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TRADE GROUP NEPAL



JANUARY 2022

VOLUME IO ISSUE I

25th Annual General Meeting



The 25th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Lalitpur on 16th September 2021. The AGM endorsed the annual progress report of FTGN for the financial year 2077/78 and the Operational Plan for the Year 2078/2079 which was presented by Mr. Kamal Narayan

Shrestha, Secretary, FTGN. The AGM also endorsed the audited financial report for the year 2077/78, the budget for the year 2078/79 presented by Ms. Revita Shrestha, Treasurer, FTGN. . During the AGM, election was held and a new Executive Board Committee has been formed. New Executive Committee

- Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Chairperson,
- Mr. Chitra Bahadur KC, IPP,
- Mr. Kamal Narayan Shrestha, Vice-Chairperson,
- Ms. Revita Shrestha, Secretary,
- Ms. Sharada Rijal, Joint Secretary,
- Mr. Satyendra Khadgi, Treasurer,
- Mr. Dilly Prasad Sharma, Member,
- Mr. Jhaindra Prasad Ghimire, Member,
- Ms. Mallika Shrestha, Member,

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Newly elected Executive Committee

Induction program for the new Executive Committee

Fair Trade Group Nepal organized an Induction program for the new Executive Committee on October 5, 2021 at FTGN Secretariat Office, Jhamsikhel.

During the induction program, the former Chairpersons shared on the journey of FTGN, the achievements and challenges during their tenure and conveyed best wishes



to the new board. Also, Key policy and operational documents were shared.

Strategic Plan Review Workshop



Strategic Plan Review Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 28th November 2021 at Bhaktapur. During the workshop, our current mission was discussed on, the strategic goals and plans were discussed on for formulation. The workshop was organized with the

objective to develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the period 2022-2025 to comprehend changing business context with COVID-19 and to grasp the new opportunities that may arise in near future. The workshop was facilitated by Mr Deep Govind Rajkarnikar. Participants from FTG Nepal's Executive Committee, Members and Secretariat participated in the Workshop. The program was supported by IM Swedish Development Partner.

Fair Trade Dashain Tihar Bazaar 2021



Fair Trade Group Nepal continued promotion of Fair Trade products through daraz.com.np by placing FT products on Daraz.This allowed the members to have a virtual market place where buyers can easily procure Fair Trade Products from any parts of the country. Orientation program was organized for

members regarding the seller center, the services and information availed by Daraz in regards to smooth sales across the platform, the issue with placing brand name, and others. 18 member organizations are selling via the platform of Daraz.

The slider banner of Fair Trade Group Nepal was run on the home page of daraz.com.np during Fair Trade Dashain Tihar Campaign.The landing page could be accessed simply by clicking the slider. Followed by individual profile of member organizations; the best selling products and other ranges of products were displayed on the page.

Social media account performance has improved and FTGN's Facebook page followers have been increased to 14,000.

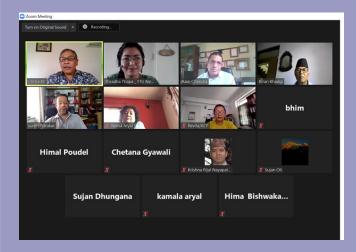
Media Coverage

Interview of Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Chairperson in <u>Rajya Television - राज्य बहस स्वच्छ व्यवसायी समूह</u> नेपाल (फेयर टेड ग्रुप)का अध्यक्ष सुनिल चित्रकार | <u>Facebook</u>

news in nagarik online – mainstream media-हस्तकलाका उत्पादनलाई प्रवद्रधन गर्ने गरि नीति बनाउन सरकारलाई सुझाव - Nagarik Online



An Introductory meeting by FTG Nepal with Society of Economic Journalists-Nepal



An Introductory meeting was organized by FTG Nepal with Society of Economic Journalists-Nepal (SEJON) on 22nd July 2021. 18 representatives from both organizations participated in the meeting, majority of them from the Executive Board. During the meeting, both organizations shared about their areas of work, impact and agreed on the significant role of media engagement in promotion of Fair Trade. The meeting also discussed around the possible areas for collaborations for promotion of Fair Trade in Nepal. The meeting opened with welcome remarks by Chitra Bahadur KC, Chairperson of FTG Nepal and concluded with closing remarks by Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Vice Chairperson of FTG Nepal.

Strategic Planning Workshop



FTG Nepal organized a Strategic Planning Workshop on 30-31 December, 2021 in Kathmandu with the objective to discuss on the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 draft developed together with its members in November 2021. During the workshop, the Executive Committee, Advisory Committee and the Secretariat discussed the identified objectives of the draft Plan in line with the organizations' mission to promote Fair Trade and build competencies of members, artisans, farmers, and likeminded organizations through social innovation for achieving sustainable development. The workshop finalized the objectives for the Strategic Plan 2022-2025. The workshop was facilitated by Chairperson Mr. Sunil Chitrakar, PhD.

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Dialogue for promoting Sustainable Entrepreneurship "An initiation for promoting Youth and Women Entrepreneurship"



Dialogue for promoting Sustainable Entrepreneurship "An initiation for promoting Youth and Women Entrepreneurship" was jointly organized in Butwal by Fair Trade Group (FTG) Nepal and Jagaran Media Centre on 3rd December 2021. The event was organized in order to disseminate the concept regarding Fair Trade and its importance and its connection to Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs). During the discussion, Dr. Sunil Chitrakar, Chairperson of FTG Nepal highlighted the concept, need and importance of Fair Trade in Nepal. He also shared the barriers and potentialities to promote Fair Trade in Lumbini province and throughout the country. Likewise, Secretary of FTG Nepal Revita Shrestha gave her brief presentation about the principles of FT and its connection to SDGs. Members of Lumbini Province Assembly expressed their commitment to discuss and prioritize the Fair Trade in the provincial assembly, committees and budget as well and requested to continue such discussion during the budget planning and urged the private sector to initiate the appropriate ideas to promote Fair Trade. Dr. Damodar Bhusal, member of Province Planning Commission of Lumbini province also expressed his commitment to prioritize and promote FT in the province. Speakers and presenters shared their ideas regarding the opportunity of Fair Trade at local as well national markets. Over 35 participants from trade and business backgrounds, parliamentary members from Lumbini province assembly, journalists, and representatives of the provincial government participated in the discussion. The event was supported by IM Swedish Development Partner.

Sustainable Entrepreneurship Boot camp- Empowering through entrepreneurship for startup and present women entrepreneurs



3 days residential Sustainable Entrepreneurship Boot camp- Empowering through entrepreneurship for startup and present women entrepreneurs was organized from 22nd to 24th December 2021 at Bhaktapur. The boot camp was jointly organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal and Handong Global University, South Korea. The boot camp focused on Social Innovation for sustainable enterprise growth, overcoming barriers for success, Identifying problems/ issues, Identifying opportunity, Market Intelligence and market research, Customer and Target market, Design Thinking, Business concept development, Developing business model (Lean model) and case sharing on Fair Trade as sustainable business model and Business innovation for youth and women.

The boot camp was facilitated by Mr. Sunil Chitrakar, PhD, Chairperson, Fair Trade Group Nepal and Dr. Jeetendra Dangol, Assistant Professor, Tribhuvan University.

Orientation on Fair Trade for the members of WEAN Multipurpose Cooperative Pvt. Ltd.



Orientation on Fair Trade was organized for the members of WEAN Multipurpose Cooperative Pvt. Ltd. (member organization of FTGN) on 2nd August 2021 with the objective to increase awareness on and promote Fair Trade Movement in Nepal. A total of 16 participants participated in the orientation program.

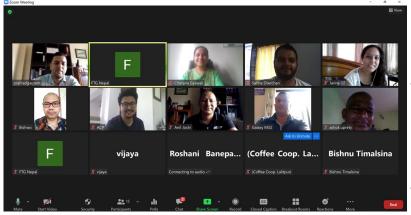
Third series of Fair Trade Practices sharing session



Third series of Fair Trade Practices sharing session was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 6th August 2021 to revisit the Fair Trade principles and share the best practices in regards to Principle 5: Ensuring no Child Labor and Forced Labor and Principle 6: Commitment to Non-Discrimination, Gender Equality, Freedom of Association.

During the session the principles were briefly introduced; best practices on principles (Let us hear and learn from each other!) was shared by representatives from member organizations followed by Q and A session. 19 participants from FTG Nepal's Executive Committee, Members and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Financial Management and Taxation Compliance Workshop

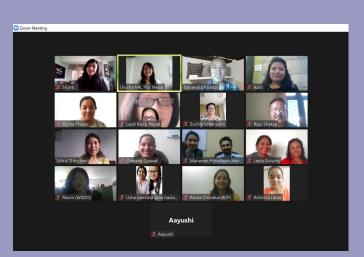


Financial Management and Taxation Compliance Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 12th and 13th August 2021 with the objective to update on the provisions regarding Financial Management and Taxation compliance in Nepal. During the Workshop the following areas such as Accounting/Financial Man-

agement- (Internal control- Operation policies, Segregation of duties, procurement, managing audit isues/tax audit issues), Tax/VAT (Relevant provisions for Not for profit Organizations/business organization, Withholding taxes and return filings, Major relevant changes by finance ordinance 2078, issues related to payroll tax computation); Labour Act/ Social Security Fund (relevant provisions) and Governance was covered. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Anil Joshi, Chartered Accountant and Mr. Pralhad Gautam, Chartered Accountant. 25 participants from FTG Nepal's Members and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Marketing Workshop

Marketing Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal virtually on 15th, 16th and 17th August 2021. The workshop covered all the aspects of marketing mix focusing on market segmentation, consumer needs, product value and market communication and will focused on the Home Decoration and Home Textiles especially for Euro-



pean Market. The workshop was carried out with the objective to enable participants to create new marketing mix for a selected product group of their organization and bring reforms to the existing marketing mix.

The workshop was facilitated by members of Nepal's Finest Team including Mr. Satyendra Khadgi, Ms. Rojina Thapa, Ms. Srishti Bajracharya and Ms. Aarti Chyasi. 20 participants from FTG Nepal's Members and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Session on Business Storytelling



Session on Business Storytelling was organized for Fair Trade Group Nepal's member organizations to better understanding on clear, captivating and effective business storytelling to use as a powerful business tool and skill for marketing success. The two

days session was organized on 29th and 30th August and the session was facilitated by Ms. Jackie Corlett, Director, Motif Handmade and also a British Designer. The sessions discussed on organization and products storytelling focusing on aspects such as why create stories, What's our story, how our story can boost sales, who is our product and where is our next story. 26 participants attended the session.

Financial Management and Taxation Compliance Workshop

Financial Management and Taxation Compliance Workshop was organized by Fair

Trade Group Nepal on 26th and 27th September 2021 in Lalitpur. The workshop covered important aspects of accounting/financial management, tax/VAT, labour act/ Social Security Fund and Governance. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Prahlad Gautam, FCA, Dip IFR, CIPFA (Affiliate), MBS and Mr. Anil Joshi, FCA, Dip IFR. FTG Nepal's Members Fair Trade producers and small enterprises, and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.



Training on Health and Safety at Workplace



Training on Health and Safety at Workplace was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 26th and 27th September 2021 in Lalitpur. The workshop covered important health and safety related components such as Fundamentals of workplace health and safety, health and safety risk assessment and control, work equipment hazards and controls, mental health, COVID-19 and safety measures, fire safety, basics on first aid at work, Ergonomics, Emotional Intelligence (EI), and other components. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Sagar Budhathoki, Mr. Rajesh Khadka and Dr. Saurav Sunar. 25 participants from FTG Nepal's Members- staffs and producers and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Orientation on Psychosocial Health in COVID-19 context



Orientation on Psychosocial Health in COVID-19 context was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 26th November 2021. The orientation program focused on on aspects of psychosocial health especially in the context of COVID-19- discussion on psychosocial issues, what causes stress and ways to seek solutions and also the importance of clear communication.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Indira Gyawali Adhikari, Psychosocial counselor. Participants from FTG Nepal's Members– staffs and producers and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Session on Intra-trade Discussion between Nepal and Bangladesh



Session on Intra-trade Discussion was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 29th December 2021 in Lalitpur. The program was organized with the objective to identify trade scenario and opportunities between Nepal and Bangladesh. During the session, the provision of trade facilitation focused on trade between Nepal and Bangladesh and trade issues, opportunities and challenges were discussed on. The session was facilitated by Mr. Rajendra Singh, Director, Trade and

Export Promotion Centre (TEPC).

Orientation on GESI and related laws

Orientation on GESI and related laws was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 28th November 2021. The orientation program focused on discus-



sions on 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.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Sarmila Shrestha, Advocate. Participants from FTG Nepal's Members– staffs and producers and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was supported by Norec.

Business Plan Development Workshop



Business Plan Development Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 18th and 19th November 2021 in Lalitpur. The workshop focused on Business plan, its development processes-Organization planning, marketing planning, Human Resource Planning and financial planning and integration of different component of Business Plan & Preparation of Executive Summary. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Bi-

naya Maharjan. 21 participants from FTG Nepal's Members and Secretariat participated in the session.

Followed by which a Follow-up program of Business Plan Development Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 29th November 2021 at Manushi, Nakkhu (Member Organization of FTGN), Lalitpur. Following the Workshop , the participants integrated the different component of Business Plan and prepared Executive summary. During the program, the participants

presented on the prepared Executive Summary.



The presentation was moderated by Mr. Binaya Maharjan. The program was supported by Norec.

Professional Management Workshop



Professional Management Workshop was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 17th and 18th December 2021 in Lalitpur. The workshop broadly focused on three aspects- interpersonal skills, team work and time utilization. During the workshop, method of skill assessment, lecture, discussion, exercises and games were applied, thus, the workshop was interactive and participatory in nature and was facilitated

by Mr. Binaya Maharjan. The workshop was supported by Norec.

Workshop on Nonviolent Communication

Workshop on Nonviolent Communication (NVC) was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 9th and 10th December 2021. The workshop focused on different topics such as overview of the different form of language we use, Self – connection, Request in the form of establishing connection, connecting to others (when



the request sounds as demands in not in the form of NVC), Self-Connection and Self-Regulation, disconnecting languages, self- awareness - Who am I ? Self care, anger transformation, connecting language, ways to respond triggering message (four ears) and harvesting (Mourning, celebration). The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Rajya Laxmi Gurung and Mr, Sri Ram Timilsina, NVC Practioners in Nepal. The program was supported by Norec.

Norec Project Achievement Sharing Program



Norec Project Achievement Sharing Program was organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal on 27th December 2021. The program was organized with the objective to share on the experience, challenges, outcomes and overall learnings in the second round of Nepal Bangladesh Exchange Program.

During the program, Mr. Satyendra Khadgi, Treasurer and Norec project focal person, FTGN briefly presented on Nepal Bangladesh Exchange Program and Ms. Shradha Thapa, Director, FTGN presented on achievements of Round 2. Participants from Government offices, partners, Journalist, FTG Nepal's Members and Secretariat participated in the session. The program was hosted by Ms. Urusha Maharjan Karmacharya, Program Officer. The program was supported by Norec.

Fair Trade Orientation to Women Entrepreneurs

Orientation on Fair Trade was organized on 24th December 2021 for Yala Sampada Women's Group. The orientation program was organized with the objective to increase awareness on, promote Fair Trade Movement in Nepal and also to encourage membership application. During the program, Ms. Revita Shrestha, Secretary, FTGN presented on Fair Trade movement and the 10 principles of FT.



Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade

FTG Nepal is implementing "Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade" project in partnership with IM Swedish Development Partner and its national partners- Jagaran Media Centre (JMC), Justice and Rights Institute Nepal (JuRI) and local partners- Multi-dimensional Action for Development-Nepal (MADE-Nepal), Indreni Rural Development Centre (IRDC), Siddhartha Social Development Center (SSDC), Social Welfare Action Nepal (SWAN) and Society for Environment Education Development (SEED) in Gorkha, Kapilvastu, Nawalpur and Dang. The goal of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction through Fair Trade approaches.

- Two month advance Bag Making training and equipment support provided to 23 producer of Kapilvastu to enhance their technical skills to develop and refine their products and engage in production;
- Two month Moonj product production training and equipment support provided to 81 producers of Kapilbastu and Dang to enhance their technical skills to develop and refine their products;
- Capacity building training organized for producers in Dang and Kapilbastu on Business Development service market system to establish Fair Trade enterprise. Amongst them 134 participants were bag (23) and moonj(111) product producers from Dang and Kapilbastu.
- Market actor mapping workshop organized to identify and coordinate with market actors of the identified products for better market linkage and promotion of product. Participant form Government office, stakeholders, Local marketers and traders were participated in the workshop



Handover of the Sewing machines after the completion of Training to Women Bag producers in Kapilbastu



Moonj Producers Groups from Tharu Community in Dang and Kapilbastu exhibiting their products in 18th Handicraft Trade Fair organized by Federation of Handicrafts Associations of Nepal

Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade

- B2Bmeetings for producer groups in Dang and Kapilbastu were conducted for right holders with FTG Nepal member organizations and other market actors for better market linkages of products and establishing market linkage. 50 producers participated in these meetings, some of these meeteings were conducted virtually.
- 4 Moonj Group (1 from Kapilbastu and 3 from Dang) participated in 18th Handicraft Fair Trade Exhibition in Kathmandu and visited different Fair Trade organizations, retail outlets, home based producers etc.
- Orient to local government on Fair Trade principles and practices of Kapilbastu and Dang.
- Social audit at Kapilbastu and Dang in the presence of Local Government, stakeholders and local partners. A total of 69 participant participated form Municipality, respective ward, government thematic office, media person, local partners, local stakeholders and producers groups.
- Promotion of Fair Trade products through Daraz.com has been promoted via Ujjyalo FM in December 2021. Jingle was produced and aired during morning and evening prime times.
- Product scoping visit to Kapilbastu and Dang to identify product for enterprise development form 3 marginalized groups in Kapilbastu and Dang.



Meeting with Chief Secretary of Lumbini Province Mr. Dilli Ram Sharma

• Fair Trade Advocacy Workshop for staff was conducted on 19-20 December 2021. The workshop discussed on the issues faced by Fair Trade organizations in Nepal, the advocacy tactics, tools and how it can be applied by FTG for advocacy. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Binaya Maharjan.

Enhancing Livelihood Resilience through Fair Trade



Dialogue for promoting Sustainable Entrepreneurship "An initiation for promoting Youth and Women Entrepreneurship"

• To promote Fair Trade enterprise model for the promotion of local economy through mobilizing local resources and promoting local consumption of local products, FTG carried out dialogues with the following authorities in Lumbini Province-

- 1) Mr. Dilli Ram Sharma, Chief Secretary of Lumbini Province;
- 2) Mr. Sanuraja Shakya, Member Secretary of Lumbini Development Trust;
- 3) Mr. Netra Bahadur Adhikari and Deputy Mayor Ms. Shiva Kumari Chaudhary of Shivaraj Municipality;
- 4) Mr. Ram Gopal Chaudhary, Acting Chairperson and Mr. Baburam Saptkota, Secretary of Shivaraj Municipality 9;
- 5) Mr. Gopal Bahadur Thapa Magar, Chairperson and Ms Laxmi Chaudhary, Deputy Chairperson of Bijaynagar Rural Municipality and Mr. Dinesh Kumar Chaudhary, Chairperson of Bijaynagar Rural Municipality 7;
- 6) Mr. Sahajram Ahir, Chairperson and Ms. Shanti Chaudhary, Vice Chairperson of Gadwa Rural Municipality;
- 7) Gulam Mohammad Musalman, Chairperson of Gadwa Rural Municipality 4;
- 8) Ms. Jagadamba Chaudhary, Vice Chairperson of Rapti RM;
- 9) Mr. Bidhya Saran Chaudhary, Chairperson of Rapti RM 7;
- 10) Mr. Bed Prasad Chaudhary, Chairperson of Rapti RM 6;
- 11) Mr. Ghanashyam Pandey, Mayor of Tulsipur Sub metropolitan City, Dang



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