

NEWSLETTER

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Provincial Workshop for Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprise (Koshi and Madhesh Provinces)



On June 7th, 2024, the research team at the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) conducted a one-day provincial workshop at Hotel Maden Inn in Itahari, Sunsari district. This workshop was part of the project titled **“Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprises: Evidence from Nepal.”** The workshop saw participation from various municipalities and rural municipalities, with notable attendees including Mr. Krishna Kumar Tamang (Mayor of Chainpur Municipality, Sankhuwasabha), and Mr. Bishnu Bhakta Sigdel (Chief Administrative Officer of Triyuga Municipality, Udaypur). The event brought together Enterprise Development Facilitators (EDFs), Employment Coordinators, and Loan Facilitators from the Youth and Small Entrepreneur Self-Employment Fund (YSEF) program. Participants represented Sundarharaicha Municipality (Morang), Inaruwa Municipality (Sunsari), Triyuga Municipality (Udaypur), Phidim Municipality (Panchthar), Falgunanda Rural Municipality (Panchthar), Miklagunj Rural Municipality (Panchthar), Phakphothum Municipality (Ilam), and Bhokrahanarsingh Rural Municipality (Sunsari).

The workshop began with welcome remarks from Dr. Shankar Shrestha, Executive Director of NDRI. Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Bhattarai, the Principal Investigator for the project, delivered a presentation on the growth of micro, small, and medium enterprises, emphasizing the application of Japanese business models within the Nepalese business environment. Subsequently, Mr. Rajendra Khatri, (Project Manager, NDRI) gave an overview of the project and presented findings from the baseline survey.

Following the presentations, a discussion session took place where participants discussed the importance of promoting local production and building an interdependent and reciprocal business ecosystem. The need for entrepreneurship development programs such as MEDPA and YSEF to formulate policies and strategies that promote innovation among their beneficiaries and borrowers for sustainable business growth was also discussed. Attendees provided valuable and constructive suggestions for the project's implementation and successful completion. Ms. Deepa Luintel (Admin and Finance Officer) and Ms. Nirmita Shrestha (Research Associate) of NDRI were responsible for organizing and managing the entire event. The one-day workshop concluded successfully, with all representatives committing to support the project's future interventions.



NDRI Conducts Cleanliness Program on World Environment Day 2024

On June 4th, 2024, Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) organized a Cleanliness Program inside and around the office premises to celebrate World Environment Day. The initiative aimed to promote a clean and healthy environment and express appreciation for the dedicated support staff. NDRI employees gathered to clean both the office and surrounding premises, reflecting their collective commitment to environmental sustainability. NDRI Team tackled various sections of the premises, ensuring thorough cleaning and organization. By aligning the event with World Environment Day, NDRI underscored the significance of sustainable practices and personal responsibility in environmental conservation.



NDRI Participates in World Environment Day Celebrations

June 5, 2024 – Research interns Mr. Upendra Saud and Ms. Subekshya Basnet and Research Associate Ms. Kabita Yadav of Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) participated in the World Environment Day celebrations organized by Ward No. 5 of Lalitpur Metropolitan City (LMC). The event was highlighted by the presence of LMC Deputy Mayor Manjali Shakya Bajracharya as the chief

guest, alongside Ward Chairperson Mr. Biksha Man Shrestha, ward members, women associations, youth clubs, schools, security forces, and various NGOs. The program commenced with a rally from Mahalaxmi Temple, aiming to raise environmental awareness. During the event, dustbins, bags, and compost bins were distributed to encourage proper waste management. Deputy Mayor Bajracharya emphasized the importance of ongoing community efforts for environmental conservation. The event demonstrated a unified commitment to sustainability and active participation from diverse community sectors, marking a significant step towards a cleaner-greener future.



You can also watch the program on YouTube [Link](#)

Waste Management & Climate Conference 2024 (WMCC 2024)

The Waste Management & Climate Conference 2024 (WMCC 2024) was held on June 5th at The Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu, in observance of World Environment Day. The event was a collaborative effort organized by the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MOFE), the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI), the Coca-Cola Foundation, Khaalisisi, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the Confederation of Nepalese Industries Young Entrepreneurs Forum (CNIYEF), and Women for Human Rights (WHR).

This program was attended by Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung (Lead of Health, Education, and Environment Program) and Ms. Sophiya Shrestha (Senior Research Assistant), representing NDRI at the event.

Rt. Hon. Narayan Dahal, Chairperson of the National Assembly, inaugurated the event with a symbolic act of planting a Bodhi Chitta plant. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Sandeep Patel, President of the National Solid Waste Association of India.

The conference commenced with a video depicting the current state of waste management and the adverse effects experienced by residents near the Sisdol and Banchure Danda landfill sites. This set the tone for the day's discussions, emphasizing the human impact of waste management issues. One of the highlights of the conference was the Mayor's Forum: The State of Waste Management in Nepal. Moderated by Dil Bhusan Pathak, host of TOUGH Talk, the panel included mayors from Dhangadi Sub-Metropolitan City, Dhankuta Municipality, Budanilkantha Municipality, and Lalitpur Metropolitan City, as well as the Deputy Mayor of Chandragiri Municipality. The forum explored innovative strategies and future outlooks, fostering collaboration and synergy among metropolitan and municipal bodies.



The second panel discussion, titled "Waste is Wealth," centered around the intriguing question, "Can garbage really make you rich?" This session brought together investors, startups, and policymakers to explore the challenges and opportunities within the waste industry. The third panel discussion focused on carbon and plastic credits, examining why Nepal lags behind countries like India in these areas. Strategies were discussed for Nepal to tap into the potential of carbon and plastic credits.

Hon. Dr. Toshima Karki, a member of the House of Representatives, provided remarks on the impacts of air pollution, urging the audience to initiate a legacy of change. This was followed by the fourth panel discussion on combating air pollution, featuring experts such as Dr. Bhusan Tuladhar, Chief of Party of FHI360, and Mr. Deepak Gyawali, Under Secretary of the Department of Environment - MoFE.

The fifth panel discussion addressed climate change impacts in vulnerable mountain areas like Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest). Additionally, an awards ceremony recognized outstanding contributions to waste management, underscoring a commitment to sustainable practices.

Overall, WMCC 2024 served as a crucial platform for sharing knowledge, discussing challenges, and strategizing for improved waste management and environmental sustainability in Nepal.

NDRI at the Digital Nepal Conclave 2024, Focused on "Harmonizing Digitization and Development"



Dr. Krishna Pahari, President of Nepal Development Research Institute, and Mr. Prabin Shrestha, Senior Research Assistant from the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) participated in the Digital Nepal Conclave 2024, held on the 7th of June 2024 and organized by the ICT Foundation Nepal, the event was inaugurated by Honorable Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal. With over 500 participants, including government officials, stakeholders, experts, and entrepreneurs, the conclave focused on "Harmonizing Digitization and Development." The main objectives of the conclave were to foster collaborative partnerships, promote inclusive digitization, enhance digital infrastructure, facilitate innovation and entrepreneurship, foster policy coherence, drive inclusive digital development, ensure digital governance and citizen engagement, and build digital leadership capabilities.

The agenda of the conclave comprised presentations and panel sessions on various pertinent topics, including Digital Public Infrastructure, Sustainable Telecommunications for Digital Transformation, Innovative Technologies for Development, Digital Empowerment and Inclusion, Digital Governance and Data for Development, and Digital Economy and Investment for Digital Nepal. Additionally, exclusive power dialogue sessions were conducted with former Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and the Honorable Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Ms. Rekha Sharma. Furthermore, insights on the digital economy and ICT in the new fiscal year's budget were shared by the Honorable Minister of Finance, Mr. Barsha Man Pun, highlighting the government's commitment to advancing digital initiatives.



NDRI Presents Key Findings on Enterprise Registration and Policy Incentives

On 7th June 2024, NDRI team presented the main findings and recommendations from the study, "Mapping and Review of Enterprise Registration and Renewal Processes, Practices, and Existing Policy Incentives in Nepal," to the National Tripartite Committee on Formalization which is headed by Ministry of Labour Employment and Social Security (MoLESS). The study was conducted by NDRI with technical support from the International Labour Organization (ILO). Representing NDRI were Mr. Ganesh Singh Bista, Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, and Ms. Salisha Raila. The committee members appreciated the study and provided essential feedback for the finalization of the study report.

Welcome to the Family



Ms. Bipashwi Nepal

*Research Intern, Economic Development Program, NDRI
From Smith College, Massachusetts, USA*

Thought Provoking news

Experts call for preparedness to deal with monsoon-related disasters

<https://kathmandupost.com/weather/2024/06/10/experts-call-for-preparedness-to-deal-with-monsoon-related-disasters>

Nepal's tourism paid for 1.19 million jobs in 2023

<https://kathmandupost.com/money/2024/06/10/nepal-s-tourism-paid-for-1-19-million-jobs-in-2023>

Media Feature



Senior Research Specialist of NDRI, **Dr. Deependra Rokaya**, is featured in an interview. Click on the picture to watch the full interview.

★★★★☆ 4.11

The Difficulty of Being Good

ON THE SUBTLE ART OF DHARMA

Gurcharan Das
Author of India Unbound

Book Recommendation of the Week

Newsletter Preparation :

Ms. Seetal Luitel
Front Desk Officer

Editors :

Ms. Ashma Aryal
Outreach and Communication Officer

Dr. Shankar Shrestha
Executive Director

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