

10 to 16 March 2025

Weekly Echoes of NDRI



नेपाल विकास अनुसन्धान प्रतिष्ठान
Nepal Development Research Institute

Welcome to the latest edition of NDRI Insights, your go-to source for important updates, valuable information, and the latest developments from the Nepal Development Research Institute.

HIGHLIGHTS FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

- The research team from NDRI of IDRC funded project participated in a one-day provincial workshop held at Asian Hotel, Butwal, Lumbini Province.
- Ms. Sophiya Shrestha presented "Learning, Adapting, and Innovating: My CLARE Seasonal School Experience," reflecting on her participation in the CS Summer School 2025.
- NDRI Executive Director, Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar participated in the Women Leadership Summit 2025.



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NDRI Presents at a Key Workshop on MEDPA Program Review

On March 12, 2025, the research team from the IDRC-funded project "Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprises: Evidence from Nepal" at NDRI, including Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Bhattarai (Principal Investigator), Dr. Rabita Shrestha Mulmi (Senior Research Specialist), and Ms. Nirmita Shrestha (Research Associate), participated in a one-day provincial workshop held at Asian Hotel, Butwal, Lumbini Province. The workshop was organized by the Industry and Investment Promotion Division from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Supplies (MoICS) with partial financial support from NDRI. The one-day provincial workshop was aimed at assessing the current status of the MEDPA program to inform policy changes in its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Jitendra Basnet (Joint Secretary, MoICS), with participation from other under-secretaries of MoICS, as well as Mayors, Deputy Mayors,



Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Bhattarai presenting at the event

Chief Administrative Officers, Enterprise Development Facilitators (EDFs), and other local government officials. Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Bhattarai provided an in-depth analysis of the program's effectiveness, challenges, and future directions.

The workshop concluded with feedback from EDFs representing various local governments.



Group picture after the event

The event concluded with a feedback session, allowing stakeholders and EDFs to discuss potential solutions for MEDPA's improvement. The discussions focused on identifying challenges and recommending improvements to entrepreneurship development programs, specifically the MEDPA program.

19th Episode of Mesmerizing Mondays



Ms. Sophiya Shrestha delivering her presentation

On March 10, 2025, Ms. Sophiya Shrestha, Senior Research Assistant, presented on "Learning, Adapting, and Innovating: My CLARE Seasonal School Experience," reflecting on her participation in the CS Summer School 2025. She described the program as highly interactive, with a strong focus on peer-to-peer learning, data collection methodology, critical thinking, and collaboration. The experience emphasized hands-on learning, innovative problem-solving, and teamwork, providing participants with practical skills and fostering a culture of adaptability and innovation.

NDRI participation at Women

Leadership Summit 2025

The Women Leadership Summit 2025, themed "Empowering Women and Shaping the Future," was a significant event that highlighted the importance of gender equality and women's leadership in development and decision-making processes. NDRI Executive Director Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar participated in the summit, where Right Honorable Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli delivered a powerful message emphasizing not only the inclusion of women but also their equal participation in shaping the nation's future. The summit also featured inspiring figures such as Preeti Rai, a member of the national women's football team, whose achievements have brought global recognition to the country.



Women Leadership Summit 2025 souvenir book unveiled by PM KP Sharma Oli

Her presence, along with the contributions and leadership of women from diverse sectors, made the event both empowering and motivational. The summit served as a platform to celebrate women's achievements, foster collaboration, and inspire future generations to take on leadership roles in driving progress and innovation.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are, because small, consistent efforts can lead to significant and lasting change over time.

– Theodore Roosevelt

Thought Provoking News

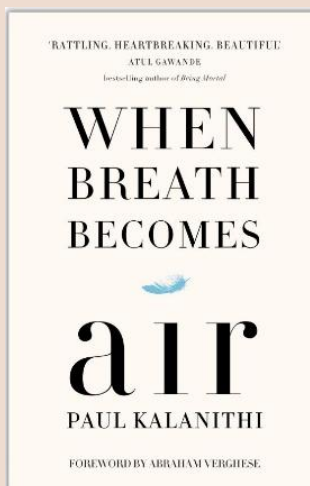
Two-year cooling-off period for ex-bureaucrats impractical

<https://kathmandupost.com/interviews/2025/03/17/two-year-cooling-off-period-for-ex-bureaucrats-impractical>

Cleaning up the air

<https://kathmandupost.com/editorial/2025/03/12/cleaning-up-the-air>

BOOK RECOMMENDATION



Feel Free To Recommend Books To Our Readers So That We Can Collectively Enhance Knowledge Exploration.

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