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Windeaters & Victoria University of Wellington Project  
United Nations AOC Intercultural Innovation Award Winner

23 June 2021

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**Rishav Dhungel** of Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal successfully competed in the 2021 Global Enterprise Experience as a co-leader of his global team. Each of the 168 teams in the contest had eight members from developed and developing countries, with English as a first and second language, different time zones, and world views that are worlds apart.

Rishav's team had members from Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, and Thailand. They had just three weeks to connect virtually, build a team culture, generate creative ideas, jointly choose a project idea, research it, and write a quality proposal that covered strategy, marketing, economic evaluation, financing and making it happen. The challenge was to prepare a business concept proposal for *"a profitable venture that fosters a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal using limited capital"*. Teams communicated via the web, using a wide variety of technologies. More information on this challenge can be sourced on [www.geebiz.org](http://www.geebiz.org).

For 18 years my innovation consultancy, Windeaters, has run the Global Enterprise Experience in partnership with Victoria University of Wellington, touching the lives of 14,000 students and graduates in 126 countries. The contest won a United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and BMW Group Intercultural Innovation Award for its global impact on growing leaders who can address the UNSDGs (<https://interculturalinnovation.org/global-enterprise-experience>).

I was delighted to see Rishav grow his skills in peer leadership, cross-cultural management, and social entrepreneurship in a digitally connected world through the Global Enterprise Experience. I was impressed that Rishav's team successfully managed the real-world challenges of pulling together the collective wisdom of colleagues in villages and cities around the planet using a range of communication technologies. They developed an interesting business project entitled "Wuuddo" which stretched their minds to use business to tackle a social issue. They had clearly learnt much more than could ever be possible in textbook-based learning.

My congratulations to Rishav Dhungel for being an effective team member in the Global Enterprise Experience – and all the best for a successful career.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Deb Gilbertson'.

**Deb Gilbertson**

Programme Director – Global Enterprise Experience  
Teaching Fellow - Victoria University of Wellington  
Managing Director - Windeaters