

Capacity Building Workshop on Climate Risk Assessment for Water Resources Management

A four-day Capacity Building Workshop on Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) for Water Resources Management was conducted from 5-8 February 2024 in Lalitpur, Nepal. Jointly organized by the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) and Tribhuvan



University (TU), the workshop aimed to enhance the skills of early-career water resources researchers and practitioners. The initiative was part of the project "Building Capacities for Climate Resilient Water Resources Development under Climate Uncertainty," funded by the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN).



Twenty-seven participants from national and international organizations attended, with representation from Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the Philippines. Notable participants included governmental bodies, educational institutions, and NGOs. The primary goal was to equip participants with the skills for effective CRA. The workshop included

introductory sessions on climate change fundamentals, the WECCS Gen-tool (developed by NDRI), climate vulnerability, and resilience in mountainous regions, and CRA for hydropower projects. Networking opportunities, including a welcome dinner, allowed participants to engage with water resource experts. Subsequent days focused on statistical downscaling, bias correction, and hands-on practice with the Climate Data Operator tool. Participants applied bias-corrected data to a hydrological model and used the WECCS Gen-tool for climate change scenario generation.

The final day featured sessions on the challenges of climate change, its impact on runoff, climate stress tests, and financial analysis. Dr. Madan Lal Shrestha, representing APN, provided insights, and Prof. Hari Pandit discussed climate-resilient hydropower design.



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Dibesh Shrestha from NDRI, led the workshop with support from Dr. Divas B. Basnyat (Lead, Water and Climate Program, NDRI), Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Executive Director, NDRI), Dr. Dhiraj Pradhananga (Associate Professor, TU) and Sophiya Shrestha (Senior Research Assistant, NDRI), among others. Overall, the program was deemed successful, offering valuable knowledge and skills to participants in the field of WR management and CRA.

Workshop on Theory of Change



On 9 Feb 2024, UK experts Will Paxton, Director and Founder of KIVU international and Olivia Stevens, Policy Advisor at KIVU International conducted a comprehensive workshop on the Theory of Change for NDRI researchers.

The hybrid event was held both at NDRI hall and online, facilitated an inclusive learning experience. Attendees gained valuable insights into strategic planning and impact assessment, fostering enhanced research methodologies. It provided insight into how the theory of change can be applied to different fields, but may vary depending on the case.

Debriefing session on the case study of “Growth Potential Enterprise Identification”

On the 8th of February 2024, a significant field debriefing meeting was held, attended by NDRI President, NDRI Executive Director, Senior Research Experts, the project team members, as well as associated researchers.



The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the findings of the recent case study conducted throughout the 7 provinces of Nepal regarding the experimental research project "Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprises: Evidence from Nepal." The project aimed to identify growth potential enterprises in seven provinces of Nepal and intervene to help them grow through experimentation.

The presentations from the three teams were the highlight of the meeting. They shared their experiences of visit and the challenges they faced. The presentations were followed by an interesting conversation on how to identify the needs of growth potential entrepreneurs and help them grow. The NDRI researchers who attended the field also shared their insights and observations from the field, which added value to the discussion.

This research project commenced in March 2023 and is set to be completed in February 2026. The meeting was an excellent opportunity to discuss the progress of the project and plan the way forward.

188th Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue (CPD)

The 188th episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue, which unfolded on February 9th, marked a pivotal moment in intellectual discourse as participants delved into the "Proposed Bill for Higher Education Act 2080 (BS): Critical Appraisal" led by the esteemed Prof. Dr. Chandra P. Rijal.



188th Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue
Mid-West University
MU Policy Lab
Birendranagar, Surkhet, Nepal



Prof. Dr. Chandra P. Rijal

'Bill on Reform and Unification of Acts Related to Higher Education, 2080': A Critical Assessment

Lecture II

Prof. Chandra P. Rijal, PhD
Executive Director, Planning, Development and Monitoring Directorate | Research Directorate
Coordinator, MU Policy Lab | Mid-West University, Nepal

Presented
Nepal Development Research Institute [NDRI], Lalitpur, Nepal
February 9, 2023

In collaboration with
Karnali Province Government
Office of the Chief Minister and
Council of Ministers (OCMCM)



Supported by
United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP),
European Union Support to
Inclusive Federalism (EUSIF)

This eagerly anticipated episode brought together a diverse audience of academics, policymakers, and students for an engaging exploration of the potential implications of the proposed bill on Nepal's higher education landscape. Prof. Rijal's insightful analysis dissected the intricacies of the bill, unraveling its potential impacts on educational quality and accessibility.



नेपाल विकास अनुसन्धान प्रतिष्ठान
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188th Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue

Proposed Bill for Higher Education Act 2080 (BS): Critical Appraisal



Key speaker
Prof. Dr. Chandra P. Rijal
Coordinator, MU Policy Lab
Mid-West University

An accomplished professional specializing in federal planning, development, and monitoring, with expertise in public-private participation and social sector policy reforms. A leader in higher education policy development, curricular planning, and ICT-enabled system execution. Proficient in quality assurance, accreditation, and detailed project report preparation. Skilled in project monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and project-based research. Adept in institutional system capacity development, organizational change, and human resource development. Committed to ensuring compliance with equality, access, empowerment, and ethical standards, with a strategic focus on aligning institutional and development projects with national goals for sustainable development.

9th February, 2024 | Friday
09:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Zoom ID: 961 8021 7222
Zoom Passcode: 535476

If you weren't able to catch the 188th Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue, you can access the episode through the provided [YouTube link](#).

Thought-provoking News

Turning Nepal's forests into fortune

<https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2024/02/11/turning-nepal-s-forests-into-fortune>

Demography, digitalisation and diaspora will catapult RSP to power

<https://kathmandupost.com/interviews/2024/02/12/demography-digitalisation-and-diaspora-will-catapult-rsp-to-power-1707703559>

Thought of the Week

"To forgive is powerful. To be forgiven is priceless. To embody the two is a blessing."
Written in 2013."

-Traci D. Greene

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