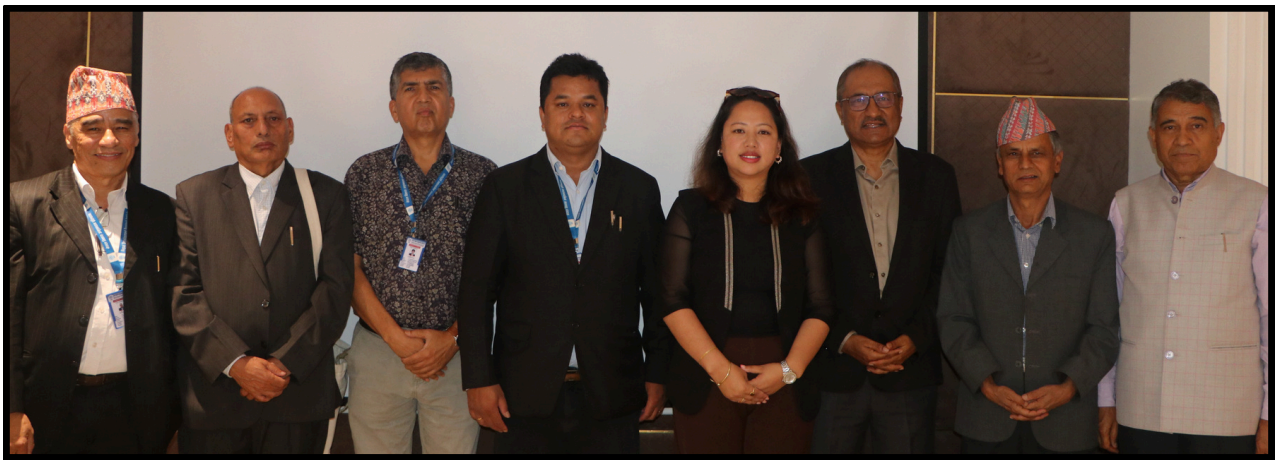
नेपाल विकास अनुसन्धान प्रतिष्ठान
Nepal Development Research Institute
NDRI

MAY 25TH - JUNE 7TH 2026

WEEKLY ECHOES OF NDRI

VOLUME 246 & 247



NDRI Thematic leads at the 'National Budget Analysis of Nepal (Fiscal year 2083/84 BS)'.

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

HEADLINES FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

- NDRI organized 'Review of Fiscal Policy 2083/84 and Tobacco Control in Nepal'
- NDRI organized 'National Budget Analysis of Nepal (Fiscal year 2083/84 BS)'
- 'Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and abuse' session facilitated by IOM
- NDRI participated in the Final Retreat Workshop on Innovative Facilitation for Climate Resilience
- NDRI participated in Consultation Workshop on Youth-Led Climate Adaptation Toolkit
- GLO-FHICC team completes glacial lake flood hazard monitoring field campaign in Nepal

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NDRI organized 'Review of Fiscal Policy 2083/84 and Tobacco Control in Nepal'

On 5th June 2026, NDRI organized a program titled 'Review of Fiscal Policy 2083/84 and Tobacco Control in Nepal.' The session was chaired by Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, President of NDRI, and began with welcome remarks from Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Executive Director of NDRI.

The program featured the launch of Nepal's Tobacco Landscape 2026, followed by a presentation on its key findings by Mr. Ganesh Khatiwada, Public Health Expert and Ms. Anjana Lamichhane, Economist, presented a review of tobacco taxation provisions in the Fiscal Year 2083/84 budget.



Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, President of NDRI, chairing the session.

The event also included remarks by Ms. Akriti Tripathi (Nepal Consumer Forum), Mr. Upendra Dhungana, National Health Education Information and Communication Center- NHEICC), and Prof. Dr. Shiva Raj Adhikari (Tribhuvan University and Former Vice Chair of the National Planning Commission).

The presentations were followed by an interactive discussion and Q&A session, allowing participants to engage with the speakers and share their perspectives on tobacco control and fiscal policy in Nepal. The program concluded with closing remarks and a vote of thanks by Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, followed by a tea and networking session.



Remarks by Mr. Upendra Dhungana during the program

NDRI organized ' National Budget Analysis of Nepal (Fiscal year 2083/84 BS'

On 5th June, NDRI organized a program on 'National Budget Analysis of Nepal (Fiscal year 2083/84 BS)' at The Square, Pulchowk with above 40 participates

The program was chaired by Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, President of NDRI, and featured presentations by NDRI experts on various aspects of the National Budget for FY 2083/84. Dr. Shankar Shrestha, Senior Research Specialist, presented NDRI's history of conducting National Budget Analyses, while Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi, Senior Research Specialist, set the context for the discussion. Ms. Nirmita Shrestha, Research Associate, provided an overview of the National Budget for FY 2083/84, and Ms. Sarya Thapa Magar, Research Assistant, presented on Nepal's current macroeconomic situation. Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Executive Director of NDRI, analyzed the alignment between multi-year policies and budget allocations from FY 2081 to FY 2083/84.



Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi, Senior Research Specialist, NDRI setting the context of the program

The session also included sectoral budget analyses presented by thematic experts: Dr. Krishna Pahari, Thematic Lead for Livelihood and Food Security (LFS); Dr. Nawa Raj Khatiwada, Thematic Lead for Health, Education and Environment (HEE); Dr. Divas B. Basnyat, Thematic Lead for Water and Climate (WC); Prof. Dr. Tara Nidhi Bhattarai, Thematic Lead for Disaster Management (DM); and Dr. Shikha Thapa Magar, Senior Research Specialist and GESI Team Member, who presented on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

The program concluded with key findings and recommendations presented by Prof. Dr. Punya Prasad Regmi, followed by an interactive Q&A session facilitated by Ms. Dikshya Barasaini, Research Assistant, NDRI. Closing remarks were delivered by Dr. Jaya Kumar Gurung, after which participants joined a lunch and networking session.

Some glimpes of National Budget Analysis of Nepal (FY 2083/84 BS) organized by NDRI















"ACT AS IF WHAT YOU DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE. IT DOES." – WILLIAM JAMES

Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and abuse session facilitated by IOM

On 25th May 2026, the International Organization for Migration hosted a short orientation and discussion session on 'Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse' (PSEA) at the Nepal Development Research Institute. The session was attended by several staff members from the Administration, IDRC, and HE departments of NDRI. The program was facilitated by Mrs. Pratibha Rijal and Mr. Tulsi Thapa from IOM, who led an informative and interactive discussion on the importance of preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in professional and humanitarian settings.



A group picture taken at the ' Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and abuse' session by IOM at NDRI

The session primarily focused on building awareness and strengthening understanding of SEA and the responsibility of organizations and individuals in preventing such misconduct. The facilitators explained the definition and different forms of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and highlighted why prevention is essential to the work carried out by IOM and other institutions working with vulnerable communities.

In addition, the presentation outlined the preventive measures and protection mechanisms that are currently implemented by IOM to address SEA-related risks. Mrs. Pratibha Rijal further shared valuable insights on the importance of establishing and implementing strong institutional policies related to protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

The session concluded with an engaging interaction among participants, contributing to greater awareness and understanding of PSEA principles and practices.

NDRI participated in Consultation Workshop on Youth-Led Climate Adaptation Toolkit

On 4th June 2026, Ms. Sophiya Shrestha, Senior Research Assistant at Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI), participated in a consultation workshop organized by Prakriti Resources Centre (PRC) in partnership with Plan International Nepal. The workshop brought together youth representatives, facilitators, climate experts, and civil society actors, to review and contextualize the Y-Adapt Toolkit for Nepal. Originally developed in the Philippines, the Y-Adapt Toolkit is being adapted to better reflect Nepal's climate realities, local adaptation practices, and socio-cultural context.

During the workshop, participants engaged in participatory group exercises to review activities under key themes, including climate change, hazards, resources and local policy contributions, and adaptation. The groups assessed whether individual activities should be retained, revised, or removed based on their relevance to the Nepali context, suitability for different youth age group appropriateness of games and interactive exercises, gender and social inclusion considerations, and the need for supplementary materials.

The consultation provided a valuable platform for participants to share practical recommendations to ensure the toolkit remains relevant, inclusive, and engaging for young people across diverse regions and contexts of Nepal.



A group discussion picture taken at Consultation Workshop on Youth-Led Climate Adaptation Toolkit

NDRI participated in the Final Retreat Workshop on Innovative Facilitation for Climate Resilience

Ms. Shreya Bajimaya, Senior Research Associate at NDRI, attended the Final Retreat Workshop on Innovative Facilitation for

Resilience: Transforming Complex Dialogue for Adaptation held from 18-23 May 2026 at Chandragiri Hills Resort, Nepal. The workshop focused on exploring innovative facilitation tools and practices, peer learning, interactive exercises, field visits to historical sites in the Kathmandu Valley, and reflection on key lessons and experiences.



Ms. Shreya Bajimaya presenting photo story on women of Kathmandu

Ms. Sophiya Shrestha, Senior Research Assistant, also participated in the third day of the workshop, which focused on sharing the project, its approach, and innovative facilitation tools such as adaptation cards. The day also included a networking session with organizations working on climate adaptation and resilience including ICIMOD, Un Women, FCDO, Nepal Cycle Society, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, and Oxford Policy Management. The session provided a platform to showcase the fellowship's approach and impact while generating insights to inform ongoing and future climate resilience initiatives.



Group Photo during the Practical Session on the Facilizing Tool

GLO-FHICC team completes glacial lake flood hazard monitoring field campaign in Nepal

On May 13th to June 1st , 2026 The project led by Dr Scott Watson, with Lauren Rawlins, and Research Associate Rajendra Shrestha, NDRI investigated how rapidly changing glaciers and expanding glacial lakes are increasing flood

hazards across the High Mountain regions of Nepal, with the aim of improving understanding of climate-related risks and supporting more resilient mountain communities.

The team from the University of Leeds working on the Glacial Lake Observatory for Flood Hazards Impacted by Changing Climate (GLO-FHICC) project has successfully completed a three-week field campaign in Nepal's Marsyangdi and Seti-Madi river corridors.

During the field campaign, the team deployed uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs) to survey Thulagi (Dona) Lake, Thulagi Glacier, and a section of the river valley from Karte and Jagat to Thulagi lake. The surveys collected high-resolution imagery, supported by precision GNSS ground control points and laser rangefinder measurements to ensure accurate spatial analysis. Concurrently, between 17th and 19th May, Dr Scott Watson conducted a bathymetric survey of Thulagi Lake. Preliminary findings indicate that the glacier feeding the lake is retreating at an alarming rate, with internal tunneling processes within the glacier identified as a significant driver of ice loss. These observations raise important concerns regarding the long-term stability of the glacier and the associated glacial lake system.

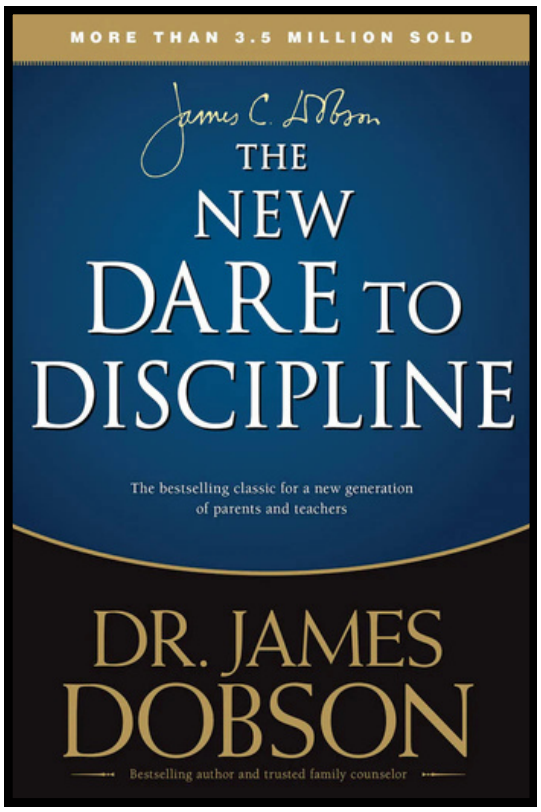
In the Pokhara region, the team conducted repeat aerial surveys using a fixed-wing ultralight aircraft equipped with three cameras to capture high-resolution imagery of the Seti Gandaki and Madi river corridors. The data will support the development of detailed terrain models for assessing potential glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) hazards and downstream flood risks.



A group picture including Team (Dr. Lauren Rawlins (University of Leeds), Mahesh (Guide), Rajendra Shrestha (NDRI), and Dr. Scott Watson (University of Leeds) during the fellowship program



A group photo at the launch of 'Tobacco Taxation in the FY 2026/27 Budget'



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Knowledge grows when it is shared, and wisdom grows when it is applied."

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

KAREENA NEPALI
OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION ASSISTANT

SHIKHA THAPA MAGAR, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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NDRI staffs engaged in discussion during the National Budget Analysis of Nepal (FY 2083/84 B.S)