

---

## *LNOB Nepal Coalition*

### *Policy Brief: Promoting Citizen-Generated Data to Achieve the Agenda of Leave No One Behind*

---

#### *Background:*

The Agenda of Leave No One Behind is a global commitment to promote equitable development and ensure that every individual is included in the development process. To achieve this goal, the use of Citizen-Generated Data (CGD) is crucial. CGD empowers communities, especially marginalized ones, to share their experiences and perspectives, which can be used to inform policy decisions. Despite the significant potential of CGD, there are challenges that need to be addressed to promote its effective use. This policy recommendation paper provides guidance on how to promote CGD for the Agenda of Leave No One Behind. Citizen-generated data (CGD) is a powerful tool to enable marginalized communities to raise their voices and promote evidence-based policy formulation and execution. However, there are challenges and knowledge gaps in the generation, analysis, and utilization of CGD.

#### *Policy Recommendation:*

##### **1. Partnership between Government and CSO:**

To ensure the quality, reliability, and relevance of CGD for the Agenda of Leave No One Behind, it is recommended that governments establish formal partnerships and collaborations with civil society organizations (CSOs). This partnership will promote the standardization of CGD procedures and ensure that the collected data is reliable. Joint planning and implementation of CGD initiatives and sharing of resources and expertise between government and CSOs, will help address quality concerns related to CGD. Therefore, it is essential to establish a standard mechanism for collecting reliable CGD through partnerships between government and CSOs.

##### **2. Increased Investment for Institutionalization of CGD:**

To fully realize the potential of CGD in providing valuable insights into the development process and promoting the Agenda of Leave No One Behind, it is crucial for the government and international development partners to invest in the institutionalization of CGD. The current low investment in CGD limits its potential, therefore, we recommend increased allocation of budgetary resources to support the implementation of standardized procedures for CGD and the development of data collection software or tools that can facilitate broad data analysis. This investment will promote the creation of a sustainable platform for CGD collection, analysis, and dissemination, leading to more effective and equitable development outcomes.

##### **3. Address Systemic Discrimination to Raise Unheard Voices**

To promote CGD for the Agenda of Leave No One Behind, it is essential to address underlying systemic discrimination and unequal power relations faced by marginalized communities. Therefore, we

recommend that the government and CSOs increase their commitment to developing policies and programs that empower marginalized communities to participate more fully in decision-making processes. By addressing the root causes of marginalization and discrimination, these policies and programs will enable marginalized communities to raise their concerns and voices more strongly, promoting their inclusion in the development process.

#### **4. *Standardization of CGD procedures***

To ensure the quality and reliability of citizen-generated data (CGD), we recommend the collaboration between government, civil society organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders to establish standardized procedures for data collection, analysis, and reporting. These procedures should include guidelines for participant selection, data collection methods, data management and analysis, and reporting.

To promote the effective use of CGD and inform policy decisions, we suggest establishing a standard mechanism for data collection, analysis, and presentation. Standardization of CGD procedures will promote the collection of reliable data. Therefore, we recommend that the government and CSOs work together to establish a standard mechanism for CGD procedures.

#### **5. *Promote evidence-based policy formulation and execution:***

Predefined methods and tools should be in place, backed by data collection software or a standard capable of broad data analysis. Disaggregated data from oppressed or intersectionally disadvantaged populations should be collected, analyzed, and presented to promote evidence-informed policy formulation and execution. Fact sheets, infographics, and a visual overview should be created that are brief and in the local language.

#### **6. *Empower communities through participation:***

Empowerment is a crucial aspect of the CGD collection process. Participants should be oriented and capacitated about the discussion issues and method through facilitation. Participants should be welcomed and given space to talk and express their perspectives, allowing the oppressed group's voices to be heard. The opinion from diverse groups should be differently grounded on their personal and social experiences.

### ***Conclusion:***

Institutionalizing CGD generation, increasing investment, addressing systemic discrimination, promoting evidence-based policy formulation and execution, and empowering communities through participation are key policy recommendations to achieve this. These policy recommendations will enable the consortium to provide evidence of promoting the agenda of leaving no one behind to ensure sustainable equitable development. The use of CGD is crucial to promote the Agenda of Leave No One Behind. However, there are challenges that need to be addressed to promote its effective use. This policy recommendation paper provides guidance on how to promote CGD for the Agenda of Leave No One Behind. We recommend that the government and CSOs establish a partnership to address quality concerns related to CGD, increase investment in the institutionalization of CGD, address systemic discrimination to raise unheard voices, and standardize CGD procedures. These recommendations will promote the effective use of CGD and ensure that every individual is included in the development process.