

NEWSLETTER

15th April to 21st April

Year: 2024

Volume:142

NDRI's Participation in Green Hydrogen Futures

On April 17, 2024, Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada, Senior Research Specialist at the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI), served as a panelist at the Green Hydrogen Dialogue held at Hotel Yellow Pagoda. The event focused on exploring "Green Hydrogen: Opportunities and Challenges in Nepal and Worldwide," drawing together key stakeholders from government agencies, research institutions, industry representatives, and civil society organizations. Dr. Khatiwada's participation was marked by his insightful contributions to



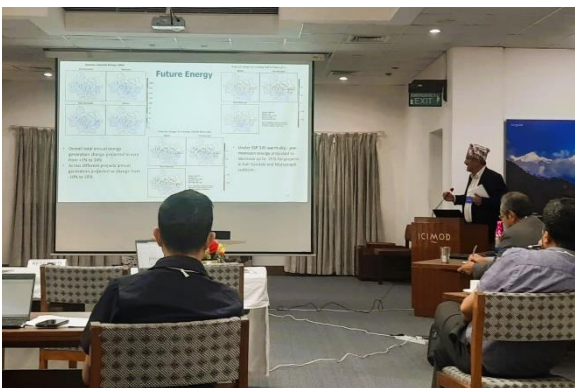
the dialogue, where he shared comprehensive development strategies and policy recommendations aimed at leveraging green hydrogen technologies for sustainable growth in Nepal and beyond.



Experience the insightful panel discussion on green hydrogen by watching the YouTube video coverage. To access the video, all you need to do is click on the image.

Consultation workshop:

Developing Guidelines for Climate-Resilient Hydropower in Nepal



On April 19, 2024, Dr. Divas B. Basnyat, Lead of the Water and Climate Program at NDRI, delivered a presentation on the topic "Key results of the Narayani Basin Study and Climate Resilient Hydropower Guidelines" during a one-day consultation workshop. This workshop was a part of the project "Generation of Evidence and Knowledge on the Basin-Scale Climate and Environmental Risks to the Hydropower Sector in Nepal (GEM-Nepal) jointly implemented by ICIMOD through Action Area on Managing Cryosphere and Water Risks under the Strategic Group on Reducing Climate and Environment Risks

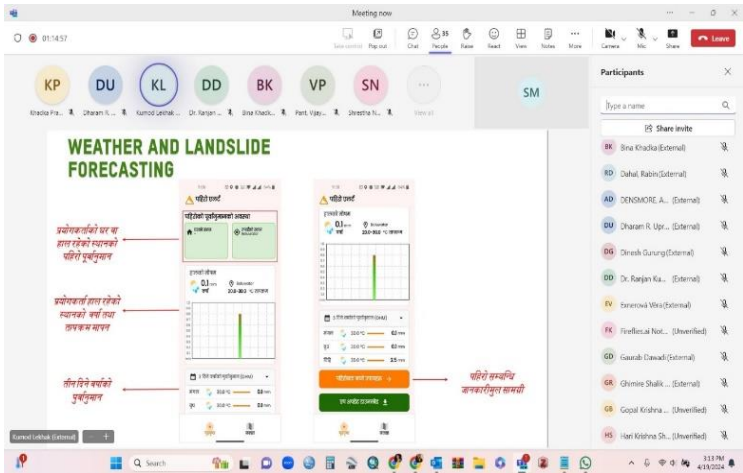
as well as the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS), of the Government of Nepal with support from the Government of Norway. The workshop held at ICIMOD headquarters in Lalitpur, was jointly organized by WECS and ICIMOD. The workshop aimed to share insights from the study on 'Hazards from Changes in Cryosphere and Climate Risk Related to Hydropower in the Narayani Basin of Nepal' under the GEM-Nepal project. Its goals were to discuss current gaps and methods to strengthen climate resilience in

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hydropower development in Nepal, exchange knowledge on guidelines for climate-resilient hydropower development in Nepal and promote climate-resilient practices. Additionally, Research Associates from NDRI, namely Mr. Girish Raj Lamsal, Ms. Sunita Magar, and Mr. Rajendra K. Shrestha, actively participated in the workshop. Representatives from the Norwegian Embassy, Kathmandu University, Tribhuvan University, and NMB Bank were also in attendance.

Landslide Forecasting Technical Working Group Members Meeting

On April 19, 2024, Ms. Sunita Magar, a Research Associate at NDRI, attended a virtual meeting on the Landslide Forecasting Technical Working Group, organized by People in Need Nepal. The session was facilitated by Prakash Khadka, the lead for Forecast-based Action (FbA). The meeting began with a presentation by Dr. Ranjan Kumar Dahal from Tribhuvan University, who discussed progress on rainfall thresholds for landslides, using case studies from the Sindhupalchowk and Rasuwa districts.



He also presented an empirical model for early warning systems that could be implemented at the local government level. The discussion then moved on to the national dialogue about anticipatory action, where Bina Khadka from Practical Action shared their progress in developing a landslide early warning system in the Sindhupalchowk district. The final presentation was given by Kumod Lekhak from OXFAM, who outlined their initiatives for landslide early warning systems, including the development of the mobile application “Pahiro Alert”. The meeting concluded with a productive Q&A session, where participants provided feedback, comments, and suggestions, leading to a fruitful and informative discussion.

Fruit and Vegetable Food Safety: Evidence to Support Policy Action - A National Policy Consultation



On April 18, 2024, Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Executive Director, NDRI) was invited to participate in the national policy consultation “Fruit and Vegetable Food Safety: Evidence to Support Policy Action,” hosted by Agriculture and Forestry University and Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Safety (FSIL), in collaboration with Nepal Food Scientists and Technologists Association in Kathmandu, Nepal. The workshop aimed to share evidence from FSIL and partner research activities in Nepal, exchange knowledge, deepen understanding of the fresh fruit and vegetable safety landscape in Nepal, and contribute to informed decision-making and effective policies and regulations on fresh fruit and vegetable safety in Nepal. The event saw the participation of government officials, researchers from academic institutions in the United States and Nepal Civil-society Organizations United Nations agencies, donors, and other implementing partners related to food, agriculture, and nutrition.

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The workshop consisted of sessions on (i) Food Safety Innovation Lab two-year Project Dissemination entitled “Safer Food Production and Consumption in Nepal: Understanding the Adoption of Food Safety Practices and Consumer Consciousness in Fresh Produce”, (ii) Current Status and Progress in Ensuring Fresh Produce Safety in Nepal, (iii) Data and Evidence Needs for Informed Decision-Making on Ensuring Fresh Produce Safety in Nepal, (iv) Generating Advocacy and Awareness on Fresh Produce Safety in Nepal (From Producers to Consumers), and (v) Actionable Strategies to Effectively Address and Improve Fresh Food Safety in Nepal.

Exploring Networking and Collaboration: Meeting with Professor Mywish Maredia

On April 19, 2024, a networking meeting aimed at exploring collaboration avenues was convened with Professor Dr. Mywish Maredia from Michigan State University (MSU), USDA-FAS Scientific Exchange Program fellows, and representatives from NDRI at NDRI premises. Along with Prof. Maredia, the attendees included Ms. Bibhuti Ojha and Mr. Ramesh Khanal from Nepal Engineering College, and Dr. Nani Maiya Sujakhu from the



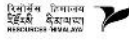
Resources Himalaya Foundation, Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi (VC, AFU), alongside Dr. Krishna Pahari (President), Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Executive Director) Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada, Dr. Rudra Suwal, Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, and Ms. Sophiya Shrestha from NDRI.



The meeting aimed to foster collaboration between NDRI and MSU by exploring avenues through various research and innovation labs. Potential exchanges between Michigan State University and NDRI were discussed, including inviting NDRI researchers to MSU and hosting internships for MSU students at NDRI. The meeting recognized shared interests in water and food security, as well as applied economic research, between NDRI and Prof. Maredia’s research at MSU, paving the way for collaboration.

193rd Episode Of Contemporary Policy Dialogue (CPD)

In a dynamic session, the 193rd episode of the Contemporary Policy Dialogue (CPD) series ignited discussions on the theme “नयाँ वर्ष २०८१ को प्रतिबद्धता के र किन?” (New Year Resolutions for 2081 and Why?). The virtual event, which marked the inaugural episode of CPD for the year, brought together a diverse audience eager to explore personal and collective commitments for the future.



193rd Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue

नयाँ वर्ष २०८१ स्वागत!

नयाँ वर्षको प्रतिबद्धता
के र किन ?

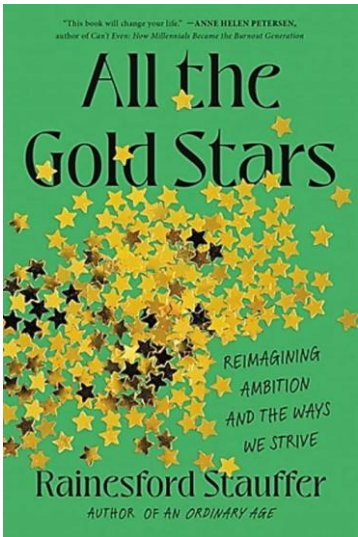
वक्ता: विशेष अतिथि



19th April, 2024 (Friday)
09:00AM - 10:00AM
Zoom ID: 951822 2925
Zoom Password: 835476

Attendees from various backgrounds, including policymakers, academics, activists, and students, shared their aspirations and resolutions for the year 2081. One of the highlights of the session was the active participation and diverse range of resolutions put forth by attendees.

For those who were unable to join the live broadcast, the episode’s recording is available at this [Link](#).



Book
Recommendation
of the Week

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 3.59

Feel free to recommend books to our readers so that we can collectively enhance knowledge exploration.

Thought-provoking News

Diplomacy is about fostering cross-cultural understanding

<https://kathmandupost.com/books/2024/04/18/diplomacy-is-about-fostering-cross-cultural-understanding>

Climate change causes marine ‘coldwaves’ too

<https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2024/04/17/climate-change-causes-marine-coldwaves-too>

Media Coverage



Dr. Divas Bahadur Basnyat, Lead, Water and Climate Program, NDRI shares about Water Resources Management in Nepal and the region based on his 35+ years of research experience working in the water resources sector during an interview with GNN TV.

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