



A report on
Workshop on Climate Change Policy making in Nepal

Submitted by:

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Background

The one-day workshop on climate change policy making in Nepal aimed to sensitize early career researchers on the process and importance of climate change policy making in the country. National Young Academy of Nepal (NaYAN) and St. Xavier's College have jointly organized the "Climate Change Policy making in Nepal" workshop on 16th of April 2023 (11:00 am - 4:30 pm NST) at Loyola Campus of St. Xavier's College, Thapathali, Kathmandu, Nepal. This workshop is supported by the International Network for Government Science Asia (INGSA). An open call for participation was announced for early career professionals, researchers, and a total of 85 applications were received. There were total 32 participants as physical participants and the rest were considered for online participants. The workshop was attended by an equal number of male and female participants. The workshop provided participants with a comprehensive overview of the key aspects involved in developing effective climate change policies. The workshop involved three presentations by experts on climate change and policy making process in Nepal. The flyer of the workshop is given in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Flyer of the climate change policy making workshop in Nepal.



The workshop started with the registration and followed by the highlights of the workshop by Dr. Nirina Khadgi, Co-chair of NaYAN. She shared the activities of NaYAN, background of INGSA including Grassroots Science Advice Promotion Awards and objectives of organizing climate change policy making workshop in Nepal. It was then followed by three presentations related to climate change science, policy and international practices were delivered by:

1. Dr. Indira Kandel, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Government of Nepal. Title of presentation was Understanding the Climate Change in the Context of Nepal.
2. Dr. Pem Kandel, Ex-secretary of Government of Nepal. Title of presentation was climate change policy making process and progress in Nepal
3. Dr. Uttam Babu Shrestha, Director, Global Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies on International practices of policy making. Title of presentation was national and international practices on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The three presentations provided valuable insights and perspectives on the climate change policy making process and were helpful to sensitize early career researchers and professionals. The workshop mainly focused on the policy formulation process, highlighting the importance of evidence-based decision making and stakeholder engagement. Participants learned about the key stakeholders involved in climate change policy making, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and local communities. They were also introduced to the different stages of policy development, such as problem identification, policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation. The attendance of Dr. Meghnath Dhimal, Steering Committee on INGSA-ASIA, provided additional expertise and perspectives on INGSA activities and other climate change issues in Nepal. The presentations were followed by Q & A session that were moderated by Dr. Nirina Khadgi, co-chair of NaYAN.

The second part of the workshop included group work presentation, where all participants were divided into five groups. To deepen their knowledge, the participants engaged in interactive group discussions. Each group were requested to prepare a presentation about existing different climate change policies in Nepal. One group had to present about at least one policy document related to climate change. The policies discussed during group works were: National Climate Change Policy, 2076; National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021-2050; Climate change related gender and social inclusion strategies and plan of action (2077-2087); Local Adaptation Plan of Action Framework, 2076 and Nepal's Long-term strategy for Net zero Emissions, 2021. The group members were encouraged to share their insights and experiences, fostering a collaborative learning environment. Case studies and real-life examples were presented to illustrate successful climate change policies implemented in Nepal. Participants explored the connections between climate change and various sectors, such as agriculture, energy, and water resources. They gained insights into the need for integrated strategies that consider the interdependencies between



sectors and promote sustainable development. They were encouraged to apply the knowledge and skills gained during the workshop to contribute to climate change policy making in Nepal.

The Schedule of the workshop was as provided below.

Time	Program	Speaker/resource person
11:00- 11:30	Registration	
11:30- 11:35	Highlights of workshop	Dr. Nirina Khadgi, Co-chair, National Young Academy of Nepal (NaYAN)
11:35- 12:35	Understanding the Climate Change in the Context of Nepal	Dr. Indira Kandel, Sr. Divisional Meteorologist Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and irrigation, Government of Nepal
12:35- 13:35	Climate Change Policy Making Process in Nepal	Dr. Pem Narayan Kandel, Ex-Secretary of Government of Nepal
13:35 – 14:10	Break	
14:10 – 15:10	International practices of policy making and feedback on Nepal's policy making practices	Dr. Uttam Babu Shrestha, Director, Global Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies GIIS)
15:10 – 15:40	Working group presentation & discussion	
15:40	Concluding remarks followed by tea/coffee	Dr. Meghnath Dhimal, Chief/Senior Research Officer, Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) and esteemed member of INGSA-Asia's Steering Committee



Some of key findings from the workshop includes:

1. Understanding of climate change science in Nepal is diverse among different professionals and stakeholders. However, this workshop sensitized the participants about climate change science, trends of different climatic parameters and climatic extremes.
2. Early career researchers were able to understand the process of climate change policy making in Nepal, involvement of institutions, experts and professionals in policy making, historical progress of the policy development and way forward in climate change policy making. Participants became familiar with key concepts, methodologies, and best practices in climate change policy development.
3. National and international practices in climate change adaptation and mitigation, targets and commitments of different nations on climate change mitigation, negotiations with examples from different countries were highlighted and discussed during the workshop.
4. The workshop encouraged early career researchers to involve in the impactful research on climate changes and contribute to evidence-based policy recommendations.
5. Realizing the importance of policy, resources and budget in context of developing nations like Nepal is significant. Different relevant policies have been formulated however, lack of resources and efficient institutional mechanism is realized. The increased awareness of policy framework enabled them to align their research and policy recommendations with existing frameworks and goals.
6. Most of the participants and speakers realized that development and climate change adaptation are not mainstreamed in the three tiers of government, i.e., central, provincial and local.
7. Early career researchers from diverse backgrounds and institutions were able to establish valuable connections, build professional networks, and foster collaborations for future research and policy initiatives. This networking can lead to joint research projects, knowledge sharing, and advocacy efforts.
8. Participants can serve as change agents within their respective institutions by sharing the knowledge and skills acquired during the workshop. They can contribute to institutional capacity building by organizing seminars, training sessions, or similar initiatives to sensitize their colleagues and encourage further engagement in climate change policy making.

Overall, the one-day workshop successfully sensitized early career researchers to the complexities of climate change policy making in Nepal. It provided them with a solid foundation and practical insights to engage in evidence-based decision making, collaborate with stakeholders, and contribute effectively to addressing climate change challenges in the country. The workshop appears to have been a successful and informative event, and the involvement of NaYAN, St. Xavier's College, and INGSA highlights the importance of collaboration and interdisciplinary approaches to climate change policy making. On behalf of NaYAN, we are thankful to INGSA for providing support for this event.

Appendix



Figure 2. Participants of the workshop during speaker presentation.



Figure 3. Dr. Uttam Babu Shrestha delivering his presentation on International practices of policy making and feedback on Nepal's policy making practices

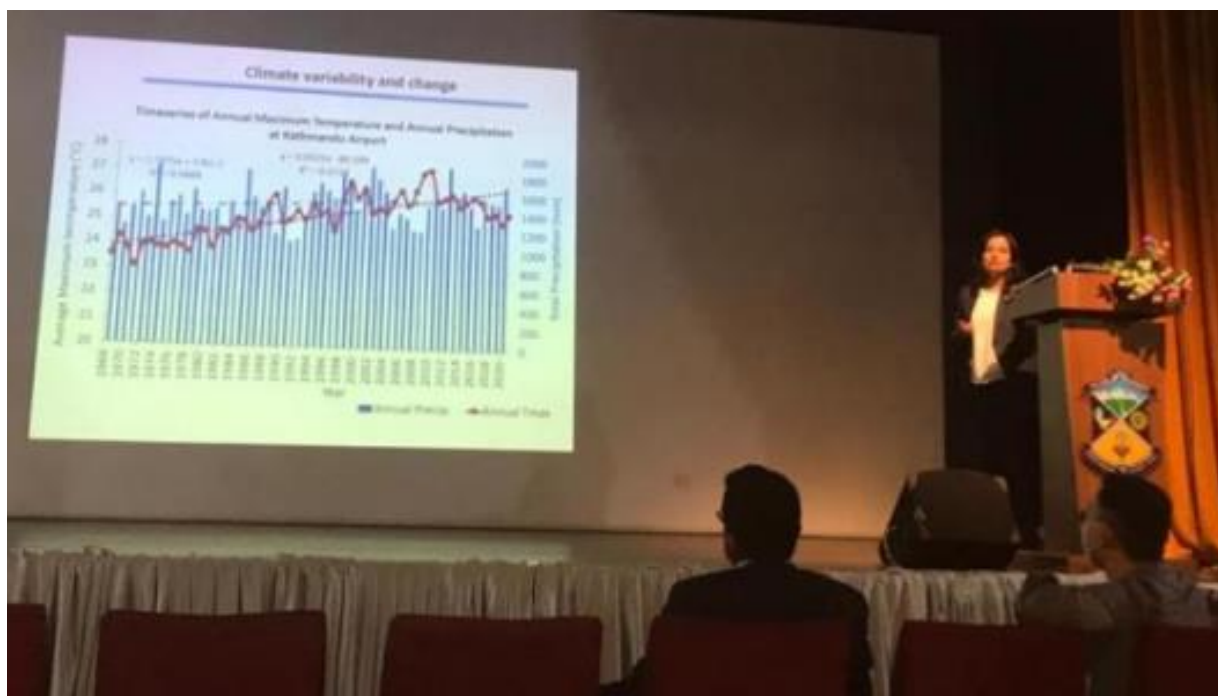


Figure 4. Dr. Indira Kandel delivering her presentation on Understanding the Climate Change in the Context of Nepal.



Figure 5. Dr. Pem Narayan Kandel delivering her presentation on Climate Change Policy Making in Nepal.



Figure 6. Questions and answer session.



Figure 7. Group presentation by group leader on climate change policy of Nepal.



Figure 8. Group division and their arrangement during the workshop.



Figure 9. Dr. Meghnath Dhimal, esteemed member of INGA-Asia's Steering Committee delivering his key remarks during workshop.



Figure 10. Group Photo after completion of the workshop.