

ANNUAL REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

The extension of the COVID-19 pandemic into 2021 was a daunting challenge for SIAS to deliver its knowledge outputs. As lives came to halt one more time, we had to revise and re-adjust our plans and programs moving ahead. However, that did not deter us from working towards the fulfillment of the organization's vision. We continued our activities following the governmental safety guidelines and taking flexible approach of working from home. We reevaluated our working strategies to expand our research and other activities accordingly. We hereby present the annual report of SIAS covering all the activities we have accomplished in 2020/21.

Despite physical restrictions and limitations brought by the pandemic, SIAS continued its work on various thematic areas: sustainable natural resources management, climate change and disaster risk management, water security and urban resilience, and local governance and policy processes. We worked on a hybrid modality and explored policy practices, conducted research, and initiated dialogues focusing on COVID-19 and its impacts. Our works specifically covered areas across natural resource management, multi-hazard disaster, local governance and preparedness of the government. It is laudable that we have been successful in contributing to the contemporary key policy issues through our research works, publications and policy engagements at local, national, regional and international levels. In addition, SIAS also continued its work on the international sphere through its involvement in a



research cluster, collaborative study, and cross-border dialogues. It has especially been a rewarding year for us in regards to our publications across national and international platforms.

Overall, 2021 arrived with its set of challenges but completed with remarkable teamwork, determination, hard work, and support from different stakeholders. SIAS has successfully completed yet another year and moved forward in the mission of establishing itself as an acclaimed think tank. I would like to thank the Board of Directors, members, Executive Director, members of the management committee, staff, partners, and collaborators for their unwavering determination and hard work even during the harsh times. I am very grateful with the progress and achievements this year and wish success for a new year.

Netra Timsina, PhD Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2021 has been a remarkable year for SIAS. Despite the pandemic blurring our sense of normalcy, it is commendable that we stood our ground and moved ahead to achieve our goals in alignment with the strategic plan of 2019-2021. I feel deeply honored to share our annual report for the year 2020/21 that provides a detailed overview of our achievements and insights from the past year.

This year, our focus has been on research and engagements on issues related to the multi-hazard disaster, natural resource management and local governance. Climate change is one of our constant research priorities and is often integrated with different studies. In terms of our research endeavors, this year was especially prominent since we received a grant for large-scale development research funded by the IDRC. Besides that, it has been exceptionally well for us in terms of collaborations and partnerships too. We developed and flourished additional partnerships across local, national, and international levels with diverse stakeholders.



Adding on to our list of achievements this year, we published a book titled 'Dhulikhel's Journey Towards Water Security: Insights for Policy and Practice' along with other publications such as the Pani Chautari Guidebook, various journal articles, policy briefs, Op-Ed and blogs across different platforms. Further, taking careful precautions against

COVID-19, we organized a series of events such as Pani Chautari, Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series, national and district level workshops in presence of government representatives, and capacity-building training programs.

It is truly incredible that SIAS had such an eventful year despite uncertainties induced by the pandemic. All of this would not come to fruition without our hardworking and reliable staff members. I would like to express my gratitude to all the staff members who have been an integral part of SIAS's professional team. I appreciate the efforts made by Yuvika Adhikari, Gyanu Maskey, Salu Basnet, Avipsha Rayamajhi, Kamal Devkota, Pradip Dhakal and Anushiya Shrestha for compiling this report. I also take this opportunity to thank all our esteemed board members, supporters and partners for persevering through the circumstances and helping SIAS have yet another excellent year. I hope we can continue with this momentum in the coming year and fulfill our vision of an inclusive and sustainable society.

Dil Khatri, PhD Executive Director

ACRONYMS

CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network	ICLE
CEDAR	Centre for Ecology, Development and Research	IFSD
CEN	Clean Energy Nepal	NDR
CNRD	Centers for Natural Resources and Development	NDR
CSFL	Center for Sustainable Forests and Landscapes	NSE
DSA	The University of Edinburgh and Development Studies Association	SLU
ICIMOD	The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	UNS

ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IFSD	Institute for Studies and Development Worldwide
IOE	Institute of Engineering
NDRC	National Disaster Risk Reduction Center
NDRI	Nepal Development Research Institute
NSET	National Society for Earthquake Technology
SLU	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
UNSW	University of New South Wales







Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) is a Kathmandu-based policy research institute aiming to become a centre of excellence in policy research in South Asia. It was established in 2011 for undertaking research, policy engagement, and scholarly exchange across South Asia and beyond. SIAS operates in research-policy-practice interface, covering the various themes of natural resource management, climate change, water and urban resilience, livelihoods and economic development and democratic processes and local governance. It aims to utilize its research to create state-of-the-art knowledge to understand and influence policy challenges and sustainable development in South Asia region.



SIAS is a not-for-profit institution registered under the Company Act of Nepal. It enjoys rights conferred under the Company Act and other applicable laws and will uphold relevant laws of other countries while undertaking its engagements outside Nepal.



SIAS is governed by a board of directors elected by general members. It comprises a group of professionals committed to deliver high quality research and engage in policy processes.







Vision

SIAS's vision is evidence-informed policy and practice towards inclusive and sustainable development. It seeks to contribute to this vision and be recognized in Nepal, South Asia and around the globe as a unique Southbased high quality policy research organization, with a reputation as a policy think tank.

Mission

SIAS's mission is to nurture, cultivate, organize and promote critical knowledge, research and scholarly learning in South Asia. Based in Kathmandu, it has currently been focusing its activities in Nepal, North India and Bangladesh, and intends to expand its geographical coverage in the region.

Objectives

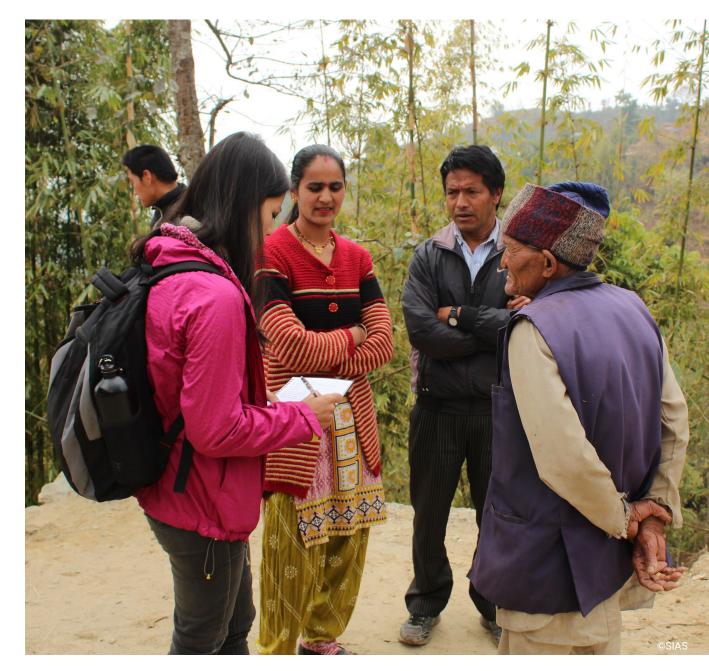
- Generate action verified lessons and the state-of-the-art knowledge on environmental, socio-economic and political issues.
- Engage critically in the policy process from national to local levels.
- Develop capacity of research community and professionals.
- Inform practitioners, policy makers and epistemic community (researchers and academia) through diverse form of communication and dissemination of the knowledge generated through research and policy analysis.



SIAS Annual Report 2021

Street Loty

SIAS seeks to contribute towards inclusive and sustainable development (vision) by generating knowledge through action research and critical policy analysis. Further, it seeks to foster evidence-informed policy and practices through engagement with the epistemic community, policy community and community of practices (i.e., local communities and governments). In doing so, it adopts four major approaches: research and innovations, critical policy engagement, capacity building (of researchers and stakeholders), and communication and dissemination. It works across four thematic areas and two cross cutting issues. Figure 1 summarizes SIAS theory of change.



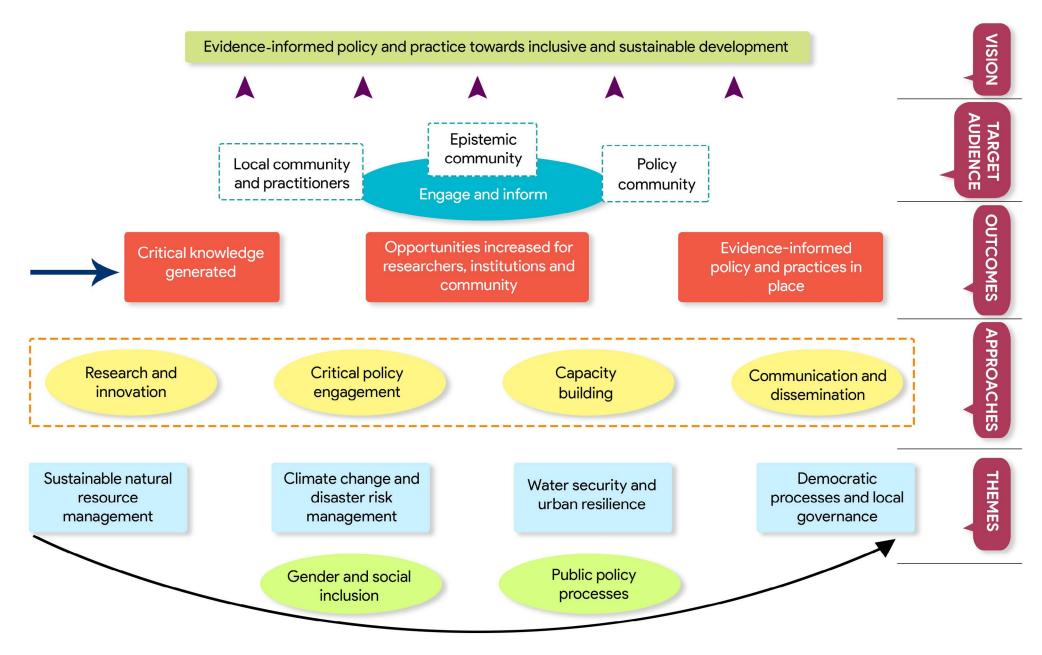


Figure 1. SIAS theory of change



THEMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS



Sustainable natural resource management

SIAS has been expanding its research and policy engagements on collective, adaptive, equitable and inclusive natural resource management, and analyzing and addressing conflicts in natural resource governance. During this year, multiple research projects have tried to explore different aspects of natural resource management tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. This required some modifications on research approaches and project plans. In some cases, we realigned our research focus towards understanding the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on natural resource dependent communities and their strategies to cope with the threat posed by it. Some of the projects were able to document the changing relation of people with natural resource such as water, forest and land in the context of COVID-19, high rural migration and changing livelihoods. SIAS has also continued its engagements with the stakeholders across multiple levels through different forums and partnerships and provided contributions in key policy processes related to natural resource management such as forestry, water and climate change. This year, SIAS also took an initiative along with a number of collaborators towards developing international research cluster in equitable and sustainable livelihoods in natural resource governance.

Climate change and disaster risk management

Our research and engagements under this theme focused primarily on the multi-dimensional impacts of COVID-19 pandemic in rural areas. Our research in urban areas focused on the multi-hazard risks and marginalisation in the emerging cities. We have continued working with interdisciplinary team of researchers, local communities, local governments and the national level stakeholders towards co-producing an analytical tool to understand the root causes of multi-hazard risks and explore strategy to enhance the political capabilities of those marginalized people in the urban planning processes and development activities. During this year, we continued exploring the threat encountered by rural households and their coping strategies using qualitative and quantitative approaches. Climate change has been the cross-cutting issue in most of the research and analysis. This year, we have been working on a special issue of the New Angle (Nepal Journal of Social Science and Public Policy) on 'Urbanisation and Disaster Risks in the Himalaya', Volume 7 (1), 2021.

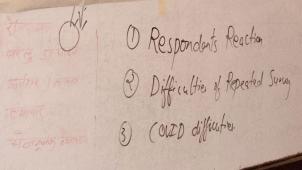


Water security and urban resilience

SIAS is leading on its research, national and global engagements and publications under the theme of water security and urban resilience. We have continued documenting and synthesizing evidence of water security drawing from different research projects related to water governance under changing climate. SIAS and Dhulikhel Municipality jointly published a book entitled 'Dhulikhel's Journey Towards Water Security: Insights for Policy and Practice'. Likewise, other outputs published this year include Pani Chautari Guidebook, journal articles and blogs. In addition, we have also been able to host a number of research-policy events i.e. research sharing seminars/webinars and policy dialogues. In this process a wide range of actors including senior government officials, local government representatives, civil society leaders, media persons and internationally reputed researchers and experts were engaged. As a collaborative study with University of Edinburgh, SIAS is synthesizing and analyzing past and ongoing research and has initiated dialogues in Nepal and India on theme of 'Water Resource Management'. As in other themes, our research has also incorporated the impacts of the pandemic on water management strategies.

Local governance and policy processes

Our engagements with stakeholders focusing on the issues related to local governance and policy process continued this year as well. Taking consideration of uncertainties and challenges posed by the pandemic to the recently constituted local governments, we focused on exploring the local governments' capability in containing COVID-19 and preparedness in dealing with its impacts on different sectors. We have been able to engage with national level policy communities and institutions such as the National Planning Commission, Policy Research Institute and Social Welfare Council through different policy dialogues. We also contributed to some of the policies that have been under development through review and suggestions. We organized events like Pani Chautari in our research sites in collaboration with local governments and invited the key policy actors in our research dissemination workshops. These events have helped us extend our networks and partnership with key policy actors on water, climate, forest and disaster sectors. Through our publications, we have foregrounded the key policy messages and recommendations to the policy actors at local and national levels.



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OUTPUTS IN NUMBER

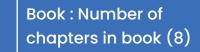
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Ramechhap-Lamatel Village Institutional Network

Nepal Pottaka









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Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles







Op-ed/Blogs : English (5), Nepali (3)



New Angle Journal, Volume 7(1), 2021



Guidebook







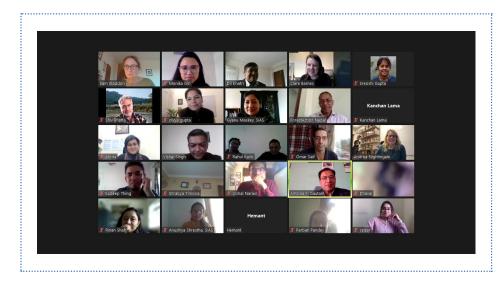




Major Policy and Research Related Events

- International (1), Regional (1), National (4), District (2)
- Municipal level Pani Chautari (3)
- Advanced Scientific Writing Workshop (5)
- Future Himalaya Research Seminar Series (1)







ACADEMIC AND POLICY RELAVENT PUBLICATIONS

SIAS researchers have been publishing their research findings in leading international journals. A total of 12 peer-reviewed journal articles have been published this year. A special issue of New Angle on 'Urbanisation and Disaster Risks in the Himalaya', Volume 7 (1), 2021 is in the process of publication. One article has been published online while others are at different stages of publication. Likewise, SIAS has published a book on 'Dhulikhel's Journey Towards Water Security: Insights for Policy and Practice' consisting of 8 chapters. The book builds on about half a decade of collaboration between SIAS and Dhulikhel municipality in working towards linking science, policy and practices on urban water management and provides insights on climate adaptive and inclusive water governancerelevant for emerging Himalayan towns. Researchers at SIAS are among the lead authors and have also contributed as co-authors to the chapters of this book. We have also published 6 policy briefs (4 in Nepali and 2 in English) and presented a total of 4 conference papers at national and international conferences. The policy briefs published this year captures water insecurity issues, specifically on gender and urban water management, impact of climate change on water sources and others. Another facilitation guidebook for evidence-informed dialogue on urban water issues have also been published by SIAS. Likewise, 4 research and event reports have been published in the SIAS website.





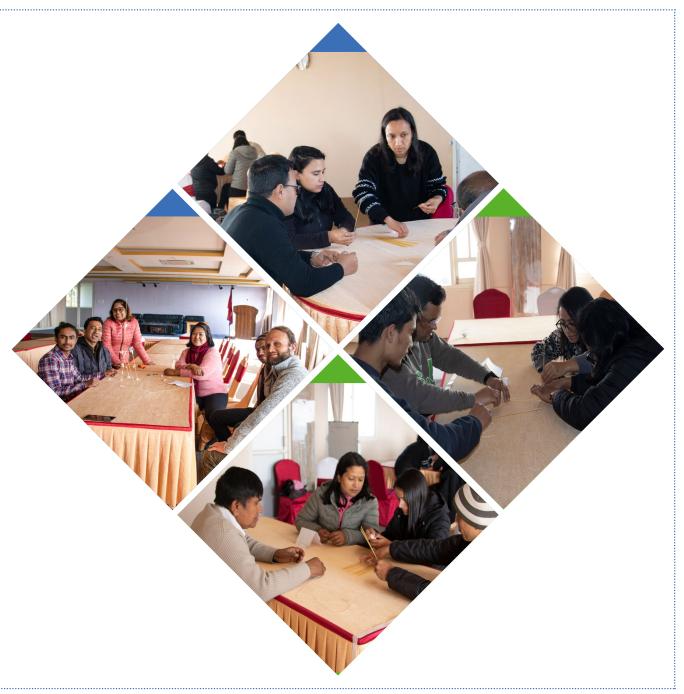
MEDIA COVERAGE

Events and activities of SIAS have been featured in a number of news portals this year. For example, research done by SIAS in Dharan and Bidur have been captured in local media this year. Additionally, SIAS researchers have written a total of 8 blogs (5 English and 3 Nepali) reflecting upon the issues of drinking water management, urban informality issues, food and nutrition security, local democracy, scientific forest management and disaster management. Few of the blogs have also unfolded the differential impacts caused by COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted the need of inclusive approaches for post-pandemic society.



CAPACITY BUILDING

SIAS has continued its efforts to build the research capacity of its members. This year also, SIAS has continued its efforts into improving the academic writing skills of researchers through scientific writing workshops, where participants were mentored by in-house and external Senior Researchers. 5 workshops were organized as a continuation of the Scientific Writing Workshop initiated last year. The workshop was successful in producing 7 ready to submit draft articles. Future Himalaya Research Seminar series provided SIAS researchers the platform to share ongoing research works on institutional capability of the local governments in responding to COVID-19. Integrating capacity building activities in a research project, SIAS has been working closely with the field enumerators and data entry team and trained them to enhance their research and data management skills. SIAS members have also been actively participating in the international forums in policy dialogues, workshops, book launch, lecture series, grant writing, methodological and theoretical webinars, international conferences and policy lab forums. In an aggregate, SIAS researchers have participated in 21 such events as presenters, panelists and participants.





ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Institution building

With new research projects, policy engagements, partnership and networking this year, SIAS has taken a step forward in the mission of establishing itself as an acclaimed think tank. Acknowledging the need of maintaining physical distance for breaking the chain of the pandemic and avoiding severe hampers on the works due to travel restrictions, SIAS adopted the work-from-home practice. Additionally, we are further refining our approaches of collecting data and hosting research and policy events through virtual methods. Likewise, SIAS has ensured that safety measures are practiced at office and during field works. SIAS continues its policy of systematic documentation of achievements and lessons by publishing an annual report. Some of the SIAS researchers have been competitively selected for the higher studies in renowned universities with full scholarships. For example Mr. Kamal Devkota has been selected for PhD at Katholieke Universitiet Leuven (KU Leuven) with full scholarship and Ms. Rachana Upadhyaya got a fully funded PhD position at the University of Bristol. Both of the researchers will be assets for SIAS in the future for any collaborative works. Additional staff have also been recruited into SIAS under different research projects.



Partnership and funding diversity

Driven by the interest to expand our research contributions and credibility, we have continued our ongoing partnership with several universities. This year, we have been able to secure funding from UN system as well. Our partnership with national stakeholders have also been expanded. We engaged with public institutions such as Social Welfare Council and Policy Research Institute. Similarly, our research partnerships with other research institutes and local governments have been further expanded.

Going beyond the regular qualitative research approach, SIAS has been engaged in relatively large-scale quantitative research projects as well. This has not only expanded our research portfolio as an institution with expertise on both qualitative and quantitative research but also generated opportunities to build network with diverse stakeholders in the field of natural resource management (land, water, forestry and, agriculture).



OTHER INITIATIVES

B



Policy perspectives in South Asia

Continuing the Policy Perspective in South Asia series, SIAS has been undertaking a critical review of national water policy documents and reflecting on the policypractice interface in partnership with the Institute for Study and Development Worldwide (IFSD), Australia.

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this Himalayan I	Policy Lab-2, we discuss and she	are lessons on how w	
n better write res	such based policy briefs to maxis	nise policy impact.	
	Conveners		
	Dr Hemart R Ojha Dr Di B Khatri Dr Naya Sharma Pandel Dr Rasundhara Bhatami		
FSD	Organized by	SIAS	

Himalaya Policy Lab

Policy Lab is a unique approach to critically discuss policymaking processes involving the use of new policy tools and techniques. It aims at improving policy initiatives by fostering researchcommunity partnerships. SIAS in collaboration with IFSD has been preparing for the next session of the Himalayan Policy Lab. The next session with focus on insights gained from policies and practices around urban water security in Nepal and the challenges and opportunities that exist in this policy-practice interface.



Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series

This year, SIAS has conducted a seminar under the Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series inviting national and international experts to contribute towards fostering critical analytical skills and knowledge development of researchers. The seminar shared the initial findings of the study on institutional capability of the local government in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal.



Nepal Policy Research Network (NPRN)

SIAS continues to serve as the secretariat of the Nepal Policy Research Network (NPRN), which promotes policy research and dialogues and publishes a public policy journal – New Angle: Nepal Journal of Social Sciences and Public Policy. This year, SIAS has been working on a special issue of New Angle on 'Urbanisation and Disaster Risks in the Himalaya' as part of NPRN mandate.



ANNEX 1: PROJECTS AND EVENTS

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List of projects during this year

S.N.	Project Name	Project Period	Funded by	Collaborators	Project objectives
1	Governing climate- resilient futures: Gender, justice and conflict resolution in resource management (JUSTCLIME)	Jan 2019-Dec 2023	Swedish Research Council (VR)	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, University of Science and Technology, Kenya	To probe the link between gender and social inequalities, conflict, and how they affect sustainable and resilient climate development pathways.
2	Revitalizing community- managed irrigation systems in the context of out-migration in Nepal (FORMAS)	Jan 2019-Dec 2022	Swedish Research Council (VR)	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Institute of Development Studies, STEPS (Social, Technological and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability) center at Sussex University in the UK, University of British Columbia	To identify the pathways through which a greater engagement of marginal groups can help to revitalize collective natural resource management. Through a study of farmer-managed irrigation systems in Nepal, the project will analyze how community- managed irrigation systems are changing as a result of male outmigration and how these changing household structure and labor relations open up possibilities for marginalized groups to engage with collective irrigation management.

3	Tomorrow's Cities: Multi- hazard urban disaster risk transitions hub (TC)	Feb 2019-Dec 2021	UK Research and Innovation	Institute of Engineering, Practical Action, National Society for Earthquake Technology, Nepal Development Research Institute, National Disaster Risk Reduction Center, Lumanti Support Group for Shelter	To find ways of making urban development resilient to multiple disasters by transforming the ways in which urban development and disaster risk is managed so far.
4	Institutional networks and self-organized adaptation: Tracing the democratic architectures of climate response (INSA)	Jul 2019–Jun 2022	Swedish Research Council (VR)	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences - Sweden, University of Minnesota Twin Cities- USA, Indian School of Business, India	To develop the concept of self-organized adaptation to explore how democratic political systems shape local responses to climate risk and changes. It further explores (1) The portfolios of climate risks that different households face; (2) The political channels through which citizens seek support for climate threats; (3) The networks of interaction through which state responses are developed; and (4) The recursive effects of these responses on households' experience of climate risk.

5	Transforming political capabilities for equitable resilience (PolCap)	Nov 2019 -May 2023	Economic and Social Research Council	University of York, Chiang Mai University, Stockholm Environmental Institute, ISET Nepal, Institute of Engineering, Lumanti Support Group for Shelter	To transform the political capabilities of marginalized groups in our study cities (i.e., Nepal and Thailand), so that the integration of development and disaster risk planning occurs in ways that provide them with control over their environment.
5	Assessing resilience building with illustrative case studies in Nepal	Jan 2020 -Dec 2021	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	To conduct case studies and develop resilience markers on common regional issues emerging across the HKH region that will help to identify recurring patterns of Socio-Ecological System (SES) behavior for generalization.
,	The practice of resilience in mountain landscapes: exploring risk and landscape investments in rural Nepal (PECA III)	Jan 2020 -Dec 2022	Swedish Research Council (VR)	Swedish University of Agricultural Science (SLU), Forest Action Nepal	To investigate large collective and individual labor investments in the landscape by understanding people's landscape use. It does so in a situation where patterns of out-migration create a situation of rural labor scarcity, which has relatively unknown consequences for land uses and landscapes.

8	Assessing technological viability in enhancing women farmers' access to financial resource	Nov 2020 - Dec 2021	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Aria Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Mero Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	To understand the viability of the technological solutions designed for increasing the financial access of women farmers, clients of Mero Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd (Bank).
)	Inequalities, institutions and sustainability: An experimental study of local efforts to govern the commons	Dec 2020 - Mar 2022	National Science Foundation	University of Colorado Boulder, Forest Action Nepal	To investigate the conditions under which community- based governance approaches produce inequalities, and the institutional arrangements that resource users may design and enforce to foster more equitable governance outcomes.
0	City level water forum for inclusive and equitable water governance	Jul 2019 – Jun 2020	Climate and Development Knowledge Network	Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia, Institute for Studies and Development Worldwide, Sydney, Australia	To catalyze evidence informed deliberation in selected cities for inclusive water regulation focusing on equitable water access and upstream downstream cooperation through the innovative tool of "Water Forum" (Pani Chautari).

11	Learning to 'Leave No One Behind': Equitable and sustainable livelihoods in natural resource governance (Nepal and India) – developing an international research cluster (LLNOB)	May 2021 - Dec 2021	UK Research and Innovation	University of Edinburgh, Forest Action Nepal	To develop insights on how interventions aiming at supporting equitable and sustainable livelihoods in natural resource governance can best learn, reflect, adapt and exchange insights to support achievement of the SDGs and to ensure they 'leave no one behind'.
12	Conflict, Violence and Environmental Change (COVEC)	2016-2019	Swedish Research Council (VR)	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway, African Centre for Technology Studies, Kenya, University of New South Wales, Australia.	To enhance scientific understanding of how climate change produces concerns for legitimacy, conflict and violence in the governance of forests and water resources.
13	Climate Extremes, Air Pollution and Agro- ecosystems (CiXPAG)	2015-2021	Centre for International Climate Change and Environmental Research (CICERO), Norway	UiO, NMBU, Norwegian Meteorological Institute, SEI-Y (UK), Banaras Hindu University (India), IASS (Germany), Universidade Federal de Viçosa (Brazil)	To investigate the complex interactions between climate extremes, air pollution and agricultural ecosystems.

Major Policy and Research related events

S.N.	Events	Date	Organizers	Brief about the event
1	Urban water management and city planning: Australia- Nepal experience sharing forum	6 Sep 2020	SIAS and Institute for Study and Development Worldwide (IFSD)	An experience exchange webinar among Nepal and Australian water management experts among Nepal's local government leaders and water managers.
2	Regional level policy engagement and launch of the 'Policy Perspective: Water and Development in South Asia' (Online)	8 Oct 2020	SIAS and IFSD	A webinar to launch the policy perspective which intends to foster science-informed policy making in the region to ensure water security and promote sustainable and equitable water management.
3	National level policy dialogue on enabling regulatory environment for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Nepal	25 Sep 2020	SIAS, Forest Action Nepal, ISET-Nepal, NWCF, and NPRN	A dialogue to raise collective awareness towards the need for specialized regulatory mechanisms to govern research organizations so as to create a conducive environment and foster credible research in Nepal.
4	National Policy dialogue on: The role of Social Welfare Council (SWC) on managing the social organizations	16 Feb 2021	SIAS and Martin Chautari	National policy dialogue to reflect on the ongoing regulatory framework by SWC to the research organizations in Nepal.
5	National policy dialogue on the draft of National Research Policy (Online)	13 Jun 2021	SIAS and Martin Chautari	National level dialogue to gather suggestions, recommendations and insights from the private and non-governmental research organizations to the draft of ongoing National Research Policy of Nepal.

6	National level policy dialogue on science-policy-practice in development: Methodological innovations from Nepal (Online)	20 Oct 2020	SIAS, IFSD, ForestAction Nepal, Niti Foundation and University of New South Wales (UNSW)	A webinar to bring insights from a variety of policy lab applied in various sectors including forestry, water sector governance and others and share among the national level policy stakeholders.
7	District level research dissemination workshop – Nuwakot	27 Dec 2020	SIAS, Bidur Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Committee and Bidur Municipality	District level dialogue to discuss on the ongoing urban water issues and disseminate the research findings and key policy messages from the research conducted by SIAS in Bidur.
8	District level research sharing workshop – Ramechhap	3 Apr 2021	SIAS and ForestAction Nepal	Workshop to share preliminary findings from ongoing PECA research and get feedbacks from the district level stakeholders.
9	Dhulikhel Pani Chautari cum research dissemination workshop	12 Nov 2020	SIAS and Dhulikhel Municipality	Municipal level dialogue to discuss on the ongoing urban water issues and disseminate the research findings and key policy messages from the research conducted by SIAS in Dhulikhel.
10	Dharan Pani Chautari cum research dissemination workshop	19 Nov 2020	SIAS and Dharan Sub Metropolitan City	Municipal level dialogue to discuss on the ongoing urban water issues and disseminate the research findings and key policy messages from the research conducted by SIAS in Dharan.
11	Bidur Pani Chautari cum research dissemination workshop	28 Dec 2020	SIAS and Bidur Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation User Committee	Municipal level dialogue to discuss on the ongoing urban water issues and disseminate the research findings and key policy messages from the research conducted by SIAS in Bidur.

12	 Advanced scientific writing workshop (Online) 'Writing introduction and paper structure' (9 Aug 2020) 'How to read a paper and strategies and tips on reading papers effectively' (23 August 2020) 'Doing literature review' (9 Sep 2020) 'Revised draft papers presentations from participants' (8 Nov2020) 'Reviewing and revising journal article and key components to consider in copyediting.' (7 Feb 2021) 	Aug 2020 - Feb 2021	SIAS, NIMS College and IFSD	Event organized by SIAS to develop improved understanding on different aspects of reading and drafting article, and enable participants to produce ready to submit draft of article with key guidance from mentors.
13	Future Himalayan research seminar series: Power without institutional capacity? Local governments' struggle to respond to the COVID pandemic in Nepal – Kathmandu	3 Feb 2021	SIAS	A seminar to share the initial findings of the study on local government's response to the COVID 19 pandemic under the regular Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series.

Participation in international forums by SIAS team members

S.N.	Participants / Presenters	Date	Program	Role in the program	Organizers
1	Dr. Anushiya Shrestha	3-5 Jun 2020	Young researchers' workshop on sustainable food systems: Linking research to policy and practice (Virtual)	Presentation: Agriculture in peri-urbanizing Nepal: Reflections from peri- urban Kathmandu Valley	SLU Global and The Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative (SIANI)
2	Mr. Kamal Devkota	15 Aug 2020	Policy dialogue: Urbanization national and local development: Can we shape the trend?	Participant	Kathmandu University, NPRN, Full Bright Alumni Association of Nepal
3	Mr. Kaustuv Neupane Mr. Kamal Devkota Ms. Yuvika Adhikari Ms. Rachana Upadhaya	25-28 Aug 2020	Workshop: Resilience marker methodology	Participants	ICIMOD
4	Ms. Gyanu Maskey Mr. Kaustuv Raj Neupane	Jul-Sep 2020	Mentoring programme (JUMP mentorship) online paper writing workshops	Participants	European Association of Development Institutes (EADI)
5	Dr. Anushiya Shrestha Dr. Dilli P. Poudel	20 Oct 2020	Webinar: Affordable housing and prosperity	Participants	Lumanti Support Group for Shelter
6	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	29 Oct 2020	Webinar: Smart approaches for implementing water safety and security plans during pandemics	Participant	International Water Association

7	Dr. Dil Khatri	4 -5 Nov 2020	Focali Annual Meeting 2020: Contribute to an exchange on forests, climate and livelihood issues! (Virtual)	Presentation: Lessons from research- policy-practice lab methodology in the local water management in the Himalayas	Forest, Climate and Livelihoods Research Network (FOCALI)
8	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	Nov-Dec 2020	NEWAVE e-lecture series: Water governance theoretical perspectives	Participant	NEWAVE
9	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	2 Dec 2020	Webinar: Urban resilience practices from northeast Asian cities	Participant	Citynet
10	Dr. Anushiya Shrestha Ms. Gyanu Maskey	Dec 2020 to Aug 2021	Grant writing lab	Participants	NIMS College
11	Dr. Dil Khatri Mr. Kamal Devkota	17 Feb 2021	Book launch: Dhulikhel's struggles towards water security	Participants	Dhulikhel Municipality
12	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	8 Mar 2021	Webinar on 'Writing as activism: The barefoot research initiative in Nepal'	Participant	University of East Anglia and Martin Chautari
13	Mr. Kamal Devkota	10 Mar 2021	Workshop: Data for Impact	Participant	University of North Carolina, USA

14	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	18 Mar 2021	Webinar: Improving water safety and security in Africa	Participant	International Water Association
15	Dr. Dil Khatri	27 Mar 2021	Conference: NRNA Australia Disaster, Emergency and Pandemic	Panelist: COVID-19, labour migration and the prospects for Agrarian Transformation in Nepal	NRNA Australia
16	Dr. Dil Khatri	7-11 Apr 2021	International Conference: AAG 2021 annual meeting	Panelist and presenter: Power without capacity? understanding local government responses to COVID-19 in Nepal: Preliminary research Insights	American Association of Geographers
17	Ms. Monika Giri	29 Apr 2021	Food systems dialogue: Food security, conflict and resilience (online)	Participant	The Government Offices of Sweden, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Swedish International Agricultural Initiative (SIANI), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

18	Mr. Kamal Devkota	19 May 2021	Peer to peer learning dialogues: Collaborative planning for integrated water resource management in South Asia	Presentation: Overcoming gaps between knowledge producers and users: Experiences from SIAS	CDKN
19	Ms. Gyanu Maskey	12 Jun 2021	Webinar: Conservation of water resources in urban area	Participant	Delhi Regional Chapter of ITPI
20	Dr. Anushiya Shrestha Dr. Dilli Prasad Poudel	2 Jul 2021	Development Studies Association (DSA) Conference	Panelists: Climate, development, and the politics of participation	Development Studies Association, UK
21	Dr. Anushiya Shrestha Ms. Gyanu Maskey Ms. Monika Giri Mr. Kamal Devkota Dr. Dil Khatri	16 Jul 2021	International Water Policy Lab Forum	Presentation by Kamal Devkota: Experiences of engaging with municipalities for their water security	IFSD, World Water Policy and Australia India Water Center







ANNEX 2: PUBLICATIONS



New Angle

New Angle: Nepal Journal of Social Science and Public Policy, Vol 7(1), 2021.

URBANISATION AND DISASTER RISKS IN THE HIMALAYA

Bhandari, D., Parajuli, B.P. and Shakya, P., 2021. Enhancing forecast-based disaster response in Nepal. New Angle: Nepal Journal of Social Science and Public Policy, 7(1), pp.1-20.

The special issue is available at https://www.sias-southasia.org/publications-category/journals/ urbanisation-and-disaster-risks-in-the-himalaya/

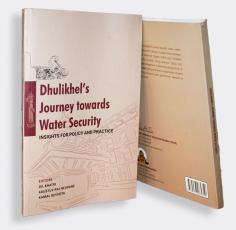
Books

Dhulikhel's Journey Towards Water Security: Insights for Policy and Practice

Khatri, D., Neupane, K.R. and Devkota, K. eds. 2021. Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.

Available at: https://www.sias-southasia.org/publications-category/books/dhulikhels-journey-towards-water-security-insights-for-policy-and-practice/

Book Chapters



- Byanju, A., Pokharel, K. and Neupane, K.R., 2021. Evolution of drinking water system in Dhulikhel. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.
- Timalsina, M.R., Joshi, T., Shrestha, S., Poudel, D.P. and Khatri, D., 2021. Opportunities and challenges of the larger-scale water supply project: insights from Kavre valley. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. *Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice*. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.

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- Maskey, G., Pandey, C.L. and Khatri, D.B., 2021. Policy and institutional aspects of water management in Dhulikhel. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.
- Upadhaya, R. and Shrestha, S., 2021. Limitations of women in urban water management systems. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. *Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice*. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.
- Gautam, A. and Joshi, T., 2021. Future climate stress on drinking water of Kavre Valley. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.
- Devkota, K., Maskey, G. and Khatri, D., 2021. Pani Chautari as a tool for evidence-informed policy and practice: Experiences from Dhulikhel. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.
- Shrestha, S., Devkota, K., Dahal, N. and Neupane, K.R., 2021. Application of recharge ponds for water management: Explaining from nature-based solution perspective. In: D. Khatri, K.R. Neupane, K. Devkota, eds. 2021. *Dhulikhel's journey towards water security: Insights* for policy and practice. Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) and Dhulikhel Municipality, Kathmandu.



Guidebook

Devkota, K., Khatri, D., Neupane, K., Upadhyaya, R., Shrestha, S. and Ojha, H. 2020. *Pani Chautari Guidebook: A facilitation guidebook for evidence informed dialogue on urban water issues*. SIAS, Kathmandu.

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Marquardt, K., Pain, A. and Khatri, D.B., 2020. Re-reading Nepalese landscapes: labour, water, farming patches and trees. *Forests, Trees and Livelihoods, 29*(4), pp.238-259. https://doi.org/10.108 0/14728028.2020.1814875

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Ojha, H., Neupane, K.R., Khatri, D., Devkota, K. and Dahal, N., 2020. Water security in times of disaster risks: Strengthening community-led initiatives in urban settings. *Policy Perspectives: Water and Development in South Asia, Issue 1, September 2020*.

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Bhattarai, B., Upadhyaya, R., Neupane, K.R., Devkota, K., Maskey, G., Shrestha, S., Mainali, B. and Ojha, H., 2021. Gender inequality in urban water governance: Continuity and change in two towns of Nepal. *World Water Policy*, 7, pp.30-51. https://doi.org/10.1002/wwp2.12052

Gupta, D., Fischer, H., Shrestha, S., Ali, S., Chhatre, A., Devkota, K., Fleischman, F., Khatri, D., and Rana, P., 2021. Dark and bright spots in the shadow of the pandemic: Rural livelihoods, social vulnerability, and local governance in India and Nepal. *World Development*, 141. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2020.105370

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Upadhyaya, R. and Pelling, M., 2020. Tomorrow's resilient Kathmandu: Report on Imagining Futures Workshop. June 2020.

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Shrestha, A., and Poudel, D., 2021. Climate, development and the politics of participation. In Development Studies Association (DSA) Conference, Online, 2 July, 2021

Khatri, D., 2021. COVID-19, labor migration and the prospects for Agrarian Transformation in Nepal. In Conference on NRNA Australia disaster, emergency and pandemic, Online, 27 March, 2021.

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Upadhyaya, R. (2020, 21 November). Post-pandemic cities with inclusive vision. [Blogpost]. Retrieved from: https://www.sias-southasia.org/ blog/post-pandemic-cities-with-inclusive-vision/

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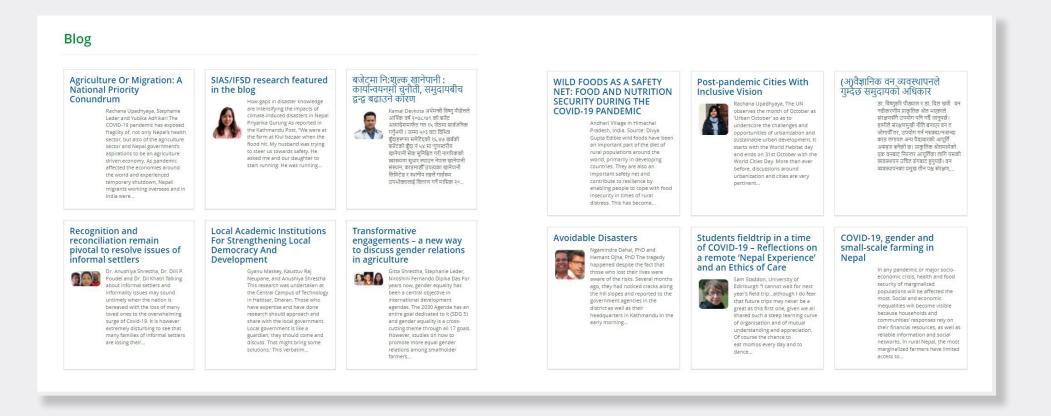
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SIAS in Media

S.N.	Title	Media Name	Published Date	News Link
1.	धरानमा खानेपानी जोगाउन 'रिचार्ज' !	Hamro Koshi Awaz	18 Nov2020	https://hamrokoshiawaz.com/archives/ 47864?fbclid=IwAR1VYKy3hdagzmzKf97K f8tqmjm1tsJdjrCbx0XYSAcgfxnD57ooMk6OA_A
2.	अध्ययन भन्छ, हिमाली सहरमा पानी जेगाउन 'विदुर मोडल' उपयोगी	Ekagaj	29 Dec2020	https://ekagaj.com/articlesociety/3429?fbclid =IwAR0lghAhZ8Mza33QjEphHxq34MYEUnaeH08 kk_eJ-KuwJmrnZE0jlc5NmP4
3.	विदुर नगरपालिकामा हुँदै आएको खानेपानीको व्यवस्थापन दक्षिण एशियाकै उदाहरणीय	Gaun Sahar	29 Dec 2020	https://www.gaunsahar.com/news-details/36482/ 2020-12-29?fbclid=IwAR02gyb-fbFAdle_8Llgxz_LmtM aBHpDyqDWvjwajAGhMDEGIwLsHQx30zc
4.	विदुरको खानेपानी व्यवस्था नमूना	Khabar Page	29 Dec 2020	https://www.khabarpage.com/news/2020/12/29/2545/

Media

विदुरको खानेपानी व्यवस्था नमूना	विदुर नगरपालिकामा हुँदै आएको खानेपानीको व्यवस्थापन दक्षिण एशियाकै उदाहरणीय
अध्ययन भन्छ, हिमाली सहरमा पानी जेगाउन 'विदुर मोडल' उपयोगी	धरानमा खानेपानी जोगाउन 'रिचार्ज' !



ANNEX 3: PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

International Organizations	National Organizations	Sub-national/Local Organizations	
Agriculture Extension in South Asia (AESA)	Aria Technologies Pvt Ltd.	Bidur Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Committee	
Centre for Ecology, Development and Research (CEDAR), India	Central Campus of Technology, Dharan	Bidur Municipality	
Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO), Norway	Centre for Disaster Studies, Institute of Engineering, T.U.	Center for Environment Tourism and Development (CETD), Dharan	
Chiang Mai University, SEI Asia.	Clean Energy Nepal (CEN)	Dharan Sub Metropolitan City	
Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)	Digo Bikash Institute (DBI)	Dharan Water Supply Management Board	
Indian School of Business (ISB), India	Federation of Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Nepal (FEDWSUN)	Dhulikhel Chamber of Commerce and Industries	
Institute for Studies and Development Worldwide, (IFSD), Australia	ForestAction Nepal	Dhulikhel Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Committee (DDWSUC)	
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resource Research China	Institute of Engineering, Pulchok	Dhulikhel Municipality	
King Mongkut's Institute of Technology,	Institute of Social and Environmental Transition Nepal (ISET-N)	Hotel Association of Dharan	
Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway	International Centre For Integrated Mountain Development	Hotel Association, Kavre	

RECOFTC – Centre for People and Forest, Thailand	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)	
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden	Lumanti- Support Group for Shelter Regional	
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), India	Meromicrofinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd (Bank)	
University of Cambridge, UK	Ministry of Forest and Environment (MOFE)	
University of East Anglia, UK	Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN)	
University of Edinburgh, UK	National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)	
University of Minnesota, USA	National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET)	
University of New South Wales, Australia	Nepal Administrative Staff College (NASC)	
University of Sydney, Australia	NIMS College	
University of York, UK	Niti Foundation	
United Nations ESCAP	Practical Action, Nepal	
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Ms. Anu Dahal Research Associate



Ms. Arati Shrestha Research Assistant



Dr. Anushiya Shrestha Post-Doctoral Researcher



Mr. Binda Kumari Pathak Research Associate



Mr. Bindesh Magar Enumerator



Mr. Binod Adhikari Researcher



Dr. Dil Khatri Executive Director



Dr. Dilli P. Poudel Senior Researcher



Ms. Gyanu Maskey PhD Researcher (KU)



Ms. Helen Shova Shrestha Field Assistant



Ms. Januka Thapa Office Assistant



Mr. Kamal Adhikari Enumerator



Mr. Kamal Devkota Program Director



Mr. Kaustuv R. Neupane Researcher



Dr. Mani Ram Banjade Research Fellow



Ms. Monika Giri Research Officer



Ms. Parbati Pandey Research Assistant



Mr. Pradip Dhakal IT and Communication Assistant



Ms. Rachana Upadhyaya Researcher



Ms. Rakasyha Timalsina Enumerator



Ms. Ramsali Lama Enumerator



Ms. Rim Maya Tamang Enumerator



Ms. Rojani Manandhar Researcher



Ms. Salu Basnet Research Assistant



Mr. Sanjaya Khatri Research Officer



Mr. Shovit Khadka Accounts and Administrative Associate



Ms. Suchita Shrestha Researcher



Mr. Sujan Shrestha Admin & Finance Manager



Mr. Sushant Acharya Research Fellow



Ms. Yuvika Adhikari Research Officer

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