

Building Inclusive Sports in Nepal's Remote Province: A Case Study of the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship in Karnali Province

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Abstract

Sport is a proven vehicle for health, social inclusion, and the empowerment of persons with disabilities. In Nepal, however, para sports opportunities remain concentrated in Kathmandu, limiting participation for athletes in remote provinces. This paper presents the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship held in Birendranagar, Surkhet (19–21 Ashadh 2083 B.S.), as a case study of inclusive sports development in Karnali Province. Drawing on event documentation, stakeholder accounts, and contextual policy analysis, the study examines the planning, operational challenges, and achievements of the championship. Findings show that despite constraints especially limited wheelchair-accessible accommodation and transport — Karnali successfully hosted a seven-province national tournament with strong government and community support. The championship demonstrates Karnali's organizational capacity and provides practical evidence that, with targeted investments in accessibility, athlete development, and coordination, the province can host the First National Para Games of Nepal. The paper concludes with policy recommendations for decentralizing para sports governance and scaling inclusive sporting opportunities across Nepal.

Keywords: para sports, wheelchair basketball, inclusive sports, Karnali Province, Nepal, disability rights, decentralized sports governance

Introduction

Sport is widely recognized as a powerful instrument for promoting health, social inclusion, equality, and human dignity (International Paralympic Committee, 2023). For persons with disabilities, participation in sport improves physical fitness, self-confidence, and social participation while challenging stereotypes (Blauwet & Willick, 2012). The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) recognizes the right of persons with disabilities to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure, and sport on an equal basis with others (United Nations, 2006, Article 30(5)).

In Nepal, para sports have gained momentum over the past two decades, yet national competitions, training opportunities, and infrastructure remain concentrated in urban centers especially Kathmandu (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026). Athletes with disabilities in remote provinces face persistent barriers: limited facilities, inadequate financial support, transportation challenges, and shortages of qualified coaches and technical officials (*The Kathmandu Post*, 2026).

Karnali Province, Nepal's geographically largest and one of its least developed provinces, presents unique challenges for sports development because of its mountainous terrain, limited

infrastructure, and accessibility barriers (Karnali Province Sports Development Council, 2026). Despite these constraints, Karnali has demonstrated growing commitment to inclusive sports through increasing government support, institutional collaboration, and community participation.

A significant milestone was the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship held in Birendranagar, Surkhet, from 19–21 Ashadh 2083 B.S. Organized by the National Paralympic Committee Nepal with financial support from the Karnali Province Sports Development Council, the championship was inaugurated by Hon. Yam Lal Kandel, Chief Minister of Karnali Province. Seven provincial teams participated, each comprising seven athletes, one coach, and one volunteer. Through league and knockout stages, Bagmati Province won the championship, Karnali Province finished as runner-up, and Gandaki Province secured third place (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026).

Beyond competition, the championship demonstrated that a geographically remote province such as Karnali can host national-level para sporting events. Although organizers faced challenges particularly limited wheelchair-accessible hotels and other accessible infrastructure cooperation among government agencies, sports organizations, volunteers, coaches, and athletes ensured the tournament's successful completion.

This paper presents the championship as a case study of inclusive sports development in Nepal. It examines planning and organization, identifies operational challenges, evaluates achievements, and discusses implications for future para sports development. The study argues that the championship provides practical evidence that Karnali Province has the institutional capacity, community commitment, and organizational experience required to host the First National Para Games of Nepal, provided that continued investments are made in accessible infrastructure, accommodation, transportation, and athlete development.

Literature Review

Global Development of Para Sports

Over recent decades, para sports have evolved into a global movement promoting equal opportunities, social inclusion, and the empowerment of persons with disabilities. The Paralympic Games, under the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), have significantly increased public awareness of para athletes' abilities and achievements (International Paralympic Committee, 2023). Research indicates that sports participation improves physical health, mental well-being, self-confidence, and social integration among persons with disabilities (Blauwet & Willick, 2012).

The CRPD, particularly Article 30, recognizes the right of persons with disabilities to participate in recreational, leisure, and sporting activities on an equal basis with others (United Nations, 2006). Many countries have integrated disability-inclusive sports into national development strategies to promote equality and reduce discrimination.

Para Sports in Nepal

Para sports in Nepal have progressed through the efforts of the National Paralympic Committee Nepal, disability organizations, sports federations, and government agencies (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026). Nepalese para athletes have represented the country in international competitions, including the Paralympic Games and the Asian Para Games. However, challenges persist: inadequate funding, limited accessible infrastructure, shortages of trained coaches

and classifiers, and unequal opportunities across provinces (Khabarhub, 2026; *The Kathmandu Post*, 2026).

Most national competitions have traditionally been held in Kathmandu, making participation difficult for athletes from remote regions. Transportation costs, inaccessible facilities, and geographical barriers remain major obstacles to equal participation (Nepal News, 2026).

Inclusive Sports and Regional Development

Inclusive sports contribute not only to athlete development but also to broader social and economic outcomes. Hosting sporting events encourages community participation, improves awareness of disability rights, strengthens institutional cooperation, and can stimulate local economic activity (HimalPress, 2026). International studies suggest that hosting inclusive sporting events outside capital cities promotes balanced regional development while increasing opportunities for persons with disabilities in rural and remote areas. Decentralization of sports administration therefore plays an important role in ensuring equitable access to sporting opportunities.

Karnali Province and Inclusive Sports

Karnali Province presents unique challenges for sports development because of its mountainous geography, limited transport networks, and shortage of accessible infrastructure (Karnali Province Sports Development Council, 2026). Persons with disabilities in Karnali often experience greater barriers to participation than their counterparts in more developed regions of Nepal.

Despite these constraints, Karnali has demonstrated increasing institutional commitment to para sports. Government support, collaboration between sports organizations and provincial authorities, and the successful organization of national competitions indicate positive progress toward disability-inclusive sports development.

The successful organization of the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship (19–21 Ashadh 2083 B.S.) serves as practical evidence that national-level para sporting events can be organized effectively in remote provinces (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026).

Research Gap

Although several studies have examined disability rights and sports participation in Nepal, very limited academic research has focused on para sports development in Karnali Province or on the organization of national para sporting events outside Kathmandu. No comprehensive case study has yet documented the organization, challenges, achievements, and policy implications of the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship in Karnali Province.

Method

This study employs a descriptive case-study approach to analyze the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship in Karnali Province. Data were collected from multiple sources.

Document analysis. Event schedules, participant lists, result sheets, and official communications from the National Paralympic Committee Nepal and the Karnali Province Sports Development Council (Karnali Province Sports Development Council, 2026; National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026).

Stakeholder accounts. Semi-structured interviews with organizers, coaches, athletes, and volunteers conducted during and immediately after the championship. Participation was voluntary, and informed consent was obtained from all interviewees.

Observational notes. Field observations of venue accessibility, accommodation arrangements, transportation logistics, and ceremony operations.

Media coverage. Local and national news reports documenting the event's organization and outcomes (HimalPress, 2026; Nepal News, 2026).

Data were analyzed thematically to identify key operational challenges, achievements, and lessons learned. Findings were triangulated across sources to enhance validity. The analysis is framed within CRPD principles (United Nations, 2006) and literature on inclusive sports and decentralized governance.

Case Description

Event Overview

The championship was held from 19–21 Ashadh 2083 B.S. in Birendranagar, Surkhet, Karnali Province. The organizer was the National Paralympic Committee Nepal, with the Karnali Province Sports Development Council as funding partner. The event was inaugurated by Hon. Yam Lal Kandel, Chief Minister of Karnali Province (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026).

Participation

Seven provincial teams participated, representing all seven provinces of Nepal. Each team consisted of seven athletes, one coach, and one volunteer, giving a total of 63 participants (49 athletes, 7 coaches, and 7 volunteers).

Competition Format and Results

The championship followed a league stage followed by knockout rounds (National Paralympic Committee Nepal, 2026). The final standings were as follows: champion Bagmati Province; runner-up Karnali Province; third place Gandaki Province.

Findings

Operational Challenges

Organizers encountered several significant challenges.

Accessible accommodation. Limited availability of wheelchair-accessible hotels in Birendranagar required creative arrangements and additional support for athletes and officials.

Transportation. Inter-provincial travel and local transport posed logistical difficulties because of the terrain and the limited number of accessible vehicles.

Venue accessibility. Although the main competition venue was functional, ancillary facilities required adaptation to meet accessibility standards.

Human resources. Shortages of trained classifiers, referees, and coaches familiar with wheelchair basketball rules necessitated pre-event training sessions.

Budget constraints. Funding, while sufficient to complete the event, limited the scope of accessibility upgrades and athlete support services.

Achievements

Despite these challenges, the championship achieved several notable outcomes.

Successful national event in a remote province. Karnali demonstrated the capacity to host a seven-province national para sporting event outside Kathmandu.

Government commitment. High-level inauguration by the Chief Minister signaled strong provincial government support for inclusive sports (Karnali Province Sports Development Council, 2026).

Community engagement. Local volunteers, schools, and community members participated actively, raising awareness of disability rights and para sports.

Competitive platform. Athletes from all provinces gained valuable competitive experience, and Karnali's runner-up finish highlighted local talent development.

Institutional collaboration. Coordination between the National Paralympic Committee Nepal, the Karnali Province Sports Development Council, and local stakeholders established a model for future events.

Implications for the First National Para Games

The championship provides practical evidence that Karnali can host larger multi-sport para events, including the planned First National Para Games. Key enablers include provincial government commitment, existing organizational experience, and a growing network of local volunteers. However, scaling up to a full Para Games will require expanded accessible accommodation, upgraded multi-sport venues, increased funding, and stronger coordination mechanisms among federal, provincial, and local stakeholders.

Discussion

Decentralizing Para Sports Governance

The organization of para-sports championships outside Kathmandu demonstrates the feasibility, importance, and broader value of decentralizing sports events across Nepal. For many years, Kathmandu has remained the major center for national-level sports activities because of its comparatively developed infrastructure, transportation facilities, trained personnel, and institutional support. However, concentrating para-sports events in the capital can create geographical barriers for athletes with disabilities living in remote and less-developed regions. Therefore, organizing championships in provinces such as Karnali represents an important step toward making para-sports more accessible, inclusive, and regionally balanced.

Hosting para-sports events in remote provinces can increase opportunities for athletes who may otherwise have limited access to national-level competitions. Athletes from rural and geographically difficult areas often face challenges related to transportation, accommodation, financial resources, training facilities, and access to specialized sports services. When competitions are organized closer to their communities, some of these barriers can be reduced. Such events can encourage athletes with disabilities to participate more actively in sports and can provide them with opportunities to demonstrate their abilities at provincial and national levels. In this way, decentralization can contribute to identifying and developing talented athletes from regions that have traditionally received less attention.

Accessibility as a Cross-Cutting Requirement

Accessible accommodation, transportation, and sporting venues are fundamental requirements for organizing inclusive sports events. For athletes with disabilities, accessibility is not an optional feature but a basic condition for meaningful participation. The success of a para-sports championship depends not only on the availability of sporting facilities but also on whether athletes can safely travel to the venue, enter and use the facilities, stay in suitable accommodation, and access essential services. Therefore, accessibility should be considered throughout the entire planning and implementation process of para-sports events.

Accessible accommodation is particularly important because athletes may require barrier-free rooms, accessible bathrooms, suitable entrances, adequate space for mobility aids, and safe movement within hotels or other accommodation facilities. If suitable accommodation is unavailable, athletes may experience additional physical and logistical difficulties. Host districts should therefore assess accommodation facilities before organizing major para-sports events and ensure that sufficient accessible options are available. Accessibility requirements should also apply to common areas such as dining halls, reception areas, pathways, and emergency exits.

Transportation is another essential component of inclusive sports. Athletes with disabilities may face significant challenges when public or private transportation is not accessible. Vehicles used for transporting athletes should provide appropriate space for wheelchairs and other mobility equipment and should allow athletes to board and leave safely. Transport arrangements should also consider the distance between accommodation, training locations, competition venues, and other essential facilities. Reliable and accessible transportation can reduce unnecessary physical and financial burdens on athletes and improve their overall participation experience.

Sporting venues must also meet appropriate accessibility requirements. Accessible entrances, ramps, elevators where necessary, accessible seating, toilets, changing rooms, pathways, and clearly marked facilities are important elements of an inclusive sports environment. Accessibility should not be limited to athletes alone; spectators, coaches, officials, volunteers, and other persons with disabilities should also be able to access and use the facilities. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities emphasizes accessibility and equal participation of persons with disabilities in cultural, recreational, leisure, and sporting activities (United Nations, 2006).

The challenges experienced during para-sports championships demonstrate the importance of establishing minimum accessibility standards for districts seeking to host such events. Rather than addressing accessibility problems only after an event has been selected, host districts should undergo an accessibility assessment before receiving approval to organize a championship. Such assessment could examine accommodation, transportation, competition venues, training facilities, sanitation, emergency services, communication systems, and other relevant infrastructure.

However, establishing standards alone is not sufficient. Targeted investment is necessary to help districts meet those standards. Provincial and local governments, sports organizations, and other relevant stakeholders should allocate resources for improving physical infrastructure, accessible transportation, equipment, and trained support personnel. A systematic approach to accessibility can

ensure that para-sports events are not merely organized in different geographical locations but are genuinely inclusive and safe for participants.

Thus, accessible accommodation, transportation, and sporting venues should be regarded as non-negotiable components of inclusive para-sports. Establishing minimum accessibility standards and providing targeted investment to meet them can strengthen the quality of para-sports events and support the broader goal of equal participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in Nepal's sporting sector.

Institutional Collaboration and Sustainability

Sustainable para-sports development requires continuous collaboration among national and provincial sports bodies, disability organizations, local governments, schools, communities, and other relevant stakeholders. The development of para-sports cannot be achieved through the efforts of a single institution because athletes with disabilities require coordinated support in areas such as training, competition, accessibility, transportation, accommodation, equipment, coaching, health services, and financial assistance. A collaborative approach can therefore create a stronger and more sustainable foundation for the development of para-sports across Nepal.

National sports organizations have an important role in developing policies, setting standards, coordinating national competitions, providing technical guidance, and supporting athlete development. Provincial sports bodies can translate these national priorities into regional programs according to local needs and circumstances. Similarly, local governments can provide venues, infrastructure, financial support, transportation, and logistical assistance. This division of responsibilities can help ensure that para-sports development is not concentrated only at the national level but is also integrated into provincial and local sports planning.

Disability organizations are equally important stakeholders because they have direct knowledge of the experiences, needs, and challenges faced by persons with disabilities. Their involvement can help ensure that para-sports programs are designed according to the actual needs of athletes rather than being based solely on institutional assumptions. These organizations can contribute to athlete identification, awareness programs, advocacy, accessibility assessment, and community mobilization. Their participation can also strengthen the representation of athletes with disabilities in decision-making processes.

The partnership demonstrated through para-sports activities in Karnali provides a potentially useful framework that can be adapted by other provinces. Rather than treating a championship as an isolated sporting event, the partnership model can connect government institutions, sports organizations, disability-related organizations, local communities, and other stakeholders around shared objectives. Such cooperation can improve the mobilization of resources and reduce duplication of responsibilities. It can also create opportunities for sharing technical knowledge, facilities, personnel, and experiences among participating institutions.

For this partnership model to be replicated effectively, clear roles and responsibilities should be established among stakeholders. Regular coordination meetings, joint planning, shared resource mechanisms, athlete-support systems, and monitoring arrangements can help maintain continuity beyond individual competitions. The development of provincial para-sports plans could further

institutionalize collaboration and ensure that activities continue throughout the year rather than being limited to championship periods.

Long-term collaboration can also support the identification and development of emerging athletes. Schools and local communities can help identify young persons with disabilities who have an interest or potential in sports, while provincial and national organizations can provide opportunities for training and competition. Continuous pathways from local participation to provincial and national competition can help strengthen the athlete development system.

Therefore, the experience of partnership in Karnali can provide useful lessons for other provinces seeking to expand para-sports. Its broader significance lies in demonstrating how coordinated institutional support can contribute to inclusion, participation, and regional development. A sustainable partnership model, adapted to the social, geographical, and infrastructural conditions of each province, can help establish para-sports as an integral component of Nepal's broader sports development system.

Policy Alignment With CRPD and National Commitments

The organization of para-sports championships contributes to Nepal's broader commitments to disability rights, social inclusion, and equal participation. Such events can be understood within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which recognizes the rights of persons with disabilities to participate equally in cultural, recreational, leisure, and sporting activities. Nepal's commitment to the CRPD provides an important foundation for promoting opportunities for persons with disabilities in different areas of social life, including sports. In this context, the organization and expansion of para-sports events can contribute to translating international commitments into practical opportunities at the national, provincial, and local levels (United Nations, 2006).

Para-sports have significance beyond athletic competition. They provide persons with disabilities with opportunities to demonstrate their abilities, develop confidence, interact with others, and participate actively in community life. When athletes with disabilities participate in public sporting events, they can challenge negative stereotypes and promote greater understanding of disability. The visibility of para-athletes can help shift public perceptions from a focus on limitations toward recognition of ability, achievement, and potential. Therefore, para-sports can function as an important mechanism for advancing social inclusion.

The championship also demonstrates the importance of extending inclusive sports opportunities beyond major urban centers. If para-sports activities are concentrated primarily in Kathmandu or other major cities, athletes from geographically remote areas may experience limited opportunities to participate. Organizing competitions at the provincial and local levels can help reduce geographical inequalities and provide athletes from different regions with opportunities to participate in organized sports. In this regard, expanding the model to provinces such as Karnali can contribute to more balanced regional participation and development.

The International Paralympic Committee emphasizes the importance of sport as a means of promoting inclusion, equality, and opportunities for persons with disabilities. The Paralympic movement has contributed to increasing recognition of the sporting abilities of persons with disabilities and to promoting greater participation in competitive sports (International Paralympic Committee,

2023). Nepal can draw on these broader principles while developing para-sports programs that reflect its own geographical, social, economic, and institutional conditions.

Scaling the championship model requires more than simply increasing the number of competitions. It requires appropriate accessibility standards, trained coaches and officials, adequate sporting equipment, accessible transportation and accommodation, financial support, and effective coordination among government agencies, sports organizations, and disability organizations. These elements are necessary to ensure that expansion produces meaningful participation rather than merely increasing the number of events.

Furthermore, the expansion of inclusive sports can contribute to broader human-rights objectives. Equal access to sports reinforces the principle that persons with disabilities should have the same opportunities for participation and personal development as other members of society. It also supports the development of more inclusive communities in which disability is recognized as part of human diversity.

The championship can be viewed as a practical expression of the principles embodied in the CRPD and the wider international para-sports movement. Scaling such initiatives across Nepal can strengthen social inclusion, promote regional equity, increase participation opportunities, and support the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities. Consequently, para-sports development should be considered not only a sporting objective but also an important component of Nepal's broader inclusion and human-rights agenda (International Paralympic Committee, 2023; United Nations, 2006).

Based on the findings of the study, several recommendations are proposed to strengthen the development, organization, and decentralization of para-sports events in Nepal. First, minimum accessibility standards should be established for districts intending to host para-sports events. These standards should cover accommodation, transportation, sporting and training venues, sanitation facilities, entrances, pathways, seating arrangements, and emergency services. Accessibility assessments should be conducted before events are approved to ensure that athletes with different types of disabilities can participate safely, comfortably, and independently. Establishing such standards would help host districts identify infrastructure gaps in advance and make the necessary improvements before competitions begin.

Similarly, a standardized Para Games readiness checklist should be developed for provinces that plan to host national-level para-sports events. The checklist should assess important areas such as venue accessibility, accommodation capacity, accessible transportation, medical and emergency services, sports equipment, trained volunteers, technical officials, referees, classifiers, communication facilities, security, and contingency arrangements. Such a checklist would provide provincial authorities with a systematic framework for assessing their preparedness and addressing weaknesses before hosting major competitions. It would also help national sports authorities maintain consistent standards across different host provinces.

Dedicated funding mechanisms should also be established for para-sports events in remote and geographically challenging provinces. Government agencies and sports authorities should provide financial support for athletes' travel, accessible transportation, accommodation, venue preparation, sports equipment, medical services, and other essential logistical requirements. Additional financial

assistance may be necessary for remote provinces because transportation and infrastructure costs can be higher than in major urban centers. Targeted funding would help reduce geographical and financial barriers and enable athletes from different regions to participate more equally in national competitions.

Human resource development should receive equal attention. Regular training and capacity-building programs should be organized for coaches, referees, classifiers, technical officials, volunteers, and event-management personnel outside Kathmandu. Developing qualified personnel at provincial and local levels would reduce dependence on Kathmandu-based experts and strengthen the ability of remote provinces to organize para-sports events independently. Training should be continuous and should include technical knowledge, disability awareness, classification procedures, athlete safety, accessibility, and event management.

Institutional coordination should also be strengthened through formal partnerships among the National Paralympic Committee Nepal, provincial sports councils, local governments, disability organizations, and other relevant stakeholders. Formal agreements, joint planning committees, regular coordination meetings, and clearly defined responsibilities can improve communication, resource mobilization, and accountability. Such partnerships can ensure that para-sports development continues beyond individual competitions and becomes part of regular provincial and local sports planning.

Finally, systematic monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should be established for para-sports events. Each event should be evaluated in terms of accessibility, athlete participation, transportation, accommodation, venue conditions, officiating, medical support, financial management, stakeholder coordination, and participant satisfaction. The findings should be documented and used to identify strengths, challenges, and areas for improvement. Maintaining reliable records and evidence from each event can support better planning and policy development in the future. Overall, the implementation of these recommendations can help Nepal strengthen para-sports development, expand opportunities beyond Kathmandu, improve regional equity, and establish a more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable national para-sports system.

Conclusion

The National Wheelchair Basketball Championship organized in Karnali Province demonstrates the potential of remote provinces in Nepal to host national-level para-sporting events. The successful organization of such a championship provides an important example of how geographical remoteness does not necessarily prevent a province from conducting large-scale sporting activities for persons with disabilities. Although Karnali faces challenges related to transportation, accessibility, infrastructure, accommodation, and logistical management, the organization of a national wheelchair basketball championship indicates that these challenges can be addressed through appropriate planning, institutional coordination, and resource mobilization.

One of the important lessons from the championship is the role of government commitment. Government institutions at different levels can provide essential support through financial resources, infrastructure, administrative coordination, transportation arrangements, and policy implementation. Strong government involvement can create an enabling environment in which sports organizations and disability-related institutions can work together effectively. For a major event such as the First National Para Games of Nepal, similar institutional commitment would be necessary to coordinate the various

responsibilities associated with accommodation, venues, transportation, medical services, security, technical officials, volunteers, and athlete support.

Institutional collaboration is another significant factor demonstrated by the Karnali experience. Para-sports events require cooperation among sports associations, provincial and local governments, disability organizations, coaches, officials, volunteers, health personnel, and community organizations. Each stakeholder contributes different forms of expertise and resources. Effective coordination can therefore reduce duplication of activities, improve resource utilization, and facilitate timely decision-making. The experience of organizing the wheelchair basketball championship suggests that developing a clearly defined coordination mechanism would be important for any future national para-sports event in Karnali.

Community participation also contributes significantly to the success and sustainability of para-sports events. Local communities can support competitions through volunteering, hospitality, awareness activities, logistical assistance, and encouragement of athletes. Community involvement can also increase public understanding of disability and help reduce negative stereotypes about persons with disabilities. When local residents actively participate in sporting events, para-sports can become more visible and socially accepted within the community. Nevertheless, the experience should not be interpreted as evidence that all requirements for hosting a national para-games event are already available. A larger multi-sport event would require substantially greater preparation and resources. Targeted investment would be necessary in accessible sporting venues, accommodation, transportation, training facilities, medical and rehabilitation services, sports equipment, communication systems, and trained technical personnel. Accessibility assessments should be conducted before the event to identify infrastructure and service gaps.

Athlete development should also receive sustained attention. Hosting a national competition can provide an opportunity for athletes to compete, but long-term development requires regular training, qualified coaches, local competitions, talent identification, and financial and institutional support. Establishing these systems would strengthen Karnali's capacity to contribute athletes to national and international para-sports.

The National Wheelchair Basketball Championship provides practical lessons regarding the organization of para-sports in a geographically challenging province. Its experience indicates that government commitment, institutional collaboration, community participation, and targeted investment can work together to overcome geographical and logistical barriers. Therefore, Karnali's experience can serve as a useful foundation for considering the province as a host for the First National Para Games of Nepal, provided that necessary accessibility, infrastructure, athlete-development, and coordination mechanisms are systematically strengthened before the event.

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