

Reviewing Climate Change – Land Nexus in National Policies in Nepal

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SUMMARY

Nepal is prone to multiple climate change-induced hazards, including glacial lake outbursts, extreme rainfall leading to unprecedented floods and landslides, and land degradation, severely impacting communities. More than 80% of property loss results from such hazards (MoFE 2018, GoN 2021). The country may experience a loss of 2.2% of its annual GDP by 2050, with energy, agriculture, water resources, forestry, biodiversity, and health sectors being most at risk (WB 2021). This scenario underscores the strong nexus between climate change and land in Nepal.

A general understanding suggests that national policies have not adequately addressed the climate change-land nexus in Nepal. Key policies, including the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), Climate Change Policy, and Land Use Policy, seem to pay insufficient attention to land issues, particularly land tenure. However, a thorough review of these policies from the perspective of the climate change-land nexus is missing.

This presentation aims to review how Nepal's national policies address the climate change-land nexus, assessing their effectiveness and identifying gaps. Examining these policies for alignment with international frameworks will aid in integrating climate resilience and sustainable land management in Nepal.

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