

NOVEMBER 2018

NFDN SLEUTH

A Report on Public Place
Accessibility Of Kathmandu Valley

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INTRODUCTION

Accessibility

According to 'Accessible Physical Structure and Communication Service Directive for People with disabilities, 2013 AD', approved by Government of Nepal (Council of Ministries), "Public physical structure" means all kinds of government, non-government and private physical infrastructure these are being constructed or being opened for consumption and utilization by all people. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, wheelchair accessible refers to a method by which someone can enter, leave, or utilize the facility of a place in a wheelchair.

Wheelmap.org

Wheelmap.org is an online, worldwide map for finding and marking wheelchair accessible places, developed by a German non-profit organization.

Anyone can find and add public physical structures to the map and rate them. The map, which is based on OpenStreetMap, was created in 2010 to help people who use wheelchairs or wheeled walkers to plan their days more easily. Parents pushing a baby carriage can also benefit from the Wheelmap information. Currently, almost 600,000 public places worldwide can be found on the map. However, the number of places in Nepal whose information on wheelchair accessibility is found in Wheelmap.org is very low.

Project Vision

National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFDN) is a legally registered nongovernmental organization (NGO) under the institutional enrollment act of Nepal. It is the national umbrella body of persons with disabilities, represents more than three hundred member organizations working for promoting the rights of disabled people throughout the country. Its general objective is to contribute to achieving the overall objective of inclusive development of the nation by mainstreaming disability issues in all development processes and persons with disabilities in all decision-making processes. In an attempt to achieve its goal, NFDN decided to add the information about wheelchair accessibility of around 1200 places within the Kathmandu valley in openstreetmap.org.

Volunteers

The data were collected by a group of 15 volunteers comprised of people with and without disabilities over a time period of 2 weeks. The data collection app created for this project - NFDN Sleuth was made taking into consideration accessibility requirements for our visually impaired volunteers.

PROJECT ROADMAP



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Entrance

Accessible

- Door wider than or at least 36 inches.
- The door can be opened with minimal force.
- The floor is stable, firm, and slip-resistant.
- If the ramp is present, the slope should not be very steep and usable without any sort of assistance.

Partially Accessible

- Door wider than or at least 36 inches.
- The floor is stable, firm and slope resistant.
- The ramp is a bit steep but can be used with others' assistance.

Inaccessible

- The width of the door is less than 36 inches.
- The floor is not stable, firm and slip-resistant.
- The ramp is very steep or is unavailable.

Ramp

Accessible

- The slope of the ramp is not very steep and can be used without any sort of assistance by an individual.
- The ramp has sidebars for support.

Partially Accessible

- The slope of the ramp is a bit steep and should be used with assistance from others.
- The ramp has sidebars for support.

Inaccessible

- The slope is very steep.
- The ramp has no sidebars for support.

Not available

- No ramps are present.

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Elevator

Accessible

- The sliding door reopens automatically when obstructed by an object or person.
- Horizontal grab bars are present at the maximum height of 3 feet.
- The door opening width is at least 32 inches.
- There are audio or visual signals that indicate the arrival at a floor.

Partially Accessible

- The door opening width is at least 32 inches.
- The horizontal grab bars are present.

Inaccessible

- The door opening is less than 32 inches wide.
- The horizontal bars are absent.

Not available

Reception/Help desk

Accessible

- There is at least one space at least 36 inches wide by at least 48 inches long for a person in a wheelchair to wait.
- The counter surface is of at least one aisle no higher than 38 inches above the floor.

Partially Accessible

- There is at least one space at least 36 inches wide by at least 48 inches long for a person in a wheelchair to wait.
- Counter surface is higher than 38 inches but not very high.

Inaccessible

- There is no enough space for a person in wheelchair to wait on.
- The counter surface is very high.

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Toilet

Accessible

- An accessible route to the accessible toilet room is available.
- The door opening width is at least 32 inches clear, between the face of the door and the stop, when the door is open 90 degrees.
- There is clear floor space available for a person in a wheelchair to turn around.
- The facility has a commode.
- There is a grab bar on the sidewall for support.

Partially Accessible

- An accessible route to the accessible toilet is available.
- The facility has a commode.
- There is a grab bar on the sidewall for support.

Inaccessible

- The facility is not commode.
- There is no grab bar for support.

Not available

Assistive Scooter Parking

Accessible

- The parking space is at least 4 feet wide and 5 feet long, with at least 3 feet gap between two parked scooters.
- The route from parking space to the main building or structure is accessible.

Partially Accessible

- The parking space is enough for a scooter with supportive wheels but may not be exactly convenient.

Inaccessible

- The parking space is not enough.
- The route to the main building or structure is not accessible.

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Signage

Accessible

- Braille and tactile signage are present and placed at a height between 3 feet to 5 feet.
- The text signage contrast with the sign background.
- The signage should allow convenient close viewing by wheelchair users.
- Signs are provided at all appropriate locations including the approach to building/facility/service, entrance/exit, main lobby or reception, public facilities such as library, toilet, etc., department and offices, fire exits, and parking and garages.

Partially Accessible

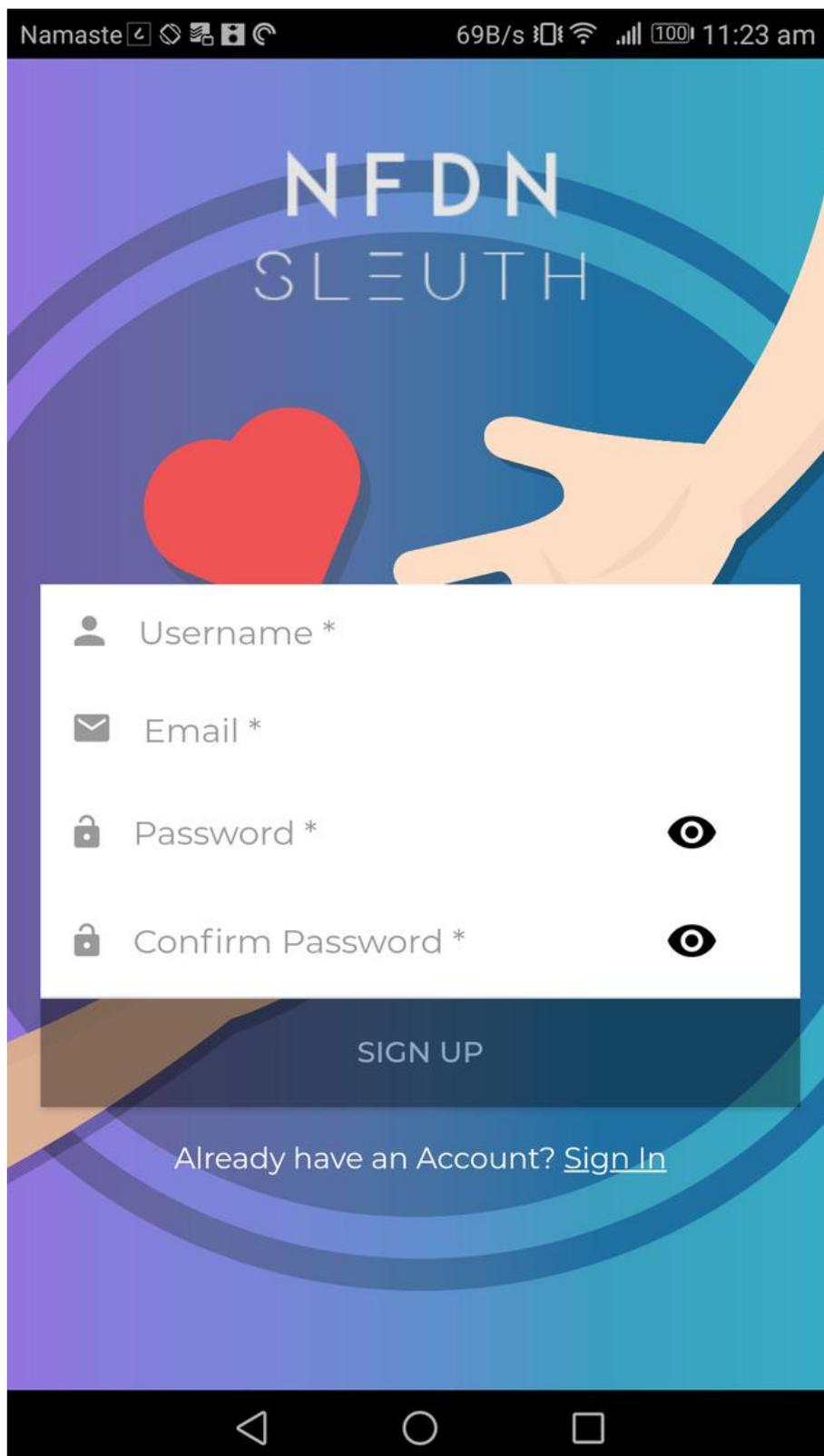
- Braille and tactile signage are not present.
- Text signage is present at a height that can be viewed but is not as convenient.

Inaccessible

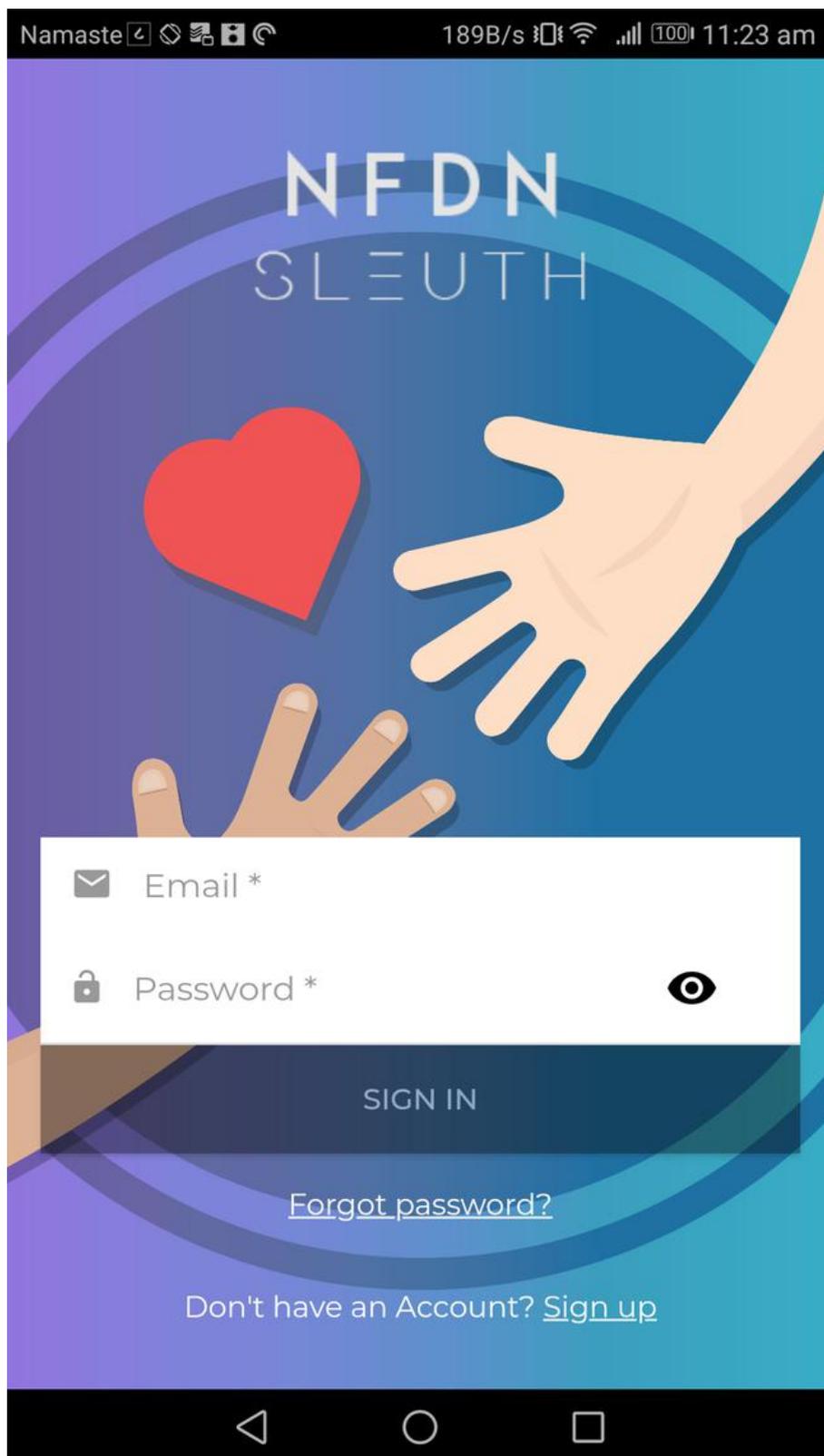
- The color contrast of the signage is very poor.
- The height of the signage is not suitable.

Not available

THE APP: NFDN SLEUTH



THE APP: NFDN SLEUTH



THE APP: NFDN SLEUTH

Namaste 178B/s 100% 11:22 am

← NFDN Sleuth

Give Your Review:

Name Of Place

Bir Hospital

Type Health ▾

Sub-Type Hospital ▾

Entrance Accessible ▾

Ramp Partially Acces... ▾

Elevator Accessible ▾

Toilet Inaccessible ▾

Reception/Help Desk Accessible ▾

Signage Partially Acces... ▾

Assistive Scooter Parking Accessible ▾

THE APP: NFDN SLEUTH

Namaste 69B/s 100% 11:22 am

← NFDN Sleuth

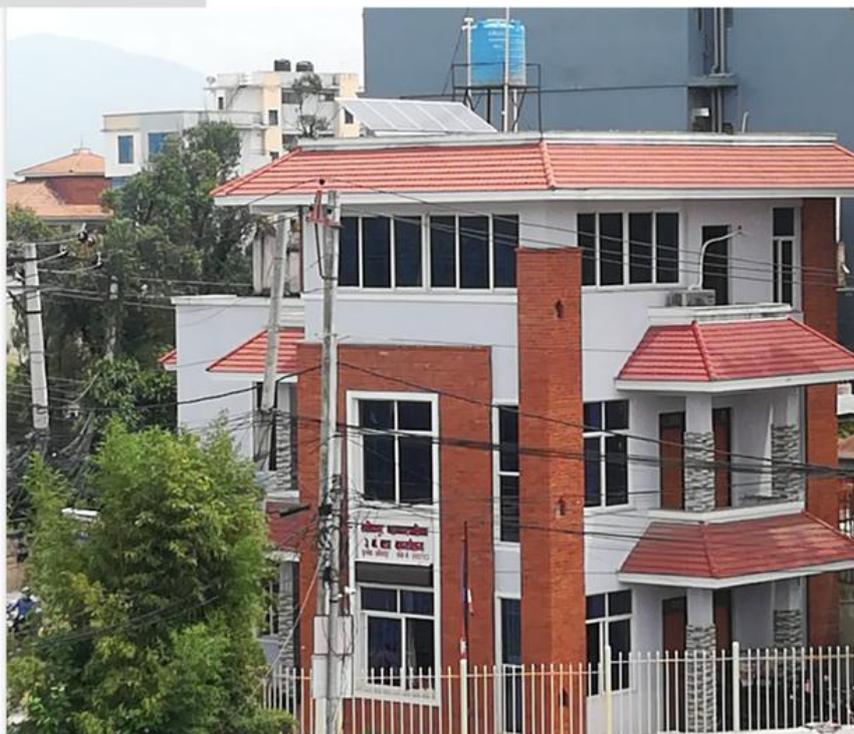
Signage Partially Acces... ▾

Assistive Scooter Parking Accessible ▾

Remarks

One of the better equipped hospitals for mobility impaired people.

Take Photo



SUBMIT REVIEW

ORIENTATION & TRAINING

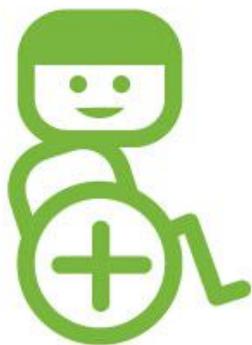
Training was provided to our group of volunteers to use the application NFDN Sleuth. In addition to guidance in using the app, we also provided them orientation on the underlying accessibility guidelines and importance of quality data to make this project successful.



PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

1200+ PLACES

The wheelchair accessibility data of more than 1200 places were added on Openstreetmap.org & Wheelmap.org. Those 1200 places were broken down into categories like Hospitals, Banks, Malls, Organizations, etc.



3 DISTRICTS

The places of 3 districts: Kathmandu, Lalitpur, and Bhaktapur were targeted for the project.

