



SOCIETY OF NEPALESE ARCHITECTS
(SONA)

COUNTRY REPORT
FOR
ARCASIA FORUM 20, DHAKA

13th Executive Committee
(January, 2019– January 2021)

October, 2019

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Chapter 1 BRIEF HISTORY OF SONA

Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA) is the professional organization of the architects of Nepal, established in 1991 by a group of enthusiastic architects who represented government, private sector, and the academia.

The main objective of SONA is to protect the rights and responsibilities of Nepalese architects and promote the architectural profession in Nepal. SONA has grown over a period of 29 years from a small group of architects, concentrated in Kathmandu Valley, to a nationwide organization with a total membership of 1362.

SONA has been registered as a professional organization in the District Administration Office, Kathmandu and abides by government rules and regulations strictly. SONA has established its own office space at the Churchill Complex, Sundhara, Kathmandu in 2011, supported by full-time secretariat for day-to-day administration works.

SONA is a member of South Asian Association of Architects (SAARCH), Architect's Council of Asia (ARCASIA) and Union of International Architects (UIA).

SONA's long-term goal is to establish a distinct identity of architects in Nepalese society by establishing architectural value in the society, expanding its membership and coverage throughout the country. It encourages architect's community of Nepal to provide quality service with high level of integrity and also strive for promoting an architectural character that suits our culture, geography, and demands of modern society.

It will continuously work towards the establishment of Architect's Council in Nepal similar to Nepal Engineering Council. SONA and will actively engage in strengthening the network with regional and international associations of architects with the objective of exposing Nepalese architects with international architectural trends.

Chapter 2 CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS OF THE INSTITUTE

The 13th executive committee was elected under the chairmanship of Ar. Anju Malla Pradhan on the occasion of 23rd Annual General Assembly ceremony of SONA held on 5th January, 2019 at Hotel Himalaya, Pulchowk, Lalitpur. The members of the 13th executive committee formed are as follows:

President: Ar. Anju Malla

Vice-President: Ar. Baburam Battarai

Honorary Secretary: Ar. Suraj Khanal

Joint Secretary: Ar. Bishwodev Bhattarai

Treasurer: Ar. Anjana Shrestha Vaidya

Members: Ar. Samjhana Simkhada

Ar. Suyog Kayastha

Ar. Archana Bade Shrestha

Ar. Abhishek Mananda Bajracharya

Ar. Rikesh Shrestha



Chapter 3 CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH as of 22nd November 2019

Current Membership

Total Members	1362
General Members	1046
Life Members	310
Associate Members	1
Honorary Members	5

3.1 TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

General Member

The Nepalese Citizen who has completed Minimum Bachelor's degree or higher degrees in the field of Architecture from Tribhuvan University (T.U.) or other universities recognized by T.U. can be eligible for a membership of SONA

Life Member

The person who has been a General Member for five consecutive years with his renewal dues cleared can apply for Life Member. The person who has been a General Member for twenty-five years and renewed all his dues can be declared as a Life Member by the Executive Committee.

Associate Member

Foreign citizen, who has completed minimum Bachelor's degree or higher degrees, in the field of Architecture from T. U. or equivalent, living in Nepal and working here for more than 5 years can apply for Associate Member. Such membership should be approved by the Executive Committee, as per the laws and acts of SONA.

Honorary Member

The Person who has actively participated to highlight the goodwill and preserve the rights of the society; worked for the goodwill of architecture and architecture profession nationally and internationally; well renowned 'Public Figure' can be awarded as an Honorary Member.

Chapter 4 BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

The funds of the organization are collected from the following sources:

- 5.1 Annual membership renewal fee from Members.
- 5.2 Annual Exhibition (Trade and Products)
- 5.3 Regular annual Donors and event Sponsors.

The Accounts of the organization is duly audited annually by a private Audit Firm.

Chapter 5 CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES

SONA has been focusing on major metropolitan areas in the country beyond the capital city and Kathmandu valley. We have recently reached out to other municipalities as well, to try to establish chapters and have succeeded in opening up 2 chapters. One in the eastern region in Biratnagar which is in Province 1 and the other in Pokhara in the mid-western region in Province 4. With federalism in the country we now have 7 provinces and we intend to have a chapter in all provinces in the near future.

Chapter 6 ANNUAL MEETING (Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Sessions)

The AGM and Annual Sessions are generally held in autumn of each year. To coincide with it this year in December 2019, SONA is organizing the first National conference, with the topic “Architectural Responses to Tourism in Nepal” in support of the upcoming “Visit Nepal Year 2020”. We have paper presenters from other ARCASIA member countries coming in to share their knowledge and experiences. An exhibition of professional Architectural works as well as student’s best thesis works from 9 schools will also be held then.

Chapter 7 LEGAL STATUS OF THE INSTITUTE

The Society of Nepalese Architects is registered in the Kathmandu District Office of the Government of Federal Republic of Nepal’ as a non-profit and non-governmental organization. SONA is now registered in the “Social Welfare Council of Nepal”.

Chapter 8 LEGAL STATUS OF THE ARCHITECTS IN THE COUNTRY

A graduate with a 5 years Bachelor's degree in Architecture is certified as an Architect by Nepal Engineering Council (NEC).

Chapter 9 ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION AUTHORITY IN THE COUNTRY

At present, Nepal doesn't have a Council for Architects to recognize and certify a graduate architect. Hence, it is being undertaken by the Nepal Engineering Council (NEC), a government body which is responsible for all the legal registration procedures. The 13th EC has started afresh with the required legal paperwork to apply for a separate architect's council and advocacy for the same is also in full force.

Chapter 10 INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS OF THE INSTITUTE

- SONA became a member of ARCASIA (Architects Regional Council Asia) in 2002 AD.
- SONA is one of the founder member of SAARCH (SAARCH Association of Architects) (1991).
- SONA is a member of UIA (International Union of Architects) as of August 2017.

It has been actively participating in the events organized by SAARCH, ARCASIA and UIA.

Chapter 11 MAJOR PROGRAMS OF SONA IN THE PAST YEAR (January 2019 to date)

The 13th executive committee focused on their commitments primarily on the issues mentioned below with work divisions under the different thematic committees. Such thematic sub-committees are in alignment with the sub-committee of ARCASIA and a few more added to work on contextual challenges of SONA in the national context.

11.1 FORMATION OF SONA SUB-COMMITTEES

The ten thematic committees were reformed under the leadership of prominent architects of Nepal.

1. SONA Committee on Architectural Education (SCAE)

Chairperson: Ar. Bharat Sharma
Coordinator: Ar. Baburam Bhattarai (Vice President)
Ar. Archana Bade Shrestha (EC member)

2. SONA Committee on Council Advocacy (SCCA)

Chairperson: Ar. Dr Jeev Raj Pokhrel & Dr. Sumitra Amatya
Coordinator: Ar. Suraj Khanal (General Secretary)
Ar. Bishwodev Bhattarai (joint secretary)

3. SONA Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture (SCGSA)

Chairperson: Ar. Bibhuti Man Singh
Coordinator: Ar. Anjana Srestha (Treasurer)

4. SONA Committee on International Relationship (SCIR)

Chairperson: Ar. DevendraNathGongal
Coordinator: Ar. Anju Malla (President)

5. SONA Committee on Events and Publication

Chairperson: Ar. Pawan Kumar Shrestha
Coordinator: Ar. Suyog Kayastha (EC member)

6. SONA Committee on Policy (SCP)

Chairperson: Ar. Biresh Shah
Coordinator: Ar. Suraj Khanal(secretary)

7. SONA Committee on Professional Practice (SCPP)

Chairperson: Ar. Poonam Shah
Co-ordinator: Ar. Rikesh Shrestha (EC member)

8. SONA Committee on Social Responsibility (SCSR)

Chairperson: Ar. Rajesh Thapa
Co-ordinator: Ar. Suraj Khanal (secretary)

9. SONA Committee on Young Architects (SCYA)

Chairperson: Ar. Susan Vaidya
Coordinator: Ar. Abhishek Mananda Bajracharya (EC member)
Ar. Samjhana Simkhada (EC member)

10. SONA Women in Architecture Forum was also initiated by the 13th EC with the sole intention of getting the women up front and back into practice

S.N	SONA Committee on	Designated Responsibility	GOAL	Work Plan/Activity
1	Architecture Education (Awards)	Chairman: Dr. Ar. Bharat Sharma Coordinator: Ar. Baburam Bhattarai & Ar. Archana Bade Shrestha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initiate discussion on rethinking Architectural education - Publish a book with thesis projects of top students of all schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design Lectures series (Architect Speaks) - Short training Courses - Continue Best Student Award (Ar.Gangadhar Bhatta Halabe) - Syllabus updates of schools with time
2	Professional Practice	Advisors: Biresh Shah Arun Dev Panta Punam Shah Kai Pd. Weise Chairperson: Ar. Poonam Shah Coordinator: Ar. Rikesh Shrestha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum Professional fees - Professional Code of Ethics - Advisory to government bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Track Fresher graduates and their work/salary to develop a system to deal with these issues - Professional fees & system to deal with professional work (International Data) - Conduct design competitions - Open forum discourses with related organizations on current relevant issues

3	Social Responsibility	<p>Advisors: Prof.Sudarshan Raj Tiwari Prof.Dr.JibarajPokharel Prof.Sri Niwas Bir Singh Kansakaar Chairperson Ar. Rajesh Thapa Coordinator: Ar. Suraj Khanal</p>	<p>SCSR currently working with four divisions such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heritage and Conservation (SRT) - Disaster prevention and management (JRP) - Water front beautification/ landscaping (SRM) - Social Awareness (SBK) 	<p>Current Activity(the projects continuing from last committee, with latest developments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Universal Toilet construction work started finally in Lalitpur Municipality ii. The involvement of SONA for saving the historically important buildings of Baghdarbar which were damaged by the Gorkha earthquake. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocating for conservation of traditional towns all over Nepal,
4	Green & Sustainable Architecture	<p>Advisors: Ar.Ujwal Man Shakya Ar. Pranita Sharma Pandey Chairperson Ar. Bibhuti Man Singh Coordinator: Ar. Anjana Shrestha</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of ERA Guideline - Convincing various municipalities to include the guidelines in their respective regulations - Listing of local green buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Index Preparation - 15% of resource Collection - Within one year ERA BOOK Guidelines Publishing

5	Young Architects	<p>Chairperson Ar. Susan Vaidya</p> <p>Coordinator: Ar. Abhisek Mananda Bajracharya & Ar. Samjhana Simkhada</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Architecture Practice - PSC (Architecture as different section) - Youth Involvement in various current issues of Heritage Conservation and practice ethics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Architects involvement with the JOB Placement - SONA as mediator for internship - Counselling Program - Presentation of works by Young architects in the Architect Speaks series - Discussion forums with the members on current issues faced
6	Council Advocacy	<p>Chairman Ar. Dr. Jeev Raj Pokhrel & Dr. Sumitra Amatya</p> <p>Coordinator Ar. Suraj Khanal & Ar. Bishwodev Bhattarai</p>	<p>Work on Establishment of Nepal architects' Council through Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback from advisory team - Preparation of draft to move ahead with legal advisory - Meet with Line Ministry. - Advocate wherever required in the course of getting the work done.
7	International Relations	<p>Chairman Ar. Devendra N. Gongol</p> <p>Coordinator: Ar. Anju Malla</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain and develop the leadership role of SONA in ARCASIA, UIA and 	<p>Conduct an international level conference</p> <p>Incorporate Lecture series from architects working in international field.</p>

			SAARCH(Collaborative Approach)	<p>ii. Develop professional relationship with other international societies and organizations.</p> <p>Actions -- i. Encourage SONA members to participate in international gatherings. (total 28 architects participating in ARCASIA 2019 Forum 20 Dhaka)</p> <p>ii. Disseminate the activities of SONA to international organizations like, ARCASIA, SAARCH, UIA, WACA etc.</p> <p>iii. Iv. Establish strong and collaborative relationship with ARCASIA, SAARCH, WACA, UIA.</p>
8	Advisory Board	Past President only and Current president work as Member-Secretary(9 members		<p>i. Disciplinary Actions</p> <p>ii. Alternative dispute resolution</p>

		only) current president as coordinator		
9	Policy	Chairman: Ar. Biresh Shah Coordinator: Ar. Suraj Khanal	- To assist in programs carried out by Council Advocacy Sub- Committee - To assist government in organizing design competition	- Advocacy related to bye-laws 2064/2072 - Amendment of SONA's <i>Bidhan</i> - Advocate and critically analyse Legal policy regarding professional practice and ethics
10	Publication and Events	Chairman: Ar. Pawan Kumar Shrestha Coordinator: Ar. SuyogKayastha	-	- Involving Student Volunteer in all SONA activities - Organizing Exhibitions - Publication of all activities on social media and Newsletter

11.2 HANDING OVER CEREMONY BY 12TH EXECUTIVE TO 13TH EXECUTIVE

After SONA's 23rd Annual General Meeting elected the new executive on January 5, 2019, the committee handing-over ceremony was held on January 22, 2019 at the premises of SONA Secretariat office. Ar. Rajesh Thapa, Chairperson of Election Committee took the chairmanship of the ceremony and the newly elected members of 13th executive committee took the oath to serve the society with dedication to the best of their knowledge. Similarly, past Presidents Ar. Sworup Koney, Ar. Binod Neupane and general secretary Ar. Sudeep Sharma Poudel were also present along with Ar Suraj Rajkarnikar and Ar. Poshan Thapa, members of the election commission.

12 th Executive Committee	13 th Executive Committee
President: Ar. Suman N. Vaidya	Ar. Anju Malla Pradhan
V President: Ar. Anju Malla Pradjhan	Ar. Baburam Bhattarai
G. Secretary: Ar. Sudeep Shrm Poudyal	Ar. Suraj Khanal
J. Secretary: Ar. Suraj Khanal	Ar. Bishwodev Bhattarai
Treasurer: Ar. Arjun Basnet	Ar. Anjana Shrestha
EC member: Ar. Suyog Kyastha	Ar. Samjhana Simkhada
EC member: Ar. Rakesh Maharjan	Ar. SuyogKayastha
EC member: Ar. Apil K. C.	Ar. Archana Bade Shresth
EC member: Ar. Binaya Rajan Shrestha	Ar. Abhishek Mananda
EC member: Ar. Purna Bhadra Sapkota	Bajracharya
	Ar. Samjhana Simkhada
Election Committee, 22 nd Annual General Meeting	
Ar. Rajesh Thapa	
Ar. Suraj Rajkarnikar	
Ar. Poshan Thapa	

11.3 ARCASIA ROUND TABLE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ATTENDED BY SONA:

- ARCASIA round table meet on Professional Practice ACPP Manila, Philippines (15th, 16th March, 2019) was attended by members Ar. Prajwal Hada & Ar Pawan Shrestha
- ARCASIA roundtable meet on Architecture Education ACAE Manila, Philippines (30th May to 1st June 2019) was attended by V.P. AR. Baburam Bhattarai, Ar. Nabin Ghising, Ar. Sankalp Pokhrel & Ar. Binaya R. Shrestha.
- ARCASIA round table meet on Young Architects ACYA (4rd to 7th July 2019) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ARCASIA round table meet on Professional Practice ACPP, (26th to 28th July 2019) Jaipur, India, was attended by Ar. Poonam Shah (chair) & Ar Anju Malla (president).
- ARCASIA round table meet on Green and Sustainable Architecture ACGSA (26th to 28th July 2019) Jaipur, India, was attended by Ar. Anjana Shrestha & Ar. Pranita Sharma Pandey.
- ARCASIA round table meet on Social responsibility ACSR (13th to 15th Sept 2019) was attended by Ar. Suraj Khanal (H secretary), Ar. Prajwal Hada & Ar, Nabin Ghising.
- SONA team attended the UIA conference in Baku from 7th to 11th June, 2019. Participants were Ar. Anju Malla (President), Ar. Suraj Khanal (secretary), Dr. Sudha Shrestha, Ar. Nhasala Sayami, Ar. Sunita Subedi, Ar. Pujita Upadhyaya.
- SONA president attended the WADe ASIA 2019 in Delhi, India on 11th and 12th Oct, 2019 as a design juror and panelist for the discussion on “Liveable cities” (WADe is a platform created for recognizing, documenting and making the work of Women Architects, Designers & Artists of the industry more visible).

- 1st International Region-featured Summit Forum on Architecture, China: The coordinator of ‘SONA CGSA’, Ar Anjana Shrestha was invited as an international speaker at the summit



Summit Forum on Architecture, China: ‘SONA CGSA’, Ar Vaidya was invited as speaker at the summit

organized by the ‘Traditional Architecture Branch of China Engineering and Consulting Association (CECA)’ August 16 to 18, 2019 in Dali, Yunnan Province, China. She gave a presentation on ‘The Traditional Architecture of Nepal: Present Scenario and Regional Collaboration’.

Chapter 12 PROGRAM OF THE INSTITUTE

12.1 ARCHITECT SPEAKS SERIES

SONA: feeling the necessity of a platform, to have debates and discussions on various issues relating to Nepalese Architecture and Architects the 12th EC initiated a talk program: ‘Architect Speaks’ which has been given continuity by the 13th EC on a regular basis. All the talk programs were organized at the Bougainville events:

12.1.1 Architect Speaks 6: Interaction with Ar. Charanjit Singh Shah from Delhi

ARCHITECT SPEAKS: 6
Creating Sustainable Smart Infrastructure

Raipur Airport Chennai Intermodal Hub GEMS Modern Academy, Kochi CHD Skyone, Gurgaon

Prof. Charanjit S. Shah
Founding Principal
CREATIVE GROUP
ARCHITECTS, URBAN PLANNERS & INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Prof. Charanjit Singh Shah, architect, planner & infrastructure experts with 5 decades of practice. He is an author, scholar, educationist, teacher, art & architecture critic practicing in creating sustainable green architecture. He is author of many books in Architecture & recently authored "Re-envisioning Indian Sustainable Smart Cities".

His works speak of his contribution looking beyond architecture & development of large infrastructure projects like Airport, Metro, Railway station, Transit Orient Development, Inter Modal hub & creating Sustainable, Walk-able, Cyclable neighborhood & creating Indian Sustainable Smart Cities of tomorrow. He is being accolade called as AIRPORT KING.

Dr. S.S. Bhatti, has been longtime call Prof. Shah the Patrick Geddes of India in creating Sustainable Architecture.

Prof. Shah has also successfully initiated Smart Habitat Foundation – a center of excellence in pursuit of art and architecture, urban planning, transport and infrastructure – a platform where academicians and practitioners come together to interact in form of a serious dialogue bridging the gap between academics and practical application.

Time: 4:30-6:30
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019
Venue: Bougain Villa Events, Tripureshwor, Teku, Kathmandu

DR. S. S. Bhatti Office: Ganga Path DR. S. S. Bhatti Partner
Kathmandu University Kathmandu University UICP

UICP UICP UICP



12.1.2 Architect Speaks 7: Ar. Ananda Manandhar & Ar. Milan Bagale (universal approach to design)

PHOMI

ARCHITECT SPEAKS: SERIES 7
Young And Aspiring Architects

Organized by:
13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SONA

arcasia
Architects' Register of Coastal Area

SONA
2017

uia

Ar. Milan Bagale
Vernacular Architecture

Official paint partner
asianpaints

Ar. Ananda Manandhar
Baha: Spatial Agency

Event partner
PHOMI UNFIRED FLEXI CLAY CLADDING
INTERIOR | EXTERIOR
20 YEARS LIFE | LIGHT & TRANSPARENT | FLEXIBLE | NO GROUT | NO MORTAR
EASY TO APPLY | WATERPROOF | DURABLE

BELLA CASA
BY BELLA CLAY



12.1.3 Architect Speaks 8: Ar.Lumanti Joshi (community architect) & Ar. Sushmita Ranjit Shrestha (product design) with Instant Art by Ar. Vikal Prajapati

The poster is titled "ARCHITECT SPEAKS: SERIES 8 Young And Aspiring Architects". It is organized by the "13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SONA". The event features three speakers: Ar. Lumanti Joshi (Support group for shelter), Ar. Sushmita Ranjit Shrestha (Founding Architect, Designscape), and Ar. Vikal Prajapati (Freelancer). The event is supported by sponsors including arcasia, uia, asianpaints (Official paint partner), and PooMaster (Event partner). The event took place on August 2nd, 2019, from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM at Bougainville Events, Tripureshwar.

ARCHITECT SPEAKS: SERIES 8
Young And Aspiring Architects

Official paint partner
asianpaints

Event partner
PooMaster

Organized by:
13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SONA

Ar. Lumanti Joshi
Lumanti: Support group for shelter

Ar. Sushmita Ranjit Shrestha
Founding Architect, Designscape

Ar. Vikal Prajapati
Freelancer

Date: 2nd August 2019 Time: 4:00 PM- 6:30 PM Venue: Bougainville Events, Tripureshwar



12.1.4 Architect Speaks 9: ar. Kiran Mathema from Mathema and Associates sharing his works from around the globe.

The poster is for 'ARCHITECT SPEAKS: SERIES 9' organized by the '13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SONA'. It features a central photo of Ar. Kiran Mathema, the speaker. The event topic is 'CLIMATE DEPENDENT ARCHITECTURE'. The poster also mentions an 'Official paint partner' 'asianpaints' and a 'DASHAIN SPECIAL EVENT !!! -ACOUSTIC MUSICAL SESSION WITH SAMAY BAJI'. Logos for 'SONA 2017', 'arcasia', and 'uia' are visible. The event details at the bottom are: Date: 27th September 2019, Time: 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM, Venue: Bougainvilla Events, Tripureshwor.

ARCHITECT SPEAKS: SERIES 9

Organized by:
13TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SONA

Official paint partner
asianpaints

TOPIC:
CLIMATE DEPENDENT ARCHITECTURE

Speaker: Ar. Kiran Mathema
Founding Partner-Mathema+Partners

AND ALSO DASHAIN SPECIAL EVENT !!!
-ACOUSTIC MUSICAL SESSION
WITH SAMAY BAJI:

Date: 27th September 2019 Time: 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM Venue: Bougainvilla Events, Tripureshwor



12.2 INTERACTION WITH FINNISH ARCHITECT MARIITTA HELINEVA, ORGANIZED BY SONA IN COLLABORATION WITH INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING ON 13TH MARCH 2019



12.3 MEETING AT KIRTIPUR MUNICIPALITY ON ‘ERA’ GUIDELINE (JULY 5)

The ‘SONA committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture’ signed an agreement with the ‘Kirtipur Municipality’ to initiate for the implementation of the ‘Ecologically Responsive Architecture (ERA)’ guidelines prepared by the committee on the building by-laws of the Kirtipur municipality. After a short presentation about sustainable architecture and fruitful discussion in presence of the technical experts from the municipality and the Mayor of Kirtipur, the municipality thankfully agreed to enforce the awareness of green and sustainable architecture following the ERA guidelines.



12.4 WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE INITIATIVES:

The core group: Dr. Jharna Joshi, Ar. Poonam Shah, Ar. Shirish Bhatt and Ar. Anju Malla Pradhan.

Women in open spaces was the first program initiated by the forum on 15th June, 2019.

Women in public spaces Designing open spaces for all



Panelists

Architect Poonam Shah



Poonam Shah holds an M. Arch. degree from the University of Toronto, Canada, and a B. Arch. degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India. She has 33 years of professional experience in architectural design, planning, interior and landscape design and project management. She has worked in Canada and India before setting up her architectural practice in Nepal. She has designed more 50 buildings ranging from corporate offices, commercial, industrial buildings and interiors for more than 100 bank branches and offices.

Architect Sarita Maskey



Sarita Maskey completed her MSc in Architecture from Belorussian Polytechnic Institute (BPI), Belarus and MSc. in Urban Planning: Land and Housing from Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok. She started her career as an Architect/Engineer at the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) taking various responsibilities:

Her responsibilities included, Project Implementation Unit (Banepa), Urban and Environmental Improvement Project (UEIP/ADB), Reconstruction of Insurgency-Affected Government Buildings, People Housing Program for the poor and disadvantaged groups and preparation of Periodic/Physical/long term development plans and programs of Municipalities.

In January 2015, she became class-4 Government officer and is the Project Director of Urban Governance and Development Program, Emerging Town Project (UCDP: EP/WB), Superintendent Engineer of Building Construction and Maintenance Division and Deputy Director General of DUDBC. Currently, she is Joint Secretary at Ministry of Urban Development and involved in formulation and review of urban development related policies. She was treasurer of Society of Nepalese Architect (SONA) and coordinator of SONA's Committee of Green and Sustainable Architecture.

Panelists

Architect Shalata Manandhar Joshi



Associate Professor Shalata Manandhar Joshi is currently the Vice Principal of Kathmandu Engineering College (KEC). She holds Bachelor of Architecture degree from Tribhuvan University and Master of Urban Design degree from The University of Hong Kong. She has been teaching in different capacities for more than a decade, holding various positions, including Head of Department of Architecture at KEC. She is also active in the architecture and engineering fraternities and is currently a Board Member of Nepal Engineering Council. She has also published and presented papers at various publications and conferences in Nepal and abroad.

Architect Pallavi Singh



Pallavi Singh, MD at Shapes Infrastructure Solutions Pvt. Ltd. has worked in the field of architecture for 6.7 years. She has also worked in many government and non govt institutions, including, DUDBC, Kathmandu division and was selected as the National non-key expert to design the new terminal building of Tribhuvan International Airport with ADPI, a French company. Her architectural projects include the CTEVT branch in Rautahat, Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of 40 govt buildings, masterplan and internal planning of Airport, resorts, Senior Citizen Community center, schools, hospitals, apple processing center, and ghats. Her recent project, Chaughan Musical Fountain and Recreational park in Surkhet is awaiting budget allocation in the Cabinet. Pallavi, along with her team are determined to introduce new technology, Geocell in field of engineering.



On 21st Sept an informal interaction and discussion program was organized on “Rethinking Architectural Education” at the Institute of Engineering (IOE) with Prof Dr. S. R. Tiwari, Dr. Bharat Sharma, Ar. Biresh Shah, Ar. Deepak Pant, Ar. Yatra Sharma as panelists and Dr. Jharna Joshi as moderator.



12.5 JAIPUR HERITAGE WORKSHOP: TEACHERS TRAINING INITIATIVE. CONDUCTED BY ARCASIA ACAE.

SONA Participants: Ar. Suyog Kayastha (EC member) young, Ar. Deepa Shakya, Ar. Luna Bajracharya, Ar, Sanjeeta Neupane, Ar. Neesha Shrestha & AR. Sudikshya Bhandari.



12.6 SONA DELEGATION TO VARIOUS MINISTRIES UNDER THE FEDERAL SYSTEM TO ADVOCATE ON ISSUES OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND COUNCIL ADVOCACY



Meeting the secretary of Ministry of urban Development on 13th May, 2019 to advocate for more number of architects to be included in government establishments.

Meeting with the Minister of the Ministry of Urban Development on 31st May, 2019 to advocate for government projects to be floated for design competitions open to all.



Meeting the secretary of Ministry of urban Development on 25th August ,2019 for architects council advocacy, how to move ahead and for support from line ministry.

12.7 SONA DREW ATTENTION OF KMC ON THE ISSUES OF ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION ON PUBLIC OPEN SPACES ON 25TH APRIL, 2019.



SONA team advocating for clearing up of illegal construction on public open space at Khula manch.

SONA members advocating to support Guthi movement on 19th June, 2019 to ensure socio cultural security of valley denizens on .



SONA: H. Secretary Ar. Suraj Khanal in a discussion forum organized by Nepal Engineers Association on the topic: “Role of local government and Nepal Engineering Council on Infrastructure Development”

12.8 SONA FUTSAL

SONA organized a Futsal tournament amongst its members of all generations on 20th July, 2019



12.9 BIM FORUM

Nepal Building Information Modelling Forum (NBIMF) was started by a group of Nepalese BIM enthusiasts. The first BIM event in Nepal was organized on 2nd August, 2019 supported by DUDBC. The aim was to bring together different governmental organizations, decision makers, engineers, architects and news agencies to introduce BIM and discuss on benefits it could provide to the Nepalese built environment.



12.10 EARTHQUAKE MONUMENT DESIGNED BY AR. ANAND MANANDHAR HANDED OVER TO KIRTIPUR MUNICIPALITY ON 21ST APRIL,2019.



The earthquake memorial funded by ARCASIA reconstruction fund was handed over to Kirtipur Municipality Mayor Mr. Ramesh Maharjan.



12.11 UNIVERSAL TOILET DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

The design competition held during ARCASIA forum in Kathmandu was awarded to Ar.Neeraj Maharjan. The implementation of the project was initially stalled due to the Gorkha earthquake in 2015. It was further delayed due to site scarcity.

SONA signed an MOU with the Lalitpur municipality and they provided land for the construction, which has finally started off. The contract for construction was signed on 27th June,2019



BLOW-UP VIEW SHOWING THE FRONT FACADE



The winning design.



The foundations under construction



The proposed site with a public toilet complex damaged by the quake which is in close proximity to the traditional city core of Patan.

Chapter 13 ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS/ AWARDS

- Revival of the Gangadhar Bhatta Halabe (1st Architect of Nepal) Awards from this year onwards to be given to university toppers.
- Publication of a book comprising of all the best thesis of Bachelor degree architecture from different schools.
- Publication of professional projects that are exhibited during our National conference 2019.
- National conference on the topic “Architectural Responses to Tourism in Nepal” on 20th and 21st Dec, 2019

Chapter 14 KEY ISSUES FACING THE ARCHITECTS/ ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION/ INSTITUTE IN THE COUNTRY

- After registering with the Nepal Engineering council which is the central legal government body, architects are required to register with every municipality they work in on a yearly basis. Nepal now has 293 municipalities under the federal government system, there are a few where registration is not required.
- Civil engineers are also allowed to practice in our domain of building design which has been a big hindrance.
- Too Many architecture schools mushrooming up leading to deterioration in the quality of education.

Chapter 15 RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE

- A 500 sq.ft. fully furnished office space in the Central business district (CBD) of Kathmandu.

Chapter 16 INSTITUTES EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT ARCASIA RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN THE PAST COUNCIL MEETINGS:

- Formation of relevant sub committees as per ARCASIA working on different events regularly.

Chapter 17 PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- SONA is working towards formation of Architects Council. The initial draft is already prepared and is in the process for legal consultation.
- We will continue advocacy towards convincing the government to employ at least one

architect in every municipality and VDC's to ensure a better built environment throughout the country.

- As the current constitution of Nepal has adopted the Federal governing structure, SONA aims to establish provincial chapters in all 7 provinces in the coming year.
- We will continue with the Architect Speaks series in the coming months.
- We will try to initiate student exchange programs with member ARCASIA countries and to facilitate students for internships beyond borders.
- A continuous discussion on “Rethinking Architectural education” will be activated by the Women in Architecture with close collaboration with ACAE committee in order to advocate for gradual required changes to the age-old syllabus and teaching methodologies.
- Women in Architecture forum is working on revival of core area, small scale open spaces with close collaboration with the local community and municipalities. The intention is to start off with one small space, hands on, so that it will then be carried through by the communities themselves.

Chapter 18 IMPORTANT ISSUES WHICH REQUIRE ARCASIA COUNCIL TO ADDRESS/ASSIST

- To request for financial assistance for the completion of the construction of the universal toilet as it is the first project built under the banner of ARCASIA.
- Assist with student internship opportunities
- Assist with teacher's training program and cross-country exchange of ideas