

Two events to mark International Farmer Innovation Day (IFID) 2021 in Nepal



Students of Creative Academy at IFID celebration (photo: Dharma Dangol)

On 27 November 2021, Creative Academy, a secondary school in Kirtipur municipality, Nepal, celebrated IFID by organising a "Writing workshop on local innovations". The main purpose of this event was to build the capacity of students in writing feature articles on local innovation.

The event was opened by the chief guest, Pramod Pradhan, Chairperson of the Children's Literature and Research Center, Kathmandu, who planted a seedling in a pot in marking the significance of natural resources and biodiversity. The technical session began with a slide presentation on local innovation by former country coordinator of ProInnova-Nepal, Dharma Raj Dangol. He highlighted local innovations documented from different parts of Nepal, many of them based on natural resources of smallholder farming communities. He encouraged students to identify and write articles on local innovations in their own home areas. Pramod Pradhan facilitated a session that gave the students the basics of how to write feature articles on local innovation.

At the end of the writing workshop, each student participant selected a topic on which to write and submit manuscript within one month. Dharma Dangol described the plan of editing the submitted manuscripts and publishing a book

that can be used as a reference book for schools in Kirtipur municipality. The book launch is planned for April 2022. Creative academy will publish and sell the book and the proceeds will be used as a seed fund to provide similar writing workshops on local innovation to students of other schools. In closing, Dharma Dangol extended many thanks to the staff and family of Creative Academy for celebrating IFID 2021 in a new and innovative way.



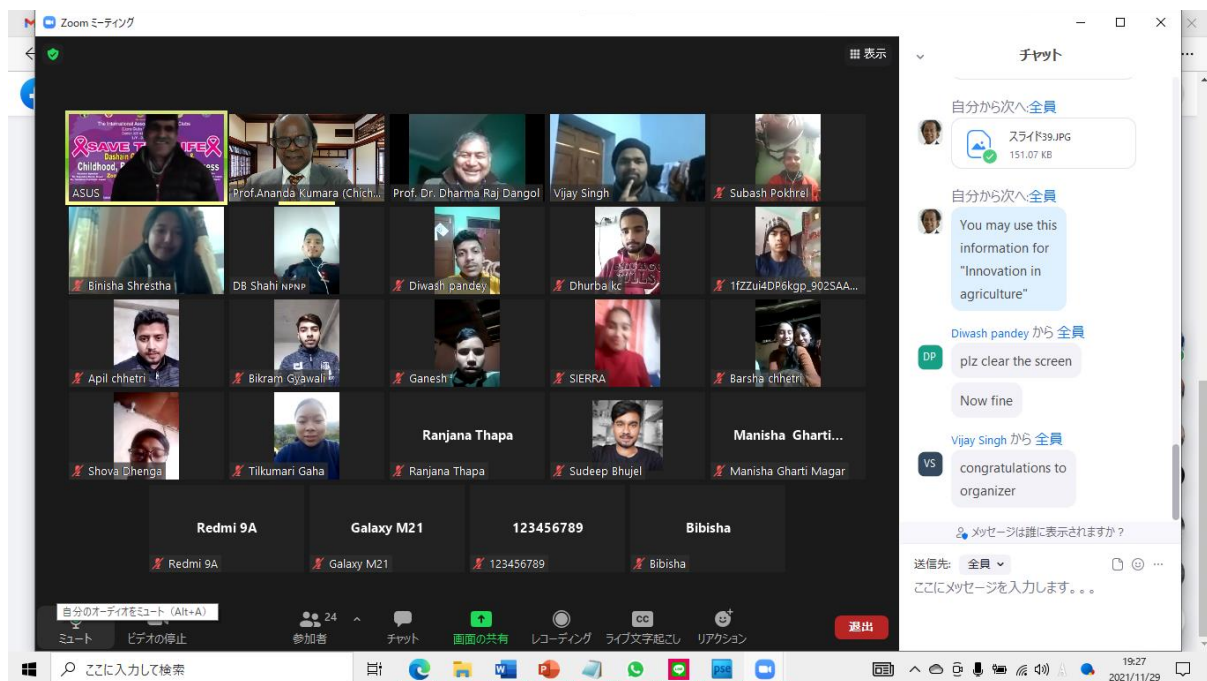
Student participants in feature article writing workshop (photo: Dharma Dangol)



Pramod Pradhan facilitating the writing workshop (photo: Dharma Dangol)

On 29th November, IFID 2021 was celebrated through a Zoom meeting organised by Buddhi Karki, a promoter of farmer innovation and supporter of Prolinnova, and member of Interscaff Safety Training Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Kathmandu, who also supported the event in 2020.

This Zoom meeting was attended by agriculture students and teachers of Bhairab Navadeep Secondary School of Palpa, West Nepal, farmer innovators, post graduate students from the Agriculture and Forestry University of Nepal and several entrepreneurs. Dharma Dangol, former country coordinator of Prolinnova Nepal, was the keynote speaker at the event and thanked all the farmer innovators who have come up with innovative solutions to solve their problems. He presented some slides on local innovations from Nepal and encouraged the students to visit farmer innovators and learn from and with them. He also encouraged the students to invite farmer innovators to their academic institutions for enriching learning through sharing of experiences. Dr. Ananda Kumara, Professor Emeritus of Meijo University of Japan, shared his research experiences on the snake gourd plant and talked about many local innovations in cultivation of the crop and recipes for cooking the gourd.



Celebration of IFID 2021