

**ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
(NGOs) IN POLICY MAKING IN NEPAL**



**APF Command and Staff College  
Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu**

**A Thesis Submitted to**

**The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan  
University**

**In Partial Fulfillment of Requirement of Master Degree in Security,  
Development and Peace Studies (MSDPS)**

**Submitted by**

**Keshab Raj Pyakurel**

**February, 2019**

**ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
(NGOs) IN POLICY MAKING IN NEPAL**

**APF Command and Staff College  
Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu**

**A Thesis Submitted to**

**The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan  
University**

**In Partial Fulfillment of Requirement of Master Degree in Security,  
Development and Peace Studies (MSDPS)**

**Submitted by**

**DSP Keshab Raj Pyakurel**

**February, 2019**

## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this Individual Research Paper/IRP entitled with "**Role of Non Governmental Organization (NGOs) in Policy Making in Nepal**", submitted to the APF Command and Staff College, Sanogaucharan Kathmandu is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my research guide. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information cited/extracted from various sources in course of preparing this research paper. The results and conclusions presented in this thesis are the work of only the researcher and this research paper has not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree of any other purposes so this research paper is a very new research paper in itself. I also like to assure that no part of the content of this research paper has been published in any form before. I shall be solely responsible if any evidence is found against my research paper.

Signature:

Keshab Raj Pyakurel

February, 2019

## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

I certify that this thesis entitled “**Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Policy Making in Nepal**” was prepared by Mr. Keshab Raj Pyakurel under my supervision. The researcher has fulfilled the criteria prescribed by the Central Department of Masters in Security, Development and Peace Studies. I hereby recommend this thesis for the final evaluation and approval.

.....

Prof. Dr. Naresh Rimal

Supervisor

Date: February, 2019

## LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitled “**Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Policy Making in Nepal**” submitted by Mr. Keshab Raj Pyakurel has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for Master’s Degree in Security, Development and Peace Studies (MSDPS).

### EVALUATION COMMITTEE

.....

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Naresh Rimal

Date: February, 2019

.....

External Examiner: Prof. Dr. Ramesh Raj Kunwar

Date: February, 2019

.....

External Examiner: Prof. Dr. Sushil Raj Pandey

Date: February, 2019

.....

External Examiner: AIG (Rtd.) Rabi Raj Thapa

.....

External Examiner: DSP Netra Bahadur Karki

Date: February, 2019

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The present dissertation is the result of respondents' valuable contribution by articulating personal experiences and knowledge. The regular help and support of supervisors, colleagues, administration staffs, friends and family and assistance from SWC various NGOs and NGO Federation of Nepal and its staffs is duly recognized.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Naresh Rimal and Prof. Dr. Ramesh Raj Kunwar in guiding the research study to the completion with encouragement and enhancing the understanding of the research process. I am grateful to the academic coordinator retired Additional Inspector General Mr. Rabi Raj Thapa and college commandant Deputy Inspector General Chandra Prakash Gautam for their valuable inputs and express my thanks to Directing Staffs and the Deputy Superintendent of Police Mr. Netra Bahadur Karki for supporting the research process.

I am also thankful to all my family members and specially to course senior Deputy Superintendent of Police Mr. Rajesh Upreti and all seniors and friends of 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of Masters in Security, Development and Peace Studies.

Finally, I acknowledge and appreciate in the arrangement and worthy environment made by APF Command and Staff College Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu for providing needful time and resources even from library. Any deficiency and lapses in this whole research paper, however, remains my own.

Keshab Raj Pyakurel

## ABSTRACT

Non-Governmental Organizations, Community Based Organizations and Civil Society Organizations convey similar meanings. Primarily NGOs and CBOs help for the development and operation of infrastructure through various development activities such as in land development, and so on. In communications, NGOs are fast and efficient. They translate the people's concern and provide the service to the local communities with the involvement of locals. The present thesis is prepared with secondary and primary data through purposive sampling method of data collection from the pre-determined respondents. Out of 49000 NGOs here short listed major NGOs are focused for the study and paper is based on that with the views of executives and NGOs experts. Almost all the NGOs in Nepal are funded by INGOs and they are not working with local resources so regulation of their activities by new laws and or by amendments is required.

NGOs are playing role in all the fields with no effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism in assessing intervention activities. Mainly NGOs in central level also work in policy issues as well. Policy intervention or role in the policy making issues, NGOs are work differently in setting agenda, lobbying, networking , mass communication, pressure built-up, policy advocacy and campaigning. They are mainly based on mandates influenced by their funding agencies.

The NGOs contribution in policy making process should be only a participatory and supporting but influences from funding INGOs is critical context of influences exerted in the policy framework through NGOs in Nepali context. After the change in political regime in 1991, NGOs increased significantly and their activities widened and influences as well. Policy and influence by the NGOs requires balanced understanding of need of the country rather than advocacy of development partner's donor agenda to maintain ethical and fair to the state. NGOs should be clearly defined by assessing their overall activities, nature, and necessity. From the registration their activities should be monitored consistently in line with government policy and national priority. The need of coordinating body and mechanism with new laws or amendment in existing law is required for regulating activities for effective outcomes and averts contentions.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Cover Page</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Title Page</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Declaration</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Letter of Recommendation</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Letter of Approval</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>List of Abbreviations and Acronyms</b>	<b>1-7</b>
<b>Chapter I: Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Current Status of NGOs	3
1.3 Statement of the Problem	5
1.4 Research Questions	5
1.5 Objectives of the Study	6
1.6 Significance of the Study	6
1.7 Limitation of the Study	6
1.8 Conceptual Framework	7
<b>Chapter II: Review of the Literatures</b>	<b>8-15</b>
2.1 Review Introduction	8
2.2 Defining Non-Governmental Organizations	8
2.3 Global Perspective of NGOs	9
2.4 South Asian Perspective on NGOs	10
2.5 Nepalese Perspective on NGOs	11
2.6 People's Participation in NGOs Work	12
2.7 Institutional Environment for NGO in Nepal	12
2.8 NGOs and Civil Society: Conceptual Difference	13
2.9 Role of NGOs in Community Development	14



2.10	Evolution of NGO in Nepal	14
2.11	Review Analysis and Research Gap	15
<b>Chapter III: Research Methodology</b>		<b>16-21</b>
3.1	Research Design and Process	16
3.2	Strategy of Inquiry	18
3.3	Selection of the Respondents	18
3.4	Sources of Data	18
3.5	Data Management, Analysis and Interpretation	18
3.6	Organization of the Study	19
3.7	Ethical Considerations	20
3.8	Research Plan	21
<b>Chapter IV: Role of NGOs in Policy Making in Nepal</b>		<b>22-45</b>
4.1	Policy (Law) Making Process of Nepal	22
4.2	NGOs in Nepal	23
4.3	Categorization of NGOs by SWC	27
4.4	Major Policy Sectors NGOs Playing Role in Nepal	29
4.5	Main Principle of Participation of NGOs in Policy Process	32
4.6	Result Discussion	35
4.7	SWOT Analysis of Nepalese NGOs	38
4.8	Current Challenges	42
<b>Chapter V: Conclusion and Recommendations</b>		<b>46-48</b>
5.1	Conclusion	46
5.2	Recommendations	47
<b>References</b>		<b>49-52</b>
<b>Appendix A</b>		<b>53</b>
<b>Appendix B</b>		<b>54</b>
<b>Appendix C</b>		<b>55-57</b>

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Figures</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1	Fig.1: Research Design	17
2	Fig.2: Sector Wise Categorization of NGOs	28
3	Fig.3: NGOs Performance Cycle	31

## LIST OF TABLES

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Table</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1	Table 1: Patterns of NGOs Growth in Nepal	25
2	Table 2: Function-Wise NGOs in Nepal	26
3	Table 3: No. of NGOs in Each Sector	27
4	Table 4: Total No. of NGOs in Each Province	28
5	Table 5: NGOs Working Process	30
6	Table 6: Major Issues in Policy Intervening by NGOs	30
7	Table 7: Nature and Functions of NGOs	34
8	Table 8: Response of Responders	35
9	Table 9: Response of Responders	35
10	Table 10: Response of Responders	36
11	Table 11: Response of Responders	36

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIG	Additional Inspector General
APA	American Psychological Association
APF	Armed Police Force
BS	Bikram Sambat
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CDO	Chief District Officer
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DIG	Deputy Inspector General
DPNet	Disaster Preparedness Network
DS	Directing Staffs
DSP	Deputy Superintendent Police
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNP	Gross National Product
GoN	Government of Nepal
HoP	House of Parliament
HoR	House of Representative
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organizations
KII	Key Informant Interview
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MP	Member of Parliament
NA	National Assembly
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
No.	Number
NPC	National Planning Commission
NSDRMN	National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in Nepal
PACT	Private Agencies Collaborating Together
Rtd.	Retired
SWC	Social Welfare Council
UMN	United Mission to Nepal

UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WB	World Bank
WW	World War

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

Among various issues of global concern generated after World War II development is still of major concern in all the societies in the world. Development today is defined as the creation and organization of social and economic reasons so as to allow people to take control of their lives. But until the late 1960s development was defined in terms of only economic growth and a rise in the gross national product (GNP). But the exercise in various countries showed that a growth in the economy and an increase in the GDP didn't necessarily imply the elimination of poverty, discrimination, inequality, and exploration. Therefore, today it has become a generally accepted view among development workers that beside economic development has to be also concerned with the problem of reducing inequalities between various sections of society partially their access to resources necessary for the fulfillment of base needs and the strengthening of self reliance through participation in decision making process or policy making.

In context of this broad aim of development, the role and contribution issue of marginalized people in society became a crucial one. UN and other international agencies are playing vital role in terms of such agenda of equality and development from participation of marginalized people in various aspects in various countries. In the developing countries handful of professional ones are beginning to influence the development process. The term professional here indicate to those who have earned by using their knowledge and skill. There people are trained in different technical field and actively participate in politics, social works and many more.

In so many aspects Non-government Organizations (NGO)s and Community Based Organizations (CBO)s are considered CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) It is believed that they work for the society and people in their interests and rights in an organized way. Primarily NGOs and CBOs help for the development and operation of infrastructure through various development activities such as in land development,

establishment of business communities, and maintenance of public concerned infrastructures (drinking water wells or public toilets and so on). NGOs can contribute community-based economic enterprises and provide necessary technical moral assistance to the respective governments as well as to the international agencies. In communications, NGOs are fast and efficient. They translate the people's concern and provide the service to the local communities with the involvement of locals.

NGOs' role in the economic and social transitional period is always crucial and usually beneficial. They facilitate and organize training according to local need. NGOs' programs are easy to monitor and evaluate with the participation of all concerned stakeholders. They are basically responsible to the local people; therefore, they run the project transparently. They illustrate and show the evidences of global change, cultural change, and socio-economic change from various sources and encourage locals to participate and cope with the changing environment. NGOs role of advocacy for and with the poor is the one of the major role for global transformation (William, 1991).

According to World Bank Operations Policy Department document (World Bank, 1995) NGOs and CBOs provide information on local conditions, participate in environmental and social assessments, organize consultations with concern parties, and transmit expressed needs and priorities of local communities to project staff, act as a source, model or sponsor of project ideas and implement pilot projects.

NGOs are active in humanitarian, educational, health care, public policy, social, human rights, environmental, and other areas to affect changes according to their objectives. They are thus a subgroup of all organizations founded by citizens, which include clubs and other associations that provide services, benefits, and premises only to members. Sometimes the term is used as a synonym of "civil society organization" to refer to any association founded by citizens.

NGOs are usually funded by donations, but some avoid formal funding altogether and are run primarily by volunteers. NGOs are highly diverse groups of organizations engaged in a wide range of activities, and take different forms in different parts of the world. Some may have charitable status, while others may be registered for tax exemption based on recognition of social purposes. Others may be fronts for political,

religious, or other interests. Since the end of WW II, NGOs have had an increasing role in international development, particularly in the fields of humanitarian assistance and poverty alleviation.

At present different organizations are found existed with certain purposes. Studies regarding organizations and their roles started from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Frank Oppenheimer (1896) made a study on 'law of transformation', and Michel's 'iron law of political parties' predict a general convergence and assimilation of organizational types. Later Max Weber's (1983) bureaucracy may evolve as the ubiquitous organizational type of modern society. Since then many authors have given their concerns on roles, functions, types of organizational fields, and environment, etc. (Hannan and Freeman 1977; 1983).

## **1.2 Current Status of NGOs**

The number of NGOs worldwide is estimated to be 10 million. Russia had about 277,000 NGOs in 2008. India is estimated to have had around 2 million NGOs in 2009, just over one NGO per 600 Indians, and many times the number of primary schools and primary health centers in India (WB, 2009). China is estimated to have approximately 440,000 officially registered NGOs. About 1.5 million domestic and foreign NGOs operated in the United States in 2017 (UNDP, 2017).

The term "Non-governmental Organization" was first coined in 1945, when the United Nations (UN) was created. The UN, itself an intergovernmental organization, made it possible for certain approved specialized international non-state agencies i.e., non-governmental organizations to be awarded observer status at its assemblies and some of its meetings. Later the term became used more widely. Today, according to the UN, any kind of private organization that is independent from government control can be termed an "NGO", provided it is not-for-profit. World NGO Day is observed annually on 27 February. It was officially recognized and declared on 17 April 2010 by 12 countries of the IX Baltic Sea NGO Forum to the 8th Summit of the Baltic Sea States in Vilnius, Lithuania. The World NGO Day was internationally marked and recognized on 28 February 2014 in Helsinki, Finland by Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Former Prime Minister of



New Zealand who congratulated with the World NGO Day and highlighted the importance of NGO sector for the UN through her speech (Wikipedia, NGOs).

In recent years the role and the situation of NGOs in Nepal represents a mixed picture. NGO history in Nepal is relatively short. During the Panchayat era, the autocratic regime had very tight control on social services through the NGOs. It was so much control that only a few people were able to establish NGOs in Nepal at all. Until 1960 when Panchayat regime began there were only ten NGOs in Nepal. In seventeen years (1960 to 1977) the number reached thirty-seven. Those were mostly based on Kathmandu. Since the 1990 the number of NGOs, CBOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and their activities has been significantly increased in Nepal. There are varieties of NGOs in terms of their size, scope, point of reference and organizational competencies. About 11000 NGOs were registered to the Social Welfare Council (SWC) in 2000, which was just a small portion of NGOs (SWC, 2000). The majorities of NGOs were just registered in district administrative offices and were not aware about SWC or were not ready to register with SWC. Still there is no exact record of NGOs and CBOs, however, there were more than 35,000 NGOs registered only at SWC (which is government's autonomous Institution which manages social services and funding) in 2005 (SWC, 2005).

NGOs can be registered in the district level and provide services at local level with local resources. If NGOs need international funding they need to go through Social Welfare Council (SWC). However, it was not mandatory until 2001 or NGOs usually bypass the SWC, because of its bureaucratic system. About the number of NGOs, as NGOs and CBOs can provide non-political services to the society; in that case it is hard to know exact number of such organizations. On the basis of my inquiry in SWC and Federation of NGOs Nepal, I estimate that there are more than 50,000 NGOs and CBOs are working in Nepal (SWC, 2015). And if we talk about the INGOs, the first organization of this kind was United Mission to Nepal (UMN), which has been working in Nepal since 1954. Of the total INGOs working in the country, only two-thirds are affiliated with SWC. Of the total 34 INGOs studied during that time 10 of them were classified as 'operational', 14 as donor/intermediary, and 3 were working as both (PACT, 1997).

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

After the restoration of democracy in 1990, the non-governmental organization (NGO) movement in Nepal has taken a new horizon. The new constitution has broadened people's right and government created NGO friendly policies to mainstream non-governmental sector's contribution to overall national development agenda. Gradually the number of NGOs expanded across the country. Currently, it is estimated that there are more than 50,000 NGOs having more than 400,000 members and mobilize more than 20% of total budget of Nepal (SWC, 2015).

Survival is the driving force for NGOs and accessing financial resources is one major key to that survival and the significance of growth for NGOs. Almost all the most leading top NGOs are funded by NGOs (International Non-Governmental Organizations) and they are working under it. The NGOs have institutional motive and intent difficult to identify. The NGOs have influences to the government and in policy formulation. Which is in real act through it local NGOs to exercise their activities and interest. After the 1990s, NGOs rapidly increased in Nepal during political instability and social disturbances. In another sense policies and laws are formed in their favor and with their influence. It is clearly seen they are not working with real intent to alleviate poverty and inequalities to religion remains the hidden agenda they applied through NGOs.

In the other hand government policy and laws to control and manage the INGOs and NGOs are unsatisfactory. No any clear provision in terms of how many NGOs are suitable or in which particular sector of our societal need and preference are never defined. The volume of increasing NGOs and the Nepali society became playing ground for them. Where there is need of real policy of state is in one side and positively negatively NGOs role is influential on it.

### **1.4 Research Question**

The research question of the present thesis is to understand how NGOs play role in policy making process in Nepal? The following sub-question helps to unravel the roles played by NGOs in Nepal's development:

1. What is the status of NGOs in Nepal?
2. What are major challenges of NGOs?

## **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

Though there are so many aspects of NGOs in terms of their working areas as activities and programs, expansions, budgetary and so on. They are influencing in negative and positive way to the Nepali society. The present thesis deals with the following objectives. The basic objective of this research is to identify and analyze all the NGOs working in Nepal in comprehensive way and their role in policy making process in general. The basic objective of this study is to analyze and identify the status of NGOs and their main role in policy making in Nepal and its challenges. The specific objectives of this study are as follows which are followed to fulfill the mentioned research question above:

1. To analyze the status of NGOs in Nepal.
2. To identify the role of NGOs in policy making process.
3. To identify the various challenges of NGOs in Nepal.

## **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The thesis research identified facts and offered recommendation for the better management and guidance to the working NGOs. The study outcome is useful to government agencies stakeholders for appropriate intervention is operation and understanding of NGO. The research will be pivotal to academics, policy makers and development agencies as NGOs and its role have become controversial contemporarily.

## **1.7 Limitation of the Study**

This thesis is based on secondary and primary data within short period of time and money. The secondary information sources are mainly published documents and sources identified by the consultation with Social Welfare Council (SWC) of the Government of Nepal, NGO Federation of Nepal and leading NGOs in various fields. As there are approximately 50000 NGOs in Nepal, the research is less than comprehensive. NGOs are working in various sectors or they playing role in various areas and level of society but study is only focused on the policy aspects and their influences and in only of Nepal and some major sectors of NGOs and their field only. Access and availability of previous research on same topic is rare and this is very new

issue and very new materials after its completion. This investigation is limited to policy context and NGOs' role in it. Only selected NGOs categorized by SWC and Federation of NGOs in policy role is the subject of the research in collecting the primary data and subsequent analyses of it.

## **1.8 Conceptual Framework**

The role of NGOs in policy making in Nepal is developed as a thesis with certain guidelines and framework. Where NGOs/INGOs and their functions, their concept and theory, existing status of NGOs in Nepal, working areas, funding and roles are the main aspects which are analyzed through qualitative methods. Data and facts are collected after reviewing the relevant literatures and study of various materials, articles, books, journals and all available related reports and secondary sources as soon as possible. Primary sources of data/information collection are also tried as field visits of SWC and NGO federation and some of major NGOs which are working in the same field and influencing the policy making process of Nepal. Finally after collection, presentation and analysis of all the data from various sources and methods, the thesis is concluded with findings, conclusions and recommendations to the stakeholders. And various variables in relation to NGOs and their roles, variables in the policy making process are dealt to complete this thesis. The conceptual framework is intended to provide the appropriate guidelines for the research work from concept building.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

#### **2.1 Review Introduction**

There are different scholars had different opinion regarding the NGOs and its various aspects. Majority of the scholars have written the articles and books where they have focused NGOs and its livelihood and improvement aspects, leadership building and human rights, community based participatory aspects, where mainly focused with developmental and project or program based activities in society. There it is found that NGOs has played very significant role in terms of poverty, inequalities and injustice and empowerment of marginalized people. But at the same time NGOs and its role in policy making process are not explained. For the marginalized people and for their uplift, NGOs has played role with various issues and aspects since democratization to participation in various level of decision making process. But the role played in policy making process in Nepal or even in abroad, it's found no any material or literature with that particular issue. And almost positive aspects of NGOs are highlighted everywhere but where there are so many positive and negative issues or challenges are left by NGOs are rarely found in any literature. Though researcher doesn't find any literature of assigned topic some of literatures and books are reviewed to study and analyze the relevant documents and gaps in terms of NGOs and their activities.

#### **2.2 Defining Non-governmental Organizations**

NGO has been defined as an association of persons formed voluntarily through personal initiatives of a few committed persons dedicated to the design, study and implementation of development projects at the grass root level. They function outside the government framework but they are bound by and work within the laws of the land. They are variously involved in multi-sectoral development projects combined with research, welfare services, human capability development through educational training, technology development exchange of information and social communication.

Their broad objective is poverty alleviation and their target groups are primarily the poor and the disadvantaged (COM, 2016).

The NGO-sector has often been described as extremely diverse, heterogeneous and populated by organizations with hugely varied goals, structure and motivations. It is therefore not an easy task to find a common definition of the term "non-governmental organization". It cannot be based on a legal definition given the wide variations in laws relating to NGO activities, according to which an NGO may have, for instance, the legal status of a charity, non-profit association or a foundation (COM, 2016)

### **2.3 Global Perspectives of NGOs**

The origin and legitimacy of the term "NGO" are multiple. The UN Charter in 1947 first use the term International Non-governmental Organization (INGO) in one of the clauses: "Any organization which is not established by Inter-governmental Agreement shall be considered as an International Non-governmental Organization."

Linguistically, the term "non- governmental" is the direct translation of the classical Greek word for anarchist, which meant "without" or "non" government. Later European Philosopher and social critics including Godwin, Tolstoy, Proudhon, and Kropotkin promoted the usage of the term to connote "freedom from external (government)" control. Anarchism in social affairs means "replacement of the authoritarian state by some form of non-governmental co-operation between free individuals."

Development thinking has treated the NGO sector as the third sector, the first being the government sector, and the second the business sector. In the entire history of NGO movement, the World Bank's involvement in works directed to promote across the globe in the past decade has been quite outstanding. The global search for viable options to support grassroots development has provided the concept for the growth of NGOs everywhere. NGOs are now treated as instruments not only for strengthening the notions of self-help and self-reliance among the people but also for helping generate a systematic process of awareness building through education, training in areas of social and economic significance (Maskey, 2014).

The NGO sector is so enormously dynamic and diverse in nature and operates with so many variations in size, objectives, activities and styles of functioning that it is

difficult to accept a single definition of these organizations and to identify the essence on which to classify them (Maskey, 2014).

Commonwealth Foundation and the Johns Hopkins Non-Profit Sector Project suggest that the characteristics of Development and Welfare NGOs are the following.

- Reflect a desire to improve people lives.
- Voluntary by choice, and involving voluntary contributions of time and money
- Private and independence governance
- Not for profit (not distributing profit to staff or shareholders)
- Clearly stated and definable public purpose
- Respond to, and are accountable to, a public
- Formally constituted in law

In general, the role and functions of NGOs are to initiate activities mostly at the micro level through the participation of local community, largely focusing attention on the rural poor, the socially excluded, the destitute, the disabled and the down-trodden communities and people in rural areas (Maskey, 2014).

## **2.4 South Asian Perspectives on NGO**

A number of independent NGOs in Asia view the NGO's and INGOs variants of NGOs as instruments not for people-centered development but “for guiding and channeling people’s participation within government and donor defined terms of acceptable development” (Maskey, 2014).

South Asia also has a highly pro-active civil society manifest not just in the abundance and quality of its NGOs, some of which are world famous, but in the growth of civic activism. The role of aid in moving South Asia towards better governance is likely to be minimal since in most of Asia, donors lack the influence to do this. Donors, in search of civil society in South Asia, have often been tempted to use their aid to fabricate a civil society by using NGOs as a surrogate for civil society. This donor approach to building civil society through NGOs creates new channels of dependency manifest in the plethora of NGOs throughout South Asia whose institutional existence and the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of their employees

now depends on foreign aid.

## 2.5 Nepalese Perspectives on NGOs

For centuries Nepal has a tradition of community networks and partnerships. *Ghutis*, *dhikurs* and *parmas* today's equivalent of trusts, cooperatives and reciprocal allocation of inter-household labour have existed since long and flourished. Initiatives toward NGO-type programs were carried out after the launching of a small farmers' development program in 1975 followed by some community or group-based programs in the 1980s with the funding of the government. However, despite the long tradition of community networks and partnerships, the NGO movement gathered momentum only after the restoration of democracy in the country in 1990. The awakening of the deprived, including *dalits*, most backward indigenous people and women in a democratic environment also paved the way towards augmenting an NGO movement in Nepal (Khanal, 2015).

The government alone cannot meet the numerous needs of the people. It has many limitations. Among them, the most important is its bureaucracy, which limits itself to reach the grass-root level. It has, therefore, been admitted these days that the government should be substantiated or supplemented by the people organizations to reach effectively to the grass-root level. As a consequence, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) started to emerge extensively, all over the world. They have emerged both vertically and horizontally. In Nepal, the number and the size of NGOs, in the last few years, have been on the rise, which necessitated a separate institutional arrangement on the part of government to deal with the entire NGO sector. An organization known as the Social Welfare Council, SWC in short thus was formed to look after the NGO sector by a separate Act known as Social Welfare Act, 2049. Constituted under this Act, the Social Welfare Council is responsible for the promotion, facilitation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the NGOs in Nepal (SWC Information Bulletin, Social Welfare Council, 2015).

The NGO and civil society movement is gaining strength but they are criticized due to their urban-based, partisan, projected and interest-based nature and, therefore, their ability to undertake charity work and public action is limited. Representatives of these groups claim that they are trying to help the parties to become inclusive and decisive in the movement (Dahal, 2015).



Many civil society groups registered with Social Welfare Council (SWC), however, are given the mandate to work on relief, charity, environment protection, economic project and social development rather than on political education and conflict resolution. Unlike NGOs which defined themselves in non-political terms, civil society is overtly public and political because it influences state actions and political processes, acts as a buffer between itself and the state, mediates the general and particular interests of society, functions within the bounds of state-defined public sphere, holds the political leadership accountable to rule of law and seeks the rationalization of power relationship in society (UNDP, 2012)

## **2.6 People's participation in NGOs Work**

As a principle, people's participation in NGO work was assigned high important by all. However, no matter of practicality of the principles against the overall context of the country, variations in perceptions was detected. What this finding suggests is that participation of people in development work in Nepal, including the NGO-initiated work, is good as an idea or an ideal; it has definite limits in practice.

The critical stages where people's participation is needed were identified as (a) the programme formulation stage, (b) the program implementation stage, and (c) the programme sustenance stage beyond the project period. The needs assessment and program evaluation stages were given less importance. The important measures suggested for promoting people's participation in NGO work were: (a) leaving all matters at the discretion of beneficiaries' own organizations, (b) consultation with local knowledgeable persons at proper time, and (c) holding mass meetings for briefing the beneficiaries and for getting the feedback. Listening to the counsel of local elected leaders was given a very low priority. This reflects the NGO stand that there should be no political interference development/social work (Maskey, 2014).

## **2.7 Institutional Environment for NGO in Nepal**

The Society Registration Act 1960 legitimized the role of the private sector in development under the state's patronage. In 1977, this Act was amended and renamed the Association Registration Act, which included clubs, public libraries, literary societies, self-help groups, NGOs and cultural groupings. The Chief District Officer was given authority to register, guide, direct, control and supervise them. The demand

for the autonomy of civil society lent support to human rights and popular sovereignty under the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990. The Social Welfare Council, an offspring of Social Service National Coordination Council (SSNCC), was reconstituted and the Social Welfare Act 1992 was promulgated with the mandate to facilitate, promote, mobilize and coordinate the activities of social organizations including civil society. Due to a lack of coherent Civil Society Act and confusion of the government regarding its nature and functions, civil society organizations of Nepal are being treated as NGOs and many civil society groups are being left un-institutionalized. But, unlike NGOs and INGOs whose legitimate operation in Nepal requires their registration with Social Welfare Council, civil societies operate under a diffused mandate and many of them work as informal institutions with no registration at all. For example, trade unions are registered with the Department of Labor, teachers and student unions with the university, private research and consulting firms under the Department of Industry, a few civic organizations with Social Welfare Council, etc (Dahal, 2015). At present, of the 22,685 NGOs registered in the country, some 19,944 are operational. But, there are more NGOs and civil societies operating in the country thickening the associational life of citizens (SWC Report, 2015).

## **2.8 NGOs and Civil Society: Conceptual Difference**

The birth of various non-profit associations in Asia has contributed to the development of specific laws, regulations and several codes of conduct to govern philanthropy, non-profit making NGOs, foundations, and civil society organizations (Sidel and Zaman, 2004) to fulfill diverse needs of citizens and strengthen civil society's engagement in social responsibility and social initiatives. Today's civil society built on science, rationality, progress and citizenship marks a paradigm shift from the traditional form encompassing the core values of inclusion, justice and solidarity (Dahal, Upreti and Subba 2012).

Civil society groups and their networks strengthen the freedom of expression, association and assembly in ways that open up the political space for citizens. Ironically, many donors have falsely equated NGOs with civil society. Civil society has a broader concern and organizational complexity, such as trade unions, business chambers, producers associations, federations and coalition of various groups and social movements, elements that are missing in the NGO equation (Dahal, 2015).

## **2.9 Role of NGOs in Community Development**

The government, the NGOs and the private sector can, through collaboration, obtain more far-reaching and sustainable results than they could if they work in isolation (World Bank, 2012).

NGO emerged as one of the most effective institution in poverty alleviation interventions developing countries. The NGOs are mostly involved in design and implementation of direct action oriented projects at the grassroots level, often combined with research, training, and other components. Their target population is the poor. The NGOs mostly follow the target group strategies where the poor with similar socio-economic interest are organized into groups to achieve their objectives.

Starting with their relief and rehabilitation role in the early days NGOs have now expanded their programs and proved to become effective change agents in the society. In order to support social and economic empowerment of the poor, NGO also include group information, micro credit, formal and non formal education, training, health and nutrition, maternal and child health, family planning and welfare, women's development, agriculture, fisheries, poultry and livestock, environment, water supply and sanitation, human rights, legal aids, land and assets distribution, etc.

## **2.10 Evolution of Non-governmental Organization in Nepal**

In Nepal it is estimated that there are more than 50,000 NGOs having more than 400,000 members and mobilize more than 20% of total budget of Nepal. History of NGOs in Nepal begun in early days when the intuitions formulated as religious or philanthropic bodies. The existence of the practices of some kind of collective action was begun from ancient times in different forms like Dhikur and Guthis. Dharmasalas, paties, pauwas, kuwas paneras etc were the other examples of institutions formed out of religious or philanthropic feelings by the community people of certain caste groups. Due to the lack of government encouragement, the NGO of those times could not exert any significant influence on Nepal's economic scenario (SWC, 2012).

The modern day NGO movement in Nepal started after the restoration of democracy in 1990. The new constitution has broadened people's right and government created NGO friendly policies to mainstream non-governmental sector's contribution to

overall national development agenda. Gradually the number of NGOs expanded across the country. Recognizing the need for development for alleviating endemic poverty in the country, NGOs began to shift their emphasis from relief to socio-economic development and to pursue—initially rather haphazardly programs aiming at health care, family planning, income generation and self reliance for the disadvantaged and the poor (Maskey, 2013). The NGOs have able to bring a positive change in the lives of poor largely following a process by which members of a society can develop themselves and their institutions in such way so that they can enhance their ability to mobilize and arrange resources to produce sustainable life (Maskey, 2013).

## **2.11 Review Analysis and Research Gap**

All the above and other literatures researcher gone through are in some extent relevant for the thesis work in term of NGOs and its role. But all the writers above analyzed their literature is seen that they have given their view in global perspectives, South Asian perspectives, and as a whole Nepal's perspectives and meaning of the NGOs and how they works in participating approach in decision making process. Institutional environment of NGOs, their activities in community development and NGOs and civil society have analyzed. The gap what this thesis topic is demanding is still remain unsolved and found no more literature separately in terms of role of NGOs in policy making in Nepal. Thus this thesis writing is relevant for the research to conduct research work to fulfill this gap through research questions and to achieve the mentioned objectives in line with the thesis topic.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The main objective of this research study is to identify and analyze the NGOs and their role in policy making process of Nepal. In order to analyze the status of NGOs working in Nepal research follows qualitative method through analytical process. The relevant data and facts from various sources and the interviews are the main source of information in the analyses of the data.

#### **3.1 Research Design and Process**

This thesis writing is based on the research question mentioned above, and this is both descriptive as well as explanatory type. This research paper is mainly based on the review of information collected from various sources such as journals, articles, and published literature from associated organizations, bulletins and reports of SWC and other government bodies, private publications and several articles, journals and websites with reports and papers from NGOs federation of Nepal and primary data and information are collected as soon as possible from executives and chief of some of top categorized NGOs in terms of policy matters and also consulted with NGOs academicians and experts for their views through meetings with them and interviews as well. Also views are collected via mail with set questionnaires. Research starts with reviewing various literatures of secondary sources for theoretical and conceptual purpose and data and facts will be collected, interpreted and analyzed for the primary sources. Finally findings and recommendations to the stakeholders are made with conclusion. Research is designed according to the following figure:

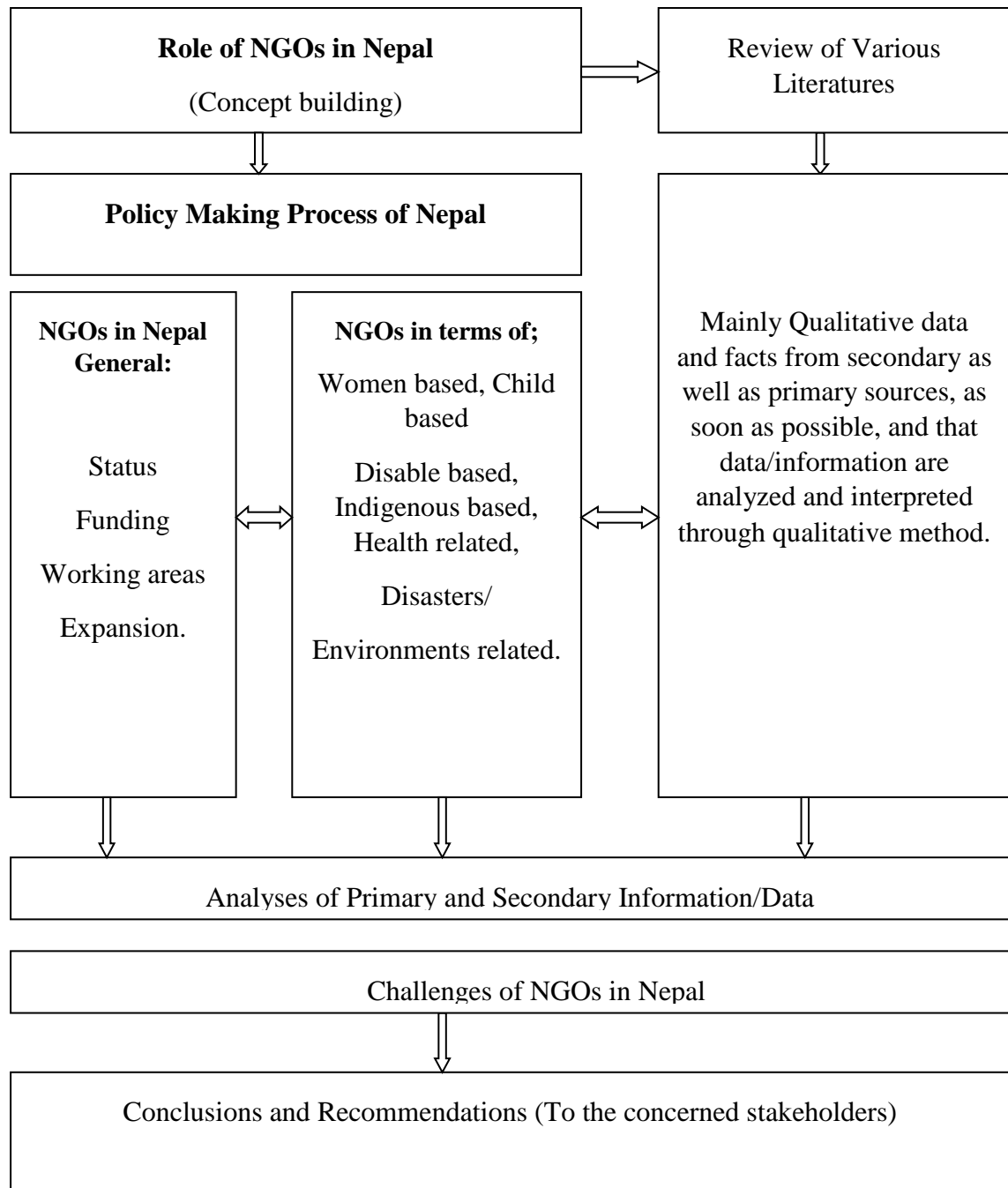


Figure:1 Research Design

Source: Self Developed by Researcher

Figure 1 entails the overall process of the research investigation.

### **3.2 Strategy of Inquiry**

Descriptive and analytical interpretation of the collected data and information of various qualitative materials is the main strategic part of this research writing. People this is related with present NGOs executives or formers, experts and or academicians or researcher on same field have been consulted, interviewed and views are collected via mail and their views have been analytically presented on this thesis. The applied process of strategic inquiry with the experts, executives or representatives of short listed NGOs has become the most important aspects for this thesis writing.

### **3.3 Selection of the Respondents**

The researcher has consulted pre-determined responders from the short listed major NGOs executives and their representatives and also with the experts on the same fields. Respondents are short listed in consultation with SWC and NGO federation of Nepal which is relevant for this thesis topic as purposive sampling technique. Selections of respondents have been made on the basis of SWC categorization of NGOs and mainly the purpose based sampling technique to fulfill the objectives of this paper. Total of 24 respondent were interviewed chosen from the 56 that were contacted initially. The study is limited to NGOs involved in the welfare of women, children, disable, indigenous people, environment and climate change, disaster, health, wildlife conservation, agriculture sectors.

### **3.4 Sources of Data**

The information is collected from secondary and primary sources. The secondary source of data is collected from published sources of SWC, NGO Federation of Nepal and NGOs themselves the primary data is collected through interviews in person and via e-mail. The research design includes the interview question. The direct interviews were conducted in Nepali language.

### **3.5 Data Management, Analysis and Interpretation**

The collection of data used unstructured interviews through purposive sampling following categorization of the SWC. Those collected data are presented mainly in explanatory and descriptive form in text and by tables, figures and charts..The

collected data from various sources are categorized and processed chronologically. The data is organized and analyzed in relation with operating NGOs in Nepal categorized in different levels such as human rights, women rights and various aspects, child rights, disables, indigenous and so on.

### **3.6 Organization of the Study**

The whole thesis study is divided into various chapters for the simplification of the research work which provides easiness to understand for the readers as well. Also provides the systematic form and synchronization to the whole research work for the researcher. This research as its requirements which is mainly concluded into major five chapters but the chapter five or the main part of analyzing the data and information and chapters are split into different sub headings or chapters according to the research question and or objectives of this thesis. Which mainly as follows:

- a. Chapter I: Introduction:** This chapter includes background and introduction for the whole thesis. This chapter also deals about the title and context of the research in view of various ideologies and concepts contemporarily seen in the scenarios. This chapter has also included statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significance and limitations of the thesis writing as well which are directly related for the path to travel till the end of this thesis.
- b. Chapter II: Review of Literature:** This chapter includes all about the reviewed literatures on the given thesis topic and its related contexts. All the available and consulted documents or literatures are analyzed in this chapter as review of literature. This chapter has mentioned all relevant previous articles and research papers, presentations, books, journals and publications etc gone through for the completion of this thesis. The consulted and abstracted materials are analytically presented in this research paper which seems relevant in researcher view. Where the main motto is to find the gap which is significant and relevant to conduct for this particular thesis writing. Finding gap or gap analysis is the main motto for this chapter in reviewing literature and it is done here in this chapter.
- c. Chapter III: Research Methodology:** This chapter includes about methodology, how data and facts are collected and arranged. This chapter of research methodology also gives the real picture of the thesis writing how the whole thesis is designed and conducted with what method. And also gives clear



view how the whole data and facts are analyzed for the fulfillment of the objectives of the thesis writing as this is the mirror of the thesis work. Researcher has gone through the certain path and with direction; this chapter gives the clear idea as framework researcher have to go for completion of thesis.

- d. Chapter IV: Data Management and Interpretation:** This is the main chapter which can be split into different sub headings and sub chapter as well, as per the research question and objectives of the thesis topic and as requirements. Research is prepared on the basis of available resources as research materials which finally lead this chapter to expand on different sub headings/chapters. This chapter includes the main contents of the thesis as main part/body of the whole thesis. Various data and facts are included, presented and analyzed for the findings and recommendations. This chapter is the main part which has high value to fulfill all the objectives and purpose of this thesis writing established initially.

This chapter is the main part part/body of whole research, where data and facts are analyzed for the findings. This chapter may split into three different sub chapters as per the research question followed by objectives.

- e. Chapter V: Conclusion and Recommendations:** This is the final chapter which includes and explains about findings of whole thesis writing, conclusion and recommendations of the thesis about the subject matter or thesis topic. In this last chapter, summary as conclusion on the basis of findings and recommendations as suggestions to its concerned authorities or stakeholders for the better future plan on the particular issue.

### **3.7 Ethical Consideration**

This thesis writing is based on take care of it's all the ethical aspects and has considered with a letter of declaration inside research paper. For this thesis purpose ethical things are taken into its considerations. In this research paper only the approved; reliable and authentic sources are used for the collection of data and to analyze as soon as possible. It is strongly avoided whole copy and paste of other research materials on this research paper but references of all the sources are mentioned. Its assured that this research paper will not be motivated to hurt the feelings of the any society and any organization or institutions as well and of

nationality or any other basis and also not against to the government's regulations, policies and procedures. This thesis is only the document of the training and academic purpose. APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition model for citation is applied for this thesis writing.

### **3.8 Research Plan**

This research paper has completed within approximately three months of time duration. After the approval of the research issue/topic initial month is allocated for the conceptualization of the issue of research, preparation of research proposal and reviewing of the literatures primarily. Setting the research questions, objectives and questionnaires for the primary data collection from respondents are formed. Second month is allocated for field study and more literature review side by side. This second month of research study was more vital for the whole research. Where short listing of Areas or NGOs from the vague and comprehensive issue with the help of SWC, NGOs federation of Nepal and guide of my research. Collection of primary data and information through field observation, commencement of visiting and meeting with the NGO experts and executives or my respondents and taking interviews and their response via mail and frequent attempt to them on same task. The task of taking interviews and via mail from pre-determined persons and representatives managing pre call to them for their time and direct meetings and proper documentation has been carried out in this period. Final month is separated for the refining the collected data and analysis and presentation through various techniques. This final segment of research has concluded with final preparation and submission of final paper in guidance of supervisor.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **ROLE OF NGOS IN POLICY MAKING IN NEPAL**

#### **4.1 Policy (Law) Making Process of Nepal**

The Constitution of Nepal 2072 BS (2015 AD) is the supreme law of the land which basically means no laws can be made that ignore or contradict the Constitution. There are many articles in the Constitution itself which needs to be expanded by making new laws; various other laws can also be made without ignoring the Constitution's theme. We also now have 3 types of laws, the federal laws, provincial laws and local laws. Laws can also be further expanded into regulations and related various policies can be made by the GoN.

Nepal currently follows parliamentary system. Currently, to make any law, a bill is presented to parliament. That bill will be discussed there in. If any member of parliament want some changes, he/she may move amendment to the bill. House may send the bill to parliamentary committee, if any changes are to made. Bill so presented, if passed by house with majority, after approval of Chairman of House, will be sent to President for approval. If President signs the bill, this becomes Act. But President can return the bill for further consideration to the house.

As Nepal has now become federal state. Now, there are different three law making processes. One for Centre, where federal laws are prepared. For this approval of both house and President is required to become any Bill into Act. For any state, State Legislative Assembly have to pass the bill and when signed by Governor, will become Act. Similar situation will be followed in case of local bodies, where local body parliament can make law for itself, as empowered by Constitution of Nepal. In exception of all that some time Supreme Court can take decision as precedence which also practiced as law of the country in judiciary practices in name of precedence.

The law making process in Nepal is the same as anywhere else. There is a single parliament, and the speaker of the house runs the parliamentary sessions. There are several parliamentary committees and constitutional commissions. The constitution and other laws can be amended by the parliament, either unanimously or by voting

after an exhausting discussion on the topic. And, Nepal is practicing as a federal country which means, there are seven parliaments in seven states, else to the central parliament. The policy making process of Nepal means the law making process which is under the process of parliamentary system at federal, provincial and local levels.

## **4.2 NGOs in Nepal**

The founding father of NGO movement in Nepal is Tulsi Meher Shrestha who started the Charkha Movement as one the first local NGOs in Nepal (Chand, 1998). The Mahaguthi was founded by him and is a pioneer of NGO for the independent, non-profit social service sector in Nepal. Since its inception “Mahaguthi” has been working in Nepal in various social development projects for the empowerment of the poor, helpless, neglected, and destitute. He also founded Tulsi Mehar Mahila Ashram in 1979. He was one of the first voices for Nepalese women and during the course of his life; he implemented many programs for the empowerment of women in Nepalese society (Chand, 1998).

The first established NGOs in Nepal was ‘Shree Chandradhenu Charkha Pracharak Mahaguthi’ in 1983 BS. In 1985 BS another NGO named ‘Charkha Pracharak Samstha’ was established by Tulsi Mehar Shrestha. In 2004 BS ‘Paropakar’ was established by Daya Bir Singh Kansakar. After the advent of democracy in 2007 BS more NGOs were set up. In 2016 BS, NGO registration Act was implemented by the government. In 2017, Nepal Red Cross, Family Planning Association of Nepal, Lion’s Club and Rotary Club came in to existence. From 2049 a provision of registration of NGOs in Social welfare Council had been started. Similarly, UMN and HELVETAS were the oldest INGOs in Nepal (Shrestha, 2007).

Another history maker of Nepali the civil society movement was Daya Bir Singh Kansakar. He founded a charitable trust with medical dispensary called Paropakar Aushadhalay. This organization later transformed into the name of Paropakar Samsthan (Paropakar Organization). This organization has been managing an orphanage, ambulance service, maternity hospital, and secondary school since its inception. This organization was very important in late 50s, and saved several lives during the cholera epidemic in 1948. After Tusli Mayer’s contribution, Paropakar

organization was second in Nepal, which was opened as international influence and impact on Nepalese society. “Such emergency-oriented volunteer movements are commonplace in society the world around”.

During the Panchayat era (1960-90) some organizations in the service sector were opened through the government. Nepal Red Cross Society was founded in 1963. Daya Bir Kansakar served Nepali society until his death at age of ninety in 2001. He was modern Nepal’s noble personality of unselfish service to others. Kansakar and Tulsi Meher social service movements had a very positive impact in the Nepalese society. They always encouraged service sector improvement in Nepal.

Similarly King Birendra (he was considered as a noble person) established The King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC) in 1982 by the Legislative Act, mandated as an autonomous, non-profit and non-governmental organization, to work in the field of nature conservation in Nepal. This is one of the large autonomous organizations in Nepal previously headed by the King with contribution to nature conservation in Nepal.

NGOs are actively involved in the domestic issues such as human rights, women rights, child labor, and environment conservation from ground to policy level supporting to the government and legislations directly indirectly. NGOs and civil society are important in Nepal due to their role for the conservation of nature, protection for people’s rights, providing services for needy people, and pursuing poverty reduction. They are trying to provide independent centers of power to check abuse of central and local authority. They have a significant role for human empowerment and work as political watchdog to some extent. They are providing education and to making people aware in sociopolitical aspect, wildlife management, forest protection. Because of increased education level, and understanding level people have realized their role and leading toward the conservation ethics and democratization. And they are occurring everywhere in Nepal through various advocacy campaigns, publications, program intervention and lobbying.

According to Diaz-Bonilla and Robinson (2001) globalization refers to the multiplication and intensification of economic, political, social and cultural linkages

among people, organizations, and countries at the world level. The second dimension is the tendency toward the universal application of economic, institutional, legal, political and cultural practices. Globalization is correlated with global transformation. The impact of globalization is an outcome of NGOs and CBOs in Nepal from grass level to central level from policy impact to program/project based activity or developmental impact.

The National Planning Commission in Nepal presented the definition of NGO in more elaborate form. According, to be a development NGO it should have the following common attributes:

- Naturally conceived voluntary by nature
- Not committed to profit making for distributing dividends among its own members
- Political neutral
- Liberal in conducting programs,
- Oriented towards the upliftment of the poor, needy, and helpless
- Active in arousing social awareness
- Carry out works of public importance,
- Involve maximum people's participation
- Follow democratic practice in selecting the board of directors from among volunteers
- Conduct other economic programs that meet public requirements and
- Make their policies, program, and budget open and transparent. (NPC, 1992: 719).

**Table 1: Patterns of NGOs Growth in Nepal**

<b>Year</b>	<b>NGOs</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1926	1	First NGO established in Nepal
1951	4	1951 Regime change
1977	37	NGO Governing Act 1977
1990	220	1991 Regime change
2000	8825	Total NGO registered with Social Welfare Council

Source: Chand, 1991; Rademacher and Tamang, 1995: 34; Ghimire, 1998; SWC, 1999; 2000.

Above Table 1 shows the trend that gradually the no. of NGOs are increasing rapidly after the restoration of democracy in Nepal.

And almost all the major NGOs are funded by INGOs. Whenever INGOs come with any program it is restricted that INGOs alone are not allowed to conduct any projects within Nepal at least it is needed to affiliate with one of NGOs for the functioning. And those NGOs must be operationally registered in government authentic office that is SWC. But here we are discussing only the part of NGOs.

**Table 2: Function-Wise NGOs in Nepal**

<b>Functional Area of the NGOs</b>	<b>No. of NGOs</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Community development	4646	52.6
Youth activities	1906	21.6
Women service	842	9.5
Environment Protection	575	6.5
Moral development	210	2.4
Child welfare	202	2.3
Health service	200	2.3
Handicapped and disabled service	125	1.5
Educational development	83	0.9
Aids and drug abuse control	36	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>8825</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: SWC Report (1999) and (2000)

In above table 2 it is seen that NGOs in Nepal are involved in various field and activities and community development aspect is highly involved in no.

### 4.3 Categorization of NGOs by SWC (Sector wise)

Currently in Nepal total NGOs affiliated in SWC are 49300 out of that only the 46138 NGOs are categorized by SWC. The following are the categorized 46138 NGOs on the basis of different 10 sectors:

**Table 3: Number of NGOs in Each Sector**

Sectors	Fiscal Year, 2073/74	Remarks
Community and Rural Development	29500	
Women Services	3351	
Youth Services	5938	
Health Services	1112	
Child Welfare	1291	
Environmental Protection	1569	
Educational Development	717	
Moral Development	1688	
Aids and Abuse Control	113	
Handicap and Disable Services	859	
<b>Total</b>	<b>46138</b>	

Source: SWC, Report 2018

Though there are altogether 49300 total NGOs and 248 INGOs are in Nepal as affiliated in SWC but this study only focused on the categorized NGOs of 46138 as per the SWC record. Data in figure in percentage:



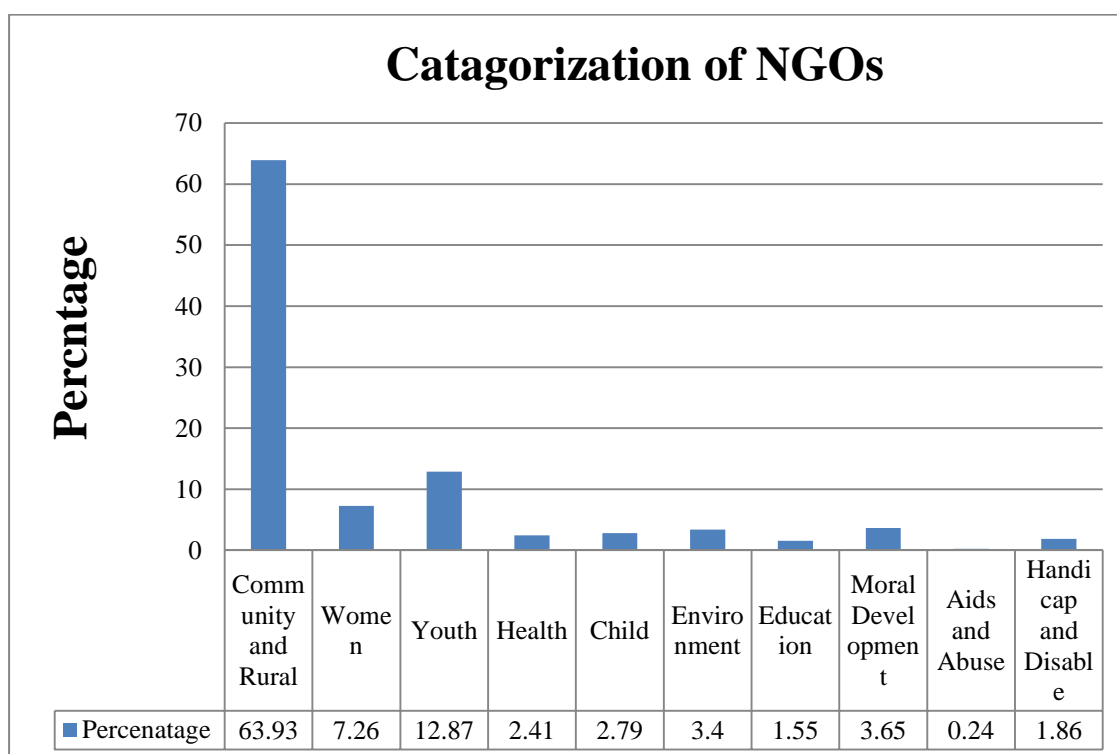


Figure 2: Sector Wise Categorization of NGOs (in Percentage)

Source: SWC, Report 2018

In above figure 2 it is seen that highest no. of NGOs is Nepal is in community and rural development sector with 63.93% where youth service sector occupies 12.87 % second large in no's and Aids and abuse control sector is seen lowest no's NGOs with 0.24%.

**Table 4: Total Number of NGOs in Each Province**

S.N.	Provinces	Fiscal year 2073/74	Remarks
1	Province 1	3807	
2	Province 2	6433	
3	Province 3	23900	
4	Province 4	3562	
5	Province 5	3658	
6	Karnali	1923	
7	Province 7	2855	
<b>Total</b>		<b>46,138</b>	

Source: SWC Report, 2018

Table 4 illustrates 46138 total NGOs of Nepal Province Number 3 largest number of NGOs working with 23900 and 6433 NGOs in Province Number 3 second largest and in Karnali Province the lowest no. of only 1923 NGOs working there.

The table of Appendix A shows the SWC categorization of the NGO in the District wise and NGOs deployments are maintained in the table. The table below shows the data in the province and the district. The Kathmandu District has 14840 and the Manang District has 20 NGOs as the largest and lowest numbers of NGOs present out of 46138 categorized NGOs by the SWC ([Appendix A](#)).

#### **4.4 Major Policy Sectors NGOs Playing Role in Nepal**

Out of above different 10 sectors categorized by SWC, there are certain major sectors Nepali NGOs are working with. All the NGOs are under those categories. Those major sectors are:

- a. Economic Sectors,
- b. Social Sectors, and
- c. Environmental Sectors.

In above three major working areas of NGOs either NGOs are working in local level this is field or project/program based activities or NGOs are working in central level. Mainly which NGOs are in central level they are possibly working in policy issues as well. But the main thing, NGOs is guided with their establishment objectives. All the activities and programs are in line with objectives. The objectives are their guideline how they works and working. When talking about policy intervention or role in the policy making issues, then NGOs are working in different way or with process almost all the policy related issues are almost follow the same process, which are following:

**Table 5: NGOs Working Process**

- a. Agenda setting
- b. Lobbying
- c. Networking and alliance building
- d. Mass media communication
- e. Pressure build up
- f. Policy advocacy and campaign
- g. Awareness/educational programs
- h. Knowledge and Skill Sharing and Capacity Building
- i. Writ in various rights issues
- j. Participation in various meetings and discussion
- k. Training and seminars
- l. Coordination with other stakeholders
- m. Participations in various campaigns

The major issues and sectors where Nepali NGOs playing role in very significantly. There are mainly right issues which are sometimes individual rights and sometimes group rights. The major issues of policy intervening is found as follows:

**Table 6: Major Issues in Policy Intervening by NGOs**

- a. Women rights based issues
- b. Child rights based issues
- c. Disable rights issues
- d. Indigenous people based issues
- e. Good governance/transparency/accountability based issues
- f. Environmental/climate based issues
- g. Third gender issues
- h. Untouchable based issues
- i. Madhesi rights based issues
- j. Human rights issues overall.

Source: Researcher Self Developed

Besides all that NGOs are advocating the issues of health, education, environmental, developmental and so on as social burning issues for the government to deal with. All the activities relating to policy and others there are various partner NGOs working together with. NGOs which are established with same objectives and issues for they are working for the all above agenda in coordination and cooperation.

The policy advocacy or any type of job NGOs are performing is depends on their objectives. With what objectives and motto NGOs has established that leads to move forward in line with their objectives and activities and with coordinating agencies or same partner NGOs and finally some results can achieved. This can be shown in following figure how NGOs working:



Figure 3: NGOs Performance Cycle

Source: Researcher Self Developed

In above figure 3 NGOs and its function has shown. Which starts with set objectives, with coordination between agencies which are established with same objectives conducts various activities and finally results or achievements are gained. And again same way the cycle rounds up. E.g. one NGO which is establishes with the objectives of working for policy advocacy for women rights. Then that NGOs starts with better coordination with same type NGOs performs various activities in terms of women equal property rights, equality, marital rape etc issues. Ultimately as a result equal property rights, equal opportunity in public and other services acts and regulations are enacted.

## **4.5 Main Principles of Participation of NGOs in Policy/Law-Making Processes**

### **4.5.1 Benefits and Principles from Civic Participation**

In one line of understanding the practice of participation of citizens in the processes of decision-making, also referred to as “participatory democracy”, is often criticized as being inconsistent with the representative democracy (in practice, through elections, people elect representatives to take decisions instead of them). This is not so because “participatory democracy” supplements representative democracy, instead of excluding or replacing it. Therefore, the political elections are not the only way by which people can impact the decision-making process.

According to the Council of Europe “the participation of citizens is at the very heart of the idea of democracy”. The European Union maintains that “democracy depends on people being able to take part in public debate”. Whenever EU citizens’ participation is referred to, the terminology includes notions such as *open governance* and “better law-making”. One of the fundamental principles of EU—the principle of partnership is based on consultation and participation.

In another line of interpretation the participation of citizens in the decision-making process is directly related to the *principle of good governance*. It leads to higher transparency and accountability of the institutions. When people are aware of the way of decision-making, it helps the foresee ability of the laws which are produced. Even if that might lead to some delay in the decision-making (which is not always bad because we have witnessed a number of urgently adopted measures and laws which

soon after that have required revisions and amendments), it is many times made up for by other benefits. Over the last years, the public trust in institutions has declined. The more transparent process of decision-making and the possibility for inclusion of all parties concerned into the process directly influences the re-gaining of trust. The open process and the possibility for everyone or different groups to become involved in the decision-making result in the taking of various perspectives into account, not only those of powerful groups and economic lobbies, for instance. This leads also the quality of decisions because institutions obtain information about the various possible effects which a decision may have. Not in the last place, one of the most important effects of citizen participation is on the implementation of the decisions that are taken. The purpose of all different policies and laws is that they are applied upon adoption. When all parties concerned participate for real in the development of rules, which have to be respected, subsequently these rules will not only be applied more easily but will also be observed by people more willingly.

These are only part of the positive effects of citizens' more active involvement and that of their organizations in the process of decision-making. The theme of saying here is people participation through various way and one major area of participation is through the NGOs. There must be the regulating mechanisms or certain framework or policy for the processes how the participation aspects can be achieved or managed out of huge no. of NGOs or mass of peoples'. There must be the chain where state must coordinate or must possess ultimate decision power without any influences from outside. But what is seen in real ground of developing countries like Nepal, NGOs play influencing role in almost all major policy making issues. This is not the main essence of the principle of NGOs in participations aspects.

#### **4.5.2 Principles of NGOs involvement in policy process**

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) supports its members in the establishment of a more efficient, transparent and accountable governmental structure. In this context, OECD has conducted several studies on public participation in the development of policies and laws, and on such grounds it has made a special analysis. By using the variety of forms of civic participation, Governments achieve better performance because they become more transparent, more accountable, attain better legitimacy, and improve the quality and effectiveness

of the adopted decisions. These principles underline the interest in participation of citizens, on a broader basis, in the decision-making process.

- a. **Transparency:** the participation of citizens leads to higher transparency, as citizens better understand how their Government performs.
- b. **Accountability:** the processes of decision-making are the subject of direct public control.
- c. **Legitimacy:** each decision taken by a large circle of people results in a higher level of legitimacy.
- d. **Quality:** undoubtedly, any public participation results in research of the opinion of a large circle of people, which allows to take into consideration more possibilities and to obtain information which, otherwise, would not be accessible to the decision-makers.
- e. **Effectiveness:** the participation of a larger circle of people further results in better application and observance of laws.

**Table 7: Nature and Functions of NGOs**

Categories of NGOs	Nature and Functions
Advocacy and Campaign Organizations	Social Awareness, Social Mobilization and Policy Dialogue and Advocacy
Social Work and Development Organizations	Socio-economic and Free Legal Aid, Health and Educational Service, Women and Child Development, Gender Justice, Welfare and Relief Programs, Youth Development Programs, Programs for the Empowerment of Marginalized Populations, Programs for Social Justice and Communal Harmony
Community Based Organizations	Community Based Awareness, Service and Development for the Community
Charity Organizations	Organizations or foundations established to provide charities, philanthropic and provide charities, philanthropic and humanitarian services
Networks and Alliances	Building Networks, Alliances and Forums for Joint Advocacy, Capacity Building, Skill and Knowledge Sharing

Source: NGO federation report, 2017

Above table 7 explains about the nature and functions of NGOs in common. Where policy advocacy and campaign organization through Social Awareness, Social mobilization and Policy Dialogue and Advocacy are functions to achieve the objectives of particular NGOs. Thus policy issue and objectives in their role of NGOs is commonly practiced in line with their objectives.

#### 4.6 Result Discussion (Appendix B and C)

To analyze the topic issue researcher has gone with set questions to pre-determined responders they have expressed their expertise views and information in terms of various questions. Out of 11 set questions for interview some objectives questions and their responses are following:

Researcher has asked with the question; **are you satisfied with the activities of NGOs in Nepal (Please circle one below)?** Responders responded in following way with % of:

**Table 8: Response of Responders**

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Need to Regulate
50%	10%	40%

Out of all responders 50% of responders responded they are satisfied with the activities of NGOs in Nepal at this moment. As they are working for the social benefits and for the marginalized people and issue. In same question responders replied activities of NGOs need to regulate. As the task of policy making process and their activities on it is not good. So in general activities are to be monitored and regulate are said by 40% responders. And some of 10% replied the NGOs activities in Nepal are not satisfactory. As they are working for the others voice rather actual need of Nepali society.

Responders were asked to give their views; **Are the NGOs working in same line of actual need of the society/Nepal?** Responders reply is as follows:

**Table 9: Response of Responders**

Yes	No	Some How Yes
45%	15%	40%



In above table 9, Question was asked: Are Nepali NGOs working in same line of actual need of the society/Nepal? Responses are 45% of said yes, as NGOs are establishes with some objectives and they work in line with same objectives which are the necessity of the society. And some 15% responders responded No. and out of 40% responded somehow yes as NGOs working pattern need to in the basis of their actual need rather influence with donor or funding agent or INGOs.

In one of the question; **do you think existing laws and mechanisms are adequate to guide/manage the NGOs work and their activities in proper way? Responders responded in the following way; there were options for Yes, No, and Some How Yes:**

**Table 10: Responders Response**

Yes	No	Some How Yes
0%	60%	40%

Out of the entire respondent in terms of question asked to them: do you think existing law and mechanisms are adequate no one responder replied yes. but out of all 60% of responders said no. as time passes and word and local scenarios come changes then our existing laws to guide and monitor NGOs and all aspects need to change or amend. Out of all 40% responders responded somehow existing laws are ok. They are working in current situation to coordinate and monitor the activities and for the regulation in Nepal.

In one of question to the responder; **Do you think influence of NGOs in different aspects of policy making process in Nepal is ethical?** Responders replied in following %:

**Table 11: Responders Response**

Yes	No	Need to Regulate
65%	15%	20%

Raising voice of poor and marginalized according to national rule and regulations is always said ethical by 65% responders. As per the guide lines and registration act when they are established for the voice of such people then advocacy or lobbying on same objectives is said ethical. Only 15% responders replied it is not ethical. This is

the job of legislature. And 20% responders expressed NGOs such activities need to regulate.

With some objective questions and some of subjective questions responders have given mix views in their answers. The NGOs in Nepal need to involve to empower the poor and oppressed groups in the community and The NGOs in Nepal provide their support to voiceless people in regards to their empowerment and mobilization to systematically claim and enjoy for their rights and entitlements. They are engaged in evidence based advocacy that ultimately contribute in policy making process in various levels such as local, provincial and federal government mechanism. The work of the NGOs need to relate with the indicators of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Watch dog of all forms of government and others activities.

Thus in one way policy advocacy and campaigning is one of major category and function of NGOs as per their established objectives. Mainly which is since their establishment this is their role and functions. But the way they are being operated with donor or funding INGOs there is always remains question mark. And in another hand the actual policy need of the country is one part and their performance or policy advocacy is in another way. That should be in line with state need and societal necessity.

The no. of NGOs in Nepal is also one questionable thing. We can see the tables above after the establishment of multiparty democracy NGOs are increased in uncounted no.s and working in each and every sector of the society. Is this necessary to intervene in each and every sector. Yes they can work in the field where actual need and their support is supposed to be. But from development sector to policy, from local to central, form program/project based to policy and every field of Nepali society is not sounds good. This is needed to regulate through the law and mechanism of government body. Otherwise for their job what government or state is unable and beyond access they have done very good job should be highly appreciated. Mainly remote areas, in the field of poverty, health, marginalized and indigenous people, human rights etc are appreciable. But at the same time policy level which is the sovereign issue of the state and or of parliament is not necessary to influence in any way.

#### 4.7 SWOT Analysis of Nepalese NGOs

After the WW II and great inflation in the world economy the Non-Governmental organizations (NGOs) have been born and nurtured as products of some individual or groups' perception and are supported to be human rights and other developmental issues mostly in under developed countries. Establishment of UN as a big NGO in the world in 1945 and membership of Nepal with UN in 1955 and immediate after the restoration of democracy in 1990 became the milestone for the rapid increment of NGOs in Nepal. Normally NGOs are tending with following characters:

- a. Non-profit making, voluntary, service oriented organization.
- b. Private individuals' organizations who believe in certain basic social principles and servicing activities.
- c. Social development organizations assisting in empowerment of people.
- d. Support to policy services in various aspects to agencies and institutions.
- e. Democratic, independent, people's organizations working for the empowerment of economic and/or socially marginalized groups.
- f. Not affiliated to political parties, generally engaged in working for aid, development and welfare of the society.
- g. Committed to analyzing the root causes of the problems trying to better the quality of life especially for the oppressed, the marginalized.
- h. Established by and for the community without or with little intervention from the government; not only charity organizations, but they are work on socio-economic-cultural activities.

Above mentioned stated points indicate the general values and norms expected of the NGOs and practically they are trying to practice their activities in one particular area by utilizing the local knowledge with small scale intervention. Normally NGOs are always supportive to government agencies where government access is lacking either in policy/laws or in developmental areas in society. NGOs can respond more quickly than the major multilaterals in providing relief services. One of the positive sides of NGOs in Nepal pointed out by a respondent is that they try to bridge the gap made by often the government and private sectors, which are weak to respond to people's needs

and aspirations (Dahal and Bongartz, 1996). While analyzing such organizations and role played by them for the policy process in Nepal, to make more clear on this part strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis will help to identify the role and importance of the NGOs as presented below. This is all after the analysis of the review of experts' views and their responses:

#### **4.7.1 Strengths**

- a. NGOs are near to the local field and they can easily establish rapport with community leaders and community people, because they work with them not only for them.
- b. NGOs activities which need people's participation and cooperation and could be done better than government officers, because they approach them as friends and helpers not as bureaucratic officials.
- c. NGOs can help to establish link with local government offices, district government offices, central government offices, and international agencies.
- d. NGOs can assist in terms of policy issues to the government and agencies.
- e. NGOs can help to get legal assistance to the needy people and protect the rights of the vulnerable sections of the people.
- f. The role of NGOs has become more effective in bringing about positive changes in policy matters by putting pressure to the government and by conducting advocacy. As the government has also listened to the voice of the NGOs and brought about timely changes, the significance of NGOs has increased.
- g. Capacity and efficiency in social mobilization constitute the greatest advantage the NGOs have. As the working pattern of the government offices is slow, it is obvious that NGOs can work more quickly and swiftly.

#### **4.7.2 Weaknesses**

- a. Lack of documentation, dissemination and updating of experiences, and transforming these into theories or framework that could further enhance their chosen line of work. Project reports are written but for the sole purpose of fulfilling the donor's requirement.

- b. Self-evaluation and self-transformation of NGOs is absent in Nepal. The national elites and dominant social groups often misuse NGOs. NGOs run by the family members and close relatives of former Prime Ministers and secretaries apart from the members of the National Planning Commission (NPC) and influential politicians were indulging financial irregularities.
- c. Almost all the Nepalese NGOs are funded by INGOs and are not financially self-sustainable. Here the agenda hidden is of INGOs NGOs seen in front as only show piece in their objectives. Once the donor pulls out its support, many would collapse and some would shrink in size of their staff, programs, coverage areas and activities. Most NGOs have tried to build their image by resorting to propaganda events like seminars and workshops in the town particularly in capital city. They rarely go to rural area to provide services to the rural people and continuously loss of volunteerism.
- d. Nepali NGOs have been misused as the workplace for particular persons, their family members, relatives and other nearest and dearest persons. Some NGOs have been established at the initiation of politicians to fulfill their vested interests in Nepal.
- e. They have misused the organization as a 'begging bowl' for earning money for themselves. Sometimes they raise new issues and make a project proposal in such a way that it satisfies the donor though such projects may not be based on the true analysis of problems and they only create experimental site for foreign donors and stepping stone to enter politics.

#### **4.7.3 Opportunities**

- a. Since the inception of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-1997) the Government of Nepal decided to consider NGOs as development partners. It was the most important opportunity for NGOs.
- b. Many issues raised during the period of conflict are needed to be addressed effectively in the days after the peace accord and new constitution. This is a great opportunity to the NGOs to use their knowledge, and show their skill and efficiency.
- c. Work of reconstruction in the country after the settling of the major conflict

and devastating earthquake is one another challenge. The government alone would not be able to perform such a huge task and welcomed the NGOs through the ongoing interim plan. Hence, the NGOs from across the country will get an opportunity to play their role in the reconstruction of the country and by making and supporting various policy and plan in this regard in collaboration with government agencies.

- d. When INGOs go to the field the people think that they are donors and they expect money from them. But this problem is not a serious matter for a NGOs or local organizations. For this reason too, most of the INGOs are forced to use the local NGOs to implement their programs. And the provision in law is INGOs cannot work alone here, they must choose any of one NGOs registered in SWC to implement their projects or plans
- e. State inefficiency in coping with the problems of poverty, inequality, insecurity and powerlessness of the people, destruction of the environment, and degradation of moral values, ethics, and culture has widened the engagement of NGOs in strengthening the direct contact of donors with the people and fostering necessary relief support to development process with advocating for the new policies and provisions to address all issues.

#### **4.7.4 Threats**

- a. INGOs and almost all of the donor agencies are adopting the competitive grant system in values and norms, and in basic operating guidelines but those NGOs that are runs by top politicians are getting fund without competition it is the major threat and challenge for other NGOs which are headed by general public.
- b. It is found that donor agencies like to make partner to national level professional NGOs. According to them, they have expertise in relevant project and can make attractive reports in English. Owing to this, local-level NGOs closely related to project sites and from rural areas are intentionally and automatically by-passed because they lack the high-skilled professional expertise and are weak in English.
- c. Very weak monitoring and supervision mechanism of government and seeing by one single eye to every NGO is the prejudice for those like characters NGO.

- d. Expertise and skilled human resource is always lacking elements as it is essential for running an organization in a well-managed way. The activities of the NGOs should be effective enough to give people a good impression about the organization and they need skilled human resource for managing all their activities. It is even more challenging for an organization to develop and maintain its human resource.
- e. As Nepal is running more by unethical activities, if the persisting lawlessness continues and the corrupt officials both in NGOs and government agencies go unpunished, the situation will be more challenging even for the clean NGOs.

## **4.8 Current Challenges**

Based on the data's available so far and the patterns, it is seen that NGOs itself and the government consequently face a lot of challenges. The government wishes to see an effective participation by the private, public and NGO sector in addressing the challenges at the national level however due to their peculiar characteristics the NGOs capability to do so is very limited. The NGOs can have only limited impact on the overall economic development of the nation. However the main role too optimistic to envisage direct contribution from them into the national economy however the role they play in the social development is very crucial. In Nepal the NGOs are found to have the following main challenges.

### **4.8.1 Lack of entitlement and enabling circumstance**

Entitlement and enabling circumstances are the integrals of equity consideration designed by national policies and approaches. Entitlement by nature is an outgrowth of the rule of law and the enabling circumstance requires scope to become operational (sijapati, 2004). In Nepal and many developing countries the rule of law and scope for social development are poor by irregularities and poor monitoring of services. The NGOs face major challenges here. They cannot enforce their policies due to the rigidities in decision making and weak monitoring apparatus. Hence, these out as the biggest challenges for NGOs.

#### **4.8.2 Job responsibility and support service**

Another area where non government organization suffers a great deal is job responsibility and support service of the country specific government. Normally, physical responsibility like space, are support and security are responsibility of the government by country. In reality it is found that physical responsibility sharing in Nepal have been less than satisfactory. On the support services front required coordination at the regional, district and grass roots are found to be less focused which results in delays in project/program implementation and even in discontinuation of project already being implemented. In case of Nepal, most of the post-project evaluation of NGOs supported projects has been found to be incomplete.

#### **4.8.3 Lack of basic information**

Apart from managerial and decision making problems, the NGO program are found to have suffered in Nepal due to lack of baseline and related information. Although, there exists several technical and non-technical information, useful for future studies, but these remain unprocessed and in discrete for a long time, losing its value in comparability. This is big hurdle towards the future progress (Sijapati, 2004).

#### **4.8.4. Beside these major challenges, others challenges are raised in the present circumstances which are as follows:**

##### **4.8.4.1 Transparency and accountability**

Unless the issues of transparency and accountability are implemented, NGOs would not be able to run their program properly to achieve their objectives.

##### **4.8.4.2 Coordination among NGOs**

There should be good coordination among NGOs and donor communities and Common goal should be formulated to address the national priorities or it means in line to the actual state policy need NGOs should be coordinated and work with. By the proper coordination may reduce the duplication of projects.



#### 4.8.4.3 Transformation

In response to the changing external and internal environment, organizations need to re-align previously identified strategies with its mandate, redefine the roles played by NGO's in relation to each other, strengthen its accountability and consolidate its membership.

#### 4.8.4.4 Local resource mobilization

All NGOs are advocating about the sustainable development and they even say that sustainability is one of the sole values of their organization. But in practice most of them almost neglect the local resources; they compete with each other to get more funds from donors rather than generating and mobilizing the local sources.

#### 4.8.4.5 Free from political influence

Some NGOs are working as sister organizations of political parties, and thus brought disgrace on entire NGOs. So, they should not show inclination towards any political parties.

#### 4.8.4.6 Free from family limits

The organization are claimed to be social organizations but they function like a private limited company. Working under family limits, review and evaluation will not be effective.

#### 4.8.4.7 Regular reporting and documentation

The organizations working in rural areas have developed close relationship with the community. They usually give much importance to work. The community also trusts them. But they do not keep record of the activities carried out in the field. Lack of written document will make it difficult for the donor agency and the stakeholder to authenticate the work.

- A common weakness among NGOs with regard to knowledge and learning management is the lack of documentation, dissemination and updating of experiences, and transforming these into theories or framework that could further enhance their chosen line of work.

- Most of the donor supported NGOs are financially not sustainable. Once the donor pulls out its support, many would collapse and some would shrink in size of their staff, programs, coverage areas and activities.
- Sometimes they raise new issues and make a project proposal in such a way that it satisfies the donor though such projects may not be based on the true analysis of problems and they only create experimental site for foreign donors.
- Many organizations are established in Nepal throughout the country and at grassroots level, too. But they lack the clarity of vision as to what they want to do and where they want to head.

In the present environment, NGOs could not perform very well what government and people aspects form the NGOs and its activities. Due to the lack of transparency and accountability of NGOs towards government and people, it may create the monopoly and corruption. Another issue is NGOs are more depend upon the international donor agencies rather than mobilization of local resources. NGOs neglect the local resources which are the national issues rather than as NGOs challenges. In NGOs aid dependence rate may increase and donor agencies try to influence the NGOs and their activities. If analyze the above challenges very deeply it may creates threats to the national security and to the whole government policy processes.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Conclusion

The NGOs are operating in all the fields with no proper jurisdiction with no effective mechanism of monitoring and evaluation of the activities and interventions made by the NGOs. NGOs have performance is mostly based on mandates influenced by their funding agencies. The NGOs contribution in policy making process is only a participatory and supporting. However, influences from funding INGOs is critical context of influences exerted in the policy framework.

The current policies of economic and political liberalization have led to an acceptance that institutions outside government can play a positive role as partners. The growth of NGOs in Nepal reflects this change of policy and formulation of new laws. As discussed widely that NGOs are seen successful in some sector like the areas of empowerment, raising environmental concern among the people, helping the marginalized and rural people by facilitating to organize the saving and credit cooperatives, various income generating activities through skill development trainings. The government itself cannot reach all remote and deprived areas proportionally. Therefore, the participation and engagement of NGOs is important and needy sectors are relevant. Though, the national policies have clearly mentioned the level of relationships between the government and the NGOs, but NGOs and their working sector is to be made more accountable to the people and participatory in true sense, a strict code of conduct should be enforced. After the change in political regime in 1991, NGOs increased significantly and their activities widened.

However, policy and influence by the NGOs requires balanced understanding of need and wants of the country rather than advocacy of development partner's donor agenda to maintain ethical and fair to the state. In the changed context, the responsibilities of the NGOs have been further increased, and there has been various questions raised simultaneously about the dual characters of the NGOs. For instance, they are never tired of advocating democratic practices and public participation but they usually do not hold any election in their own NGO. They give the key posts to their own

relatives. They claim to be free from party politics, but in reality they are the ones who enjoy playing political games. They do what their international donors want them to do rather than what is the need of the country, and they create disorder in the society by arousing high ambitions in the hearts of the people. It has become an overarching challenge to the NGO sector. All these challenges should be overcome in the coming days.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

NGOs should be very clearly defined by assessing their overall activities, nature, and necessity. Whether it is working for economic sector related or social sector related or environmental sector related NGO. And either they are working for program and project based in field level or research and policy advocacy based in central level, should be clearly defined in the time of registration and accordingly to its monitoring process forming clear laws and policies in terms of NGOs. Monitoring of the activities of the NGOs should be conducted to find whether the activities of the NGOs are consistent with the government policy and national priority. A provision of reward and punishment will be desirable in this regard. Working in collaboration with the Government and Nongovernmental organizations marginalized groups can benefit. The government itself cannot reach all remote and deprived areas proportionally and the NGO sector does not have enough technical know-how. Therefore, the participation and engagement of NGOs and GOs is inevitable. A coordinating body should be set up to evaluate the activities of the NGOs. NGOs should be accountable with the society's real need and concern. Should consider the public questions, NGOs should make their own evaluation regularly. Unless the issues of transparency and accountability are implemented, NGOs would not be able to run their program properly to achieve their objectives. The common goal should be formulated to address the national priorities. By proper coordination among various development partners, we may reduce the duplication of projects by which huge amount of resources could be saved.

In response to the changing external environment, organizations need to re-align previously identified strategies with its mandate, redefine the roles played by NGOs in relation to each other, strengthen its accountability and consolidate its membership. Particularly, it is not only appreciable but also it may be necessary for change these

four major aspects (a) defining/redefining organizational mandate (vision, mission), (b) NGO governance and management capabilities, (c) program development and management, and (d) value formation based on the original mandate of NGOs as social change agents. All NGOs are advocating about the sustainable development and they even say that sustainability is one of the sole values of their organization. But in practice most of them almost neglect the local resources; they compete with each other to get more funds from donors rather than generating and mobilizing the local sources.

Some NGOs are working as sister organizations of political parties, and thus brought disgrace on entire NGOs. So, they should not show inclination towards any political parties, family influence and INGOs or donor influence. The lack of written document make difficult for the authentication of the work. So, the organizations should make habit of keeping record of all the activities and regular reporting their activities to concern authority and government agencies.

There is no similarity in the word and deed of the people involved in NGOs. They usually give big talks on rights of child, women and others but they employ children as domestic servants at home. They do not show respect for women of their family. They ask for policies and advocate for new policy and laws but their own policy is remarkable. More thematic NGOs need to be established and activated outside Kathmandu to carry out different programs, focusing on the promotion and protection of the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, senior citizens and marginalized community. And try sustain with local resources with locality and supportive for the local level plan and policy. NGOs should continue mobilizing CBOs, self-help groups and local people for the implementing contextualized poverty alleviation and community development programs.

## REFERENCES

- Chand D. (1998): The Role of Civil Society in Democratisation NGO perspective. In: Shrestha, Anand (ed.), *The Role of Civil Society and Democratisation in Nepal*. Kathmandu: NEFAS.
- COM (2016). *The Commission and Non-Governmental Organizations: Building a Stronger Partnership*.
- Dahal, D. R. and B. Heinz, 1996, *Development Studies: Self-Help Organizations, NGOs and Civil Society*, Nepal Foundation for Advanced Studies, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Kathmandu.
- Dahal, D. R., Upreti & Subba (2012). *Civil Society Groups in Nepal Their Roles in Conflict and Peace building Support for Peace and Development Initiative*, UNDP Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Dahal G.P. (2015). *NGO Governance in Nepal: Convoluting Exercise for Ideal Desire*. Central Department of Public Administration, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Diaz-Bonilla, E. and S. Robinson (eds.) 2001. "Shaping Globalization for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security". *2020 Focus*. August 2001, IFPRI: Washington D.C.
- Ghimire, Jagadish (1998): *Gai. Sa. Sa. Andolan: Chunauti Ra Paribartan*. (in Nepali) SMARIKA. Kathmandu: NGO-Federation in Nepal.
- Hannan, M.T. and Freeman J. (1997): The Population Ecology of Organizations. *American Journal of Sociology* 82, 929-964.

- Hannan, M.T. and Freeman J. (1983): Niche Width and the Dynamics of Organizational Populations. *American Journal of Sociology* 88, 1116-1145. The Population Ecology of Organizations. *American Journal of Sociology* 82, 929-964.
- Khanal, D. R. (2015). *Nepalese Experience, Managing NGOs for Better Outcomes and Sustainability, Journal of Health Management, 2015; 8; 251*, Kathmandu Nepal.
- Maskay, B. K. (2013). *Non-Governmental Organizations in Development, Centre for envelopment and Governance, Kichapokhari, Kathmandu, Nepal.*
- Maskay, B. K. (2014). *Non-Governmental Organizations in Development, Centre for envelopment and Governance, Kichapokhari, Kathmandu, Nepal.*
- NPC (2072). *Three Year Interim Plan (2064/065-2066/067), National Planning Commission, Singh durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal.*
- NPC, HMG/N (1972): The Eighth Plan (1992-97). Kathmandu: National Planning Commission.
- PACT (1997): The Non-governmental Organizations Sector of Nepal. A Study prepared by Team for USAID, Nepal, Private Agencies Collaborating Together (PACT)
- Rademacher A. and Tamang D. (1995): Democracy Development and NGOs in Nepal. Kathmandu: SEARCH.
- Shrestha, M. (2007) NGO-Led development Strategy for Rural Development: *Nepalese Journal of Development and Rural Studies: vol.4, no.2 (Jul.-Dec., 2007) CDRD, T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal.*
- Sidel and Zaman (2004). *Towards Financial Self-Reliance. A Handbook on Resource Mobilization for Civil Society Organizations in the South, Indonesia.*
- Sijapati, Sujjan, (2060), *the roles of NGOs and INGOs in the economic development of Nepal, Kathmandu: Army Command and Staff College.*

- Social W. C. (2012). *Monthly Bulletin of Social Welfare Council. Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare*, Government of Nepal. No. 17,18,19,20 and 21.
- Subedi, S. (2012). *NGO's and Economic development in Nepal*. An unpublished MA Thesis P.N. Campus Pokhara.
- SWC (1999): Annual Publication of Social Welfare Council. Kathmandu: Social Welfare Council.
- SWC (2000): Annual Publication of Social Welfare Council. Kathmandu: Social Welfare Council.
- SWC (2015): List of Non-Governmental Organizations Affiliated with Social Welfare Council. (Volume II). Kathmandu: Social Welfare Council.
- UNDP Report (2012): *CBS Nepal*, Kathmandu.
- UNDP Report (2015). *CBS Nepal*, Kathmandu.
- UNDP (2017): Common Country Assessment. Kathmandu: United Nations Development Program.
- Wikipedia: Non Governmental Organizations retrieved on 28-10-2018 from:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-governmental\\_organization](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-governmental_organization)
- William, C. 1991. "Non-Governmental Initiatives". In: *ADB, The Urban Poor and Basic Infrastructure Services in Asia and the Pacific*. Asian Development Bank: Manila, Philippines.
- World Bank (2009): Working with NGOs: A Practical Guide to Operational Collaboration between the World Bank and the Non-governmental Organizations. Washington, CDC: World Bank. Country Assistance Strategy. Kathmandu: The World Bank.
- World Bank (1995). *Working with NGOs A Practical Guide to Operational Collaboration between the World Bank and Non-Governmental Organizations*. Operations Policy Department, World Bank. 29.



World Bank (2012): *Working with NGOs A Practical Guide to Operational Collaboration between the World Bank and Non-Governmental Organizations.*

<https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-law-making-process-in-Nepal>

Wikipedia and Websites related to: Law-making-process-in-Nepal And NGOs Concepts.

## APPENDIX A

Provinces													
1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
District	No.	District	No.	District	No.	District	No.	District	No.	District	No.	District	No.
Sankhuwasabha	86	Parsa	771	Chitwan	1212	Lamjung	236	Banke	583	Dolpa	112	Achham	248
Solukhumbu	161	Bara	753	Makwanpur	656	Manang	20	Bardiya	293	Humla	160	Baitadi	258
Taplejung	105	Rautahat	909	Sindhuli	383	Myagdi	78	Dang	667	Rukum	83	Bajhang	255
Okhaldhunga	237	Sarlahi	750	Dhading	607	Baglung	360	Kapilvastu	328	Jumla	180	Bajura	193
Udayapur	355	Mahottari	991	Kavrepalanchok	832	Gorkha	526	Rupandehi	516	Dailekh	202	Dadeldhura	136
Sunsari	785	Dhanusha	1031	Ramechhap	420	Kaski	1152	Parasi	336	Jajarkot	174	Darchula	160
Tehrathum	104	Siraha	482	Dolakha	328	Tanahun	440	Palpa	164	Kalikot	221	Doti	246
Morang	654	Saptari	746	Sindhupalchok	426	Syangja	196	Argakhanchi	178	Surkhet	369	Kailali	951
Jhapa	673			Nuwakot	641	Nawalpur	337	Gulmi	170	Salyan	199	Kanchanpur	408
Illam	162			Kathmandu	14840	Parbat	177	Pyuthan	159	Mugu	223		
Dhankuta	100			Lalitpur	2789	Mustang	40	Rolpa	82				
Bhojpur	84			Bhaktapur	641			Rukum	82				
Khotang	168			Rasuwa	125								
Panchthar	133												
<b>Total</b>	<b>3807</b>		<b>6433</b>		<b>23900</b>		<b>3562</b>		<b>3658</b>		<b>1923</b>		<b>2855</b>
<b>Total Number of NGOs 46138</b>													

Source: SWC Report, 2019

**APPENDIX B****Cover Letter of Questionnaire**

APF Command and Staff College

Faculty of Humanities and Social  
Science

MSDPS Tribhuwan University

Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu

Dear Responder

Questionnaires on the thesis topic: **“Role of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Policy Making in Nepal”**.

I am student of APF Command and Staff College. Presently I am carrying out a research work on the above mentioned topic in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master in Security, Development and Peace Studies (MSDPS).

The questionnaires being presented for your completion is purely for an academic purpose and it is designed to gather information relating to the above mentioned topic, for policy makers as well as National and International Institutions. Please bear in mind that your responses to the questions being asked will in no way have any negative implications, since the investment is merely for academic research work for the attainment of standard requirement.

May I therefore implore with due respect that you kindly and sincerely answer the questions below and please, be informed that the success of this research work is largely depending on your willingness to answer the questions and return the complete questionnaires.

Thank you

Yours Sincerely,

Keshab Raj Pyakurel

Student Officer, APF Command and Staff College

Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu

**APPENDIX C**

(Referred to Page no. 35)

**QUESTIONS FOR THESIS WRITING****(For Academic Purpose Only)****THESIS TOPIC: “ROLE OF NGOs IN POLICY MAKING IN  
NEPAL”****(QUESTIONS PREPARED FOR THE NGOs EXPERT’S/NGOs  
EXECUTIVE’S, Magh, 2075/January, 2018)**

(To be asked at least 20 persons)

Name:

Signature:

Age:

Gender:

Profession/Post:

Office/Address/no.:

Contact No:

Mail ID (if):

Q. 1. What is the current status of NGOs/INGOs in Nepal, in terms of mushrooming in numbers?

Ans:

Q. 2. Are you satisfied with the activities of NGOs in Nepal? (Please circle one below)

Ans: a. Satisfactory

b. Unsatisfactory

c. Need to control

Because....

Q. 3. What are the sectors mainly NGOs are involve with? Basically in which sectors your NGO is working with? (if you are NGO Executive or former).

Ans:

Q. 4. What are the expected areas/fields NGOs need to involve? (in Nepali context)

Ans:

Q. 5. Are the NGOs working in same line of actual need of the society/Nepal?

Ans: a. Yes,                                      b. No,                                      c. Some how yes.

How? Because....

Q. 6. How does the NGOs contributing in policy making process in Nepal? (Particularly by Your NGO if any or even if you are former)

Ans:

Q. 7. Do you think existing laws and mechanisms are adequate to guide/manage the NGOs work and their activities in proper way?

Ans: a. Yes,                                      b. No,                                      c. Some how yes.

Q. 8. What are the areas you think NGOs need to involve and not (in Nepali context)?

Ans:

Q. 9. If you are Executive/representative of any NGO or federation or association then please, could you provide following informations of that particular NGO:

a. Establishment objectives of the NGO:

b. Activities/contribution to achieve the objectives(mainly policy focused):

c. Result/outcomes (policy centered):

d. List of coordinating NGOs with same objectives (policy based):

Q.10. Do you think influence of NGOs in different aspects of policy making process is ethical? Are not such activities threat to our national security and society?

Ans: a. Yes, b. No, c. Need to regulate.

How?,Because:.....

Q.11. At last anything you want to add in terms of NGOs role in policy making process of Nepal?

Ans:

Date and Signature:...../10/2075.

Thank you very much!!!