

3rd International Conference on Economics and Finance

28-29 February 2020
Kathmandu, Nepal



Nepal Rastra Bank
Baluwatar, Kathmandu

Nepal Rastra Bank

Nepal Rastra Bank, the central bank of Nepal, is the monetary authority. It is also regulatory and supervisory authority of banks and financial institutions in Nepal. It was established in 1956 under NRB Act 1955.

Vision of the Bank

A Modern, Dynamic, Credible and Effective Central Bank.

Mission

Maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability for sustainable and inclusive economic growth through proactive and effective monetary and financial policies.

Key Objectives of the Bank

- To formulate and implement monetary and foreign exchange policies to maintain price and external sector stability.
- To broaden the access to financial services and maintain banking and financial sector stability.
- To develop a secure, healthy and efficient system of payment.

3rd International Conference on Economics and Finance

Introduction

Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) is organizing the 3rd international conference on economics and finance during 28-29 February 2020. The first conference was organized in April 2012 and the second in February 2015. NRB is organizing this conference to bring together researchers, academicians and policy makers and provide an opportunity to share their research and ideas in the field of economics and finance.

This conference covers a wide range of issues relating to macroeconomic policies, financial development, financial access and financial technology, international trade, economic development and issues pertaining to agriculture, infrastructure, energy and tourism.

Coverage of the Conference

- Macroeconomic and Macroprudential Policies and their Impacts
- Economic Growth, Business Cycles, Poverty, Inequality and Unemployment
- Public Finance, Fiscal Federalism and Decentralization
- Globalization and its Impacts
- International Trade, Exchange Rate Regimes, Capital Flows and Remittances
- Health, Labor, Tourism and Energy
- Payment System, FinTech, RegTech, SupTech, Cyber Security
- Financial Inclusion, Financial Access, Microfinance, Green Financing
- Financial Development, Financial Stability, Financial Consolidation, Money and Capital Market

Review and Selection Procedure

NRB formed a Conference Organizing Committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Governor Mr. Shiba Raj Shrestha. The committee formed a Scientific Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Gunakar Bhatta, Executive Director, Research Department. The scientific committee prepared a list of referees from academicians, practitioners and researchers for independent evaluation of abstracts and final papers. The referees evaluated 253 abstracts received from 14 countries including India, Bangladesh, China, Japan, USA, and Germany and accepted 187 abstracts for the final paper review. From the independent review process, 72 papers have been accepted for final presentation in the conference. The papers presented in this conference will be published in the conference proceedings.

Inaugural Address

Chiranjibi Nepal, PhD
Governor, Nepal Rastra Bank

Governor Dr. Nepal will deliver his inaugural address in the conference. Governor Nepal, a career academician, has a wide range of experience. He has served as an Economic Advisor to the Rt. Honorable Prime Minister of Nepal during February 2014 to March 2015, Chief Economic Advisor to the Ministry of Finance during June 2013 to November 2013 and Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for Foreign Affairs during 2009-2010. Besides, he also served as the Executive Chairman of the Securities Board of Nepal (SEBON), and as a consultant in the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and UNSCAP.

Dr. Nepal holds Master's in Economics from Tribhuvan University and PhD in Economics from Banaras Hindu University.

Keynote Speech

Yuba Raj Khatiwada, PhD

Finance Minister, Government of Nepal

Honorable Dr. Khatiwada will address the conference as the chief guest and keynote speaker. He is a renowned economist having a long career in public sector.

Dr Khatiwada served Nepal Rastra Bank for more than two decades and retired from the post of the Executive Director. He was appointed as a member of the National Planning Commission (NPC) in 2002 and Vice-Chairman during 2009-10 and 2015-16. He was appointed the Governor of NRB in 2010. He also worked as a Senior Economist in the regional centre of UNDP for Asia and the Pacific during 2006-2009.

Dr. Khatiwada holds Master's in Economics and Public Administration from Tribhuvan University and PhD in Monetary Economics from Delhi School of Economics. He has published various research articles and books in both national and international journals and publications.

Confirmed Speakers

Honorable Ram Kumar Phuyal, PhD

Member, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal

Swarnim Wagle, PhD

Former Vice-Chairman and Member of the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal

Mr. Sishir Kumar Dhungana

Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal

Luis E. Breuer, PhD

IMF Senior Resident Representative to India, Nepal and Bhutan

Lei Lei Song, PhD

Regional Economic Advisor, ADB

Mr. Faris Hadad-Zervos

Country Manager, The World Bank Group, Kathmandu, Nepal

Conference Program

The inaugural session of the conference will begin at 8:30 am on 28 February 2020. Honorable finance minister Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada will inaugurate the conference. After the inaugural session, a policy dialogue session will be organized for one and half hour. The policy dialogue session will be chaired by Governor Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal. It will bring together policy makers and experts from Nepal as well as the World Bank, IMF and ADB. The theme of the policy dialogue is '**Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Agenda for Nepal**'.

After the policy dialogue, the conference will proceed for paper presentation sessions. Each session will be chaired by eminent scholar. The conference will host 18 sessions and bring 72 papers into discussion.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Friday, 28 February 2020

07:30 – 8:30	Registration and Breakfast
08:30 – 9:30	Inaugural Ceremony
09:30 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:30	Policy Dialogue Session
11:30 – 12:00	Break
12:00 – 16:00	Paper Presentation Sessions (2 parallel sessions)

Saturday, 29 February 2020

09:00 – 17:00	Paper Presentation Sessions (4 parallel sessions)
17:30 – 18:30	Closing Ceremony
18:30 – 20:30	Cultural Show followed by Dinner

Sunday, 1 March, 2020

8:00 – 14:00	Excursion for International Participants
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PROGRAMME DETAILS

Friday, 28 February 2020

07:30 – 08:30 Registration and Breakfast

08:30 – 9:30 Inaugural Ceremony

Welcome Remarks

Gunakar Bhatta, PhD

Executive Director

Research Department, NRB

Inauguration

Yuba Raj Khatiwada, PhD

Honorable Minister of Finance

Government of Nepal

Inaugural Address

Chiranjibi Nepal, PhD

Governor, NRB

Keynote Speech

Yuba Raj Khatiwada, PhD

Honorable Minister of Finance

Government of Nepal

Vote of Thanks

Mr. Shiba Raj Shrestha

Deputy Governor, NRB

9:30 – 10:00 Break

10:00 – 11:30 Policy Dialogue Session

Topic: Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Agenda for Nepal

Session Chair *Chiranjibi Nepal, PhD*
Governor, NRB

Background Presentation

Gunakar Bhatta, PhD
Executive Director, NRB

Panelists

Honorable Ram Kumar Phuyal, PhD
Member, National Planning Commission,
Government of Nepal

Lei Lei Song, PhD
South Asia Regional Advisor, ADB

Luis E. Breuer, PhD
IMF Senior Resident Representative to
India, Nepal and Bhutan

Mr. Faris Hadad-Zervos
Country Manager,
The World Bank Group, Kathmandu, Nepal

Swarnim Wagle, PhD
Former Vice-Chairman and Member of the
National Planning Commission,
Government of Nepal

Mr. Sishir Kumar Dhungana
Secretary, Ministry of Finance
Government of Nepal

Concluding Remarks *Chiranjibi Nepal, PhD*
Governor, NRB

Paper Presentation Sessions

Date	Time	Session	Theme
28 February, 2020	12:00 -13:30	I-A	Economic Growth and Macroeconomic Stability
	12:00 -13:30	I-B	Monetary Policy
	12:00 -13:30	I-C	Payment System
	13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break	
	14:30 - 16:00	II-A	Energy, Climate Change and Environment
	14:30 - 16:00	II-B	Money and Capital Market
	14:30 - 16:00	II-C	FinTech, RegTech and Cyber Security
29 February, 2020	9:00 - 10:30	III-A	Tourism, Remittance and Migration
	9:00 - 10:30	III-B	Financial Sector Policies and Credit Market
	9:00 - 10:30	III-C	Financial Literacy and Insurance
	10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee Break	
	11:00 - 12:30	IV-A	Economic Development
	11:00 - 12:30	IV-B	Exchange Rate, International Trade and Capital Flows
	11:00 - 12:30	IV-C	Financial Development and Economic Growth
	12:30-13:30	Lunch Break	
	13:30 - 15:00	V-A	Inflation
	13:30 - 15:00	V-B	Financial System, Financial Stability and Corporate Governance I
	13:30 - 15:00	V-C	Public Finance, Fiscal Policy and Fiscal Federalism
	15:00 - 15:30	Tea/Coffee Break	
	15:30 - 17:00	VI-A	Industrial Development and Entrepreneurship
	15:30 - 17:00	VI-B	Financial System, Financial Stability and Corporate Governance II
	15:30 - 17:00	VI-C	Financial Access and Financial Inclusion

Closing Ceremony

17:30 – 18:30

Closing Ceremony

Summary of Conference

Ram Sharan Kharel, PhD

*Director, NRB and Member Secretary,
Conference Organizing Committee*

Remarks

Representative of Participants

Presentation of Souvenir

Closing Remarks

Chiranjibi Nepal, PhD

Governor, NRB

Vote of Thanks

Mr. Chintamani Siwakoti

Deputy Governor, NRB

18:30 – 20:30

Cultural Show followed by Cocktail Dinner

Post Conference Program

Sunday, 1 March, 2020

8:00 – 14:00

Excursion for International Participants

Place

**Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Lunch at
Dhulikhel**

Conference Proceedings

The Papers presented in the conference will be published by Nepal Rastra Bank in the conference proceedings.

Conference Organizing Committee

Mr. Shiba Raj Shrestha

Deputy Governor, NRB

Coordinator

Nephil Matangi Maskay, PhD

Executive Director

Office of the Governor, NRB

Member

Gunakar Bhatta, PhD

Executive Director

Research Department, NRB

Member

Ram Sharan Kharel, PhD

Director

Research Department, NRB

Member Secretary

Scientific Committee

Gunakar Bhatta, PhD

Executive Director

Research Department, NRB

Coordinator

Ram Prasad Gyanwaly, PhD

Professor, Tribhuvan University

Member

Nephil Matangi Maskay, PhD

Executive Director

Office of the Governor, NRB

Member

Prakash Kumar Shrestha, PhD

Executive Director

Microfinance Promotion and

Supervision Department, NRB

Member

Mani Nepal, PhD

Program Coordinator

SANDEE/ICIMOD

Member

Ram Sharan Kharel, PhD

Director

Research Department, NRB

Member

Mr. Madav Dangal

Acting Director

Research Department, NRB

Member Secretary

Sub-Committee

Ram Sharan Kharel, PhD

Director, Research Department, NRB

Mr. Nanda Kumar Dhakal

Deputy Director, Research Department, NRB

Mr. Badri Prasad Khakurel

Deputy Director, General Services Department, NRB

Mr. Sushil Gyawali

Deputy Director, Office of the Governor, NRB

Mr. Siddha Raj Bhatta

Deputy Director, Research Department, NRB

Mr. Padam Raj Joshi

Acting Deputy Director, Financial Management Department, NRB

Mr. Chop Kanta Subedi

Assistant Director, Research Department, NRB

Conference Venue

Hotel Yak & Yeti

Durbar Marg, Kathmandu

Bagmati Province, Nepal

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