

RDC - Learning Event on Wastes to Energy (23-27 Jan 2017) Successfully Concluded at KUSOM

A five days long training on the theme 'Wastes to Energy' successfully concluded here at the Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM) premises on 27th January 2017. The training was organized by the University's Directorate of Research Development & Consultancy (RDC) in collaboration with the Technical Training Centre, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, and the Department of Mechanical Engineering of Kathmandu University. The Event was technically supported by the University of Applied Sciences and Arts, North-western Switzerland (FHNW), and the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) of the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), India. Participants at the occasion were PhD, MTech, and ME students from India and Nepal. Attended by 25 participants, this Event provided an opportunity for the researchers from both the countries to share the research experiences with the experts from Switzerland and Nepal. All the participants of this event are invited to an International conference on "Integrated Solid Waste Management Practices in Developing Countries", scheduled to be held on 11-12 of April, 2017 in CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur, India. This is supposed to be the 1st biggest conference on Solid Waste Management (SWM) at CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur under the aegis of *Swachh* Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission) initiated by Government of India.

This Event is a part of the activity title 'experiments on biogas production from available substrates' coordinated by Dr. Bivek Baral as Principal Investigator. This proposed seed money project should start a new long-term collaborative research between Nepalese and Swiss researchers on the topic of organic waste-to-energy systems in high-elevation rural communities in the Nepal Himalayas. The research will engage on (i) technological feasibility at local climatic conditions and substrate availability; (ii) environmental aspects such as reduced firewood needs; (iii) economic considerations such as affordability, funding and poverty reduction; and (iv) social benefits and concerns including possible alternative resource uses.

