Invest in Feminist Technology and Innovation

Discussant 2
By: Binita Shrestha
Founder at Women in STEM
Women are emerging as leaders in a still very masculine space of technology and innovation. How can governments support women’s and girls’ leadership and opportunities to engage in frontline innovation and technology?

Discussant 2:
By: Binita Shrestha
Founder at Women in STEAM
Investing in foundation:

a. Introduce STEAM disciplines to primary and secondary educational curriculums
b. Capacitate the teachers/educators
c. Encourage girls practise their rights
d. Expose the relatable role models
e. Support the tech and innovation initiative led by girls/women
f. Funding opportunities for women led business
“Women in Technology and STEM” in Nepal
[Nepal Labour force survey 2017-18]

- 33% - Agriculture
- 0.5% - Information & Communication
- 13.4% - Manufacturing
- 9.6% - Education
- 43.5% - Others
Girls/ Women in Data Infographics: Women in Nepal
[Nepal Labour force survey 2017-18]

- 36.3% of employed women in Nepal have completed secondary education
- 81% of female population in Nepal aged 15 or above are economically active
- 65.5% female are in the informal sector
STEM Status of girls/women in Nepal

1. 7.8% researchers in Nepal are female
   [UNESCO, 2018]

2. 14.07% of women are in STEM fields
   [World Bank]
1. Only about 30% of female students study STEM-related fields in higher education. [UNESCO, 2016]

2. Over 200,000 women graduated from STEM fields. [Statistica, 2016]

3. Just 28% of women are in the science & technology workforce globally. [NSB, 2015]
Why? (किन?)

PROBLEM TREE

CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROBLEM
- Few Role Models
- Tech & Data Mentors
- Women Leaders
- Female STEAM educators

LESS FEMALE ENDS UP AT UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

SYMPTOMS OF THE PROBLEM AT PIPELINE
- Adolescent girls from the Middle schools

ROOT CAUSES
- Early Stereotypes & Pre-defined Gender Roles
- Problem starts at Primary-Secondary Schools
One of the Solutions can be starting STEAM early.
Investing in foundation:

a. Introduce STEAM disciplines to primary and secondary educational curriculums
b. Capacitate the teachers/educators
c. Encourage girls practise their rights
d. Expose the relatable role models
e. Support the tech and innovation initiative led by girls/women
f. Funding opportunities for women led business