

NEWSLETTER

30th December 2024 to 5th January 2025

Year: 2024/2025

Volume:179

NDRI Explores Collaboration Opportunities with Lalitpur Metropolitan City Ward No. 2

On December 31, 2024, Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) hosted a meeting with Mr. Rajesh Kumar Maharjan, Chair of Ward No. 2, Lalitpur Metropolitan City, where NDRI is also located, to discuss potential collaboration opportunities aimed at fostering community development and public health initiatives.



NDRI was represented by President Dr. Krishna Pahari, Executive Director Dr. Shankar Shrestha, Lead of the Health, Education, and Environment Program Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, Senior Research Specialist Er. Shanmukesh Chandra Amatya, Admin and Finance Officer Ms. Deepa Luintel, and Outreach and Communication Officer Ms. Ashma Aryal.

During the meeting, Mr. Maharjan shared insights into the ward's demographics and ongoing development challenges. With a population of approximately 20,000, Ward No. 2 continues to struggle with traditional mindsets, although gradual improvements have been made in areas such as infrastructure development. He also highlighted the ward's commitment to strengthening community schools and its ongoing efforts to provide various training programs for local residents.

NDRI representatives expressed keen interest in collaborating with the local government on initiatives aligned with both organizations' goals. Specific areas of potential partnership discussed included organizing cancer awareness campaigns, conducting health programs in schools, and working together on disaster management initiatives — a domain of shared focus between NDRI and the ward.

The meeting concluded with a positive outlook on future joint efforts to address pressing community needs. Both NDRI and Ward No. 2 emphasized the importance of fostering partnerships to create lasting impact and sustainable development.

This engagement reflects NDRI's ongoing commitment to building synergies with local stakeholders and leveraging research-based solutions for societal advancement.

NDRI Conducts Enumerator Training for Enumerators



On December 30, 2024, NDRI organized a training session for 11 enumerators in preparation for the field execution of the Final Evaluation of Youth-Led GESI Initiatives project, funded by OXFAM. The training focused on equipping enumerators with the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct the endline survey effectively. The team is now on the field, actively conducting the survey.

Dr. Khatiwada Inspires at TEDxNCIT



Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada, Senior Research Specialist, NDRI delivered an inspiring talk titled "*Cheer in the Challenge*" at TEDxNCIT on December 30, 2024.

In his engaging presentation, Dr. Khatiwada drew from personal and professional experiences to highlight the power of turning challenges into opportunities for growth and innovation. He delved into the importance of lateral thinking in problem-solving and the strategic optimization of artificial intelligence (AI) in today's rapidly evolving world.

[TEDxNCIT 2024](#) featured 10 distinguished speakers from diverse fields, with Dr. Khatiwada's message of resilience, adaptability, and optimism leaving a lasting impact on the audience. His insightful discussion reminded participants of the value of perseverance and creative thinking when navigating complex issues.

NDRI congratulates Dr. Khatiwada for his thought-provoking contribution and applauds his efforts in inspiring innovation through positive transformation.

11th Episode of Mesmerizing Mondays



Ms. Nirmita Shrestha, Research Associate at NDRI, delivered a presentation titled "*Insights and Reflections: Sharing Learnings from the Bamboo Conference*" during the 11th episode of the NDRI staff/member presentation series "Mesmerizing Mondays" on December 30, 2024.

She shared her experiences from the Bamboo Conference in India, where she had represented NDRI as an invited speaker from the Foundation for MSME Cluster (FMC) on the theme "Promoting Integrated Bamboo-Based Enterprise Development among SAARC Countries." Ms. Shrestha highlighted bamboo's role in sustainability, enterprise development, and regional collaboration, engaging discussions among attendees.

Consultative Meeting for SHERPA Project

On January 3, 2025, the SHERPA team held a meeting with Mr. Bhoj Raj Sapkota, Chief of the Plant Quarantine and Pesticide Management Center (PQPMC), at the PQPMC office. The discussion focused on the ongoing research related to the demand and feasibility analysis of e-beam technology in Nepal. Key topics included the critical need for e-beam technology in the country and the alarming scenario of post-harvest losses in Nepal.

On the same day, a separate meeting was conducted with Mandala Agri Fresh at their office in Golfutar, Kathmandu. The discussion centered on addressing post-harvest losses, which range between 25% and 40% in fresh fruits and vegetables.

Ms. Shreya Bajimaya (SRA, NDRI) was Featured by ACIAR-Australia

WATER



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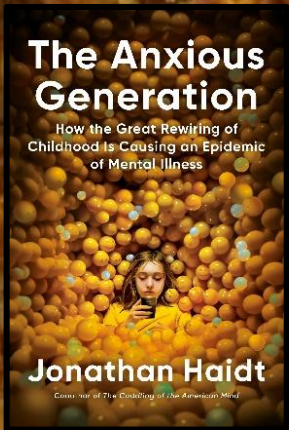
Our collaboration with ACIAR and CSIRO will help us address the urgent need for sustainable water governance. This is not just a research project, it's an opportunity to transform how we manage and protect our most critical resource.

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Ms. Shreya Bajimaya
Senior Research Associate
Nepal Development Research Institute

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Book
Recommendation
of the Week

★★★★☆ 4.41

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

Thought-provoking News

Rethinking unhealthy foods

<https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2025/01/05/rethinking-unhealthy-foods>

Interest-free loans draw youths to entrepreneurship

<https://kathmandupost.com/money/2025/01/05/interest-free-loans-draw-youths-to-entrepreneurship>

*Formal education
will make you a
living; self-education
will make you a
fortune.*

- Jim Rohn

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