



Community-Led Climate Change Adaptation Strategies: Proactive Measures and Key Determinants

Presenter



Kumar Darjee
Research Fellow, SIAS

Physical presence : SIAS Meeting Hall
Virtual presence : <https://bit.ly/fhrss13>
Date: 11th December 2025, Thursday
Time: 3:30 to 5:00 p.m

About Future Himalayan Research Seminars

Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series on Environment and Development is a research sharing platform to present recent and ongoing studies where researchers can meaningfully engage with each other and share knowledge. Not limiting itself to presentation and feedback loop, the seminar is also a platform for researcher to build social and intellectual relationship with contemporaries and experts from diverse array of research tradition within the overarching theme. The research seminar series is a bi-monthly event with open access to everyone interested. The seminar is planned for 1.5 hours, with first 45 minutes for presentation and the later half dedicated to audience engagement through discussion and debate.

Seminar Overview

Climate change is a global phenomenon whose impacts manifest locally and disproportionately, shaped by geographic fragility, socio-economic conditions, and community vulnerability. This study examines how local communities in Nepal perceive climate impacts and adopt feasible adaptation measures, emphasizing the value of bottom-up approaches in climate governance. Using meteorological data and household surveys ($n > 500$) across Mountain, Mid-hills, and Lowland regions, the findings show that even marginal changes in temperature and precipitation influence household behavior, prompting both proactive and reactive adaptation. Over 50 proactive strategies were documented, many of which also contribute to mitigation through sustainable land use and natural resource management. Proactive adaptation was found to be significantly associated with socio-economic status, land ownership, livelihood options, geographic context, and the number of adaptation measures adopted.

Policy analysis revealed structural inconsistencies within Nepal's adaptation frameworks, with fragmented mandates between local governments (Local Adaptation Plan of Action) and community groups (National Adaptation Program of Action). These misalignments weaken policy coherence, reduce local ownership, and limit long-term sustainability. The research highlights the need for a clearly defined and widely accepted local implementation unit to strengthen adaptation delivery. Integrating community knowledge and practices into policy processes is essential to enhance adaptation outcomes and advancing national and global climate goals.

Presenters Profile

Kumar Darjee holds a PhD in Natural Science from the University of Hamburg, with advanced degrees in forestry, humanities and social sciences, and psychology. His doctoral work explored how communities perceive climate risks and how these perceptions drive adaptive and resilience-building practices.

He is a Research Fellow at SIAS, specializing in interdisciplinary climate adaptation, community-based resilience, and science-policy engagement. Kumar has published in peer-reviewed journal articles, contributed to books and reports, and served as a reviewer for leading international journals.

He has previously worked with SDC, GIZ, UNDP, MSCFP, FECOFUN, and WLCN, supporting forest management, enterprise development, and policy reforms, with a strong focus on empowering women, Indigenous groups, youth, and marginalized communities in natural resource governance.

Organized by:



Follow Us:



SIAS is a Kathmandu-based research institute involved in Nepal and in South Asia in several social science and environmental issues. Its research utilizes recent knowledge in Nepal and globally to understand, unravel and interpret unfolding social, political, economic and environmental dynamics. SIAS also promotes critical dialogues on research, policy and practice interface.