

# Network Readiness Index 2025

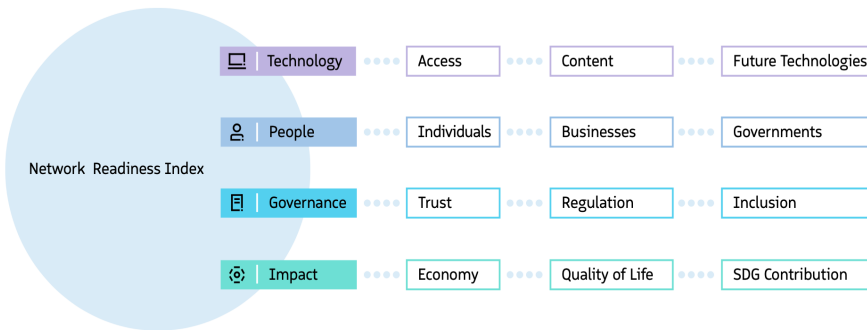
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## Nepal

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2025 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 127 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 53 variables.

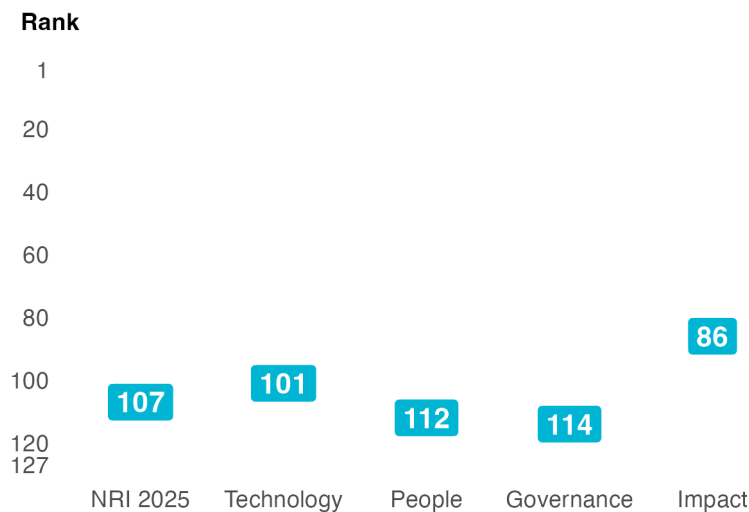
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



### Global NRI position of Nepal

Nepal ranks 107 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: Nepal global ranking, overall and by pillar



### Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Nepal relate to Content, Quality of Life and Businesses, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Individuals, Trust and Regulation sub-pillars.

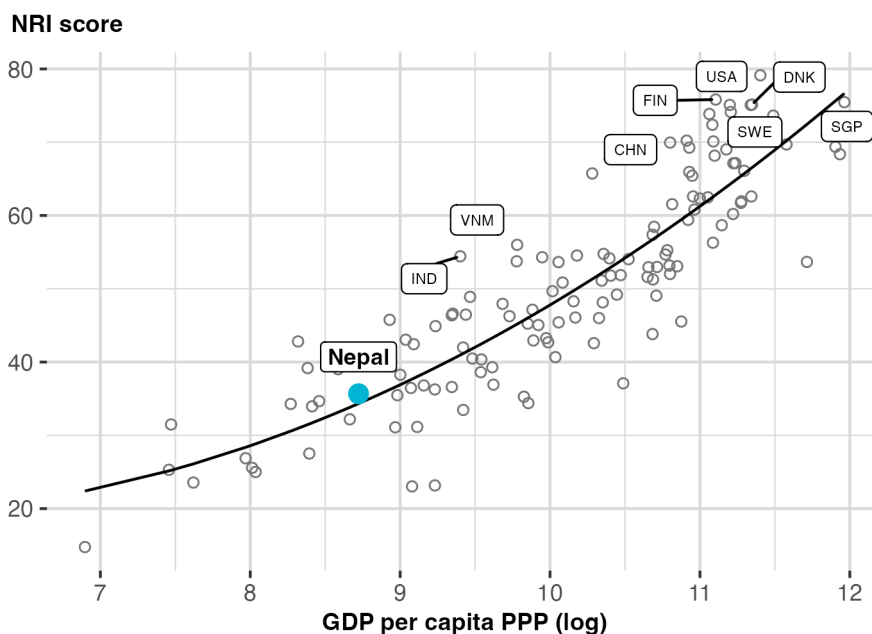
**Table 1: Nepal rankings by sub-pillar**

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Content	78	Access	107
Quality of Life	78	Governments	107
Businesses	86	Inclusion	107
Economy	89	Individuals	108
SDG Contribution	90	Trust	111
Future Technologies	101	Regulation	120

### NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Nepal in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, Nepal is slightly above the trend line, which suggests that its network readiness is more or less in line with what would be expected given its income level.

**Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)**



Note: USA = United States of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

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## Performance against its income group and region

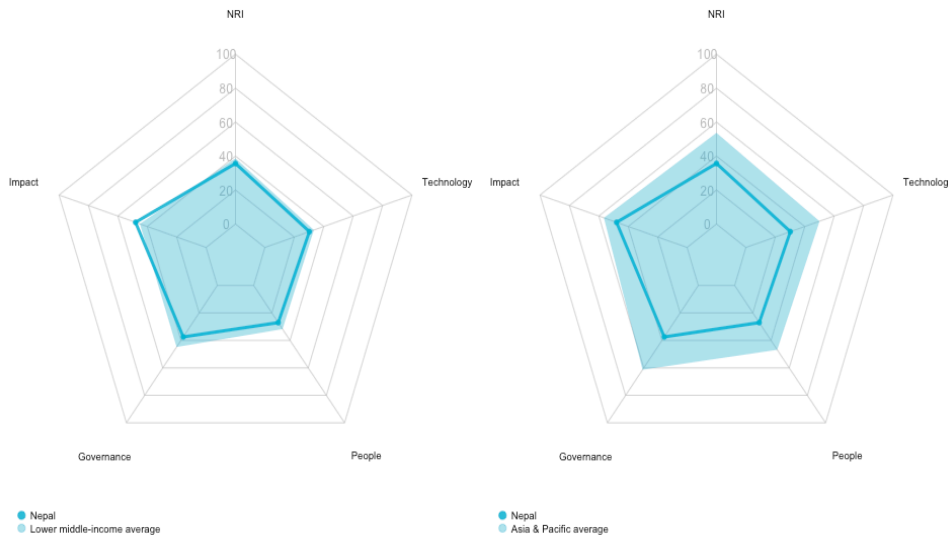
### Lower-middle-income countries

Nepal is ranked 22nd in the group of lower-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in one of the four pillars: Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in three of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Businesses and Quality of Life.

### Asia & Pacific

Nepal is ranked 21st within Asia & Pacific (Figure 4, right panel). It lags behind its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it trails the regional average in each of them.

**Figure 4: Performance of Nepal against its income group and region, overall and by pillar**



**Table 2: Nepal scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar**

Dimension	Nepal	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	35.68	38.70	53.68
Technology	30.24	33.29	50.06
People	27.04	31.73	46.80
Governance	37.46	44.79	61.33
Impact	47.97	45.00	56.53

# NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Nepal

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 107 (out of 127)

Score: 35.68

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	101	30.24	C. Governance pillar	114	37.46
1st sub-pillar: Access	107	46.96	1st sub-pillar: Trust	111	32.18
2nd sub-pillar: Content	78	20.96	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	120	35.04
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	101	22.80	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	107	45.15
B. People pillar	112	27.04	D. Impact pillar	86	47.97
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	108	32.81	1st sub-pillar: Economy	89	27.00
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	86	24.95	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	78	60.82
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	107	23.37	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	90	56.10

## The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	101	30.24	C. Governance pillar	114	37.46	
1st sub-pillar: Access	107	46.96	1st sub-pillar: Trust	111	32.18	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	84	55.97	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	80	50.55	●
1.1.2 Handset prices	121	20.77	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	93	63.67	○
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	n/a	n/a	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	54	8.08	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	111	47.37	3.1.4 Internet shopping	104	6.42	
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	99	65.45	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	120	35.04	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	64	45.25	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	105	25.68	
2nd sub-pillar: Content	78	20.96	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	122	21.88	○
1.2.1 GitHub commits	66	6.49	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	110	4.74	○
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	92	1.31	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	72	75.00	
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	47	68.70	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	92	47.93	
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	53	7.32	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	107	45.15	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	101	22.80	3.3.1 E-Participation	117	17.39	○
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	93	41.00	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	91	52.54	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	103	26.25	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	n/a	n/a	
1.3.3 Robot density	n/a	n/a	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	39	65.53	●
1.3.4 Computer software spending	119	1.14	D. Impact pillar	86	47.97	
B. People pillar	112	27.04	1st sub-pillar: Economy	89	27.00	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	108	32.81	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	n/a	n/a	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	119	0.53	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	79	48.49	●
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	93	33.51	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	91	22.29	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	95	45.33	4.1.4 ICT services exports	74	10.20	●
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	85	51.87	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	78	60.82	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a	4.2.1 Happiness	87	45.82	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	86	24.95	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	72	67.71	●

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Indicator	Rank	Score	
2.2.1 Firms with website	68	49.33	●
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	n/a	n/a	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	n/a	n/a	
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	104	0.56	
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3rd sub-pillar: Governments	107	23.37	
2.3.1 Government online services	111	33.60	
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	86	12.27	
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	90	24.24	
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	n/a	n/a	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.3 Income inequality	24	84.18	●
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	96	53.66	
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3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	90	56.10	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	103	42.22	
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	n/a	n/a	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	81	71.82	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	100	60.28	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	110	30.21	

NOTE: ● indicates a strength and ○ indicates a weakness.

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