

NEPAL

GOVERNANCE Weekly

Issue 47 | December 9, 2022

Can Nepal Leverage the “Loss and Damage Fund”?

The United Nations’ official climate summit, the Conference of Parties (COP 27) was held between 6 November to 18 November in Egypt this year. The conference, which had participation from 190 countries, established a historic “Loss and Damage Fund” to aid the nations that are most affected by the climate crisis. Nepal is also one of the most vulnerable countries to climate-induced disasters. Thus, the Fund, which will operationalize in 2024, offers huge scope to Nepal as well, which is already facing several climate impacts such as glacier melting, and heavy flooding.

However, there is also skepticism that Nepal’s existing institutional capacity can enable the country to bargain for support in a rational and scientific manner. Before the Fund operationalizes, Nepal should be able to prepare data on the economic and non-economic losses caused due to climate disasters. It should strengthen the capacity of the National Disaster Risk-Reduction and Management Authority to act as a focal agency to assess the losses. Moreover, accessing losses and damage correctly requires coordination with local and provincial governments as well as the private sector which is engaged directly in infrastructure development. Also, Nepal should prepare a national action plan as to how it will weigh the loss and damage and utilize the funds.

Source: [eKantipur](#)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

People are indulged in activities that create pollution without caring about the adverse effect it has on others

The concerned authority has the right to fine up to one lakh rupees or immediately shut down the activity.

We have seen that environmental damage is not of concern during the construction of roads.

In this regard, the Government of Nepal has made the preliminary environmental assessment mandatory.

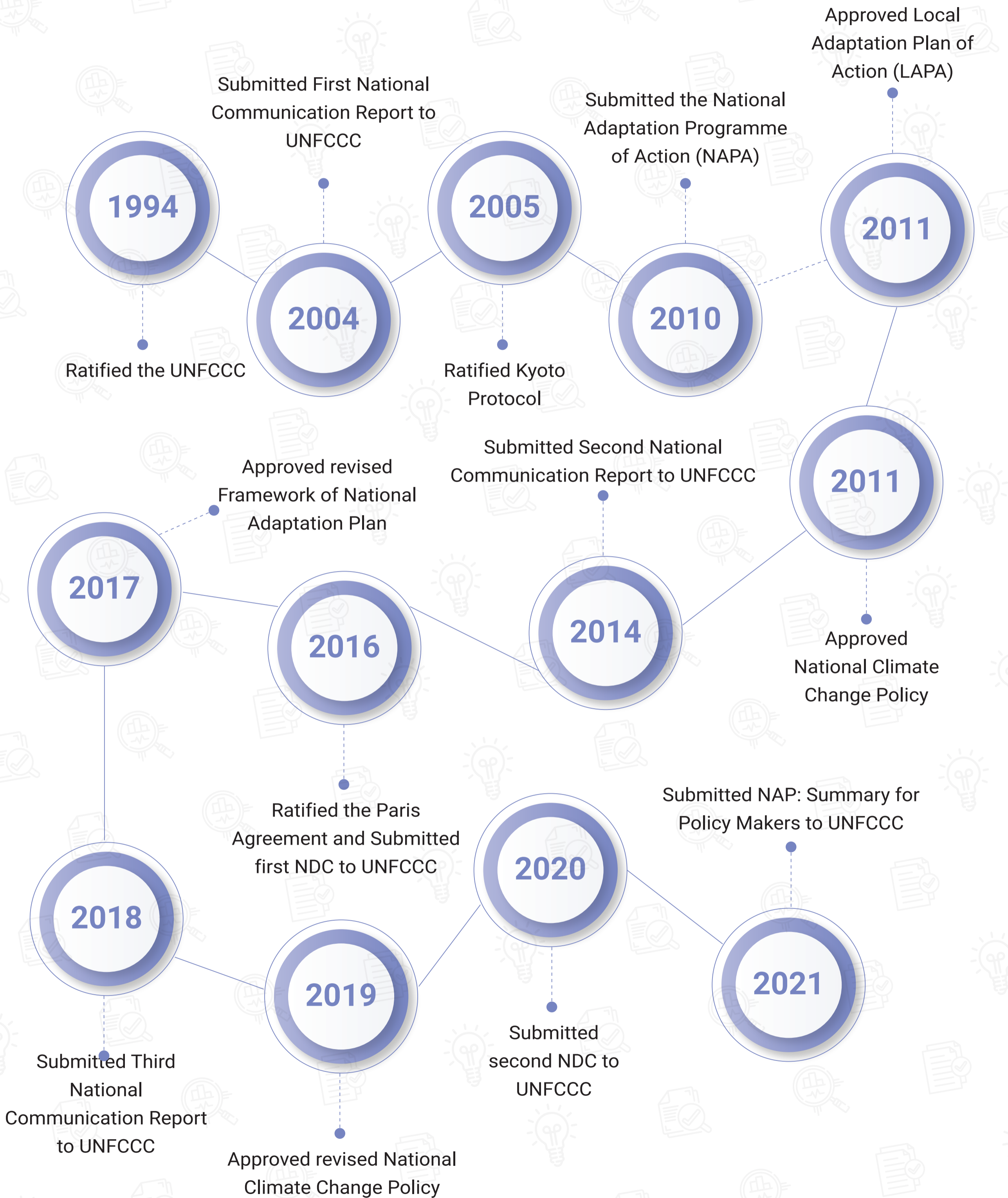
Can Nepal Leverage the “Loss and Damage Fund”?

The fund will also provide a great opportunity for Nepal, which is prone to disasters such as melting glaciers and floods.

Photo from TKP

FACT SHEET

Nepal's Climate Change Policy Evolution Process



Source: <https://prc.org.np/assets/uploads/resource/40225e42f00b8143f66206e752294334.pdf>

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The Chief Justice, Cholendra Shumsher JB Rana, who was suspended on February 13, 2022, following an impeachment motion filed by 98 lawmakers, received a clean chit from the Secretary General of the Parliament Secretariat on 7 December 2022. The decision has received widespread criticism and led to the Supreme Court seeking clarification from the secretary about his authority to take the decision.

Read more: [The Himalayan Times](#)



Photo: The Himalayan Times



The Election Commission has stated that the political parties should elect at least 76 female candidates from the Proportional Representation (PR) system to ensure one-third representation of female lawmakers in the House of Representatives. Nepali Congress, Communist Party of Nepal - UML, and Maoist Center should elect 29, 19, and 12 female lawmakers respectively.

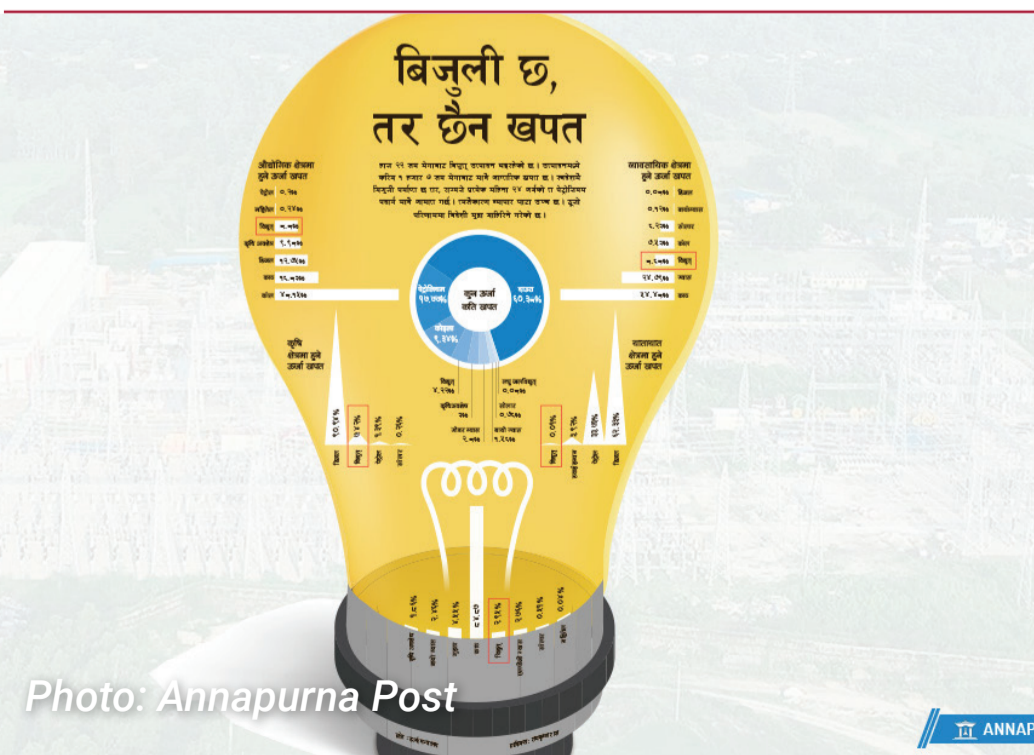
Read more: [eKantipur](#)

The Nepal government has sent a diplomatic note to India following the tension that broke out between Nepali and Indian citizens in Darchula district over India's unilateral construction of an embankment on the Mahakali river. The government has asked the Indian side to stop the construction in the disputed area and not carry out such constructions in the future.

Read more: [Online Khabar](#)



Photo: Online Khabar
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Among the 2200 MW of electricity produced within the country, Nepal has been able to utilize only 1700 MW for domestic consumption. Meanwhile, Nepal is importing petroleum products worth NRs. 24 billion (24 arba) every month, which is contributing significantly to its increasing trade deficit.

Read more: [Annapurna Post](#)



Rumors and Facts

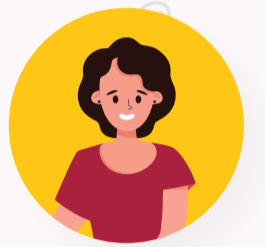
Online



People are indulged in activities that create pollution without caring about the adverse effect it has on others. Is there no action against such people?

If any person or organization creates pollution, noise, heat, or garbage in such a way that causes harm or loss to another person or organization, one can file a complaint with the concerned authority. During the investigation, if it is proved that the act has adversely affected any person or organization, the concerned party will be fined up to one lakh rupees depending on the amount of loss. The authority can also order to shut the activity or organization immediately.

Source: [Environment Protection Regulations](#)



It seems that environmental damage is not taken into account while constructing roads. Is there no provision for environmental considerations in such a process?

In this process, the government of Nepal has made preliminary environmental testing mandatory. The provision is applied to small to major projects like the construction of roads of 5 km to 50 km, construction of highways, urban roads, construction of tunnels for roads, or also their reconstruction.

Source: [Environment Protection Act](#)



Enter your Message



VOICES OUT LOUD



Pabitra Jha

Assistant Professor- Forest Economics, Institute of Forestry, Pokhara

“According to the Community Forest Development Program Guideline 2071, there should be at least 50% women participation in the executive committee. In a community forest fund signature of the Chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer is necessary and one of them should be a woman. These provisions have ensured women's participation in the vital positions of the forest development fund. This step of government to bring women forward in leadership positions is admirable. However, it is still important that the capacity of women has to be enhanced to make an effective contribution to the role.”



Jayanti Sharma

Environment News Presenter, Radio Safalta

“As an individual, I am concerned about the environmental issue. I feel sad that we don't follow environment-friendly practices as part of our tradition. For instance, we are using plastics instead of leaves (Tapari) while going to temples. I firmly believe that everyone can make individual contributions to preserve the environment. The minimum we can do is segregate our waste at the source, minimize the usage of plastic in our day-to-day lives and use biodegradable materials. As a youth, I believe it is also my responsibility to increase awareness. Therefore, I provide training and also proactively raise my voice on this matter through my radio program.”

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GOVERNANCE Weekly

Nepal Governance Weekly is an open platform that connects citizens, leaders and institutions; and exchanges authentic information to tackle misinformation and popular myths around rising accountability issues in Nepal. The current affairs in Nepal demand quick, scientific, and fair information around governance issues. With Nepal Governance Weekly we build an ecosystem of changemakers and use the power of real stories and voices from all corners of the country for a governance mechanism that is fair and equitable.

Issues around gender, climate change, public service, etc. exacerbates a lack of integrity and accountability in governance systems. To help defend democracy in Nepal, we track facts, share helpful information, and build unlikely networks.

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DISCLAIMER

The sources of rumors, news, information, and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations, government agencies, international organizations, news articles, social media, and Community Frontliners in all 7 provinces of Nepal, as well as the CivActs team based on their conversations with different people, directly and indirectly, over the past week. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance, and their potential impact on society. The information presented here is correct at the time of the issue.

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