



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
**LOCALIZATION OF  
CLIMATE ACTIONS**

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Bridging National Climate Change Policy and second NDC targets  
with local government plans and programmes

### Climate and Development Dialogue

Climate and Development Dialogue is a vibrant civil society platform that is engaging and influencing policy processes on climate change to make it participatory, transparent and accountable. It aims to build knowledge on climate change and together with Nepali Civil Society Organizations influence the governments at all levels. Its members include 11 civil society organizations with long track record of working on climate change, women rights and development sector in Nepal.

### Member Organizations:



# Foreword

In recent years, the federal government of Nepal has adopted several policy documents on climate change, primarily targeted to build the country's resilience to climatic impacts and to achieve net-zero emission by 2045 by adopting low-carbon development pathways. National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) 2019 and second Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 2020 are two key policy instruments aimed at scaling up adaptation and carbon mitigation actions across different sectors at local, provincial and federal levels. For these instruments (NCCP and second NDC) to become meaningful, all levels of government need to sincerely implement context-specific adaptation and mitigation actions. Local governments have special roles to play in the execution of these policies and in the meeting of the priorities and targets. Ironically, the majority of local governments are not well aware of these instruments and they require dedicated institutional and financial capacity to execute adaptation and mitigation actions prioritized by NCCP and second NDC.

PRC's recent study report 'Localization of Climate Actions: The Role of Local Governments in Implementing National Climate Change Policy and Nationally Determined Contribution' has examined the role of local governments, analyzing the barriers to and potential options of localizing NCCP and second NDC. It has also listed the NCCP and second NDC policy targets that are relevant to the local governments, considering both the exclusive and concurrent functions of the local, provincial, and federal governments as laid out in the constitution of Nepal, the provisions in the Local Government Operation Act (LGOA), 2017 and the local governments' experiences.

More than ninety representatives participated in the National Conference on Localization of Climate Actions: Bridging National Climate Change Policy and second NDC targets with local government plans and programmes held on 22 December 2021, wherein the participants were unanimous about the need to scale up climate actions at local levels, decentralize climate financing and enhance roles of local governments in implementing NCCP and second NDC.

Climate and Development Dialogue is thankful to all guests, panellists, moderators, experts and participants for their contributions in the discussions and for sharing their experiences and opinions on ways to effectively localize climate actions. The findings of the conference will be submitted to federal government agencies such as the National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Forest and Environment; Municipal Association of Nepal; National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal, and to the provincial and local governments through the Dialogue member organizations. The Dialogue will take this discourse ahead by engaging more stakeholders across all three levels.

*Prakriti Resources Centre  
On behalf of Climate and Development Dialogue*



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## Background

Nepal is among the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change. It is at high risk due to its fragile topography, climate-sensitive livelihoods and limited adaptive-capacity. The country has developed various policy instruments to build adaptive-capacity across different vulnerable sectors to climate change. These instruments have also targeted to reduce greenhouse gases emission by adopting a low carbon development pathway. National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) 2019 and second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020 are two key policy instruments aimed at enhancing Nepal's climate actions in adaptation and carbon mitigation. NCCP has prioritized adaptation and mitigation actions across eight most vulnerable sectors and four inter-thematic sectors. These sectors include agriculture and food security; forest, biodiversity and watershed conservation; water resources and energy; rural and urban habitats; industry, transport and physical infrastructure; tourism and natural and cultural heritage; health, drinking water and sanitation; and disaster risk reduction and management while, inter-thematic sectors include gender equality and social inclusion, livelihoods and good governance; awareness raising and capacity building; research, technology development and expansion; and climate finance management. Second NDC aims to achieve net zero emission by 2050 and has specified greenhouse gases emission reduction targets in energy, transport, residential cooking and bio gas, forestry, agriculture, industry and waste management.

The Constitution of Nepal 2015 has shared the state affairs among three tiers of governments and has devolved the rights and authorities to provincial and local governments. The rights and authorities of the above mentioned sectors in NCCP and second NDC are in solitary and/or concurrent power of local governments. Local Governments Operations Act 2017 has authorized local governments to work on sectors such as disaster management, agriculture and food security, small hydropower and renewable energy, watershed and wildlife conservation and environment protection and biodiversity among others. These sectors are vulnerable and contribute on climate adaptation and mitigation actions. The local governments are, therefore, well positioned to contribute to achieving the climate change policy goals and targets, and thereby building community resilience.

The National Conference on Localization of Climate Actions: Bridging National Climate Change Policy and second NDC targets with local government plans and programmes was organized on 22 December 2021 in Lalitpur in order to scale up climate adaptation and mitigation actions at local level and enhance the role of local governments in implementing those actions. The conference had extensive discussions on three themes – role of local governments and policy gaps; decentralised climate financing; and good practices of climate adaptation and mitigation at local level - and provided recommendations for localization of climate actions in Nepal.



*The National Conference on  
Localization of Climate Actions:  
Bridging National Climate Change  
Policy and second NDC targets  
with local government plans and  
programmes*

## **Participants**

A total of 94 participants attended the conference, out of which 63 (67 percent) were women. It had diverse participation including women groups from 13 palikas; elected representatives and officials from 3 palikas; a representative of National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN), an umbrella organization of rural palikas in Nepal; representatives from the Ministry of Forests and Environment, the National Planning Commission and the Federal Parliament of Nepal. Representatives of national and international non-governmental organizations, development partner organization, youth and students had also attended the conference.

Welcoming the chief guest, guests, and participants from different organizations, women groups, and civil society organizations (CSOs), Ms. Pragya Sherchan detailed the background of Climate and Development Dialogue (C&D Dialogue), an informal platform comprising 11 non-government organisations that facilitates dialogues and exchange of knowledge and learning on the inter-relations among climate change, development, and gender equality.

Before starting the opening session, Mr. Prabin Man Singh of Prakriti Resources Centre gave a presentation on Localizing Climate Actions in Nepal: The Role of Local Governments in implementing National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) and second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). He detailed the adaptation actions that local governments are likely to take lead on climate-smart agriculture, wetlands conservation, early warning system and disaster risk reduction, rainwater harvesting, eco-tourism, green city and rooftop farming. Likewise, he shared the local governments' role in mitigation actions including micro-hydropower, solar and wind energies, waste management, forest conservation, and improved cattle shed and manure management among others. Furthermore, he highlighted the four-pillar framework for effective localization of NCCP and second NDC that are:

### 1. Policy and Institutional Pillar

This pillar calls for policy coherence amongst the governments at all levels, consultative and inclusive policy process, and institutional arrangements.

### 2. Communication and Strategic Partnership Pillar

It refers to communicating NCCP and second NDC to local governments and strategic partnership amongst government and non-government agencies focusing on inclusive and participatory governance.

### 3. Resources and Implementation Pillar

This pillar is related to gaining access to and allocating funds, capacity building, and implementation of NCCP and second NDC.

### 4. Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting Pillar

This pillar calls for setting indicators, tracking progress, providing feedback, and documenting and reporting the progress.

These four-pillars are inter-related and should be observed in a holistic approach, Mr. Prabin concluded.





*Climate actions should be integrated into respective thematic areas and sectors at the national, provincial, and local level in order to adapt towards the effects of climate change and reduce its impacts.*

- Dr. Radha Wagle

### **Guest, Dr. Radha Wagle, Joint Secretary and Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment**

Dr. Radha Wagle acknowledged that Mr. Prabin Man Singh's presentation was insightful. She stressed that the findings of the study on localizing climate actions in Nepal and the roles of local governments in executing NCCP and second NDC have provided guidance on how we can be climate responsive in terms of allocation and distribution of the national budget at all levels in the future.

She mentioned that climate actions should be integrated into respective thematic areas and sectors at the national, provincial, and local level in order to adapt to the effects of climate change and reduce its impacts. She highlighted the potential roles of local government in implementing climate adaptation and mitigation actions.

Furthermore, Dr. Wagle detailed the challenges faced by the local government in executing the climate actions including internalization of climate related policies and lack of technical human resources. She stressed that everyone should work towards achieving the national targets of second NDC. Finally, she mentioned that budget allocated and implemented should be climate responsive, dedicated for poverty reduction, and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). And, with effective monitoring, reporting, and evaluation, the climate actions and other developmental works will be meaningful and successful.





*The issues of climate change being inter-sectoral and cross-cutting, there should be collective and consolidated efforts from three-tiered governments. Also, while addressing climate change, we should pay attention to poverty reduction and GESI.*

*- Saloni Pradhan Singh*

### **Guest, Hon. Saloni Pradhan Singh, Member, National Planning Commission**

Hon. Saloni Pradhan Singh shared the learning and responses from her recent field trip in Lumbini Province related to climate, environment, and forest issues. She detailed the difficulties faced at the local level such as lack of coordination among ministries, challenges of communities residing near disaster-prone areas, and poor communication within the institutional structure of the government. These problems have been aggravated after the establishment of governments at three levels because of their struggle of ownership and launching of programmes without consultation amongst themselves. She hoped that this kind of dialogue and forum would help in finding solutions to those problems and provide guidance and inputs to the government on all levels.

She stressed that numerous developmental activities operating in coherently are affecting the environment and distressing vulnerable, marginalized, and socially excluded communities immensely. Since the issues related to climate change are inter-sectoral and cross-cutting, Ms. Singh stated the importance of there being a consolidated and collective effort by the three-tiered government system. She reiterated that climate change should be mainstreamed in different sectors such as agriculture, energy, water, road, education, etc. to respond towards the effects of climate change effectively and efficiently. Also, while addressing climate change, she emphasised on the need of paying attention to poverty reduction and GESI. Lastly, she stressed that there is a need for strong discussion among concerned authorities on how and what kind of plans and policies should be developed.



*With an active involvement of local government, objectives of NCCP, second NDC targets, and climate related plans and policies will be achieved.*

- Tara Devi Bhatta

### **Chief Guest, Hon. Tara Devi Bhatta, Member of Parliament, National Assembly, Nepal**

Hon. Tara Devi Bhatta expressed her gratitude towards the organizers and participants for inviting her as the chief guest for the conference. She shared the history and background of implementation and governance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nepal. She stressed that all SDGs are important and should be focused equally. Ms. Bhatta mentioned that she visited seven provinces for the localization of SDGs. While monitoring, she found that the encroachment of the Chure forest region has led to the decrease of ground water level, increase of drinking water scarcity, and change of direction of flow of major rivers towards human settlement. She recalled the recent flood in the Mahakali River that damaged crops and inundated settlements in Kanchanpur. Deforestation, wood smuggling, and sand mining have made the effects of climate change worse, she iterated. Moreover, the cases of road construction without technical guidance have been triggering the incidents of landslides. She suggested that everyone from different levels of government, organizations, and communities be responsible, aware, and work for the betterment of the climate and the environment.

She informed the participants that she has been raising her voice for climate actions in every forum with the concerned authorities and providing guidance and support for the implementation of climate actions at the local level. Ms. Bhatta stressed that women are the most affected by climate change and that focus should be put on education and empowerment of women. Finally, she suggested that the institutional capacity of local government should be enhanced and strengthened in order to localize climate actions. With active involvement of local government, objectives of NCCP, second NDC targets, and climate related plans and policies can be achieved, she added. Moreover, she stressed that the climate finance received from international sources should be mobilized and executed among local communities. Lastly, she hoped that this programme helps in effective localization of climate actions and empowerment of local communities.



*Tewa is working with the members of C&D Dialogue on enhancing the capacity of women to understand climate change, its effects on different sectors, and how to adapt to current and expected effects of climate.*

*Dr. Meeta Sainju Pradhan*

### **Chair, Dr. Meeta Sainju Pradhan, Vice President, Tewa**

Dr. Meeta Sainju Pradhan expressed her happiness on seeing different women groups associated with Tewa among the participants. She also thanked guests and the chief guest for sharing their experiences and learnings from field visits at the local level. Although Tewa has been working on women empowerment for the last 25 years, it has been (6) years that they have been working on the impacts of climate change and its effects on women. Currently, Tewa is working with the members of C&D Dialogue on enhancing the capacity of women to understand climate change, its effects on different sectors, and how to adapt to current and expected effects of climate. She shared that with these efforts, women groups from various areas have been playing an important role in advocacy on how they can access budgets related to women and climate change.

While talking about localization of climate actions, Dr. Pradhan stressed that capacity building programmes at the local level must be executed, with emphasis put on monitoring the plans and actions of the local government. She thanked the chief guest and the other guests for delivering key messages and lauded their commitment and efforts on localization of climate actions.



*The authorities are not devolved from the central and provincial government for the effective implementation of policies.*

- Shushma Chaudhary

## Thematic Session 1:

### Role of local government and policy gaps in localization and scaling-up climate actions

**Moderator:**

**Pratap Maharjan, ActionAid Nepal**

**Panellists:**

**Shushma Chaudhary, Deputy-Mayor, Banggadhi Municipality, Bardiya**

Ms. Shushma Chaudhary stressed that there should be strong communication and coordination among governments of the three levels for developing and executing plans and policies. She highlighted the climate actions of Banggadhi Municipality that included tree plantation, establishment of green parks and gardens in schools, obligation of carrying out Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) and Environment Impact Association (EIA) before conducting any developmental projects, roadside tree plantation, implantation of biogas, improvement of cattle shed and manure management, and environment awareness programmes. For instance, she added, the municipality has successfully installed biogas plants in 345 households in Bardiya. Ms. Chaudhary also detailed the future plans of implementation of the newly formed Agriculture Act, followed by distribution of identity cards of farmers, and industrialization of farming and its products. She informed that the municipality has formed a disaster response plan after consultation with stakeholders and experts. Although the municipality has not developed a climate policy, different climate actions are being taken under the guidance of the national climate change policy. She mentioned that three wetlands have been identified in the area and they have been working to conserve and manage those wetlands. She explained the efforts of the municipality on integrating GESI policy in every activity of the municipality.

Ms. Chaudhary, also shared the challenges that they have been facing while localizing climate policies and actions on the ground. She mentioned that lack of capable human resources is the main reason for not being

able to integrate policies at the local level. She expressed that since local governments are not involved during the formulation of these policies and that since they are formulated by the central and provincial bodies, implementation is difficult as the local-context hasn't been looked into. She further went on to add that the authorities are not devolved from the central and provincial government for the effective implementation of policies.

## **Binod Sapkota, President, FECOFUN, Bagmati Province**

Mr. Binod Sapkota shared that the Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), which was established in 2052 B.S., is a formal network of more than 22,000 Community Forestry User Groups (CFUGs) from all over the country. He said that the federation abides by policy of gender and social inclusion by balancing the representation and responsibilities of women, socially excluded groups, and men in decision making bodies. Mr. Sapkota shared the mission of the federation which is to promote and protect the rights of community forest users through capacity strengthening, economic empowerment, sustainable resources management, technical support, advocacy and lobbying, policy development, and national and international networking and to uphold the values of inclusive democracy, gender balance, and social justice.

Mr. Sapkota mentioned that forest resources have enormous role in climate adaptation and mitigation actions. However, there is always a struggle on who has the right over the forest resources - whether it is the central government, provincial government, local government or local communities. He also informed that policies are developed without the engagement of communities who are the most impacted by the effects climate change. There is also a question whether the policies, acts, regulations made for affected local people are benefiting them or not. Likewise, local communities are not aware and informed about the policies and the strategies made, such as REDD+ strategy, NCCP etc. There is a need for communication and capacity building training to local government and communities for localization of NCCP and related policies.

## **Udhav Adhikari, President, Agriculture for Food Alliance and Founder President National Farmer's Group Federation**

Mr. Udhav Adhikari mentioned that Nepal's greenhouse gas emission is negligible in comparison with its neighbouring countries. However, the country is facing adverse effects of climate change. Climate Change is a global problem and everyone should make efforts to reduce its impacts. Consequently, in UNFCCC COP 26, Nepal has made a commitment to achieving a net-zero emission by 2045. However, it remains to be seen how it will be achieved.

Mr. Udhav said that Agriculture Development Strategy (2015-2030) focuses on industrialization, commercialization, and mechanization of agriculture. It has been more than 50 years that the country has been working on this, yet, the efforts have not borne much fruit. We are still importing huge amounts of agricultural products from other countries. The quality of crops and the quality of soil are degrading because of the use of chemical fertilizers in farming. The government is spending a large amount of its budget importing chemical fertilizer, Mr. Adhikari continued. He stressed that the government should opt for alternative solutions and use organic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers. Mr. Adhikari also shared the problems faced by farmers after importing hybrid seeds in large amounts and the struggle of farmers in getting seeds on time. Although policies promote the use of indigenous and traditional practices of farming, the practice of importing new technologies and investments is threatening the existing agricultural practices of the country. The policy states one thing and the ground reality is totally different, he said.

Finally, Mr. Adhikari underlined the need for the local government to make policy based on the issues and problems of that specific area - not imitate the policy of others. Information sharing and engagement of local people while forming such policies will bring the ownership of the policy, which will ultimately help in its implementation.

A man with a mustache, wearing a light-colored patterned blazer over a white t-shirt, is speaking into a microphone. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

## Discussion

The following are few concerns and questions raised by participants after the presentation by the panellists.

- There is no representation of local stakeholders and concerned stakeholders are not informed and engaged in the policy making process in the local level. Also, only an elite few are able to gain access to grants and programs launched by the local government.
- Numerous climate-related policies are being formulated with the support of NGOs and INGOs. Are there really policy gaps? Are such policies necessary? Has the local government reviewed the implementation of such policies?
- Is there any particular case where the local government did not get the right to implement policy? Which policy was dictated to be implemented by the central government?
- While discussing climate change, we should include the discussion of urbanization too as it will aggravate the effects of climate change and management of wastes in the urban areas.

## Session Summary

1. Local governments were not consulted and communicated on NCCP and second NDC. Local governments need to be educated on NCCP and second NDC to better align their annual plans and budgets with the priorities and targets of NCCP and second NDC.
2. Local governments are addressing climate actions through the annual plans and programmes. Many of them lack policy and periodic plans on climate change. Long-term periodic plan and policy on climate change of local governments must be aligning with NCCP and second NDC.
3. Local governments lack capable and trained human resources on climate change. New and trained staffs need to deploy in palikas to scale up climate actions. Capacity building activities on climate change targeting local governments' officials are also recommended.
4. Local governments must prioritize agriculture and forest sectors in their climate actions. Agriculture and forest can contribute in building adaptive capacity and carbon mitigation. Agriculture and forest policies of local governments must incorporate climate perspective and align with the NCCP and second NDC priorities and targets.



*The structure of climate finance flow is centralized (funnel type) whereas the work at the local level is immense (pyramid structure). We should work on converting funnel type financing model into pyramid structure to address the issues of local people.*

- Ghanshyam Pandey

## **Thematic Session 2: Decentralized climate finance for localizing climate actions**

**Moderator:**

**Raju Pandit Chhetri, Prakriti Resources Centre**

**Panellists:**

**Ghanshyam Pandey, Mayor, Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City**

Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey mentioned that there is a crisis in climate finance globally as the developed countries have not fulfilled their commitments and pledges to support the developing countries financially for their climate related activities. Based on his experience with the Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience funded by Climate Investment Fund, Mr. Pandey said that without changing the policy of the World Bank, UN organizations and donor agencies, it is difficult to access international climate finance by Nepal. He stressed that the policy which promotes debt for climate related works should be reformed. The country should not take any loans for addressing the issues of climate change. Regarding climate financing at the local level, he said that the structure of climate finance flow is centralized (funnel type) whereas the work at the local level is immense (pyramid structure). However, the policy states that 80% of the financial resources should be executed at the local level, Mr. Pandey said.

Local communities have been working to address climate change risks but these efforts have not been calculated in terms of financial contribution. He stressed that we should work on converting funnel type financing model into pyramid structure to address the issues of local people.

Lastly, Mr. Pandey suggested that we should move towards a self-growth financing model. We should address the effects of climate change by implementing nature-based solutions and generate the finances for climate actions within the country.

## Dr. Rojee Joshi, Climate Finance Management Specialist, ADPC

Dr. Rojee Joshi mentioned that climate related policies formed at the central and local level need financial assistance for effective implementation. We believe that we always need foreign assistance for executing climate actions, however, data shows that 10% of the national budget comes from revenue from natural resources. Also, more than 80% of the national budget is from domestic resources and 10% of the budget comes from international financing. As per Dr. Joshi the trend of taking loans is increasing. She further that with regard to climate finance management, the following questions should be taken into consideration:

- How is climate change affecting the budget of the governments at all levels?
- What are the effects of climate change on revenue sources?

Climate change is affecting the financial budget of every household because of extreme events such as drought, flood, and landslide. They have been enduring such disastrous events from their own financial resources. They also have to bear the extra burden of insuring houses and other infrastructures. Thus, we need to understand climate finance management from different levels, Dr. Joshi continued.

**Regarding the role of local government in achieving second NDC targets, she suggested to the following:**

- Mobilize the existing resources effectively and efficiently.
- Instead of making new policies, the local government should opt for developing guidelines, action plans, and standards based on their needs and context to implement the existing policies such as NCCP.
- Engage with Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation Learning Centre to get the information and knowledge about climate change.
- Climate Budget Code and Climate Change Financing Framework should be developed at the local level for effective climate finance management

## Ugan Manandhar, Climate and Environment Advisor, FCDO

Mr. Ugan Manandhar shared how the FCDO is working on mobilizing climate finance in the country. FCDO works through the federal government and supports the government plan to scale up climate actions at local level. It needs to work through the federal government. With the inputs and suggestions from the federal government, the FCDO plans and executes the projects and programmes. He stressed that the communication of a country's priorities, needs, and support from the federal government to the FCDO is significant.

In the context of Nepal, Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Development (GRID) framework is in the process of development with the support from the World Bank, FCDO and other donor agencies. Under this framework, the development partners have already committed USD 3.4 billion in resources and identified up to USD 4.2 billion in potential future support, he added. Although the fund will be received from the World Bank to federal government, the implementation should be at the local level.

Mr. Manandhar said that there are many climate-related policies such as LAPA, Local resilient development plan, community resilient plan etc. He questioned which policy should be considered as the basis, if one has to access the funds from bilateral aid. There should be a clear guideline on how many policies should be formed. Also, he stressed that the sectoral plans, programmes, and policies should be formed and strengthened; and that climate should be mainstreamed into sectoral policies. That will enhance the local capacity and enable access to climate finance.





## Discussion

The following are few concerns and questions raised by participants after the presentation by the panellists.

- It is evident that community forestry has a positive impact on climate mitigation and adaptation activities. However, the income generated by the revenue of community forests is spent on infrastructure development. Should there not be any rules and regulations that proceeds from forest resources to be invested in climate actions?
- Has any climate finance been received as a loan? If there has, what is the mechanism to acquire such loans? What percentage of the loan received has been used on climate change?

## Session Summary

1. **Scaling up of climate actions at local level demands increase climate finance flow to local levels. The existing climate finance flow modality needs to revise to facilitate more finance flows at local levels.**
2. **Nepal needs to explore domestic resources and innovative sources such as community forest, natural resources etc to finance climate actions. Local governments can generate revenue locally from natural resources to finance climate actions.**
3. **Too many plans on climate and disasters have created confusion to local governments in prioritization and financing. Local governments must develop one comprehensive climate plan with clear financing roadmap.**
4. **Nepal needs to capitalize on international climate finance. Mainstreaming climate change across sectoral policies and plans will enhance Nepal access to international climate finance in different sectors. Importantly, these climate finance need to be channel to local levels as envisions in NCCP.**
5. **Decentralized climate finance requires good governance, transparency and accountability on utilization of money. Local governments can introduce climate finance tracking method such as climate budget code in the annual budgets.**



*Climate change is a technical matter, and that local authorities do not have the knowledge on what should be done and there is a lack of technical human resources.*

- Luna Khatiwada

### **Thematic Session 3: Local Practices on climate actions**

**Moderator:**  
**Rajan Thapa, DCA Nepal**

**Panellists:**  
**Luna Khatiwada, Administrative Officer, Ilam Municipality**

Ms. Luna Khatiwada informed that Ilam Municipality has won three awards for becoming a green city. She shared various efforts of Ilam municipality in relation to climate actions. For instance, the municipality has been working with various organizations for composting, investment on vehicles for collection of segregated wastes, and prohibition on the use of plastic bags. The establishment of landfill site is also under progress. Likewise, there is a guideline that at least 10% of the fruit plants need to be planted in community forests. Environment clubs are established in community schools for raising awareness on environment conservation. Furthermore, she mentioned that infrastructures are not allowed to be built on lands with more than 30-degree slope under the land use policy. The municipality has been working on conserving water sources and wetlands and distribution of drinking water among marginalized communities.

She mentioned that climate change is a technical matter, and that local authorities' knowledge on climate change need to increase and added that there is a lack of technical human resources. Ms. Khatiwada said that there is no engagement of local communities in the policy arrangements as they are not well informed. While making new climate related policies, she stressed that issues and problems associated with affected

communities should be addressed. Lack of technical human resources; equipment; and transparency and accountability of budget allocation are some of the challenges that the local governments face while implementing climate related activities. Also, data focused research should be the basis of developing local plans and programmes for effective implementation, she suggested.

## **Geeta Pandey, Environment, Climate Change and Advocacy Manager, KIRDARC**

Ms. Geeta Pandey started by saying that she was pleased to see the sizable women participation in the conference. Ms. Pandey said that KIRDARC has been providing support in awareness raising programmes, capacity building training, facilitating policy making, developing annual plans, and budget allocation. For instance, she mentioned that KIRDARC facilitated to increasing budget allocation on forests and environment in one of the rural municipalities of Kalikot. Likewise, she detailed the support of KIRDARC in developing climate resilient food security strategy in the drought affected rural municipality. She stressed that CSOs facilitate in developing plans, strategies and policies, but the local government should take ownership of such policies thereafter.

Furthermore, she mentioned that they are supporting to establish Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR CCA) Learning Centre at the local levels. Moreover, she highlighted KIRDARC's support in one rural municipality in Humla for developing an institutional mechanism to set up a web portal on climate change and its related issues of vulnerable communities. She also detailed the platform created by KIRDARC named 'Kachahari' for discussion of various issues and concerns of local communities at the ward, municipality, and provincial level. This platform has been helpful in the bottom-up planning process and the suggestions received from such platforms are integrated into the local government's plans and policies.

Lastly, Ms. Pandey stressed that CSOs have been playing a big role in alliance building and bridging the gap between government and communities.

## **Laxman Khatri, Sr. Programme Officer, LI-BIRD**

Mr. Laxman Khatri shared that LIBIRD has been working for biodiversity, research and development for improving livelihoods of smallholder farmers and contributing in climate actions. He reiterated the previous speakers' concern that due to the lack of technical human resources, local governments havenot been able to initiate any climate focused projects. Regarding climate action, LI-BIRD has been contributing in second NDC targets. For instance, the organization is supporting the provincial government in scaling up the climate smart village programme, and assisting to identify and validate the technology for addressing climate risks. He said that political interests over vulnerable and climate affected people's needs and the lack of technology to address climate risks will affect achieving of the targets of second NDC at the local level. Mr. Khatri briefly detailed LI-BIRD's support in promoting and developing climate smart technology (adaptation, mitigation and food security as major components), water smart technology, agro-met services, climate resilient crop, green enterprise, ecological farm to reduce climate risks and impacts.

Lastly, he suggested the local government could get support in achieving the second NDC targets through production of organic fertilizer by engaging youth and local enterprises, conserving varieties of local crops, planting trees in barren lands, and establishing food farms.




## Discussion

The following are few concerns and questions raised by participants after the presentation by the panellists.

- Are traditional and local practices effective in climate adaptation and mitigation actions?
- How will private sectors be integrated in the local government's future climate action plan and programmes? How will private sectors be involved in the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to minimize knowledge and resource gap?
- How have agro-met advisory services been conducted? Is it a one-way or two-way approach? Are feedbacks from local farmers taken into consideration by the experts? How effective is this service?
- Government's perspective on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is mostly unfavourable. Local government should involve every concerned stakeholder for effective implementation of plans and policies.
- Local government and CSOs should engage youth in orientation and training programmes to achieve better results.

## Session Summary

1. **Localization of climate actions requires synergetic and complementary works between the local governments and non-government organizations.**
2. **Localization must promote participation of communities in climate actions, particularly the poor and vulnerable groups.**
3. **NCCP and second NDC implementation requires collective efforts of all three tiers of governments, non-governmental organizations, development partners, private sectors, youths and other stakeholders.**



**Ms. Kriti Shrestha** from Practical Action Nepal thanked chief guest, guests, media persons and participants for their active participation. She closed the session by thanking all the panellists, moderators, representatives of local authorities, and organizers for exchanging their experience and also acknowledged the efforts of Climate and Development Dialogue for bringing representatives from the grassroots to the policy makers in one forum. She urged everyone to be part of such dialogues and contribute to the climate change discourses in the future also.

## List of participants

S.No.	Name	Organization
1	Dr. Meeta Sainju Pradhan	Vice President , Tewa
2	Saloni Singh Pradhan	Member, National Planning Commission
3	Hon. Tara Devi Bhatta	Member of Parliament National Assembly, Nepal
4	Dr. Radha Wagle	Division Chief and Joint Secretary, Climate Change Management Division, MoFE
5	Hom Narayan Shrestha	Chairperson, National Association of Rural Municipality In Nepal
6	Shushma Chaudhary	Deputy-Mayor, Bansgadhi Municipality, Bardiya
7	Binod Sapkota	President, FECOFUN, Bagmati Province
8	Uddhav Adhikari	President, Agriculture for Food Alliance and Founder President National
9	Ghanashyam Pandey	Mayor, Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City
10	Dr. Rojee Joshi	Climate Finance Management Specialist, ADPC
11	Ugan Manandhar	Climate and Environment Advisor, FCDO
12	Laxman Khatri	Sr. Programme Officer, LI-BIRD
13	Jwala Basnet	Ojaswi Women's Development Centre
14	Alina Regmi	Ojaswi Women's Development Centre
15	Parbati Khadka	Maiti Manch Dolakha
16	Draupata Karki	Saraswoti Nari Chetana Saving and Credit Cooperatives
17	Saraswati Nepal	Pragatisheel Women's MultiPurpose Agriculture Group
18	Padam K. Shrestha	Karambot Krishak Mahila Samuha
19	Hem Kumari Siwa	Sahayatra Nepal
20	Sabita Pandey	Sahayatra Nepal
21	Luna Khatiwada	Ilam Municipality
22	Niramala Shrestha	Mahila Jagaran Samuha
23	Bhawani Shrestha	Mahila Jagaran Samuha
24	Sujan KC	Mahila Jagaran Samuha
25	Susma Regmi	Shrijansheel Mahila Samaj
26	Bindu Thapa	Shrijansheel Mahila Samaj
27	Hima Bhandari	Shrijansheel Mahila Samaj
28	Indira Kumari Shreesh	INWOLAG
29	Mon Kumari Rai	INWOLAG
30	Panmaya Tamang	Adibasi Janajati Mahila Utthan Kendra
31	Supriya Shrestha	Adibasi Janajati Mahila Utthan Kendra
32	Juna Rana Magar	Jwalamukhi Gaun Palika
33	Goma Poudel	Janajagaran Mahila Sangh
34	Srijana Reshmi	Janajagaran Mahila Sangh
35	Laxmi Karki	Gramin Mahila Jagaran Sanjaal
36	Mira Dahal	Gramin Mahila Jagaran Sanjaal
37	Pawan Kumar Shrestha	NYCA
38	Shreya KC	Youth
39	Sagarika Bhatta	Powershift Nepal
40	Shova Koirala	WoNEE
41	Chandani Bhandari	Himalayan Conservation Group Nepal
42	Kushal Gurung	Wind Power Nepal
43	Dipak BK	Expert
44	Krity Shrestha	Practical Action Nepal
45	Niraj Acharya	Helvetas Nepal
46	Mahesh Badal	ActionAid Nepal
47	Pratap Maharjan	ActionAid Nepal
48	Devendra Pratap Singh	ActionAid Nepal
49	Bishnu Sharma	ActionAid Nepal
50	Rumi Maharjan	SAHAS Nepal
51	Manikshya Acharya	SAHAS Nepal

52	Manisha Maharjan	SAHAS Nepal
53	Amber Thapa	SAHAS Nepal
54	Rajan Thapa	DCA Nepal
55	Bharati Ojha	DCA Nepal
56	Binod Bikram Jairu	NNSWA
57	Geeta Pandey	KIRDARC
58	Raju Pandit Chhetri	Prakriti Resources Centre (PRC)
59	Sarika Rai	PRC
60	Prabin Man Singh	PRC
61	Menuka Acharya	PRC
62	Pragya Sherchan	PRC
63	Smriti Maharjan	PRC
64	Durga Prasad Upadhyia	Tearfund
65	Urmila Shrestha	Tewa
66	Anuja Shrestha	Tewa
67	Pooja Pant	Sangat-Nepal
68	Kanti Rajbhandari	HIMAWANTI
69	Aarati Shrestha	HIMAWANTI
70	Kamala Sharma	HIMAWANTI
71	Tara Pudasaini	HIMAWANTI
72	Sarita Lama	HIMAWANTI
73	Robert Dangol	PRC
74	Sita Suman	HIMAWANTI
75	Pratima Sharma	NWCF
76	Dipa Bhujel	NMES
77	Samikshya Thapa	NMES
78	Man Bahadur BK	NCCSP-II
79	Sri Krishna Basnet	Nagarjung NP P. Coordinator
80	Subas Lamichhane	CRT Nepal
81	Kishor Niroula	NTV
82	Rajendra Upreti	Federal Parliament, National Assembly
83	Arati Poudel	Digo Bikas Institute
84	Sunita Chaudhari	ActionAid Nepal
85	Sangita Premy	Tewa
86	Pabita Shahi	Powershift Nepal
87	Rigendra Khadka	DCA Nepal
88	Shilshila Baniya	SchEMS
89	Rushma Karki	SchEMS
90	Sampada Adhikari	SchEMS
91	Akriti Rana	Helvetas Nepal
92	Doma Sherpa	Consultant
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