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PRESS RELEASE

Government of Nepal and Government of Switzerland sign CHF 14.7 million agreement for the implementation of Enhanced Skills for Sustainable and Rewarding Employment (ENSSURE), Phase II.

KATHMANDU, September 10, 2021 – The Government of Nepal and the Government of Switzerland signed a CHF 14.7 million financing agreement to continue with a second phase of the Enhanced Skills for Sustainable and Rewarding Employment (ENSSURE-II) project in Nepal for the next 4 years. Mr. Dhaniram Sharma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Ms. Silvana Hogg, Acting Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland in Nepal have signed and exchanged a bilateral agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

*“Development of human resources is crucial for socio-economic transformation. I believe that this project will support to develop a skilled, competitive and creative human resource and ensure the opportunity to have gainful employment, provide career guidance service for Nepalese youth and also meets the need of business and industries in achieving skilled human resource, stated **Mr. Dhani Ram Sharma, Joint Secretary.**”*

*With the right balanced of skills and knowledge among the people, businesses and industry can be more productive and creating more jobs that would contribute to reduce unemployment in the country. This project will contribute to enable Nepalese youths, women and men, to gain social and economic benefits from a federalised TVET system, said **by Silvana Hogg, Acting Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland in Nepal.***

The ENSSURE II project will continue scaling up apprenticeships, a formal programme of 2 years duration, which is a sustainable model in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector. It will also continue to offer short courses with on-the-job training, skill upgrading training for existing workers, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) at the workplace as well as career guidance for youth. The project will further enhance the collaboration between the education sector and employers and therewith contribute to sustainable and rewarding job prospects for Nepalese youth. The project will benefit a total of 70,000 people.

The project will be implemented by Provincial Governments in Province 1, Bagmati Province and Lumbini Province, including 33 Local Governments, in close collaboration with the Council for Technical and Vocational, Education and Training (CTEVT) at federal level.

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