

## NAST Strengthened Its Collaboration with MoFE

On 9 July 2021, Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a working relationship between the two organizations to undertake mutually desirable activities. The MoU was signed by Dr Pem Narayan Kandel, Secretary,



MoFE and Dr Sunil Babu Shrestha, Vice-Chancellor, NAST. Similarly, NAST also signed a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with MoFE for the management of research grants under "Catalyzing Ecosystem Restoration for Climate Resilient Natural Capital and Rural Livelihoods in Degraded



Forests and Rangelands of Nepal (EbA II) project. The agreement was signed by Dr Mahesh Kumar Adhikari, Secretary, NAST and Dr Radha Wagle, Joint Secretary and Chief of Climate Change Management Division, MoFE. The signed documents were exchanged during the signing ceremony.

Addressing the program, Dr Kandel advised for the strong coordination between NAST and MoFE for building evidence based research in the field of climate change and natural resource management. Dr Shrestha stated that practical support from MoFE has been expected by NAST in specific research sectors. He expressed his gratitude to MoFE for initiating the research grants programs for Ecosystem based Adaptation through NAST. The research grants program will be managed by Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCKMC), a center established by government of Nepal in NAST.

