

WEEKLY ECHOES OF NDRI

VOLUME 266



NDRI and Chainpur Municipality Officials at the Large Cardamom Processing Equipment Handover Ceremony

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 hands over processing **equipment to large cardamom farmers** in Chainpur Municipality
- NDRI engages in **Policy Dialogue on Climate Risk and Intersectionality**
- NDRI attends **River Basin Office Action Plan Workshop**
- Group photo during the **IDRC Stage II Project External Monitoring Visit.**
- **NDRI** extends its **warmest wishes** to all staff members and the NDRI family on the auspicious occasion of Dashain.



NDRI hands over processing equipment to large cardamom farmers in Chainpur Municipality

Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) successfully handed over large cardamom processing machinery to large cardamom farmers in Chainpur Municipality during a 4-day field visit between October 7 and October 10, 2026, as part of its ongoing Australian Embassy Nepal-funded project, "Empowering Farmers in Chainpur, Sankhuwasabha for Direct Export and Sustainable Production of Large Cardamom (Alainchi)." The visiting team included Project Lead and NDRI Executive Director Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Project Policy Advisor Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi, and Research Associates Mr. Ram Prasad Devkota and Mr. Daya Shrestha.

The project provided motorized large cardamom peeling machines and manual washing drums to Wards 1, 2, and 4 of the municipality, in coordination with NAMP's Sankhuwasabha Implementation Unit. Based on a baseline assessment, the

intervention aims to reduce labor costs and harvest losses. Initial farmer responses were positive, with the machinery expected to improve processing efficiency, support increased production, and benefit farmers during this and future harvest seasons.



Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar participating in the demonstration

The machinery was officially handed over to the municipality on October 8, with municipal and NAMP officials appreciating NDRI's continued support to large cardamom farmers. Dr. Thapa Magar, Mr. Shrestha, and Prof. Dr. Regmi briefed attendees on the project's progress and broader policy goals. Machinery demonstrations were conducted in Ward 4 on October 8 and Wards 1

and 2 on October 9, alongside observations of ongoing harvesting activities.



NDRI team observing the harvest of large cardamom

The project team will coordinate with local officials to ensure effective use of the machinery and monitor production outcomes. The next phase will focus on evidence-based policy advocacy for improved pricing mechanisms, export procedures, and branding strategies to build a transparent, competitive, and export-ready large cardamom sector in Nepal.

NDRI engages in Policy Dialogue on Climate Risk and Intersectionality

On 9 October 2026, Ms. Sophiya Shrestha, Senior Research Assistant took part in the Policy Dialogue on Climate Risk and intersectionality

at Basera Boutique Hotel, Kathmandu. The event was organized by Prakriti Resources Centre (PRC) in collaboration with TEWA and Community Development & Advocacy Forum Nepal (CDAFN). The dialogue aimed to strengthen the integration of intersectional perspectives into climate adaptation policies and planning processes in Nepal, with a particular focus on the Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) framework. The discussions were focused on how intersecting factors, including gender, caste, age, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status, influence communities' vulnerability to climate risks and their adaptive capacity.



Group picture at Policy Dialogue on Climate Risk and Intersectionality

The iCRA project emphasized inclusive climate adaptation and the participation of marginalized groups in local decision-making.

NDRI attends River Basin Office Action Plan Workshop

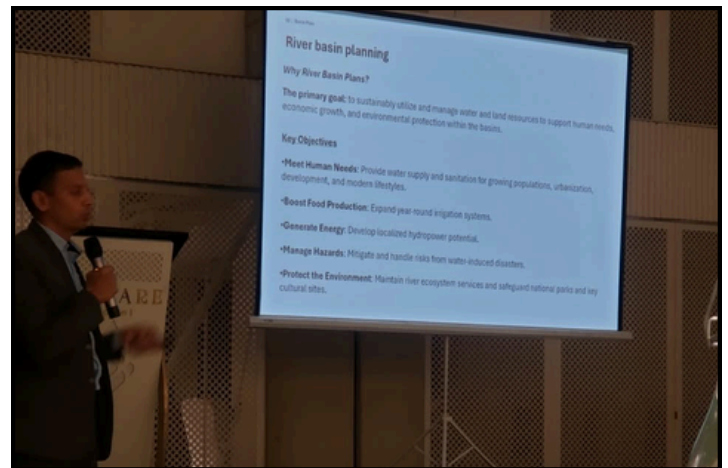
Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, Senior Research Associate at NDRI, participated in the workshop organized by Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), and Griffith University, through the Development of River Basin Office Implementation Action Plan (DRIP-Nepal) at The Square Hotel, Pulchowk, Lalitpur on 9th October 2026.



Group photo taken at River Basin Office Action Plan Workshop

The workshop aimed to discuss activities and sub-activities for the implementation of River Basin Office (RBO) functions and identify

priority institutional, technical and operational actions, and build stakeholder consensus on implementation pathways and collaboration mechanisms for establishing effective river basin management.

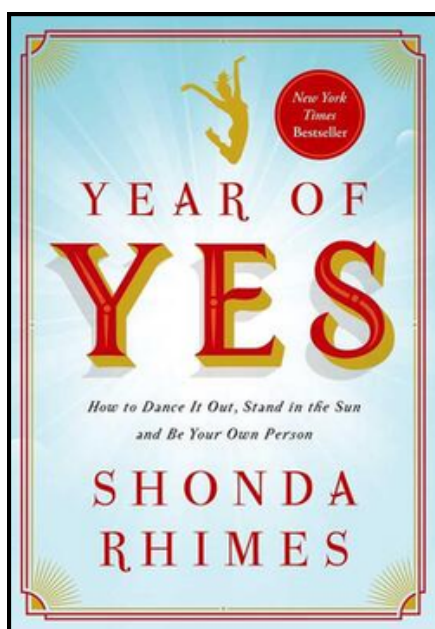


Dr. Kapil Gnawali presenting from WECS

The workshop brought together government agencies, RBO representatives, development partners, academic institutions and civil society organisations to review the existing institutional situation and contribute to a practical, nationally owned action plan for RBO strengthening.



Group photo during the IDRC Stage II Project External Monitoring Visit.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Small steps taken with purpose can lead to meaningful change." 🌱

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Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) extends its warmest wishes to all staff members and the NDRI family on the auspicious occasion of Dashain.

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