

Rural Telecommunications Development Fund (RTDF) — Nepal's Telecom-Levy Model for Remote Connectivity

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Nepal

Quality score: 48/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

A telecom-revenue levy fund used by Nepal's regulator to subsidise rural connectivity for over two decades — with real disbursement to ISPs, but also documented budget delays that have left many rural broadband projects in limbo.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	0/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[Nepal Telecommunications Authority \(NTA\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[Nepaltelecom.com: Unlocking connectivity with the RTDF](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[Nepal Telecommunications Authority: RTDF](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[Sharesansar: Disbursement committee to utilise RTDF finally gets full shape](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

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