NEST (Nepal Street Vendors' Union)

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Formed in January 2001.

Membership: A national trade union organising market vendors, street vendors and hawkers as well as small shopkeepers. NEST is organising in Kathmandu and has committees and membership in 19 districts. There are 4 410 paid up members.

Objectives:

- Organise and safeguard the occupational interests of the street vendors;
- To change the working conditions and improve the socio-economic conditions of the street vendors;
- To maintain good relationships with vendors and customers and others;
- To launch educational campaign for vendors;
- To advice the government in relation to labour policy and vendor policy;
- To organise workshops and seminars and publish useful materials to uplift the socio-economic status of the self-employed and street vendors;
- Hold dialogues for the protection of the vendor's interest;
- To guide and control member unions;
- To extend solidarity and moral support to the genuine demands and movements of people's organisations and trade unions in the nation and internationally;
- To work with various labour organisations and units under the policy and in consultation with GEFONT;
- To operate long-term funds for contingencies to assist vendors in crises;
- To publicize events and the cases of the humiliation and suppression of vendors and the launching of creative activities for improvement;
- Establish and operate co-operatives or other kinds of financial funds for the welfare and interests of the workers.

Office bearers: President **-** Narayan Neupane; Senior Vice-President - Janardan Paranjuli; Vice-Presidents - Abaindra Niraula, Bhabani Sharma, Basudev Dahai, Secretary General - Kumar Sapkota; Deputy Secretary General - Maya Gurung; Secretary - Anamika Shrestha.