science/Therapy, and mental health to create healthy and inclusive communities, and/or develop research projects, collaboratively putting his disposal twenty years of professional experience, and training.



CHAIRMAN
Human Resources Group,
World Bank's Business Forum

COLIN
BLACKWELL

Colin Blackwell

Chairman of the Human Resources Group of the World Bank's Vietnam Business Forum

Topic 6: How the future of employment is being changed by technology?

Colin is Chairman of the Human Resources Group of the World Bank's Vietnam Business Forum, representing chambers of commerce to the government on policy advocacy. His social enterprise creates artificial intelligence machine learning careers for people with disabilities and is a global impact portfolio member of the World Bank's solutions for youth employment consortium. Previously, Colin has worked for PwC and for multinational corporates in global HR leadership roles at head office level. He is judging many global business competitions including the United Nations Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge, the United Nations Hult Prize and the Vietnam HR Awards.



FOUNDER
Naagiko Honey
**BIBHUTI
NEUPANE**

Bibhuti Neupane
Founder of Naagiko Honey

Topic 7: Dealing Poverty with Honey: Story of Naagiko Honey

Bibhuti Neupane is the CEO and co-founder of a social enterprise – Naagiko Honey. Naagiko Honey works with indigenous communities of Nepal who produce high quality honey. The company has been working towards improving the livelihood of the community through scalable and sustainable models.

Bibhuti has been working in the Nepalese Entrepreneurship Community for six years now. She was involved in different incubation and accelerator programs before.



CO-FOUNDER
My Emotions Matter

BHAWANA
SHRESTHA

Bhawana Shrestha

Co-Founder of My Emotions Matter

Topic 8: Story of My Emotions Matter

Ph.D. candidate of Educational Leadership at Kathmandu University, Bhawana Shrestha, started her career as a journalist at 17 in pursuit of social change. She later switched careers to serve 3 years in rural Nepal through the Teach for Nepal fellowship. Having realized that students don't learn just because the teacher is well prepared to take the class, she joined as a faculty for undergrads to see if emotions still had the same impact on them too.

Having observed a deficiency of emotional intelligence in students, she conducted her M.Phil. Research on 200 students to measure the state of emotional intelligence in Nepal.

The findings led her to start My Emotions Matter as a solution to the problems she had experienced throughout her journey. She is an alumna of 'Living Through Lived Experience' fellow of Teach for All and was also one among 1.000 professional learning leaders to help pilot TED its program in 2019, hosted by Head of TED Chris Anderson.

A redemptive storyteller, Bhawana believes in living a meaningful life and is fond of poetry.



FOUNDERS & LABMASTERS
3ID Labs

ISABELLE
VANDEVYVERE &
LIEVEN DESOMVIELE

Isabelle Vandevyvere & Lieven Desomviele *Labmasters 3ID LABS*

Topic 9

In Belgium as well as in Europe and worldwide, the societal, cultural, economic and political context changes rapidly and affects living conditions. Dealing with diversity, acting towards inclusion, developing sustainable interventions, advocacy of the most vulnerable people, influencing policy, framing and reframing are just some of the challenges that need to be overcome.

At 3ID LABS, students will work on a real-life case during a full semester. The cases are submitted by real organisations and will cover important social challenges in the fields of sustainability and social inclusion, etc. Together with a super diverse team, the students will design their own answer to these challenges.

By the end of the semester the students will be self-aware professionals, ready for the challenges the entrepreneurial world brings.

More info on 3ID LABS:

<https://www.artevelde-uas.be/programmes/international-semester-programme/3id-labs-english/what-are-3id-labs>