

Field Visit to Madhesh Province: SWC Monitoring of Tobacco Control Program-II

From August 10-13, 2024, the NDRI TCP team consisting Lead of Health, Education and Environment Program, Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, and Research Associate Mr. Kamal Chaulagain along with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) monitoring team conducted a comprehensive field visit across Madhesh Province. The visit included observations, discussions, and interviews aimed at assessing the status of tobacco control in the province. In Malibada village, Mahottari, the team identified significant violations of the Tobacco Regulation Act 2068. Retailers were found to be unaware of legal restrictions, and vendors were actively promoting tobacco sales through displays and decorations, in clear defiance of the law. At the Gauribas Health Post, the team noted a severe compliance issue: the facility lacked the required tobacco-free signage. This omission is a clear violation of regulations and underscores the need for greater awareness and enforcement.



On August 11, the team further hosted a stakeholders' consultative meeting in Dhanusha. The meeting convened government officials, health authorities, and representatives from the Provincial Planning Commission and the World Health Organization. Discussions highlighted the essential role of local governments and educational institutions in enforcing tobacco regulations. The need to revitalize non-functional committees was also emphasized, reflecting a collective commitment to improving tobacco control efforts.

The field visit and subsequent meetings reinforced the urgent need for strengthened enforcement and greater awareness to effectively combat tobacco use and promote public health in Madhesh Province.



201st Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series: A Focus on Nepal's LDC Graduation



Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) hosted the 201st episode of its Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series on 16th August 2024, in collaboration with Resources Himalaya Foundation, marking the first session after the significant milestone of the 200th episode. The event, held from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in a hybrid modality, featured an insightful discussion on the topic, **"LDC Graduation Status of Nepal, Likely Impact of Graduation, and Strategies to Manage the Impacts."**



The session was graced by the esteemed key speaker, **Dr. Giridhari Sharma Paudel**. Dr. Paudel provided a comprehensive overview of Nepal's transition from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status, shedding light on both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. He emphasized the importance of strategic planning to ensure that the country not only meets the graduation criteria but also sustains its development gains in the long term.

Ms. Subedi Participates in SWAT+ Hydrological Modelling Training

Ms. Divya Laxmi Subedi from the Water and Climate Program of NDRI participated in the SWAT+ hydrological modelling training of Tila River Basin in Karnali, held from 14th to 17th August in Dhulikhel. The training, organized by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in collaboration with the Water Resources Research and Development Center (WRRDC) and the Institute of Engineering (IoE) was a part of the NEXUS Gains initiative and the Community of Practice for water modeling in Nepal.



This training aimed to equip participants with essential skills and knowledge on applying the SWAT+ model and analyzing its outputs. The training covered the fundamental concepts of hydrological modeling, software installation, data preparation, model setup, model calibration, and group work; providing a comprehensive and hands-on experience in using SWAT+ for hydrological modeling.

NDRI and ADBI Discuss on Collaboration Avenues



On August 13, 2024, a virtual meeting was held between representatives from the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) and the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) to explore potential areas for collaboration. NDRI was represented by President Dr. Krishna Pahari, General Secretary Dr. Manjeshwori Singh, Executive Director Dr. Shankar Shrestha, and Outreach and Communication Officer Ms. Ashma Aryal. Representing ADBI were Dr. Dil B. Raut (Vice-chair of Research) and Dr. Raja Rajendra Timilsina (Consultant: Economist).

During the meeting, participants discussed the various thematic areas where both organizations have been actively engaged. The conversation centered on identifying overlapping interests and potential synergies that could lead to impactful collaborative initiatives.

Thought Provoking news

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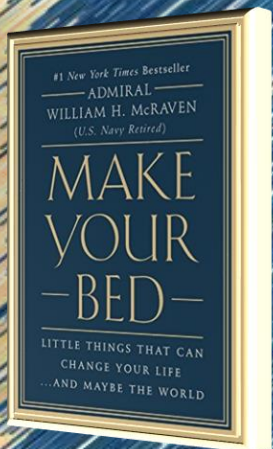
Bursting out

<https://kathmandupost.com/editorial/2024/08/19/bursting-out>

Thought of the Week

Always work hard and have fun in what you do because I think that's when you're more successful. You have to choose to do it."

—Simone Biles



Book Recommendation of the Week

★★★★☆ 4.00

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

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