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Inception Workshop – IDRC

On July 21, 2023, an inception workshop for the project "Promoting Innovation and Inclusion in Growth Potential Enterprises: Evidence from Nepal" was held at the Square Hotel, Pulchowk, Lalitpur. The workshop aimed to lay the foundation for an innovative and inclusive approach to foster growth in Nepal's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).



Attended by distinguished participants, the event saw the convergence of industry experts, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders, all eager to contribute their expertise to the project. The Chief Guest of the program was Executive Vice President of Youth and Small entrepreneurs Self Employment Fund (YSEF), Dr. Dev Raj Rokka and the event was chaired by the President of NDRI, Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada.

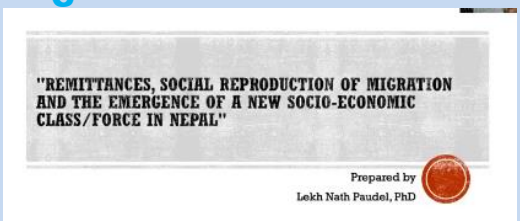


The Principal Investigator of the project, Prof. Dr. Raj Kumar Bhattarai, presented on the project background and mentioned that its primary objective is to implement innovation programs for growth potential enterprises in Nepal that rely on indigenous knowledge, skills and resources. He also mentioned that through a meticulous selection process, the project will identify growth potential entrepreneurs to participate in a continuous three-year experimental study, focused on fostering innovation.

Mr. Rajendra Khatri, Project Manager of the project, mentioned that the overwhelming support and valuable inputs from the participants reinforced commitment to driving positive change in Nepal's business ecosystem and the insights gained shall be used to shape the project's research framework and implementation strategies. Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Executive Director, NDRI) delivered the Vote of Thanks and Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada concluded the program, expressing his eagerness on project's outcomes.

176th Episode of Contemporary Policy Dialogue

Title of the Episode: Remittances, Social Reproduction of Migration and the Emergence of a New Socio-economic Class/Force in Nepal



Key Speaker: Dr. Lekh Nath Poudel

Link : https://shorturl.at/iHMUZ

Pilot Completion: UNICEF's Data Must Speak Project

On 16-20 July 2023, NDRI team along with Team Leader Dr. Ganga Ram Gautam, successfully completed the piloting of the quantitative and qualitative instruments of UNICEF's Data Must Speak project. Mr. Ram Chandra Timilisina, the Director of the Center of Human Resource and Development (CEHRD), accompanied the team during the piloting process. The piloting was conducted in four schools of Hetauda Sub-metropolitan City, Makwanpur namely Bhrikuti Secondary School, Deepjyoti Basic School, Bishojyoti Basic School and Janajagriti Secondary School. For the qualitative instrument piloting, Bhrikuti Secondary School and Bishojyoti Basic School were selected.





It involved conducting interviews with the Headteacher, three different subject teachers (English, Nepali, and Math/Science), the school management committee (SMC), the local government Education, and holding focus group discussions (FGDs) with students (two groups) and parents, as well as the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA).



The quantitative tool piloting was carried out at Deepjyoti Basic School and Janajagriti Secondary School. This included administering digital surveys to the Headteacher, three different subject teachers, SMC representatives, and PTA members. Additionally, the team conducted class observations in Class 4, 6, and 8 for three different subjects: English, Nepali, and Math/Science in these two schools as a part of quantitative tool pilot.

National Dialogue on Governance Conflict in Federal Context

Dr. Shankar Shrestha (Executive Director, NDRI) was invited to the "National Dialogue on Governance Conflict in Federal Context" by the Centre for Social Change (CSC) on 21 July 2023 held at the Basera Boutique Hotel in Babarmahal, Kathmandu, Nepal.



The main objective of the event was to unveil and share the findings of the report by CSC entitled "Quest for Peaceful Governance: An analysis of Governance Conflicts in Federal Nepal". The report was unveiled by Honorable Abdul Khan (Member of Parliament, Pratinidhi Sabha, Janamat Party and Former Minister, Ministry of Water Supply), Honorable Ranju Kumari Jha (Member of Parliament, Pratinidhi Sabha, People's Sociolist Party) and Honorable Prakash Adhikari (Member of Parliament, Pratinidhi Sabha, People;s Sociolist Party). The status of Governance conflicts based on the review of five major news portals of Nepal (The Kathmandu Post, Kantipur Daily, Annapurna Post, Online Khabar and Seto Pati) from June 2022 – May 2023 were shared categorized into four thematic areas: Natural resources governance, Development governance, Ethnocultural governance, and Political governance and four major indicators: Legal and policy frameworks, Government bodies and mechanisms, Roles and responsibilities, and Conflict resolution / transformation.

This was followed with the panel discussion session with the panelists: Honorable Dr. Khim Lal Devkota (Member of Parliament, National Assembly), Ms. Scheme Shrestha (Joint Secretary and Division Chief, Federal Affairs Division, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration), and Mr. Hari Sharma (Executive Director, Purak Asia) and further followed up with Q/A session to come up with key recommendations.

Interesting News!

The vicious waste cycle
https://kathmandupost.com/editorial/2023/07/18/the-vicious-waste-cycle

Needed: A prudent monetary policy
https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2023/07/22/needed-a-prudent-monetary-policy

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