



CONFERENCE Day 1 (Kathmandu University)

June 29, 2026

Zoom meeting ID: 921 0180 1076

Passcode: GFAmeeet

Time	Event	
08:30 - 09:30	Registration and Breakfast	All participants
09:30 – 11:30	Inauguration Session	MC: Sadikshya Raut and Abhibriti Adhikari Rapporteur (coordinator): Sandesh Karki
09:30-09:45	Inaugural Lamp Lighting	
09:45-11:00	Welcome Remark- 5 minutes	Prof. Dr. Bim Prasad Shrestha, Director, Nepal Technology Innovation Center, KU
	Opening Remark- 5 minutes	Dr. Amy R. Sapkota, Director, Global FEWture Alliance, University of Maryland School of Public Health
	Keynote speech- 15-25 minutes	Dr. Roshan Raj Shrestha, Former Deputy Director at the Gates Foundation and a member of the board of Trustee and senior strategic partner and resource mobilization advisor to the President of the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand.
	Special Guest Remarks- 10 minutes	FAO/ Kathmandu University Representative
	Remarks- 5 minutes	Dr. Boris Lushniak, Dean, University of Maryland, School of Public Health

Remarks- 5 minutes

Dr. Biraj Karmacharya, Chief Administrative Officer,
Kathmandu University School of Medical Sciences,
Administrative Director, Dhulikhel Hospital

Chief Guest Remarks - 5 minutes

Vote of Thanks - 5 minutes

11:00-11:30	Cultural Performance	
11:30-11:45	Group Photo Session & Tea Break	
11:45-12:15	Global FEWture Alliance overview	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the Global FEWture Alliance - Dr. Amy R. Sapkota (5 minutes) 2. Maryland FEWture - Recording (5 mins) 3. Nepal FEWture - Dr. Leena Malayil and Er. Shree Krishna Dhital (5 mins) 4. Israel FEWture - Dr. Clive Lipchin (5 mins) 5. Tanzania FEWture - Dr. Paul Turner and Dr. Tomer Malchi recording (5 mins) 6. Education FEWture - Dr. Suhana Chattopadhyay and Dr. Rianna Murray (5 mins) 	<p>MC: Sadikshya Raut Rapporteur (coordinator): Sandesh Karki</p>
	Q&A Session - 5 min	
12:20-1:15	Panel Discussion: Multisector collaboration for Closing the Loop: Integrating Recycled Water, Renewable Energy and Agricultural Innovation for Climate-Resilient Sustainable Development	

Chair: Dr. Jeet Chand

Panelist: Dr. Amy R. Sapkota (Director, Global FEWture Alliance, School of Public Health, University of Maryland), Er. Yogendra Chitrakar (Senior Divisional Engineer, Ministry of Water Supply), Mr. Mohan Prasad Marasini (CAO, Dhulikhel Municipality), Mr. Santosh Kafle (Environment Officer, Namobuddha Municipality)

MC: Abhibriti Adhikari

Rapporteur
(coordinator): Sarupya Satyal

1:15 – 2:15 **Lunch Break and Networking**

2:15 – 3:15 **Scientific Session I - WASH, Wastewater treatment and Reuse**

1. Dr. Dinesh Raj Manandhar - Climate-Resilient WASH in Nepal: Linking Policy framework and Locally Led Adaptation for Circular System - 15 mins
2. Dr. Rachel Goldstein (Recorded) - Growing Rainwater Harvesting on Urban Farms in Maryland - 15 mins
3. Mr. Vaskar Sapkota - Implementation of a Sustainable Water Filtration System in a Healthcare Setting - 5 mins
4. Mr. Mohan Raj Bhatta - Unlocking Potentiality across the WASH, Food and Climate Resilient through Water Use Master Plan (WUMP) at Local Level - 5 mins
5. Mr. Simanta Ghimire - AI-Driven Discovery of Plastic-Degrading Bacteria from Kathmandu Landfill Microbiomes - 5 mins
6. Mr. Safal Jung Thapa - Assessment of the WASH Situation and Challenges in Implementing the Water Surveillance System in Dhulikhel Municipality - 5 mins

MC: Abhibriti Adhikari

Rapporteur
(coordinator): Sarupya Satyal

Judges: Dr. Kumar Lama, Dr. Suhana Chattopadhyay, and Dr. Leena Malayil

Q&A Session - 15 min

3:15 - 3:30 Tea break

3:30 - 4:45 **Poster Session**

1. Ms. Anusurya Bhattarai - Scaling Electric Mobility: Infrastructure, Policy and Market Challenges in Nepal
2. Ms. Arya Dhakal - Determining the Optimum Design Head for Safe Boat-Pass on High-Head Spillway Structures
3. Mr. Biraj Aryal - Systematic Review of Energy Planning Models: Applications and a Centralized Framework with Evidence from Nepal
4. Ms. Nishma Pokhrel/Bharti Thapa - Integrative Physiological Screening of Rice Landraces under PEG-Induced Drought and Salinity Stress for Climate-Resilient Rice Improvement
5. Mr. Sheetal Humagain - Urban Air Pollution in Nepal: Identifying Sources and Evaluating Solutions
6. Ms. Anuja Dahal - Feasibility of real-time wastewater surveillance using miniaturized Near-Infrared (NIR) spectroscopy for prediction of Total Solids (TS) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
7. Er. Mahendra Bahadur Khadka - Sustainable Mining Practices in Nepal
8. Mr. Raj Kumar Choudhary - Characterization of Rice Genotypes for Yield Performance and Susceptibility to Blast Disease
9. Ms. Sebika Bohara - Agronomic management to maximize the number of standard-size potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.) pre-basic seed tuber
10. Mr. Aadarsha Poudyal - Shifting to reduction of emissions through policies, challenges and opportunities in Nepal

Coordinator: Ashmita

Lamsal

Sadikshya Raut

Sandesh Karki

Abhibriti Adhikari

Sarupya Satyal

Judges: Dr. Kumar

Lama, Dr. Puspanjali

Adhikari, Dr. Suhana

Chattopadhyay, and Dr.

Leena Malayil

CONFERENCE Day 2 (Kathmandu University)

June 30, 2026

Zoom meeting ID: 921 0180 1076

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Time	Event
8:30-9:30	Breakfast
9:30-9:40	Overview of the First Day- Dr. Amy R. Sapkota
9:40-11:05	<p>Scientific Session II - Renewable Energy & Off-grid FEW Solutions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Clive Lipchin - Decentralized wastewater treatment and reuse: a case study from Nepal - 15 mins 2. Dr. Eliezer Brown Mwakalapa/ Marco Exavery Mng'ong'o - Performance of hybrid renewable energy systems compared to single-source energy systems in agricultural production: evidence from demonstration and commercial farms in Tanzania (recorded) -15 mins 3. Dr. Guangbin Li (recorded) - Free nitrous acid pretreatment for enhancing anaerobic digestion of organic wastes under various operational conditions - 15 mins 4. Er. Balgopal Sigdel - Performance Assessment of Household Scale Biogas Plants Among Smallholder Livestock Farmers: Evidence from Sindhuli District, Nepal - 5 mins 5. Mr. Gopal Adhikari - Cooking Energy Transition in Nepal: From Traditional Biomass to Electric Cooking for Sustainable Development - 5 mins <p>Q&A Session - 10 min</p>
11:05-11:15	Tea break
11:15-12:15	Scientific Session III - Education and Public Health; International Development

MC: Sadikshya Raut
Rapporteur (coordinator):
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Suhana Chattopadhyay, and
Dr. Leena Malayil

1. Dr. Abhinash Bhattachan - Examining food self-sufficiency and food security in Nepal amidst high rates of migration - 15 mins
2. Dr. Alok Bhargava (Recorded) - A longitudinal analysis of diet quality, groundwater depletion and glacier thicknesses with implications for the Sustainable Development Goal 2 - 15 mins
3. Dr. Paul Turner (Recorded) - Hypothesis: Improved water access for agriculture may reduce aflatoxin-driven stunting in Tanzania - 15 mins
4. Er. Ganesh Ram Sinkemana - Sustainable Transportation in Nepal's Hilly Regions: Shifting from Gravity-Fed to Energy-Driven Ropeway Systems - 5 mins
5. Ms. Ritu Manandha -Child health and air pollution exposure in Nepal's rural and semi-urban areas - 5 mins
6. Ms. Urmila Shrestha - Gender vulnerability towards Water Insecurity: A case of Ramechhap Municipality of Ramechhap District, Nepal - 5 mins

MC: Abhibriti Adhikari
Rapporteur (coordinator):
Sarupya Satyal

Judges: Dr. Kumar Lama, Dr.
Puspanjali Adhikari, Dr.
Suhana Chattopadhyay, and
Dr. Leena Malayil

Q&A Session - 15 min

12:15-1:15

Lunch and Networking

1:15-2:15

Scientific Session IV - Climate Adaptation

1. Mr. Abhisek Shrestha/Bharti Thapa- Do crop landraces help mitigate climate change–induced stresses such as heat, drought, and salinity? - 15 min
2. Mr. Shisher Shrestha and Dr. Darshan Karki - Why Technology Isn't Enough: Unpacking Social and Institutional Dynamics of Water Lifting Projects - 15 mins
3. Er. Ashmita Upadhyay - Stability of solar energy systems in Nepal under climatic stress - 5 mins
4. Er. Karuna Gautam - Impacts of Climate Change on Water Resources in the Hindu Kush Himalaya: Trends, Vulnerabilities, and Adaptation Strategies - 5 mins
5. Mr. Samriddha Raman Parajuli - Sustainable Infrastructure Development in Nepal: Integrating Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC) with Renewable Energy - 5 mins

MC: Sadikshya Raut

Rapporteur (coordinator):

Sandesh Karki

Judges: Dr. Kumar Lama, Dr.

Puspanjali Adhikari, Dr.

Suhana Chattopadhyay, and

Dr. Leena Malayil

Q&A Session - 15 min

2:15-2:30 Tea break

2:30-3:40 Scientific Session V - Soil and Agriculture

1. Er. Shree Krishna Dhital - Impact of Biochar-Based Soil amendments on Morphological Traits, Yield, and Soil Health of Swiss Chard (*Beta vulgaris* var. *cykla*) under Polyhouse and Open-Field Conditions in Nepal - 15 mins
2. Dr. Shirley Micallef (Recorded) - Regulated irrigation as a viable water management strategy for field-grown crops - 15 mins
3. Dr. Tomer Malchi - CultivAid - 15mins
4. Ms. Kasish Karki - Pest and diseases of tea garden: Surveillance and management practices in Tropical Nepal - 5 mins

MC: Abhibriti Adhikari

Rapporteur (coordinator):

Sarupya Satyal

Judges: Dr. Kumar Lama, Dr.

Suhana Chattopadhyay, and

Dr. Leena Malayil

Q&A Session - 15 min

3:40-4:30 **Closing Session**

MC: Sadikshya Raut and

Abhibriti Adhikari

1. Certificate Distribution to Presenters
 2. Certificate Distribution to Best Oral and Poster Presenter
 3. Certificate to Organiser, Performers, Collaborators, Sponsors
 4. Closing Remark- Shree Krishna Dhital, Director, Sanskriti Farms & Research Centre
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