



नेपाल विकास अनुसन्धान प्रतिष्ठान
Nepal Development Research Institute

NDRI is an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit institution dedicated to addressing contemporary and emerging policy challenges and to influencing public policy through research.

HEADLINES FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

- MSME Development Project Endline Survey Completed Nationwide
- NDRI Conducts Enumerator Training for ICIMOD–SANDEE Project
- 232nd Episode of the Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series
- Mastering the Art of Event Hosting: Highlights from the 29th episode of Mesmerizing Mondays
- NDRI's participation in Nepal National Glacier, Water and Weather Week (NNGWWW) 2026 planning

WEEKLY ECHOES OF



*LEARNING FROM THE PAST,
SUPPORTING EVIDENCE FOR
A BETTER FUTURE!*

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Nationwide Endline Survey Marks Completion of MSME Development Project

The endline survey of the MSME Development Project, titled *Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprises: Evidence from Nepal*, was successfully conducted from 18 December 2025 to 2 January 2026. Commencing from the field researchers on 18–19 December 2025, followed by field mobilization from 20 December 2025. The survey covered all seven provinces of Nepal and reached 1,219 respondents, with a total of 26 enumerators deployed across all provinces. NDRI-Sr. Research Specialists, Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi and Prof. Dr. Rajkumar Bhattarai, provided field monitoring and supervision to ensure data quality. Provincial coordination was led by EDI Expert- Dr. Rabita Shrestha Mulmi, Project Manager- Mr. Rajendra



Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi's interaction with the project beneficiaries

Khatrī, Research Associate- Ms. Nirmita Shrestha, and Research Assistant Ms. Dikshya Barasaini. Key activities included Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with Entrepreneur Development Facilitators (EDFs), loan facilitators, and cooperative representatives involved in distributing YSEF loans across various districts. This endline survey marks the final stage of data collection for the Experimental Research project. Following the baseline and two follow-up surveys, the project

will enable comparative analysis across survey rounds to generate evidence on innovation, inclusion, and growth outcomes among MSMEs in Nepal.



Field researchers alongside the project beneficiaries

NDRI Conducts Enumerator Training for ICIMOD–SANDEE Project

As part of the ICIMOD–SANDEE-supported study *Economic Assessment of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) for Flood Risk Management*, a one-day training was organized for field enumerators on 30th December 2025. The training covered the study objectives, in-depth discussions on the household questionnaire, and hands-on practice using the digital data collection tool.



Mr. Ram Prasad Devkota leading the training



Participants gathered for the field survey training

The sessions were facilitated by the research team, led by Sr Research Associate: Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, along with Research Associates: Mr. Girish Lamsal, and Mr. Ram Pd. Devkota, Sr. Research Assistant: Ms. Sophiya Shrestha, Economist: Mr. Pranav Karki. NDRI Executive Director Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar delivered the welcome remarks, emphasizing the importance of maintaining data quality and adhering to safety protocols during fieldwork.

Click on the [link](#) to watch the full episode of the Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series

232nd Episode of the Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series

Nepal Development Research Institute and Resources Himalaya Foundation successfully organized the 232nd episode of the Contemporary Policy Dialogue Series on 2 January 2026. The session focused on the theme Challenges and Prospects of Tourism Development in Nepal: A Traveler's Perspective, featuring Mr. Shyam Mohan Shrestha, a tourism entrepreneur, as the key speaker. Drawing from his rich personal and professional experiences, Mr. Shrestha shared insightful reflections on Nepal's tourism journey, highlighting both structural challenges and untapped opportunities from a traveler's lens. The session was well-received by participants and contributed meaningfully to ongoing conversations on tourism development.

Mastering the Art of Event Hosting: 29th episode of Mesmerizing Mondays

The 29th episode of *Mesmerizing Mondays* was successfully held on Monday, December 29, 2025, at the NDRI premises. These sessions continue to serve as a dynamic platform for sharing ideas and learning from experts across various programs. This time, we had the privilege of hearing from Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, President of NDRI, who delivered an insightful presentation on *How to Host an Event*, where he went through the essentials of effective event management, emphasizing the importance of understanding different types of events, the critical role of a host, and the need for detailed checklists and rehearsals. He also shared practical strategies for smooth execution, from kick-off to landing, along with tips for troubleshooting, maintaining audience engagement, and ensuring a graceful conclusion. The session concluded with valuable guidance on post-event activities such as feedback, reviews, and lessons learned.

NDRI's participation for Nepal National Glacier, Water and Weather Week (NNGWWW) 2026 planning

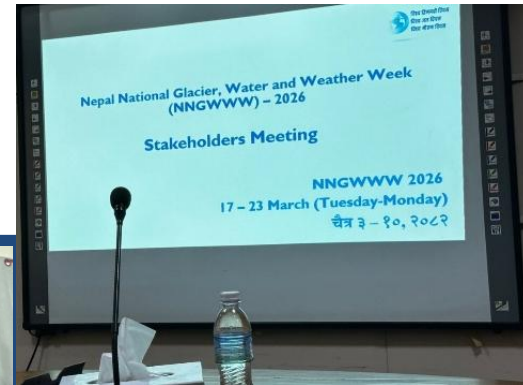
On January 4, 2026, preparations for the Nepal National Glacier, Water and Weather Week (NNGWWW) 2026 officially began under the chairmanship of the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS). NDRI was represented by Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Executive Director, and Dr. Shankar Shrestha, Senior Research Specialist. Established in 2009, NNGWWW serves as a major national, multi-stakeholder platform.

Its primary objectives are to raise public awareness, build stakeholder capacity,

promote scientific research, and foster policy dialogue on urgent issues related to water, climate, the environment, and communities. This year, NDRI's Water and Climate programme will organize a dedicated event as part of NNGWWW 2026 in collaboration with different stakeholders.



NDRI President delivering his presentation at the 29th Episode of Mesmerizing Mondays



Presentation on Nepal National Glacier, Water and Weather Week 2026 planning by the Small Earth Nepal

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE



When animals are abused, reporting is rare and punishments minimal



Central bank sees signs of recovery, but private sector still wary



US trade preference for Nepal expires, but exports unlikely to be hit hard, say experts



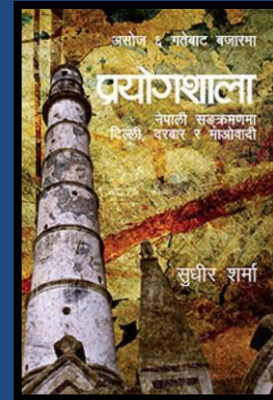
Beijing's 'Visit Nepal' push fails as Chinese arrivals fall

Thought of the Week

Believe you can and you're halfway there. When your mind dares to hold faith in your ability, your actions will rise to meet that belief, and what once felt impossible will slowly become your reality.

-Theodore Roosevelt

BOOK RECOMMENDATION



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

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