

Student Research Grant Call-2025

Background

Shechen Karuna, a development organization operating in Nepal since 2020, envisions a society free from poverty, where individuals enjoy their rights and live with dignity. The organization's mission focuses on improving livelihoods, health, education, and economic development while ensuring sustainable and inclusive growth. Through the Nepal Integrated Development Project-II (NIDP-II), Shechen Karuna works in the Terai, Mid-Hills, and High-Hills regions, addressing five thematic sectors:

- **Food Security**
 - **Health and Hygiene**
 - **Education**
 - **Economic Development**
 - **Environment**
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Research Grant Objective

Shechen Karuna announces a call for thesis research grants for M.Sc. students (preferably in their second or third semester) from Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU). The grant supports research aligned with the NIDP-2.0 project's thematic areas. Research will be conducted in project sites in Kapilbastu and Dhading districts, focusing on agricultural and environmental themes relevant to NIDP-2.0's objectives.




Thematic Research Areas

- Nutrient content analysis and indigenous knowledge for the consumption and preservation of wild edible mushrooms (Dhading - Ruby Valley)
- Economic/Value Chain analysis of turmeric (Kapilbastu)
- Optimizing potato production (Dhading)
- Sustainable soil management practices (Kapilbastu)
- Food security and cereal balance sheet in Ruby Valley and Khaniyabas (Dhading)
- Livestock products of the transhumance management system in Ruby Valley (Dhading)




Eligibility Criteria

- M.Sc. students (preferably second/third semester) at Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU).
 - Research must align with one of the listed thematic areas.
 - Proposals should follow AFU's M.Sc. thesis research proposal guidelines.
 - Applicants must be proficient in MS Office and relevant data analysis tools.
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Grant Details

- **Maximum grant amount:** NPR 100,000 (One Lakh), covering all research costs.
 - **Payment installments:**
 -  40% after proposal approval and research plan submission.
 -  30% after field visit and draft report submission.
 -  30% after thesis presentation and final submission.
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Application Process

- **Deadline:** February 28, 2025
 - Interested students must submit the following documents to Shechen Karuna at pradeep.neupane@karuna-shechen.org:
 -  An e-copy of the research proposal
 -  A consent letter from their AFU department (major advisor)
 -  A Curriculum Vitae (CV)
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Selection Process

- Short listed applicants will be invited to present their proposals, work plans, and financial plans.
- Selections will be based on alignment with research proposal and project theme.
- Women, marginalized communities, and students from NIDP-2.0 project areas are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Shechen Karuna expert team with support from AFU will finalize the applicants.

Expected Outputs

- Completion of the M.Sc. thesis following AFU guidelines.
 - Acknowledgment of Shechen Karuna's support in all papers and reports.
 - A final presentation to the research community and Rural Municipality.
 - Submission of a short report on key findings within one month after data collection.
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Support and Additional Opportunities

- Shechen Karuna may assist students in publishing research articles in national and international journals.
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Deadline

-  **February 28th, 2025 – Don't miss this opportunity!**
-  **Apply now: pradeep.neupane@karuna-shechen.org**

 **Empowering research for a sustainable future!**