

TOPICS:

- Fair Trade Practices Sharing Session
- Second series of Fair Trade Practices Sharing Session
- Staff Movement
- World Fair Trade Day 2021
- Virtual Workshop on Social Media Marketing
- Session on COVID-19
- Social Social Security Fund (SSF) Discussion Program
- Fair Trade Products in Daraz
- Awards
- Fair Trade and impact of covid-19 on Fair Trade Organizations in Nepal
- Norec Exchange Program Round 2
- Norec Project Round 2 Sharing Meeting
- Orientation on Women's Economic Rights in Nepal
- Monitoring visit to Eastern Nepal
- Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade
- Udhyamshala

Fair Trade Practices Sharing Session



Ms. Shradha Thapa, Director, FTG Nepal presenting

their organizations including their member organizations. The discussion was able to encourage sharing amongst the Fair Trade organizations in Nepal and Bangladesh and know more about each other.

22 participants from FTG Nepal's Executive Committee, Secretariat and Members participated in the session physically and 8 participants from FTGN Nepal's members and ECOTA's members virtually participated through Zoom on 4th April 2021 and at Yalamaya Dhokaima Café, Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur. The context of FT practices in Fair Trading Organizations in Nepal was shared by Ms. Shradha Thapa, Director, FTG Nepal; likewise, the context of FT practices in Fair Trading Organizations in Bangladesh was shared by Mr. Md Nuruz-zaman, Program Manager, ECOTA Fair Trade Limited. The program was supported by Norec.

Fair Trade Practices Sharing Session was organized by FTG Nepal to revisit the Fair Trade principles and share the best practices in regards to principle 1: Creating Opportunities for Economically Disadvantaged Producers and Principle 2: Transparency and Accountability. During the sharing session, FTG Nepal and ECOTA shared on how these two principles are practiced in



Ms. Malika Shrestha, Chairperson, WEAN Multi-purpose Cooperative sharing best practices

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on social media to keep up with our daily activities!

Facebook
www.facebook.com/ftgnepal

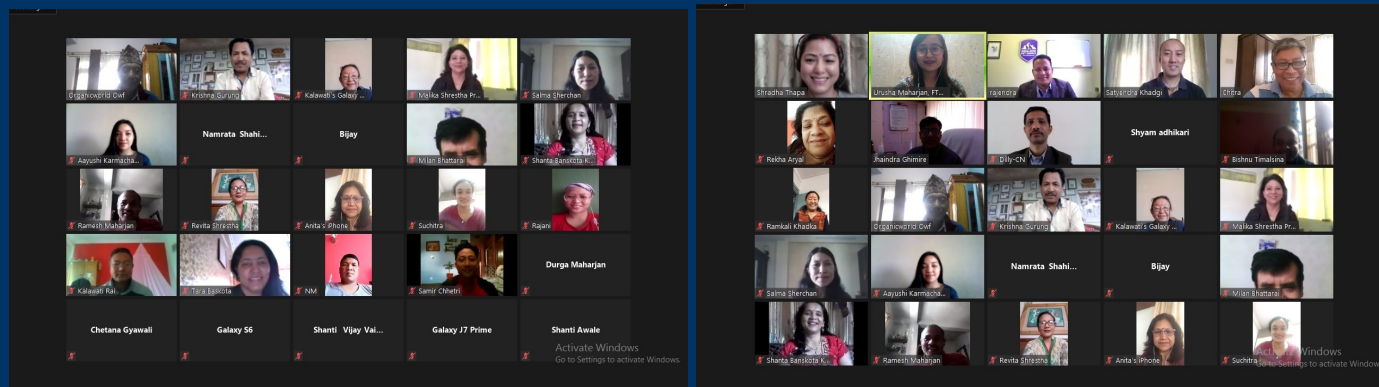
Twitter
[@ftgnepal](https://twitter.com/ftgnepal)

Instagram
[@ftgnepal](https://www.instagram.com/ftgnepal)

Tag us in your posts
#FTGNepal

Visit Our Website for more information: www.fairtradegrouppnepal.org

Second series of Fair Trade Practices Sharing Session



Group photo after the session

Second series of Fair Trade Practices sharing session was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 14th May 2021 to revisit the Fair Trade principles and share the best practices in regards to Principle 3: Fair Trading Practices and Principle 4: Payment of a Fair Price.

During the session the principles were briefly introduced by Ms. Shradha Thapa, Director, FTG Nepal followed by sharing and discussion on practices on the principles from members. The sharing and discussion was facilitated by Ms. Revita Shrestha, Treasurer, FTG Nepal and Mr. Satyendra Khadgi, Joint Secretary, FTG Nepal. 45 participants from Member organizations participated in the session. The program was an opportunity to learn from each other in regards to the adherence to the Fair Trade principles and adaptation of best practices between members.

Staff Movement

- Mr. Rajendra Chaudhary was appointed as Enterprise Development Mobilizer from June 15, 2021.

World Fair Trade Day 2021

Virtual event to launch documentary titled “Realized Empowerment through Fair Trade” followed by paper presentation and discussion on “Impact of Covid-19 on Nepalese SMEs”



To mark this day, Fair Trade Group (FTG) Nepal organized a virtual event to launch documentary titled “Realized Empowerment through Fair Trade” followed by paper presentation and discussion on “Impact of Covid-19 on Nepalese SMEs” on 8th May 2021. The objective of the event was to promote Fair Trade and highlight the impact of Covid-19 on Nepalese SMEs and marginalized, women producers.

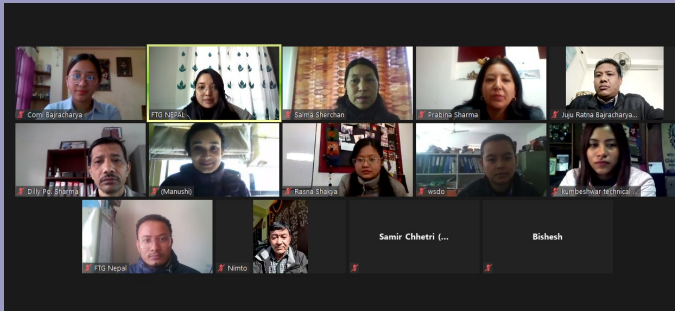
During the program documentary titled “Realized Empowerment through Fair Trade” was launched via the platform of YouTube. The documentary emphasized on the role of Fair Trade in attainment of Sustainable Development Goals with focus on Goal 1 and 5 and urged for adopting Fair Trade practices in enterprises, business practices. The documentary was produced with support of IM Swedish Development Partner. Following this, Paper presentation on “Impact of Covid -19 on Nepalese SMEs” was made by Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Vice-Chairperson of FTG Nepal later followed by discussion.



Glimpse taken during paper presentation

Program kicked off with World Fair Trade Day message from Chairperson Chitra Bahadur KC. FTG Nepal was also privileged to have Ms. Mitos Urgel, President of World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) Asia who delivered her greetings on WFTD and thanked FTG Nepal for its commitment to promote Fair Trade through actions. Over 90 participants from Fair Traders in Asia, national and international development partners, commodity associations and federations, media, producers, SMEs, Fair Trade organizations etc. participated in the program.

Virtual Workshop on Social Media Marketing



Group photo after the virtual workshop

Virtual Workshop on Social Media Marketing was organized on 10 and 11 January, 2021. The workshop focused on how to develop social media marketing strategy through identifying appropriate social media platform, developing contents for attracting consumers, running social media campaigns with special offers on products and service to attract new consumers and retain the existing ones. Ms. Comilina Bajracharya, social media marketing professional facilitated the workshop. A total of 17 Participants from Member Organizations of FTG Nepal participated in the workshop. The workshop was supported by GIZ.

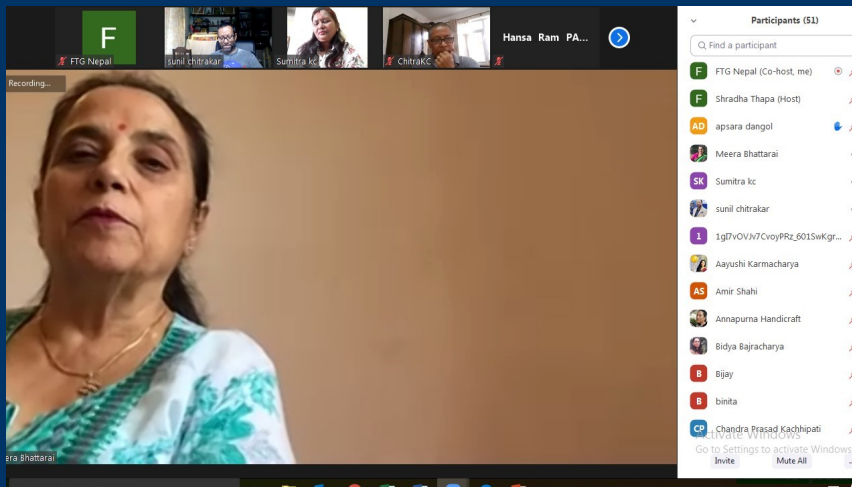
Session on COVID-19



Dr. Rajendra Maharjan taking virtual session on COVID-19

Session on COVID-19 was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 31st May 2021 to share on COVID-19 (symptoms, precautions and care) and address queries on it. Although the information on COVID-19 is widely available, Fair Trade Group Nepal organized the virtual session to share on COVID-19 related information in a comprehensive way by a medical doctor. 45 participants from FTG Nepal's Members' staff and producers participated in the session. The program was facilitated by DYSP Dr. Rajendra Maharjan. The doctor informed on how to identify if the case is mild, moderate or severe on the basis of the symptoms experienced, similarly, suggested on natural remedies and medications for taking care at home and suggested that moderate and severe cases of COVID must be hospitalized. Followed by which, several queries put forth by the participants were addressed by Dr. Maharjan.

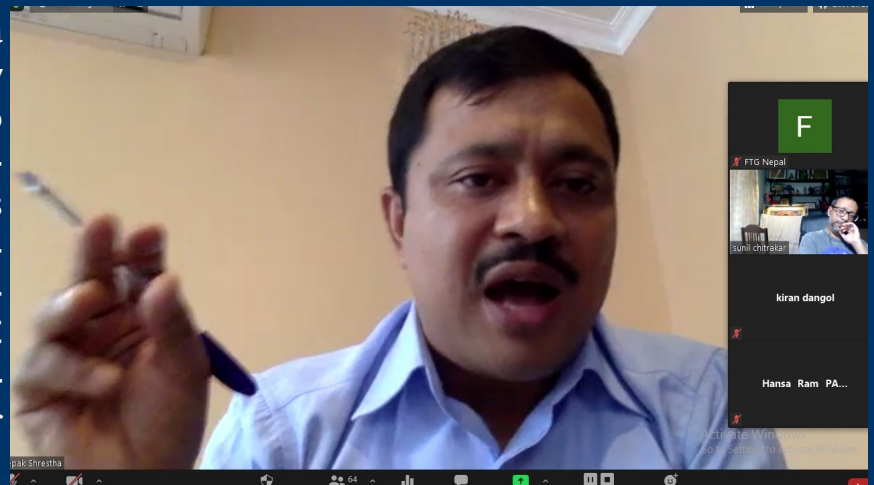
Social Social Security Fund (SSF) Discussion Program



Ms. Meera Bhattarai, Advisor, FTG Nepal putting forth her views during the program

Social Security Fund (SSF) discussion program was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 11th and 18th June 2021 with the objective to discuss on the gaps that needs to be addressed in order to encourage employers and employees to join. Participants representing from different commodity associations and federations discussed on the gaps in the existing policy and practices, about the provi-

sions in Karmachary Sanchaya Kosh, Nagarik Lagani Kosh, how these gaps can be addressed to encourage employers and employees to join SSF. The meetings identified the way forward to advocate on this collectively. Chairperson- Chitra Bahadur KC chaired the discussions and Vice-Chairperson Dr. Sunil Chitrakar facilitated the discussion.

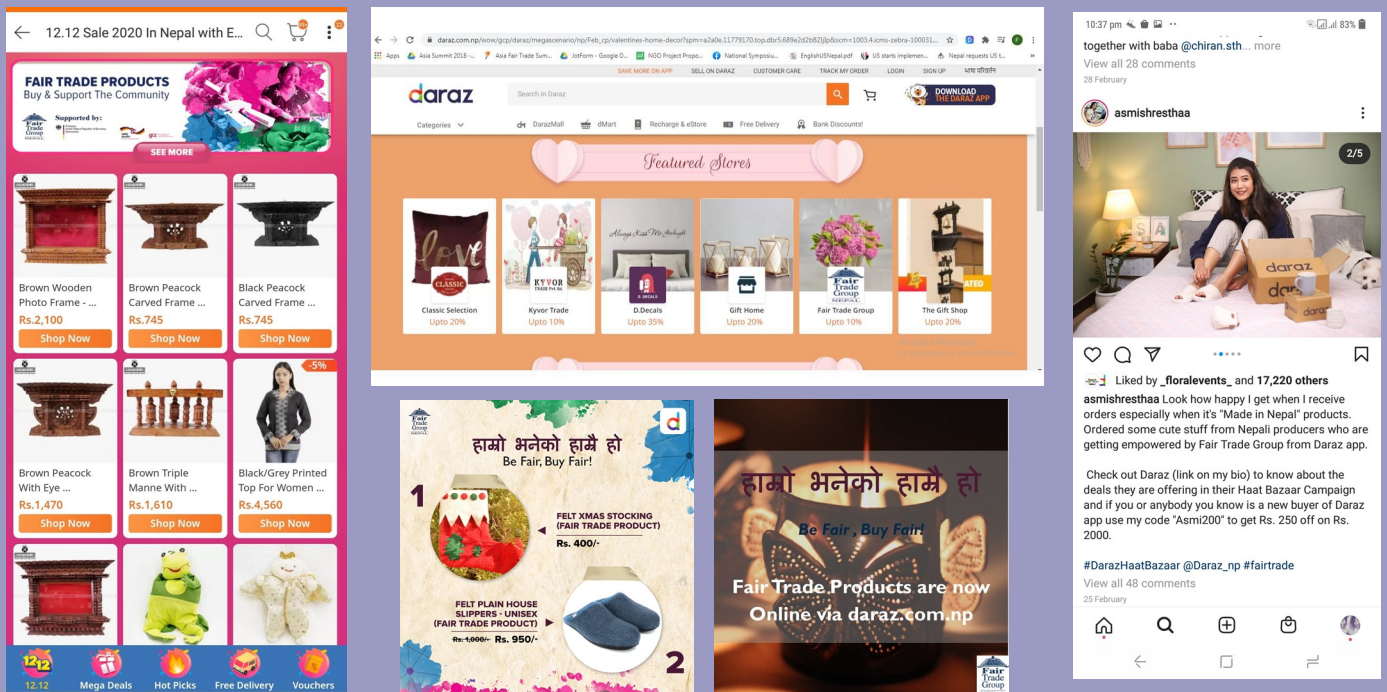


Mr. Dipak Shrestha, Vice-Chairperson, Nepal Chamber of Commerce putting forth his views during the program

Fair Trade Products in Daraz

Member Organizations continue to sell their products via daraz since December 2020; upon launch of FT products in daraz supported by GIZ. Since then, FTG Nepal, members and daraz have been continuously promoting the FT products. Also, the members have participated in various campaigns organized by Daraz.

Below are few glimpse of our promotion efforts:

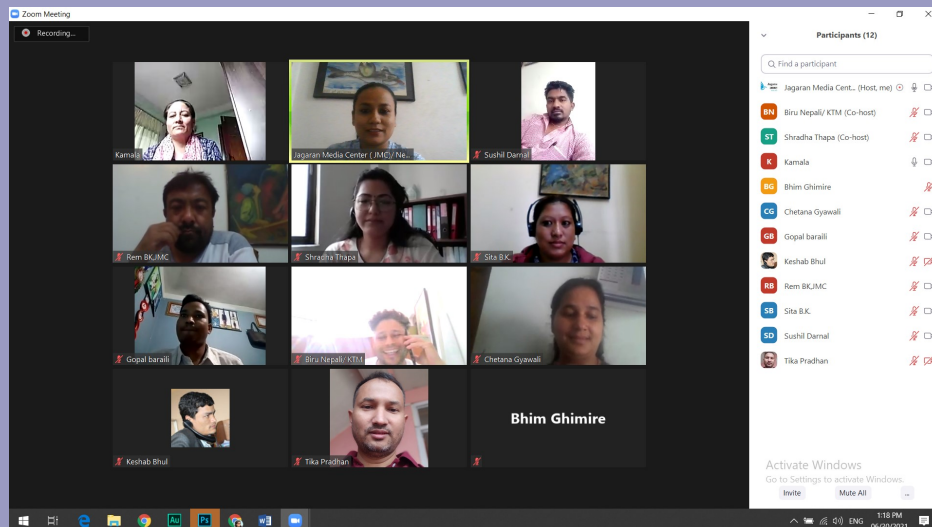


Awards



Member organization Manhushi was awarded with National Productivity Award 2019 by Lalitpur Chamber of Commerce & Industry for excellence in productivity.

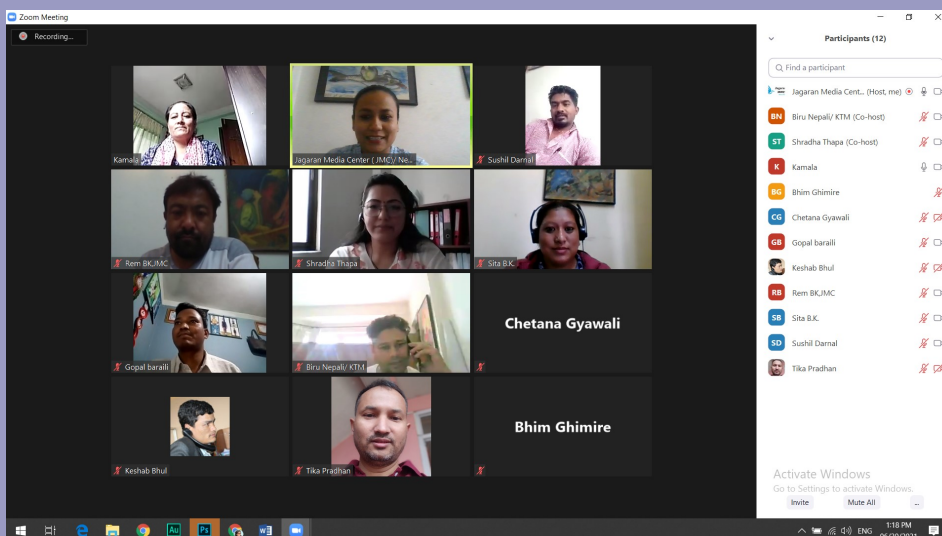
Fair Trade and impact of covid-19 on Fair Trade organizations in Nepal



FTG Nepal in coordination with media partner Jagaran Media Centre organized a discussion program titled "Fair Trade and impact of covid-19 on Fair Trade organizations in Nepal" on 30 June 2021. The program aimed to share with the journalists about Fair Trade, its principles, impact of Covid-19 and possible recovery strategies. During the program Shradha Thapa, Director of Fair Trade Group Nepal shared on how the Fair Trade movement started, Fair Trade principles, Fair Trade impact in Nepal, the impact of Covid-19 to the Fair Trade organizations and the producers along with possible

Glimpses of the program

strategies for recovery. The sharing was followed by discussion with the participants. The program was Chaired by Kamala Bishwokarma, Chairperson of Jagaran Media Centre and facilitated by Anju Kandel, Program Manager at Jagaran Media Centre. 20 participants attended the program. The program was supported by IM Swedish Development Partner.



Norec Exchange Program



Fair Trade Group Nepal in partnership with ECOTA Fair Trade Limited has been implementing Norec Exchange Program entitled “Nepal Bangladesh Exchange Program” since October 2019 and is being continued this year for Round 2. The project is financed by Norec (Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation) which is a Norwegian governmental body financing two-way mutual personnel exchange between companies and organizations in Norway and in the global South -countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

For the first round of exchange, two participants from each consortium bodies were exchanged.

This year due to the COVID pandemic the modality of the project has been changed, and the project this year focuses on the capacity development activities for members, secretariat and other stakeholders.

The project has been implemented with the expected outcomes that will result to Enhanced awareness about the Fair Trade movement for advocacy to raise awareness and common voice on trade injustices and imbalances of power in the conventional trade structures and for equitable trade through institutional development; Enhanced productivity of FT member organizations in better product production, design and diversification through enhanced skills and knowledge; Enhanced capacity on marketing on Fair Trade (FT) products by improved skills on management of retail FT outlet, FT Business Incubation Centre (FT-BIC) and increased out-sourcing linkages.

Some of the project activities that has been carried out are as follows:

- Round 2 Plan sharing meeting with Members and partners
- Orientation on Fair Trade (focus on 10 principles of Fair Trade and WFTO Guarantee System): 2 series on Principle 1,2,3 and 4
- Membership Expansion : Membership monitoring visit to Eastern Nepal
- Orientation on Women's Economic Rights in Nepal
- World Fair Trade Day: Virtual event to launch documentary titled “Realized Empowerment through Fair Trade” followed by paper presentation and discussion on “Impact of Covid-19 on Nepalese SMEs”

Norec Project Round 2 Sharing Meeting



Group photo after the second day of the workshop

Followed by this, Ms. Namrata Shahi, Round I Norec participant shared on the experiences, challenges, overall learnings during exchange in Bangladesh (ECOTA Fair Trade Limited) and during remote learning and sharing and how the learnings are being implied to the host organization upon repatriation to Nepal.

Ms. Shradha Thapa, Director, FTG Nepal presented in details on the main activities planned for Round 2 and focused on how the modality of the project has changed from that of exchange modality of last year bought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions worldwide; the expected results and how our success would look like by the end of the round was also shared during the presentation.

During the program, social distance and safety protocols was maintained, SAFETY PACK comprising of PPEs was provided. A total of 31 participants attended the program.

Norec Project Round 2 Sharing Meeting was organized on 31st January 2021 at Yalamaya Dhokaima Café, Patan Dhoka. The program was supported by Norec. The program commenced with opening remarks by Mr. Chitra Bahadur K.C., Chairperson, Fair Trade Group (FTG) Nepal. During the program, Ms. Urusha Maharjan Karmacharya, Program Officer, FTG Nepal presented on the modality, experiences, learnings and outcomes of the Round I of exchange.



Participant putting forth their query on

Orientation on Women's Economic Rights in Nepal

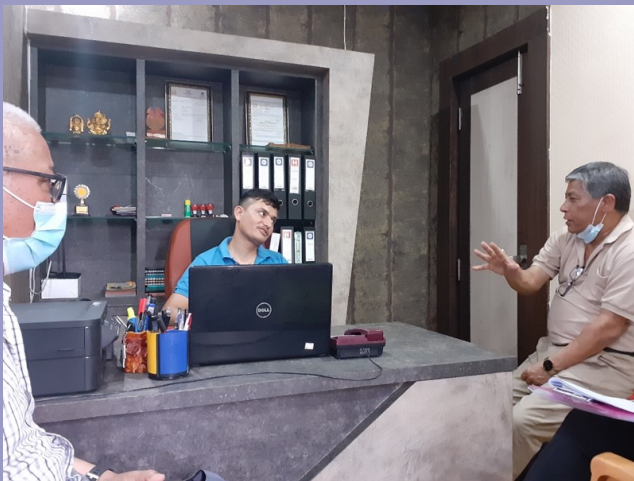


Glimpses of the orientation program

Orientation on Women's Economic Rights in Nepal was organized on March 7, 2021 in Lalitpur to mark the International Women's Day 2021. The orientation was organized with the aim to inform about laws related to women's economic rights, and policies and programs to promote entrepreneurship amongst women in Nepal. The program discussed fundamental rights guaranteed in the Constitution of Nepal i.e- right to property, labor, employment, social justice, social security, live with dignity, related laws like Labor and Employment Policy, Property related provision in the Civil code of Nepal, Social Security Act. Likewise, the program discussed the current Policies and Programs of the Government of Nepal, Industrial Business Act 2076, Industrial Policy 2067, labor Law, Women Entrepreneurship Development Fund 2076, President's Women Empowerment Programme etc. The program was attended by over 30 employees and producers from Fair Trade organizations. The program was facilitated by Advocate Sarmila Shrestha and supported by Norec.

Monitoring visit to Eastern Nepal

With the objective to assess the compliance of Fair Trade Principles and its practices in the organization and support member organizations improve in regards with adherence to the FT principles, monitoring visit was carried out to factory/ production unit of Kanchanjanga Tea Estate and Research Center and producer groups of Manaram Himalayan Handicraft Pvt. Ltd. in Eastern part of Nepal (Birtamode in Jhapa, Goduk in Illam and Phidim in Panchthar). The visit was undertaken from 20-26 March 2021. The monitoring visit team comprised of Membership sub-committee Coordinator, 2 board members and 1 secretariat. The visit supported in monitoring the adherence to FT principles, its values and practices and supported in making decision of providing permanent membership certificate. The monitoring visit was supported by Norec.



Glimpses of the membership monitoring visit

Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade

Project Implementation and Technical support visit in Kapilbastu and Dang

Project Implementation and Technical support visit was carried out by Project Manager in Kapilbastu and Dang district from 7 to 14 April 2021 with the objective of coordinating with relevant government stakeholders to start skill based training and handover tools and equipment to the producer.

Coordination visit was carried out with Bijayanagar Rural Municipality, Sivaraj Municipality of Kapilbastu district and Rapti Rural Municipality, Gadawa Rural Municipality of Dang. During this visit FTG Nepal handed over 5 Sewing Machine and 1 interlock machine to the bag producer of Bijayanagar Rural Municipality of Kapilbastu district and 2 Cooking pot (dekchi) and 2 gas stove to the producer of basketry for coloring the Moonj to Gadawa Rural Municipality .



Coordination Meeting with Bijayanagar Rural Municipality



Glimpses of interaction with producers from Dang



Glimpses of interaction with producers from Kapilbastu

Udhyamshala

Social Creatiinnovation Bootcamp

Social Creatiinnovation camp was organized virtually on 5th, 12th and 19th June, 2021. Jointly organized with Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan, the program aimed to create space to share and learn knowledge and skills between under graduation students from Japan and Nepal on how to ideate and promote businesses ideas to solve social problems. The program delved into “Glocal” (global-local) perspective; sharing and learning on how to construct balanced and sustainable development; enlighten creative and transformative leaders equipped with social problem solving capabilities through holistic education. Total 8 students from Kwansai University Japan and 16 students from Nepal participated in the boot camp. The program was facilitated by Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Vice-Chairperson, Fair Trade Group Nepal and Dr. Jeetendra Dangol, Faculty of Management, Tribhuvan University.



Glimpses of the boot camp



Fair Trade Group Nepal
Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur
GPO Box 13620
Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel : 977-1-5442608/5449848
Email : ftgnepal@info.com.np
 : ftgn1996@gmail.com
URL : www.fairtradegrouppnepal.org
 : www.facebook.com/ftgnepal
 : www.youtube.com/ftgnepal

