

## International Farmer Innovation Day 2016 celebrated in Nepal

International Farmer Innovation Day was celebrated in Nepal on 29 November 2016 by organizing a seminar to share experiences on local innovation. PROLINNOVA -Nepal organised the event in collaboration with the Natural History Museum (NHM) of Tribhuvan University, Caritas Nepal and Center for Nepal Environmental and Educational Development (CENEED).

Farmer innovator, Mr Shekha Narayan Maharjan, shared his experiences on rooftop gardening in Kathmandu. PROLINNOVACP coordinator, Dharma Raj Dangol, introduced the international network to the seminar participants and talked about the country platforms, the International Support Team and the PROLINNOVA Oversight Group. He also summarised the major areas of PROLINNOVA's work. Thereafter he provided a summary of PROLINNOVA Nepal's activities and its achievements to date.



*Farmer innovator Shekha Narayan Maharjan sharing his experiences (photo: Devendra Maharjan)*

Caritas Nepal Project coordinator, Mr Chintan Manandhar, shared about learning from a project that considered farmers as a real scientists. And CENEED president, Ms Anita Manandhar, spoke about the joint research project on farmers potato fields in Sankhy of Kathmandu district. One farmer, one student and one teacher expressed their views on local innovation and positively evaluated IFID as an important and effective event in

giving recognition to farmer innovators . Students were interested in attending future seminars organised by PROLINNOVA and invited PROLINNOVA members to give guest lectures in their colleges. Three students expressed their interest in conducting thesis research related to local innovation.

The ceremony was chaired by Dharma Raj Dangol, while the Master of Ceremonies was NHM researcher Ms Nirmala Pradhan. Museum professor, Mr Bhaiya Khanal, and Nepal Participatory Action Network executive member, Mr Chet Nath Kanel, gave remarks on the presentations and the IFID in general.



*Participants of the seminar on IFID (photo: Devendra Maharjan)*

A total of 50 people from farmer groups, universities and NGOs were present. Participants posted photos on their Facebook pages and shared experiences about the IFID event. Some participants showed their willingness to publish news items and articles on the IFID celebration.