



Press Release: Habitat Innovation Conclave (HIC) 2024

-Kathmandu University and Agriculture Forestry University jointly announce the 3rd edition of Habitat Innovation Conclave at Bharatpur, Chitwan, Nepal, August 4, 2024.

Kathmandu University (KU) and **Agriculture Forestry University (AFU)** are privileged to announce the third edition of the Habitat Innovation Conclave 2024, a premier event focusing on food, sanitation, environmental sustainability, and innovative waste management. The Conclave will be held on September 16-17, 2024 (Bhadra 31 - Asoj 1, 2081) at Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal.

The theme of HIC 2024 is, "**Turning Waste to Energy: City Region Food, Environment, and Sanitation Nexus**" highlights the critical importance of integrating waste management solutions with energy generation, food security, and environmental conservation. The event is jointly organized by **Global Sanitation Graduate School (GSGS)** at Kathmandu University, and the **Directorate of Research and Extension (DoREX)**, Agriculture and Forestry University in collaboration with other national and international key stakeholders.

1.1 About the Habitat Innovation Conclave 2024

The Habitat Innovation Conclave serves as a dynamic platform that brings together a diverse group of stakeholders, including experts, academicians, policymakers, investors, government bodies, NGOs, INGOs, and students. It aims to foster collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovative solutions to address the pressing challenges in food security, sanitation and environmental management.

1.2 Key Features of the Conclave:

Inauguration Ceremony: The event will kick off with an inauguration, featuring speeches by distinguished guests, including leaders in the field of food security, sanitation and environmental management.

Keynote Speech: A renowned expert will deliver the keynote address, setting the tone for the discussions and presentations to follow.

Panel Discussions: Leaders and practitioners will be engaged in panel discussions, exploring the intersections of waste management, sanitation technologies, food security, and energy sustainability.

Technical Sessions: These sessions will include paper presentations and poster presentations, showcasing the latest research and innovations in the field.

Mayors' Session: This session will focus on the role of local governments in promoting sustainable sanitation practices and waste management strategies.

Graduate Student Presentations: Graduate students will present their research and thesis work, providing insights into emerging trends and innovations in sanitation technology.

Job Fair and Recruitment: The conclave will host a job fair, connecting students and professionals with organizations looking for talent in the fields of sanitation, environment, and food security.

Networking Sessions: Attendees will have opportunities to network with industry professionals, academics, and peers, fostering new connections and potential collaborations.

Strategic Planning Workshops: Interactive workshops will facilitate strategic discussions on advancing food, environment, and sanitation practices across Nepal.

Exhibition Stalls: Organizations and corporate institutions will showcase innovative projects, technologies, and products related to sanitation and environmental sustainability.

Governmental Body's Panel Discussion: A special panel featuring representatives from governmental bodies will discuss policies and initiatives for enhancing sanitation and environmental waste management in Nepal.

1.3 Objectives of the Conclave

The Habitat Innovation Conclave 2024 aims to:

Identify and Address Challenges: Tackle key issues related to food security, waste management, sanitation technologies, energy sustainability, and environmental protection through collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Empower Students: Provide students with direct engagement opportunities with organizations, enabling them to showcase their projects, gain exposure, and explore entrepreneurial avenues.

Advance Sanitation Practices: Facilitate partnerships between academia, government, NGOs, and industry to foster innovations and advancements in sanitation practices.

Promote GSGS Initiatives: Highlight the initiatives of the Global Sanitation Graduate School (GSGS) in Nepal, strengthening sanitation education and promoting efforts to improve sanitation practices in the country.

1.4 Opportunities

Participants in the Habitat Innovation Conclave 2024 will have an opportunity to:

Job Networking: Connect with organizations and professionals in the fields of food security, environment, and sanitation, exploring career opportunities and building professional networks.

Strategic Exchange: Engage in strategic discussions to enhance practices in sanitation, waste management, and environmental sustainability in Nepal.

Involvement & Impact: Collaborate with students and faculty from Agriculture and Forestry University, Kathmandu University, Tribhuvan University (IoE, Dharan), Pokhara University (Central and Nepal Engineering College) to drive positive change in sanitation technology.

Showcase Research: Master's and PhD students will have the opportunity to present their research and thesis work, gaining visibility and feedback from experts in the field.

Exhibition and Demonstration: Explore exhibition stalls showcasing cutting-edge technologies, projects, and products related to sanitation and environmental sustainability.

1.5 Target Audience

The Conclave invites a diverse audience, including:

- Academicians
- Policymakers
- Investors
- Central and Local Government Bodies
- NGOs/INGOs
- Students: Master's and PhD students from AFU, KU, Tribhuvan University, Pokhara University, especially those specializing in sanitation technology.
- Industry Professionals
- CWISAN Members: Members of the City-Wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWISAN) network.

The Habitat Innovation Conclave 2024 promises to be a landmark event, fostering innovation, collaboration, and knowledge sharing to address critical issues in sanitation and environmental sustainability. We invite all interested parties to join us in this vital effort to create a more sustainable future.

For more information and registration, please contact:

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