

NEWSLETTER

Issue: August 2023

सोसाइटी अफ कन्सिल्टङ्ग आर्किटेक्चरल एण्ड इन्जिनियरिङ्ग फर्म्स् SOCIETY OF CONSULTING ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING FIRMS (SCAEF), NEPAL

(A National Body of Consulting Firms Recognized by Government of Nepal)

Editorial



In continuation to its commitment to the primary tenets of Communication, Capacity-Building and promotion of Professional Ethics and Integrity in pertinence to the consulting industry of Nepal as elucidated during the Newsletter Issue #1, #2, #3 and a comprehensive Newsletter #4, I am very pleased to announce the issuance of Newsletter #5 which provides a comprehensive description of the various events/milestones conducted/achieved by SCAEF's Executive Committee during the period. It is to be noted that the activities as completed during this particular time-frame are in strict consonance with SCAEF's overarching philosophy regarding the promotion of consulting industry in Nepal and the various interlinked activities to facilitate the same. Therefore, it has covered a broad range

of activities: from the successful conduction of various workshops, inter-agency communication/coordination, timely discussion on the contemporary issues, righteous advocacy etc. As the valued members of our fraternity, your constructive feedback on the current progress as well as your suggestions for future newsletters will be highly appreciated.

Thank you!

Dr. Sudeep AdhikariOn behalf of Publication Sub-Committee

Presidents' Message



I have the pleasure to note the issuance of this SCAEF's Newsletter #5, which provides a complete description of the various activities and events conducted by the SCAEF's Executive Committee during the reporting period. I believe that the continuation of the Newsletter is important for dissemination of the SCAEFs initiatives in consonance with its objective of promotion of consulting industry in Nepal. I note that it has covered a broad range of activities; inter-agency coordination, interactions on the contemporary issues, advocacy, etc. The Publication Sub-committee is committed to welcome your suggestions for the improvement of the future Newsletters. I feel that the content of

Newsletter very well represents the entire spectrum of SCAEF's activities during the period and can hence be circulated to member firms as well as public/ private entities, donor agencies and international fraternity through emails apart from posting in the SCAEF's website. This can also provide data for FIDIC and FIDIC Asia Pacific newsletters under the information of Member Associations.

I look forward for the timely publication of future Newsletters. I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Publication Sub-Committee coordinated by Dr. Sudeep Adhikari.

Er. Tuk Lal Adhikari President, SCAEF Nepal

Public Discourses

In consonance to its commitment of the SCAEF for betterment of consulting practice and protection of its member firms, SCAEF during this period, reviewed various bid documents floated by the public entities and provided its feedback and comments to the concerned authorities to help making the documents more transparent, consistent and in consonance with the Public Procurement guidelines. The issues were identified during the regular Executive Meetings as well as collected from the concerns shared by the member firms. SCAEF highly encourages its member firms to activity participate in this process as the part of the institutional advocacy, and also as an effort in capacity building of all the concerned parties, that is, consulting firms, consulting professionals and the Client in the procurement process. The associated Table provided the necessary details:

| Bid | Bid Type | Date | Client | Issues collated, and coordinated and conveyed by SCAEF | Response from the Public Entity |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Preparation of Master Plan with Detailed Architectural & Engineering (A/E) Design and Cost Estimation for the Construction of Physical Infrastructures and Supervision of Construction at Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB), Pokhara, Kaski | Eol | April 06, 2023 | Nepal Rastra Bank Assets and Service Management Department | Non-symmetry between the deliverables and the Manpower proposed, Provisional sum, DLP requirement, team composition, payment schedule etc. | No official response from the client |
| Preparation of National Railway Master Plan EOI: DORW/02/2079/80 | Eol | April 21, 2023 | Department of Railways, GoN | Number of Sub- consultants, Selection methodology, valid energy-source, timeline of the deliverables, team composition, payment schedule etc. | No official letter from the client; but addendum was issued with detailed breakdown of the various clauses with some of the issues from SCAEF duly addressed |
| Preparation of Master Plan with Detailed Architectural & Engineering (A/E) Design and Cost Estimation for the Construction of Physical Infrastructures at Dadeldhura Medical College (DMC), Dadeldhura District. FWU/EOI/01/079/080 | Eol | May 19, 2023 | Far Western University | Experience of the consulting firm, Team composition, objective of the study etc. | No official response from the client |

| Bid | Bid Type | Date | Client | Issues collated, and coordinated and conveyed by SCAEF | Response from the Public |
|---|-------------|------------------|--|---|--|
| Expression of Interest for Detailed Project Report (DPR) of various bridges in Kavrepalanchok and Bhaktapur District (Contract Identification No: 01- IDOKAVRE/CS/ EOI/079- 80) | Eol | June 02, 2023 | Infrastructure Development Office (IDO) Dhulikhel, Kavre | Qualification of key experts, time schedule, experience and capacity of the firm etc. | Entity No official letter from the client; but addendum was issued with detailed breakdown of the various clauses with some of the issues from SCAEF duly addressed |
| a) Preparation of Strategic Development Master Plan of Bigu Rural Municipality (b) Preparation of Rural Municipal Transport Master Plan (RMTMP) (c) Preparation of Bigu Market Plan (d) Preparation of Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (DPRP) of BRM (e) Preparation of Information Communication and Technology (ICT) master plan of Bigu rural municipality (f) Preparation of Municipality Master Plan (MMP) | Eol | June 15, 2023 | Bigu Rural Municipality Laduk, Dolakha Development Committee | Ambiguous scope of the work, duration of the assignment, payment schedule, Manpower requirement etc. | No official response from the client |
| Detailed Feasibility Study of Tamor Chisyang Diversion Multipurpose Project | Eol | July 13, 2023 | Irrigation Feasibility Study and Construction Quality Program Department of Water Resources and Irrigation | Duration of the assignment, selection methodology, mode of payment, Manpower requirement, Qualification of key experts, experience and capacity of the consulting firm etc. | No official letter from the client; but an addendum was issued with time extension as proposed by the client |

Capacity Building

SCAEF is well-aware of the fact that while the procurement of the service is very important, as a knowledge based industry, an optimum delivery of the product is the most pivotal requirement. Deliverance of good design, estimate and project-management are not only our professional liabilities, but they also form a part of our institutional responsibility to optimize the tax-payers' money and resources that have been invested for the development of infrastructures. This, needless to say, requires the capacity-building of our professionals to make them adapt the ever-changing ecology of knowledge, further accentuated by the ever-increasing trend of micro-specialization in recent times. With the knowledge and skills garnered





by SCAEF with the successful conduction of various trainings in past, the following training was conducted during the period. In the context of extreme climatic events where abrupt change in temperature is being noticed to be a prominent issue, green building can be arguably be considered the next paradigm in urban infrastructures. Therefore, SCAEF found it imperative to conduct a pertinent training for the internalization of technical know-how of the topic among its member firms.

| Program | Target Groups | Executive Role | |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Design of Green Building | Engineers, Architects and Construction Professionals | FCAN & SCAEF in association with CBDIC | |



Industry-Academia Linkage/Coordination

SCAEF has always been vocal about the inherent gap between the academia and consulting industry and is committed to technically and psychologically prepare/prime the would-be engineers and architects for the market. The way SCAEF has envisaged to address this important issue is by conducting open discussion, discourses and debate with the students and the academics, thus identifying the gaps and work jointly with the concerned stakeholders for the identification of remedial measures. During the period, the following activities were of prime highlights.



Signing of MoU with Universal Engineering and Science College



VP Mr. Thakur P Sharma interacted with civil engineering students of Kathmandu Engineering College alongwith Prof. Dr. Narendra Man Shakya and Superintending Engineer Mr. Lalijan Khanal of Department of Roads on career prospects, opportunities and counselling



April 21, 2023: GS Mr. Kamal Karki attending 2nd National Conference on Architectural Trend-Nepal at Khowpa Engineering College



VP Mr. Thakur Prasad Sharma and EC Member Ms. Mandakini Karki conducted a Career Counseling program at Universal Engineering and Science College before the MoU signing ceremony



VP Mr. Thakur Prasad Sharma, Deputy Joint Secretary Mr. Narayanhari Rijal and EC member Mr. Ujjwal Man Shakya conducted a Career Counselling Program for the prospective engineering and architecture students at Nepal Engineering College, Bhaktapur

Major Discussions during the EC Meetings

| Meeting Identification | Date | Key Issues under Discussion |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|
| EC Meeting # 733 | 10th April 2023 | Fund management for various trainings, Reporting of provincial trainings, Financial assistance to SCAEF for FIDIC International Conference |
| EC Meeting # 734 | 2nd May 2023 | SCAEF feedback to the infrastructure improvement committee, Sub-committee' performance evaluation, SCAEF legislation's amendment |
| EC Meeting # 735 | 5th June 2023 | SCAEF legislation's amendment, Registration with Social Welfare Council, Fee of legal advisor |
| EC Meeting # 736 | 12th June 2023 | Review and reporting of works done by each sub- committee and planning for next year |
| EC Meeting # 737 | 26th June 2023 | Review and reporting of activity plan of each sub- committee |
| EC Meeting # 738 | 3rd July 2023 | Application to tax office for tax exemption |
| EC Meeting # 739 | 17th July 2023 | Half Yearly review of the progress of SCAEF, Nepal, Meeting with Mr. Sandesh Singh Hamal from ALIGN, a USAID funded project |
| EC Meeting # 740 | 24th July 2023 | Reporting of Annual Programs of Sub-Committees, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SCAEF, Nepal and National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) |
| EC Meeting # 741 | 7th August 2023 | SCAEF billing rates discussion for Chemist/Senior Chemist as per the request from Department of Mines and Geology, Member firms long outstanding dues payment and termination, Special Committee/task force for addressing Architectural member firms |

Righteous Advocacy and Endorsement

With the current situation of economic recession and the Government's visible commitment to austerity and curtailment of public spending in forthcoming Budget for the current Fiscal Year, SCAEF was grievously concerned about its implication on the further infrastructure development and its undeniable relationship with the over-arching objective of nation-building. Therefore, SCAEF voiced its strong opinion on the different public forums against budget-curtailment infrastructures. negative and its impact on sustainability of employment and the construction/consulting industry.

Similarly, SCAEF depicted their strong solidarity with FCAN (Federation of Contractors' Association of Nepal) against the Ministry of Finance's statement about their inability to pay the due bills of Contractors in the backdrop of current economic recession.





their Solidarity with FCAN's Cause



General Secretary Mr. Kamal Karki participating on the Peaceful Protest for the Cause

MoU between SCAEF and National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET)

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between SCAEF, Nepal and NSET on 24th July, 2023 to jump-start an institutional collaboration, cooperation and mutual capacity-building. Consultation and Exchange of Information, Disaster Risk Reduction, Capacity-Building and Humanitarian Services were identified as the prominent over-arching themes where there are distinct possibilities of the consortium between the two societies to the serve the industry and the country well.

President of SCAEF Mr. Tuk Lal Adhikari and Executive Director of NSET Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha inked the MoU in the presence of representation from both organizations.





Conduction of a Talk Program on "Introduction of Disaster Prevention in Japan"

A talk program was conducted by SCAEF on July 2, 2023 at Department of Water Resources and Irrigation, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur on the topic "Introduction of Disaster Prevention in Japan". Dr. Mitsugu Nomura, who is the Chairman of Disaster Prevention Committee of IPEJ (The Institute of Professional Engineers, Japan), presented a talk on the sub-topic "Slope Management with Risk Assessment". The talk revolved around the risk-management of slope hazards and it covered a multi-dimensional risk-management methodology inclusive of both structural and non-structural interventions on the backdrop of risk associated with budget-management. Similarly, Mr. Hiroshi Sugimoto presented a talk on the sub-topic "Improvement of Access Method to Slope Disaster Prevention Construction Sites". While the majority of our concerns are directed toward the proper structural interventions, the subsidiary issues such as transportation may pose a considerable difficulty during its implementation. Mr. Sugimoto presented how Nikkari, a Japanese company has developed a monorail system to access the remote sites with required logistic support ridden with slope related disasters. The talk also revolved around the viability of bringing in such technology to Nepal to serve the purpose.









Inter-agency/professional Bodies Communication



July 7, 2023: President Er. Tuk Lal Adhikari, expressing best wishes for the success of 14th SOTEN day at Marriott hotel on behalf of SCAEF



June 20, 2023: SCAEF's EC Members participating on Discussion with Nepal Engineering Council regarding joint effort for mutual cooperation for the betterment of engineering profession



19 May, 2023: SCAEF's EC Member Ms. Mandakini Karki participated on a conference organized by Women Engineers Co-Ordination and Welfare Committee, Nepal Engineers Association



Mr. K K Kapila, President (Emeritus) International Road Federation, FIDIC Ambassador & Former Executive Committee Board Member, and Past President of CEAI Centre invited SCAEF EC Members for an informal meeting with him on April 25th, Kathmandu.

New Member Firms' Details

SCAEF derives its strength of solidarity, righteous advocacy, capacity-building, public discourses and policy interventions from its member firms. Therefore, SCAEF is always working on broadening its reach to new consulting firms with varied expertise to serve the purpose. The table hereunder provides the details of the new member firms who have been recently associated with SCAEF. SCAEF would like to extend their gratitude for their interest to join SCAEF, and also hereby would like to welcome them in the fraternity.

| Member No. | Firm's Name | Official Address | Authorized Representative |
|---------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| M 249 | Traffic & Transport Unlimited Solution | Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal | Er. Subhash Dhungel |
| M 250 | R & R Engineering Consultancy (P) Ltd. | Katunje-1, Bhaktapur (Contact: Babarmahal, Kathmandu) | Dr. Er. Rekha Shrestha |
| M 251 | Kiru Engineering Consultant (P) Ltd. | Shantinagar-31, Kathmandu, Nepal | Er. Harish Kumar Singh |
| M 252 | Digi-Nirman Engineering (P) Ltd. | Biratnagar-13, Rajpath | Er. Bibek Singh |
| M 253 | Rector Engineering Concern (P) Ltd. | Godavari-2 Kailali | Er. Surendra Kumar Thapa |
| M 254 | Niyatra Consult (P) Ltd. | Kupondole, Lalitpur | Er. Umesh Dhital |
| M 255 | Retro Engineering Consult (P) Ltd. | Chapali-4, Budanilkantha, Kathmandu | Er. Dipendra Aryal |
| M 256 | Hydro Tunnelling and Research (P) Ltd. | Kalikasthan, Kathmandu | Er. Prem Krishna KC |
| M 257 | Future Creation Consultant (P) Ltd. | Dhangadhi-4, Kailali | Er. Yagya Raj Bhatta |
| M 258 | Masta Engineering Consultancy (P) Ltd. | Salyanthan, Kirtipur, Nepal | Er. Lokendra Joshi |
| M 259 | Crystal Engineering and Management Consultant Pvt. Ltd. (CEMC) | Vishwa-18, Birgunj | Er. Ajeet Kumar Karna |

Prospective Engagements of SCAEF

| Event | Organizer | Location | Duration |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 2023 FIDIC annual Global Infrastructure Conference | FIDIC | Singapore | 10-12 September, 2023 |
| FIDIC Asia Pacific Conference | FAP and CEAT | Bangkok, Thailand | 26-28 November, 2023 |
| WWF India Tour in the context of ALIGN Project | WWF Nepal | India | 20-26 August, 2023 |

Last but not the Least!

A very heart-felt congratulation to our Deputy General Secretary Mr. Narayanhari Rijal for

being elected as a Secretary of the Nepal Hydropower Association (NHA), and our EC member Ms. Mandakini Karki as the Vice-President of Nepal Geotechnical Society (NGS).



SCAEF is very proud of their involvement with associations representing a very vibrant and cutting-edge industry, and we, the SCAEF's Executive Committee and the Secretariat would like to wish them for very successful and productive tenures!

