

WEEKLY ECHOES OF NDRI

VOLUME 237



Dissemination and capacity building Workshop of Global EbA by
Water and Climate Programme

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

- NDRI organized Dissemination and capacity building workshop at Dhangadhi
- NDRI organized community Validation and Dissemination Workshop at Dhangadi
- NDRI participated in third pole series- 6, NADI RA NARI
- Farewell session at NDRI
- Dissemination Workshop on Preliminary Road Map on Integrated Flood Risk Management, Flood Infrastructure Asset Management System (AMS) and Maintenance Manual
- NDRI at the 14th National Groundwater Symposium in Janakpur
- NDRI at the 53rd Annual Event of JUAAN



NDRI organized Dissemination and capacity building workshop at Dhangadhi

On 24th and 25th March 2026, the NDRI team of Water and Climate Program organized a dissemination and capacity-building workshop in Dhangadhi with 35 participants from local municipalities, provincial ministries, and organizations like the Nepal Red Cross Society. The workshop was conducted as part of IUCN/Global EbA Fund supported project – “Mitigating flood risks through women’s leadership in EbA interventions”.

The workshop aimed to share key findings of the Watershed Restoration Plan, build stakeholder ownership, and discuss implementation pathways. It also focused on strengthening participants’ capacity to apply Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) measures for watershed restoration, flood risk reduction, and climate resilience, while emphasizing practical learning, local application in the Mohana Khutiya basin, and gender-responsive approaches with women’s leadership.

The key highlights included remarks from the Mayor of Gauriganga Municipality stressing the importance of EbA, dissemination of the watershed restoration plan focusing on EbA approaches for flood risk reduction, group discussions on implementation strategies, and a panel discussion with experts and representatives from local and provincial government and civil society.



Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, Senior Research Associate, presenting on Dissemination and capacity-building workshop

NDRI organized community Validation and Dissemination Workshop at Dhangadi

On 23 March 2026, two community validation and dissemination workshops were held in Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City and Chure Rural Municipality, engaging over 40 women participants from local committees and user groups.

The workshops focused on reviewing and prioritizing Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) interventions under an IUCN-supported project on flood risk reduction through women’s leadership. Participants shared experiences, validated proposed measures, and identified challenges, barriers, and opportunities for inclusive implementation.

**“SUCCESS IS NOT IN WHAT YOU HAVE, BUT WHO YOU HAVE
BECOME.” – BO BENNETT**

Through the group discussions and ranking exercises, key EbA options were prioritized based on feasibility and community benefits, with strong emphasis on strengthening women's participation and leadership. The workshops helped build community ownership and promote gender-responsive climate adaptation.



A group picture taken after the completion of Community Validation and Dissemination Workshop

NDRI participated in third pole series- 6, NADI RA NARI

On 26th March 2026, Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Executive Director of NDRI, participated in the Third Pole Initiative Series 6 "Nadi ra Nari" at Hotel Vivanta. The event featured an art exhibition, documentary screening, and a panel discussion on water, women, and climate. The Third Pole Initiative (TPI) by the Chaudhary Foundation connects the private sector with climate organizations

and mountain communities in the Hindu Kush Himalayas. It helps businesses overcome challenges in adopting sustainable practices by raising awareness of climate change, policies, and related issues. To address this, TPI organizes the "Third Pole Series" with its partners.

The event aimed to highlight the interconnectedness of these themes, with key insights emerging from a diverse panel discussion. The event served as an important platform to showcase the relationship between water, women, and climate.



A group picture taken at third pole series-6, Nadi ra Nari

Farewell session at NDRI

On 24th March 2026, NDRI organized a heartfelt farewell session for Ms. Seetal Luitel, who served as Assistant Administration Officer. The event recognized her dedication, professionalism, and significant contributions to the institute's administrative operations. The colleagues and team members shared memories and expressed appreciation for her commitment, positive attitude, and collaborative spirit, highlighting how she supported smooth office management,

coordinated projects, and contributed to team cohesion.

The session concluded with a token of appreciation, warm messages from the NDRI team, and a group photo.



A farewell photo honoring Ms Seetal Luitel's journey at NDRI

Dissemination Workshop on Preliminary Road Map on Integrated Flood Risk Management, Flood Infrastructure Asset Management System (AMS) and Maintenance Manual

On 23rd March 2026, a Dissemination Workshop that was held at Hotel Dushit Princess, Kathmandu, under the ADB TA-6568 NEP Priority River Basins Flood Risk Management Project, bringing together high-level officials and technical experts to present and discuss in three key documents: the Preliminary Road Map on Integrated Integrated Flood Risk Management (IFRM), Flood Infrastructure Asset Management System (AMS), and the Maintenance Manual for Flood The Protection works, Dr. Divas B. Basnyat introduced the IFRM Road Map's priority

actions, results framework, and way forward, while also demonstrating the AMS – a GIS-based tool developed by TRTA Consultants to support DWRI and local governments in monitoring, evaluating, and maintaining flood infrastructure across Nepal's six Terai river basins. The workshop served as a crucial platform for securing official endorsement of these tools and charting a practical path toward their full operationalization.



Dr. Divas B. Basnyat, Lead of Water and Climate Programme, NDRI presenting the IFRM Road Map's priority actions, results framework, and way forward, while also demonstrating the AMS.

"SUCCESS IS NOT IN WHAT YOU HAVE, BUT WHO YOU HAVE BECOME." – BO BENNETT

On 26 March 2026, Dr. Shankar Shrestha from NDRI attended the 14th National Groundwater Symposium in Janakpurdham, held as part of Nepal National Glacier, Water and Weather Week 2026. The event was organized by multiple national agencies and partner organizations focused on water management.

The symposium included an inaugural session with government representatives and development partners, technical presentations from universities and research institutions, an experience-sharing session involving local stakeholders, and a closing session.

A key outcome was a shared recognition that Madhesh Province is facing a growing water crisis. Participants emphasized the need for actions such as managed aquifer recharge, stronger legal frameworks, improved governance and knowledge sharing, regular water quality monitoring, and continued dialogue through similar events.



14th National Groundwater Symposium in Janakpur



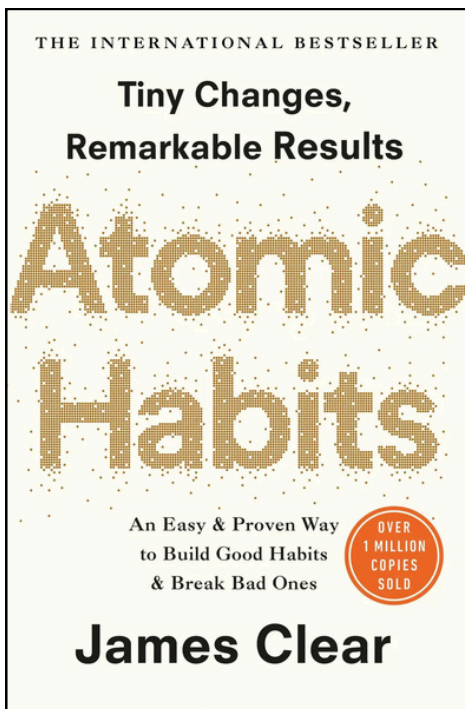
A group picture taken at 53rd JUAAN Annual Event at Janakpurdham

NDRI at the 53rd Annual Event of JUAAN

On 27 March 2026, Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Senior Research Specialist, NDRI) participated in the 53rd Annual Event of Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN) held on Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal. The event featured sharing of JUAAN activities by JUAAN personnel, a presentation from Mr. Hideaki Takada (Secretariat, Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Nepal) entitled “Learnings from past 20 years of working experience in Nepal”, and remarks from the Chief Guest: Mr. Shinto Yasuhara (Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan, Kathmandu, Nepal). The event concluded with an informal networking dinner.



The NDRI team watching the oath-taking ceremony of Nepal's newly appointed Honorable Prime Minister, Balendra Shah.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

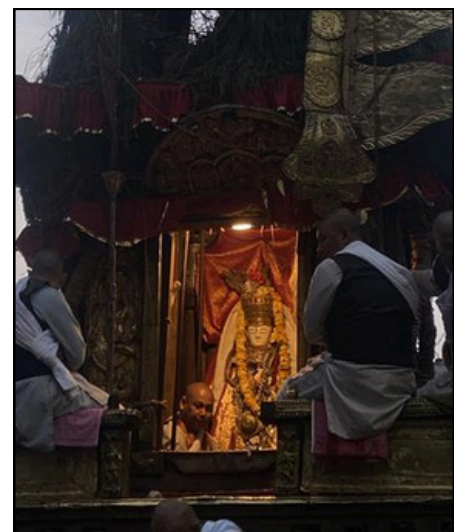
THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Focus on what you can control,
let go of what you cannot.

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The last day of Seto Machindranath Jatra was celebrated on March 30th 2026 on Kathmandu

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