

**YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: AN ANALYSIS OF
YOUTHS' ROLE IN GODAWARI MUNICIPALITY OF LALITPUR NEPAL**

A Dissertation

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

I hereby certified that this dissertation entitled **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: AN ANALYSIS OF YOUTHS' ROLE IN GODAWARI MUNICIPALITY OF LALITPUR NEPAL** has been prepared by Mr. **SHYAM ADHIKARI** under my supervision and guidance. I hereby recommend this dissertation for final examination by the Research Committee of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of M Phil Degree of Sociology.

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis has not been submitted for candidature for any other degree.

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APPROVAL LETTER

This dissertation entitled **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: AN ANALYSIS OF YOUTHS' ROLE IN GODAWARI MUNICIPALITY OF LALITPUR NEPAL** was submitted by **Mr. Shyam Adhikari** for the final examination by the research committee of the M. Phil. Programme in Sociology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Philosophy in Sociology. The research committee hereby certifies that this dissertation was found satisfactory and accepted for the degree.

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ABSTRACT

Youth engagement in the local governance is a process of empowering youth for creating spaces to influence the policy making and implementation process in the local government level. It is the way to improve institutional structure and decision-making processes and making the system capable, organized and participatory. Since, the local government has received the mandate from the Constitution of Nepal 2015 to work as independent body to address the issues and concern related to the people on the territory of the respective government, the government has to create the favorable environment for bringing youth into the mainstream.

Youth in Nepal constitute 40.33% of the total population size and youth themselves are mobilized to create important role into the political process. Mostly for the political gains, youth are mobilized however, the spaces are not adequately created for their empowerment and making contribution on the human development. The institutional discourse related to youth engagement was started only after 2008 after the establishment of Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS). The broader purpose of establishing the ministry was to contribute on economic and social transformation by systematically addressing the issues of youth concern. Following to the establishment of ministry, the National Youth Policy was introduced in 2009 (amended in 2015), National Youth Council Act 2009 was issued as a base to establish the National Youth Council to overarch all the work related to youth development in the country. Further, National Youth Council has issued the strategic roadmap namely Youth Vision 2025 in the year 2015 to mainstream youth development work in the country. Out of its' five major strategic directions, mobilization, participation and leadership development is considered as one of the important pillars for youth development.

This research assesses the existing policy and programmes related to the youth engagement in local governance targeting the local government. In course of research, the detailed policy analysis related to youth of relevant ministries and government departments has been conducted. After the establishment of the separate ministry, MoYS, mainstreaming youth into the development has been more institutionalized though, there were different programmes from different ministries in place prior to the establishment of ministry. Even after the establishment of MoYS, different ministries are running youth programmes and there is a gap to have coordination between the

different ministries. MoYS and the National Youth Council bring policies and programmes for mainstreaming youth into the local governance process, but there is a gap in translating these policies into the local level and not ample initiatives have been taken for that.

The research assesses the situation of local government and explores whether the policies are translated in practice or not in the local level. The researcher has chosen Godawari municipality as its research site and conducted the review of existing policies, programme documents and also carried out interviews with key policy makers including Mayor and Ward Chairs. Further, to validate the information and also to assess the view of youth, focus group discussions were conducted with the selected youth from the municipality.

In the course of research, it has been identified that, Godawari municipality is not progressing on mainstreaming youth engagement into the governance process. Municipality is conducting youth development programmes and most of them are in sports. There are few youth clubs in the communities established by the youth themselves but the municipality is not promoting the formation of youth clubs at the community level. During the interviews, municipality officials highlighted about the participatory planning process but not adequately engaged youth in those process. The study concludes that, the discourse of youth engagement in the governance process should be further mainstreamed and institutionalized at the local government level as it has been envisaged from the policy framework. In Godawari municipality also, though the political leadership has interest to mainstream youth issues, they do lack in establishing structures and system for that. Due to the less focus given by the municipality and lack of transparency into the process of municipality, youth are unable to create trust and have not shown their interest to engage; however, they are interested to engage and contribute to the development process of their communities.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

- CFLG – Child Friendly Local Governance
- EC – European Charter
- FGD – Focus Group Discussion
- IIAS - International Institute of Administrative Sciences
- I/NGO – International/Non-government Organizations
- INGO – International Non-government Organization
- LGCDP - Local Governance and Community Development Programme
- MoYS – Ministry of Youth and Sports
- NGO – Non-government Organization
- NYC – National Youth Council
- NYP – National Youth Policy
- OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- PLGSP - Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme
- SAARC – South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
- SRHR – Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
- UN – United Nations
- UNCRC – United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
- UNESCO – United Nations educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNWPAY 2000 - United Nations World Programme on Action for Youth - 2000
- UNSCR – United Nations Security Council Resolutions
- USAID – United States Agency for International Development
- USD – United States Dollar
- WB – World Bank
- YDI – Youth Development Index
- YFLG - Youth Friendly Local Governance

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Introducing the Research Issue

Youth engagement in local governance is one of the important dimensions for seeking their contribution on the development process along with their empowerment. In the societal diversity of youth, their positioning (in terms of population size), their productivity, the diverse range of learning, and a passion for contributing to the development process, youth can play a vital role for the governance process at the local government level.

Theoretically, there are different understandings and perspectives to define youth and the concept of engagement and participation. European charter on participation of young people defines ‘participation in any community is more than casting votes or engaging in election. Even though these elements are important one. Participation, importantly being active citizens are the process of acquiring right, means, space and opportunity and where necessary support to participate in and direct decisions. It also fosters an engagement in actions and activities to contribute on the process of building a better society’ (European Charter 2003). The notion of active participation of young people in decisions and actions at all levels is essential to build more democratic, more inclusive, and more prosperous societies and to contribute on the smooth governance process at local level.

Higher than participation, Engagement has three major focus; participation, a process of inclusion, empowerment, a way to increase power in people to habit on their own lives and communities as well as society, their transformation, medium to transform approach where adults and youth work together for changing society and sustain change (Cambell & Erbstien 2012).

Governance is epitomized by predictable, open, enlightened policymaking that is, transparent processes; a bureaucracy imbued with a professional ethos; an executive arm of government accountable for its actions; and a strong civil society participating in public affairs; and all behaving under de rule of law” (World Bank 1992). Further to that, good governance is a concept which is frequently used to implement the democracy as a political state, nation and governance. For the strong democracy, good

governance is one of the important aspects in which the group like youth can be instrumental for sustaining and institutionalizing democracy. One of the important factors of strengthening good governance is meaningful engagement of the groups with whom the plan and policies are targeted. Youth, because of their constitution and the rights given by the constitution and prevailing law, they can contribute immensely in to the governance process at local level. The meaningful engagement of the youth at local governance process not only helps on having the pro-youth development but also helps on harnessing their leadership at the local governance and government level. Youth constitutes almost 40.35% of total population of Nepal according to census 2011 and they are in many ways can take the leading role in initiatives and movements that proclaim the urgent need to deepen and expand good governance at local level. The youth population at this stage is consider as demographic dividend as never before have there been so many young people and ever again is there likely to be such large number of population.

Marques (2013) highlighted that governance has capacity for making state to function effectively, and support on promoting the society's welfare, implement services to people by maximizing the work on politics. In that aspect, the role of local governance is very much essential for delivering the public services. Most importantly, the role of local governance is crucial on agriculture development mostly on rural setting (Chaudhary, 2018).

The local governance in the federal setting has even more scope for demanding strong and effective leadership for the people whom they serve. It also helps the local Government to implement the devolution and development of the respective community. In that context political leadership is concerned with the policy implication and the people. In that regard, leadership is crucial for all the leaders of the political parties to develop plan, policies. It also helps on forming the devolution and decentralization of local governance in an effective way (Chaudhary, 2018). Furthermore, the federalism has given ample spaces for the groups to engage and influence the policy formulation and programme implementation process in the country.

The effective delivery of public services in the communities to executive socio-economic activities for improving the quality of life and to develop democratic

leaders and their leadership into the community are major function of local government (Acharya, 2018).

Youth engagement into the local governance often been neglected however important aspect to consider. Frank (2006) highlights, there are several arguments are in place to justify the importance of youth engagement. In course of making them engaged, the youth may benefit from their engagement in government process and can have empowerment, competence, and connection. They acquire information for their rights and choices, improve decision-making skills, enhance an understanding of decision processes, and acquire a sense of control into the processes. Thus, engagement may also enhance young peoples' interests and propensity to engage in community service, political action, or other forms of public engagement. As a matter of social justice, youth have right to engage and contribute in to the decisions which impacts their lives directly.

The research has been executed to conduct a sociological study by assessing and identifying the practices and provisions related to youth engagement in the local governance process. In this thesis, I have attempted the review of literature around youth, youth engagement, and youth engagement into the local governance. In course of that, I have linked the theory of participation to the contextual factors by creating the link to Nepal. In course of reviewing the literature I have reviewed documents produced by academician, I/NGOs, Governments, youth organisations, to explore and widen the scope of discourse of youth engagement and see the gap in Nepali context. Since, youth age itself is overlapping with children, adolescents, this review incorporates documents related to adolescents, young people and including them as youth. Following to the review research problem and research objectives has been set to conduct further study relating to the topic.

1.2. Research Problem

There are several factors relating to structure, attitude barriers that forbids youth to engage actively in local government. One of the major issues related to youth-adult engagement is linked with the power sharing and dynamics between youth and adult. Due to the pre-established notion and attitude towards youth, there is no clarity developed where keep youth in society or in a family unit. The confusion of youth as

a recipient and youth as an agent of change have a dual signal at both level in the communities and youth themselves.

Different theorists have pointed out that society presents youth differently. Some portray as agitators or troublemakers. And same time, a group of theorists consider them as supportive member of respective community where they have the rights to participate on the issues of their concern. This has promoted vagueness on their understanding as well as on their social status (McGinley and Grieve 2010). Theorist Camino and Zeldin (2002) indicated that, there has been some display of adverse attitudes towards them and also have a belief that youth are different to adults and working together with them would not be effective. Likewise, among the adult members, who themselves don't acknowledge the significance and urgency of youth engagement, there is the trend of going far in another direction and overlook the difference between youth and adults. That leads youth to be inflexible and adult oriented model of engagement (Camino & Zeldin 2002).

Matthews and Limb (2003), McGinley and Grieve (2010) argued that adults sometimes have issues and confusions about the caliber of youth and perceived youth as not interested, and not always aspire to provide spaces to youth the ability to participate in the dialogue and conversations on “youth-friendly” issues.

As a small public unit of Government, local government located into certain geographic location, like in city, town, or county. Local government is the closet and trustworthy organizations of local citizen (Aacharya, 2016). Provision of local government defined through constitution which elaborates functions of local Government as, to execute a range of prescribed services in dedicated territory. In the countries like Nepal, the presences of local government can be rendered for two major aspects. First, the local government are playing major roles on economic aspects, work and fund, functions, and bureaucrats to deliver assigned services (Mathew & Hooja, 2009). Secondly, the higher level of trust among people and avenue to engage citizens in democracy, addressing the public needs and assure accountability (Sikhakane & Reddy, 2011). Important to that, institutions like that can operate legal aspects of community, executive and judiciary into the smallest geographical areas for organizational and political considerations (Elliot & Ali, 1988).

Engaging young people in the process of their own development and the development of organizations that serve young people lessens the generational divide and creates a shared reality of health and well-being (Camino 2006). The topic of political participation goes beyond the traditional focus on participating in electoral processes at the local level, and includes analysis on how young people participate in local politics and why they are participating, what demands they put forward, how spaces for policy dialogue with local authorities are created, how avenues for policy dialogue with local bodies are created, which elements in the local level promotes the development related to human being and what organizational scopes and limitations are existed for promoting youth participation in local level (Berthin 2014).

Furthermore Berthin (2014) highlights, local governments are strategically situated as units of practice for youth participation in public policy, as they can provide mechanisms for policy planning, decision making, organisational development, and programme and policy implementation. In addition, they can offer geographic proximity and other characteristics which could be especially relevant for young people.

In Nepal, the understanding of youth is more linked with the biological and physical aspects. The National Youth Policy 2015 defines youth as an individual belonging to the 16-40 age group. This is one of the long-range age cohorts compared with other countries. However, this age cohort is developed in the foundation to cover the geography, education, economy, and life expectancy of the people. This issue is also influenced by the political (party) agenda as most of the leaders themselves claim as youth leaders (National Youth Policy 2015).

The discourse of youth participation in decision-making is not the new one but is highly guided by the insertion of tokenism. This has been shown in all the major changes in the country. None of the political parties left the idea of youth empowerment and their participation, but in reality, that is only the issue of verbose. The young people rather than deciding themselves about their engagement controlled and syndicated by the adults. The concept of proper engagement is not understood by the parties as well as young people are not able to grasp the essence of engagement.

There is separate youth ministry namely Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), leading the youth development work in the country, National Youth Council, National

Sports Council and hundreds of NGOs and INGOs in the country. Most of the ministries (like Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Home Affairs and many more) have separate youth programmes, however there is gap on having a coordination between the agencies for youth development work in the country.

Furthermore, the concept of youth engagement in local governance is like a big buzz in the country, which is very contextual in the restructuring process of country. From the planning process including 7 steps planning process of the community to the implementation, youth can play a significant role. However, the engagement of youth in the planning process is again guided with the tokenism.

The theoretical and empirical review indicates that there is no commonality on defining who the youths are and also the way society perceive youth is also different in different context. The age overlaps between child, adolescents and youth itself make the concept of youth confusing. The debate of youth as a collaborator or as troublemakers is there among the theorists. At the same time, the notion youth is not merely linked with the age, it is more of the spirit or feeling of a person is also highly dominant. Some theorists define it as a biological product and some of them define from behavioral point of view.

Linking to the ambiguity on defining youth, the concept of engagement also has different vantage points. The theorist ideas are contradicting with each other. Some of the opinions are only focusing on the participation through tokenism or participation for the sake of participation only, and some ideas are focused with the notion of full and active participation and some goes beyond to that and linked with the concept of engagement of young people. The thrust of engagement for some of the theorist is linked with the youth adult partnership and in some cases, the whole aspect should be led by the youth.

Reviewing the theories and empirics around existing policies and practices in local governance the questions arises, where the existing frameworks on youth engagement are allowing youth to engage in the local governance process and what is the relationship between youth engagement and local governance?

1.3. Research Questions

- What are the policy provisions set forth by the Government of Nepal for youth engagement into the local governance process?
- What are the major areas of youth engagement in the local governance process in Godawari Municipality?
- How are youths contributing in local governance in the Godawari municipality?

1.4. Research Objectives

This research aimed to assess the policy provisions of youth engagement in local governance process of Godawari municipality and also to assess whether practices and provisions related to youth engagement in the local governance process.

- To explore the policy provisions set forth by the Government on youth engagement into the local governance process.
- To explore the areas for youth engagement in the local governance process in Godawari municipality.
- To assess the contribution of youths to the local governance process in Godawari municipality and how municipality is responding the process of youth engagement.

1.5. Significance of the Research

This research is designed to assess the relationship between youth engagement and local governance process. The research further explored the areas of youth engagement and also explored how the youth engagement can help on promoting effective governance at the local level.

The research is designed with an assumption that, youth can play an instrumental role on policy development and implementation process at the local level. However, there are not adequate awareness and mechanisms for mainstreaming youth engagement in the local governance process. There is a mere narration that, the business of local government is more of the business of political leaders and those who are involved have participated with the notion of tokenism. This has been in the both side; in young people side and adult or decision makers side. In young people's side, they are not

engaged into the process as they don't have access whereas in political leaders' side, they think that, it is the business of the government. Hence, the research will focus on exploring the existing policy provisions and pragmatics of youth engagement in the local governance process and also explore the significance of youth engagement on promoting good governance.

In the larger level, this will contribute on the structural exploration of youth engagement in Nepalese society and also aims for redefining the process and practices for youth engagement in the local governance process. This study will also explore on assessing the gaps and challenges on youth engagement in the local level, which can contribute on the formulation of policy process. In course of exploring the areas of youth engagement, the research will focus on exploring the socio-structural reasons behind the engagement. The identification of areas and ways for youth engagement further helps the future researchers on the issue of meaningful youth engagement and their contribution in the local governance.

1.6. Organization of Research

The thesis is divided into six chapters. The first chapter is an introduction of the study, second chapter is focused on introducing the concept of youth engagement in local governance process, and in the third chapter, and methodology adopted for research. Fourth chapter is related to the status of youth in Nepal and importance of youth engagement into local governance process. Fifth chapter is assessing the policy and practices of youth engagement in local governance process in Godawari municipality and the sixth chapter shows the linkages between theory and empirics and at the end concluded with the conclusion.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Understanding Youth and Youth Engagement

2.1.1 Conceptualizing youth

Youth, in a very general understanding, is a period of life in-between childhood and adulthood. It is the time of experimenting their roles, responsibilities and identities aligning with the existing social norms and obligations. In a process of their social integration, young people find themselves in a complex social system, composed of such elements as tradition, history, social demands, hopes, and individual future prospects, all of which they have to incorporate into a coherent picture in order to build a proper foundation for their personal life. Gradually, they have to undertake the responsibility for their society guided by different socially defined norms and demands.

There are different understandings and definition of youth in different countries and societies. Determining age group of youth, different factors plays important role. The physical and mental development, their activeness, energy and dynamic factors can play the roles in determining the youth group. Different countries have different age group to determine the youth age.

Table 1
Defining Youth Age in Years by UN, SAARC Countries and China and their Percent in the Total Population

UN/Countries	Age (years)	Population portfolio
UN	15-24	
Nepal	16-40	40 % of the total population
Afghanistan	18-35	17 % of the total population
Bangladesh	18-35	30 % of the total population
Bhutan	13-24	60 % of the total population
India	15-29	19.1 % of the total population
Maldives	18-35	35 % of the total population
Pakistan	15-29	29 % of the total population
Sri Lanka	15-29	23 % of the total population
China	15-29	25.36% of the total population

Source: National Youth Policy (NYP) of Srilanka, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Maldives, Bhutan retrieved from Youth policy.org/factsheet. The Youth Population in China (2018) NBS / UNFPA / UNICEF Joint Data Project, 2019.

In relation to the political governance contained in National Youth Policy (NYP), Nepal and India come ahead of other countries in SAARC region. Nepal emphasizes to include youth into the process of national development, through their meaningful engagement, developing capacity and leadership. Likewise, India intends to meet youth inspiration through Participation in politics and governance. No other countries have such a clear vision and goal related to political governance. Table 2 presents the present situation of SAARC countries.

Table 2
Year of Implementation of National Youth Policy with its Content related to Governance and Present Status of SAARC countries.

Countries	Year of National Youth Policy (NYP)	Content related to Political governance in NYP
Nepal	2010	Integration of youths in to the mainstream of national development, through their meaningful engagement, capacity development and leadership.
Afghanistan	2014	youth employment, health, education & training, and participation.
Bangladesh	2003	Equal participation in every step of development and decision making.
Bhutan	2011	No
India	2014	Participation in politics and governance but has no state policy.
Maldives	2003	Empowering young people in society.
Pakistan	2012	Only the Punjab Province has issued the youth policy in 2012
Srilanka	2014	Active participation in national development for a just and equitable society.

Source: <https://www.youthpolicy.org>

As per youth development Index (YDI) 2016 Nepal is ranked 77 in global position. In SAARC countries, it is in fourth position. Srilanka, Maldives and Bhutan are ahead. The position of SAARC countries based on YDI 2016 is presented in Table-3.

Table 3
Position of SAARC Countries in YDI

State	Global Rank 2016	YDI Level 2016	2010 Overall Score
Srilanka	31	Very High	0.650
Maldives	62	High	0.665
Bhutan	69	High	0.642
Nepal	77	High	0.605
China	118	Medium	0.588
India	133	Medium	0.494
Bangladesh	146	Low	0.492
Pakistan	154	Low	0.571
Afghanistan	167	Low	0.407

Source: Commonwealth Global Youth Index and Report 2016

There are several definitions available to define the concept of youth from the age, behaviour, sociological perspective and many more.

Sociologist Pierre Bourdieu (1978) mentioned that “youth is just a word” and that it “has been an evolving concept” which has developed over the centuries into a social construction. Youth are also defined as “stages in between childhood and adulthood” and independent from dependent” (Kehily 2007).

Aristotle (in Smith 2010) mentioned about young men who have strong passions, and tend to gratify them indiscriminately. They tend to know each and every aspects, they pretend to ensure of knowing everything. Whenever they commit mistakes, they intend to insult rather than actual harm. Youth show pity to others, thinking everyone an honest man and better than others. Judging neighbour without harm to others are some to the attributes on young men.

Roth (1971) mentioned about Weber’s idea of youth, and according to Weber, youth adhered to the culture of the heroic. The heroic activism against the hedonism of complacent Victorians, he also condemned, as an insult to human dignity, the authoritarian habits of aristocratic officers and civil servants as well as of bourgeois teachers and employers. More-over, he had a powerful affect against "philistine" or

"petty-bourgeois" attitudes, which he discovered among Social Democratic workers no less than in higher social regions.

Wall & Olofsson, Anna (2008) mentioned about the idea of Anthony Giddens where Giddens portray young people making sense of risk. According to Giddens, modern society described by Durkheim and Weber are in a process of dissolve, which will be replaced by a new stage of modernity. That stage as late modernity is filled with the thrust of globalization and individualisation. Different risk factors are produced in industrialized society through that the transition from modernity to globalization was guided. Giddens called that 'risk society'. He further explained globalization and individualization are core concepts mostly in the cosmopolitan societies. On the other side the people living in rural areas mostly the youth are ignored. Including the social aspects of risk, there is the room to go beyond comprehend the situation of youth in different places.

Parsons (1962) mentioned that because of the changes in the society and the life stages between childhood and adult, the concept of 'youth' is in place. Prior to capitalist society, there was single rite of passage which marked a move between childhood to adult, therefor in many societies and culture, no existence of transitional age of youth was discussed.

Smith (1981) argues, the sociology of youth was dominated for many years by two theoretical approaches: structural-functionalism and various forms of idealist analyses. It was structural-functional theory which introduced to the concept of youth culture and subsequently youth subcultures. The term youth culture was itself taken up in a more radical way and subsequently the concept of counter-culture developed. In many ways these debates relate directly to the heady days of the 1960s when the prospect of youth as a genuine source of radical social change was taken very seriously by the media and more generally in the public domain. With the decline of public interest so academic interest has also been reduced within these schools.

Curtain (2000) highlighted the age of youth as a period of conversion from dependence i.e. childhood to independence i.e. adulthood. There is the difference from one place to another and one society to another. The definition highlighted here has the significance in different culture and national contexts however limits the

significance of youth to contribute on development outcomes. Sandoval (2000) mentioned about the idea of incorporating youth into the realm of adults by giving employment opportunities and helping them on establishing a family. This further creates avenues for the social roles and creating status in the society. He further emphasizes the emotional, social, sexual, physical, cognitive development is equally important to develop an identity of youth. Only legal age or biological development is not adequate however to have mature decisions the persons has to have full authority on his/her rights with complete understanding of duties. This indicates, youth are not identified as unique perspectives but are valued for their capability. And importantly theorist has highlighted about female as expected to have upcoming generation as children and youth.

Evans (2010), mentioned about the relationship between the generations. According to him, social age is based on societal values and guided by different generations relations. That eventually developed authority, rights and responsibilities. That further progressed to subordinate children into adulthood and also embedded in a mesh of relations in society including family's responsibilities and reciprocity as well as all doings including family functions marriage, schooling, birthday etc. This has cleared how youth positioned themselves and demands for the spaces within and across society. Abebe (2011) to justify more on the concept of youth, referred about the dynamism of childhood and adult however did not limits them in the mere age factor rather contributes on resource sharing among agency, defining their roles in agencies and sectors and within families and societies.

According to the sociologist, youth is defined as a evolution between 'childhood and adulthood' (Roche et al 2004). Alternatively, the term 'adolescence' is often used from psychological perspective to elaborate further from psychological, emotional and maturity on their sex. It indicates that, youth are sociologically created rather than a biological one (Frith 2005, in kehily 2007). In that regard, youth are the part of society and created within the society. Considering them only from age perspective is not adequate Hall (1904) (In Kehily 2007 p.57). The changes in the biology can have an effect in people through hormonal and psychological changes without control by themselves on their feeling and behavior. Sociologist Margret Mead 1972 not agreed with Halls concept that adolescence by biological changes but mentioned about

“sexual subjugation in society and the way society handled young people” (Kehily 2007).

Social anthropologists define youth from cultural perspective questioning the definition related to biology. Rather than biology, youth should be understood from their behavior, cultural beliefs, societal values, engagement, in socio-political organizations. And also, from coordination with each other which is based upon non-western and traditional societies (Kehily 2007).

Another social anthropologist Jeffery (2010) mentioned about the youth, class and their struggle in Indian society from economic perspective. Different social class youth have different priorities due to their economic status. Unemployment among educated men has become the major problem and the strategies and experiences are different among the young people. In the context of unemployment,sense of being engaged is only ‘time pass’ and ‘hanging out no-where to go’.

Mitchell and Smith (2001) link the concept of youth from cultural perspective and highlighted that youth culture mean the cultural aspects of youth. Culture means, a value where people develop patterns to run their life, maintain their social and material life-experience. "Culture" is the practice which objectify the people in a group to meaningfully form and shape. Thus, the culture of people or group is the odd and distinctive way of people guiding through values and ideas. Those ideas are embedded in organizations, social relations, customs. Because of culture different social group and their relations are structured and shaped'.

There is dichotomy on defining youth as social construct and doorway to adulthood. In every society, different social markers creates the benchmark between youth and adulthood and that concept is also associated with independence and autonomy. The social markers started from marriage which helps to start a family, caring and contribute to the family (Abbink and Van Kessel 2005).

Some favor biological markers, where the understanding is on youth as a period crosses from puberty and adult. Sametime other defines youth as a maker of culture with distinct social status with given roles and relationships (USAID/CMM 2005).

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) defined youth as every human being below the age of 18 years. Similarly, UNWPAY 2000 defined youth as between 15 and 24 whereas UN (1999) Youth Policy Formulation Manual is mentioned the age 16 to 35 years. According to WHO (2002) adolescents (10-19 years), youth (15-24), and young people (10-24) as their age. Similarly, DFID CSO Guide on Youth Participation mentioned 15 to 24 years as youth age. Different countries define youth differently like, in Nepal 16-40, Uganda 18 to 30, Kenya 15 to 35 and Nigeria 12 – 30 years of age.

According to UNESCO (.....), Youth is best understood as a period from the dependence from the childhood to independence of adult, and also on the awareness of interdependence as members of a community. Youth is a more dynamic concept than a fixed age-group.

From this different analysis related to youth, we can say that, youth is not limited on a transitional idea between children and adult, the concept of youth is socially constructed. It is not only the linguistic concept of the biological characteristics and condition. Youth are typically characterized by their freshness, potentiality and having spirit on their physical and mental development. Youth are interested, influence and they want to engage in different dimensions of their personal and societal development. It is also the phase of life in which they want to nurture their personal skills and knowledge and at the same time develop and contribute to the broader stances about the future of nation, community, country and entire humanity. All realized, term youth is most important, precious and indispensable asset of a society. Through their and they have the capacity to awaken the consciousness and sparkle the conscience of the nation and bring about desirable change in the existing system. Youths are an important part of society is the major part of society. Youth is that powerful resource, which can contribute immensely in the community development process.

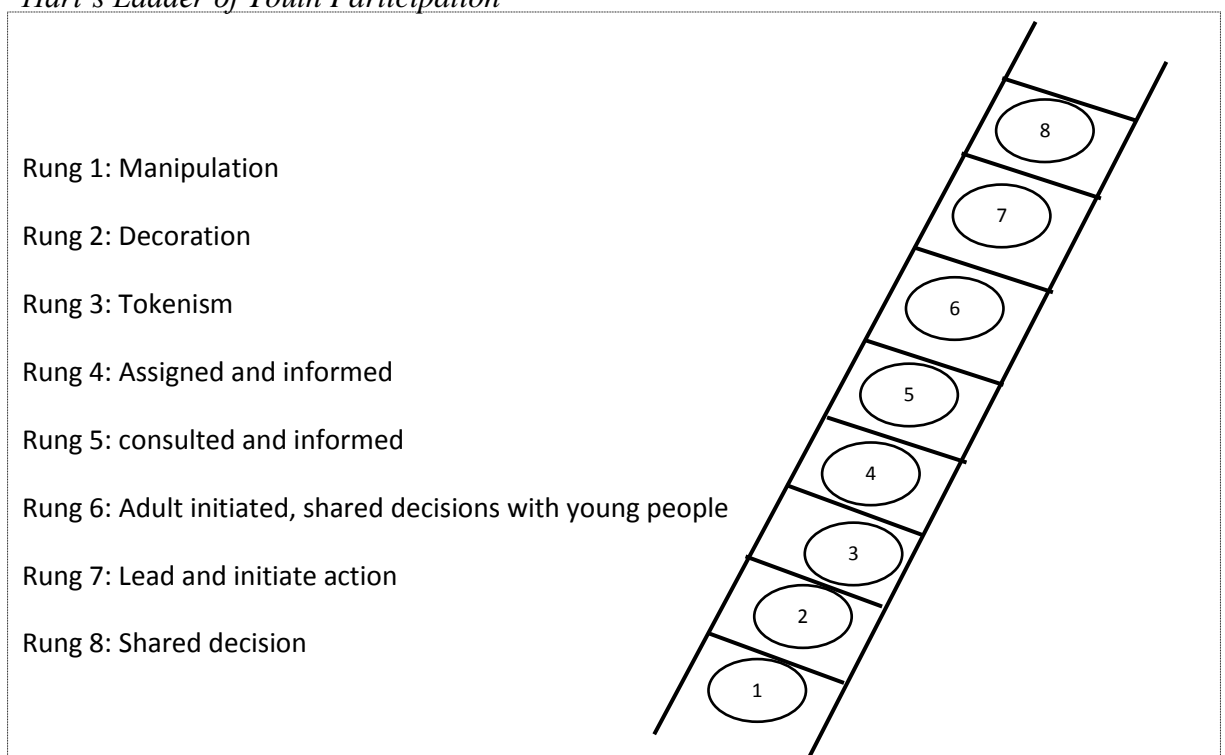
2.1.2. Understanding Youth Engagement

The term engagement and participation often come together with same understanding. While defining so, it is important to differentiate between participation of youth as agents or as beneficiaries of change. Participation itself become a buzz to cover the relationship between adults and youth but engagement is more a watering down

concept which includes the principles and processes of active participation. WPAY (2000) mentioned that youth should participate in environmental protection by planting trees and it also mentions that youth should participate in decision-making of that, (point 72). In that process Governments has to build process which enables the consultation on participation of youth in decision-making processes in all levels from the local, national and regional levels.

To define engagement, Arnstein (1969) linked that on the concept of community development. He developed idea related to ladder of participation in which the bottom step is the participation which is not exactly a participation rather manipulation where power is controlled by the government and making the decisions in government's favor. Further the rungs of the ladder moves from different levels with increase information, partnership and ultimately with full control of the people. The rung in-between promotes the citizen's involvement but in the form of tokenism (Arnstein 1969). In this stage, people suggest, but only the power holders are deciding (Arnstein 1969, 217). Roger Hart (1992) adopted Arnstein's ladder to define the situation of children and youth (Figure 1). The primary difference between the two is that Hart's ladder elaborated that adults are in guiding the process – Hart's last step has explicitly envisions for sharing of power between adult and youth, on another died, whereas Arnstein's top step mentioned about citizens having control. Later Hart's ladder used to conceptualize youth engagement practices over the last few decades.

Figure 1
Hart's Ladder of Youth Participation



Source: Children Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship. UNICEF (1992).

Hart (1992) describes about the ladder of young people's participation in the governance process. The rung of the ladder having 8 different steps have different meanings relating to youth participation. Lower level of the ladder is influenced by adult, where they manipulate young people to claim youth involvement. This is mentioned as tokenism. The top level of the ladder is categorized by learning and decision-making among youth and adult, where young people lead the issues and invite adult members to join on the issues. The top level of participation is engagement, where youth move beyond being beneficiaries as according to DFID/CSO (2010).

Engagement is higher than the participation which enables young people to realize their rights to involve actively and question on decision making and development. Czuba (1999), defines engagement with three elements: i) participation, inclusive process, ii) empowerment, way to leverage power in people, community and society; and iii) transformation, as a means to transform way adults and youth work together. Thus engagement is an active process of change whereby young people have greater rights and responsibilities (Czuba 1999).

Different approaches and frameworks define youth engagement in multiple ways. Social justice framework highlights the youth rights within the existed unfair systems. Youth often discriminated, have right to involve and influence decision making decisions concerning the people while taking decision (Checkoway, 2011). A social justice approach is best matched in the programmes in communities and further guides on community-based programming (Checkoway, 2011).

Likewise, positive youth development approach acknowledged the role of youth and considered them as major resources. By ensuring participation in local council, youth acquire the participation in youth clubs and groups. They also informed about their their rights, develop decision-making skills, develop understanding on decision-making process, and gain control in the process (Checkoway, 2011).

Engagement of people are linked with different government functions. Youniss et al. (2002) highlighted major aspects of civic engagement, including knowledge among

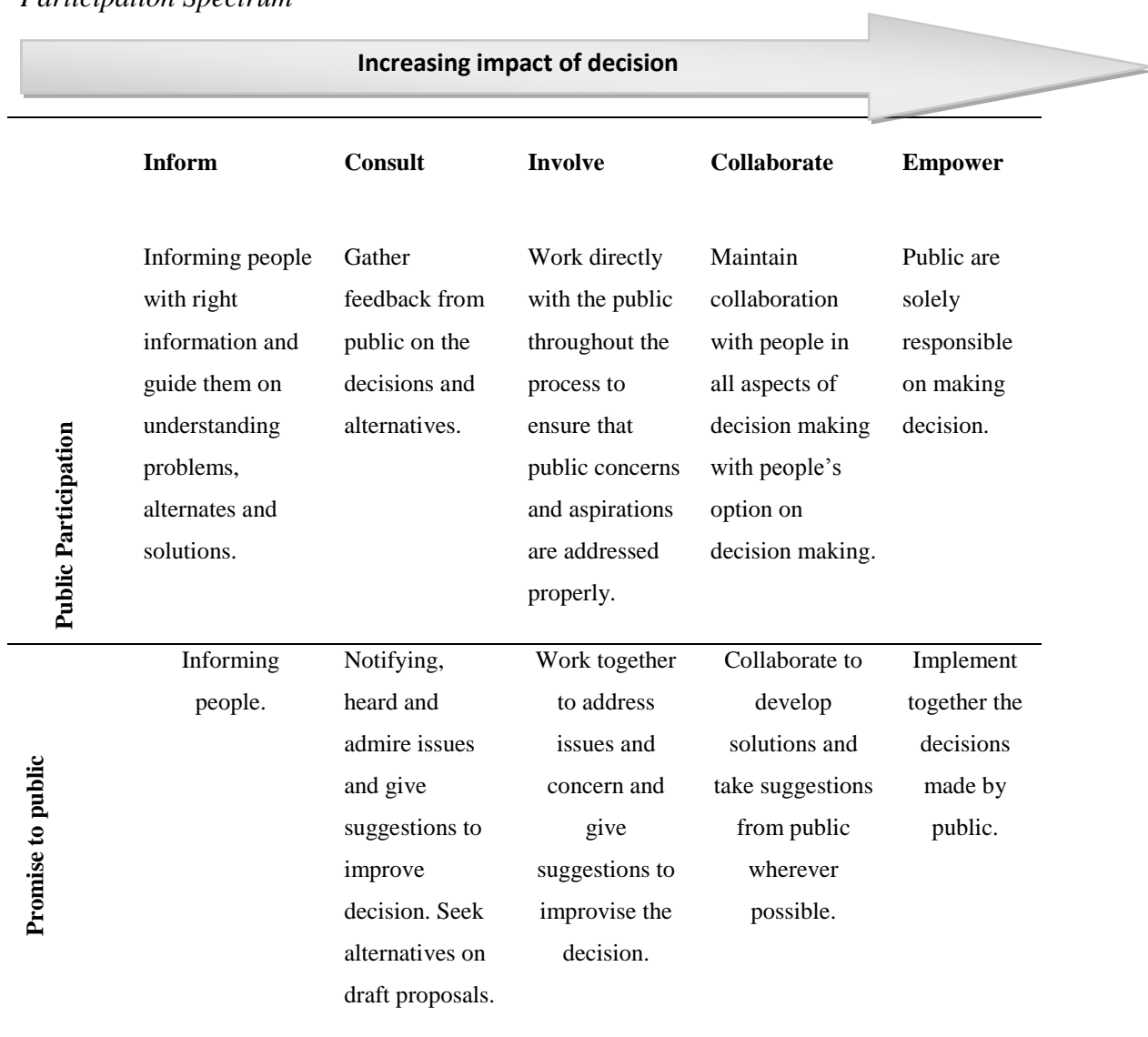
the people involved in government structure and their functions, their attitudes toward politics, and practice such as voting and activities that leads the participation of civil society. In this respect, youth groups or network are only fit when those entities are affiliated with the government system.

Youth are invited to participate in community functions related to governance however, youth are directed by apparatus confirmed by adults. Despite some exceptions, there are only few policy structures are in place to guide youth to participate in the process (Camino & Zeldin, 2002; Zeldin et al., 2007).

Engagement of youth defined by Checkoway (2011) as active and meaningful engagement, rather less engaged or tokenized. That ultimately has to give result in benefits for youth and communities. In that aspect, youth involvement and engagement is guided by an interest of adults.

The participation spectrum developed by IAPA (2007) in revised version of ladder down to 5 steps and developed in the form of 'promise to the public'. Though, this was developed to apply all people, it can be applicable to the youth as well.

Figure 2
Participation Spectrum



Source: IAP2 Spectrum of Participation. From the International Association for Public Participation (2004).

UNSCR 2250 prioritizes youth employment, through the promotion of youth on political engagement and justify the disparity between employment and engagement. This further outlined the right of youth to address aspects of peace in different layers of governance, and voices of youth are favored in the process of interventions by the organizations.

2.2. Governance and Youth Engagement

2.2.1 Defining Governance, good governance and Local Governance

Governance is a process that cross over in different sectors of the society.

Conventionally, it comes more under the domain of political scientists however it goes around other domains including sociology.

Governance means, the way of making decisions and its' implementations. It has different dimensions ranging from corporate, international, national government and local government. It focuses on both formal and informal actors involved in decision process and its' implementation. Government is one of the actors in governance (Singh D. et.al. 2009).

According to World Bank governance is the way of power exercise and management in the process of managing country's socio-economic resources. There are three aspects in it; i) political regime, ii) authority's management on socio-economic resources and government's capacity to develop and execute decisions (World Bank 1994).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defined, governance is viewed as the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. It comprises mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations and mediate their differences (UNDP 1997).

Likewise, according to OECD, exercise of political power and control in the process of managing resources. The definition covers to wider aspects where power holders established an environment to function and determine distribution of benefits among the ruled and ruler (OECD 2006).

As defined by Institute of Governance Ottawa, it is a process of power exercise in organizations with interests of decision makers (IoG 1995).

IIAS, explained the process to implement power and authority and its' influence on policies and decisions related to people and socio-economic development. It is higher than the government and interacts among Government and civil society (IIAS 2007).

The notion of governance gradually been shifted to good governance. Mostly during the time of Cold War (1947 – 1991), governmental representatives of newly independent countries were successfully on the defensive within UN and related international fora; they remained largely untouched by the rich scholarly debate about the new political economy (Bhagawati 1980) social capital (Fukuyama 1995) and public goods (Mendez 1999). The notion of East versus West, moreover, developing countries deflected many criticisms by donors and investors if they hinted at shortcomings in economic and political management and one of the reasons of criticism they made is on the good governance of the developing countries.

Good governance is a dynamic concept. It encompasses a fast-changing political, social, and economic milieu along with the international environment and conditions of operational governance (Singh D. et.al).

World Bank defines good governance as a necessary pre-condition of development. It is to leverage and withstand broader human development. In it's center, governance make able its people, simplify and give power to people without any biases among people without any discrimination in the form of geography, caste, political affiliation, class etc. The decisions are made on the best interests of people for autonomous existence (World Bank 1997). Good governance encompasses the 8 attributes including i) participation, ii) consensus iii) accountability iv) transparency, v) being responsive, vi) making effective and efficient, vii) ensuring equity and inclusivity viii) following rule of law. The corruption is less, opinions of marginalized are acknowledged and most vulnerable are in the decision-making process.

Good governance is a notion to implement and develop democratic values as a political system, culture and governance. Berntzen (1993) cites about Huntington idea of, democratic union as process starts where the “electoral democracy” or minimal democracy functions, passes an exam of double alternation of power through organising and implementing fair and transparent elections, respecting legislation in practice.

Figure 3
Good Governance Principles



Source: UN (n.d.)

Max Weber's sociological focus on governance is the relationship between power and authority in a given society. While making public policy functional by the political leaders, it is connected with government and bureaucracy. For Weber, bureaucracy is an amalgamation of organizations or entities, rules and process in a vertical system where specialized and well-trained people as bureaucrats, public servants are working to run public and private services with given standards. Likewise, good governance as a system where policymakers design to implement decisions following public expectations to ensure certain standards following institutional mandate.

Sociologically, good governance can be operationalized in two major aspects, i) normative dimension, which is based on principle, values and standards that guide donor community, governments, business houses and community based organizations in testing their performance and progress, ii) descriptive dimension, which is more pragmatic aspects of implementing the standards related to good governance as structural change, changes in policies, programmes and their implementation targeting the financial sustainability and growth which eventually reduce poverty and protect

people who are in risk situations and also to progress on the quality of services and making them people oriented (Rhodes 1997).

Following to the principles of good governance and participatory development, there have been emergence of local governance as a concept of making communities autonomous and flexible in terms of decision making for their development. Aurora Ndreau (2016) defines, local governance is ensured when community people adequately interacts to address their problems either in a group or individual for achieving result. For that, management of services and people's representation is essential. These two aspects also referred as an indicator of effective government. She further entailed, local government as an entity to run administrative, legislative and executive functions in prescribed areas under jurisdiction. It is more elaborated as an authority based which determines given procedures of a society.

In a socio-developmental definition, mentioned by Aurora (2016), given by L. Godwin (2014) on local governance, government as an entity to manage the public affairs of the locality where they live. According to Humes and Martin (1961), local government have following characteristics:

- have certain resident,
- given area,
- authority to sign contracts with third parties,
- legally authorized,
- regular set up,
- realize economic functions to collect revenue and fix budget.

For local governance Aurora Ndreau (2016) further elaborates about the integral characteristics as following;

- Fixed area; local government has dedicated and fixed areas to function. It could be village, region, county or city based on the territory of organization. These has been functionalized through the government and parliament based on the country's law.
- People with authority: Leaders elected are responsible to manage governance of locality. Those representatives are assigned to run entire management of their areas and run services to people in their jurisdiction.

- Own financial system to run services acquired from the taxes and subsidies.
- Local government shall conduct activities in line with existing law, choosing representatives to govern as local autonomy.
- Participation of local people guides the development of society in successful direction. Local participation envisions meaningful participation as a condition to achieve goal and making participation public.
- Local leadership to establish dialogue with government through leadership skills to develop space for engaging rightly.
- Ensure accountability once representatives are elected, they have to address the goal and link them on services to get re-elected.
- Development of their community to realize an importance of Government.

2.2.2 Youth Engagement in Local Governance

Youth engagement in local governance demands for dedicated type of youth engagement in terms of development and civic engagement. Engaging youth in decision-making process leverages spaces to expand social justice and also allows for true engagement and representation of voices. Youth councils affiliated in local governments can facilitate and formalize scope and space for youth engagement which eventually reduce social isolation. It also offers spaces for youth to make voice louder for effective policy implementation. Despite general acceptance of youth council as space to engage youth, ample research is not in place related to prevalence and operations of these entities (Augsberger, et. al. 2017).

According to Commonwealth Governance, Development and Youth Networks, Young people are determined to use the power and resources of community however, without engaging them in decision making in public or private sector, country miss important resource base. Youth can support the process through their new perspectives and expertise to make the governance functions.

Gerardo Berthin (2013) mentioned about the political participation in local government is scarce, particularly in Latin America. According to him, the topic of political participation goes beyond the traditional focus on participating in electoral processes at the local level, and includes analysis of young people participation in local politics, what are their localized demands, how avenues for policy dialogue

among local bodies are created, what elements of local space allow youth to be catalyst of human development, and/or what institutional opportunities and limitations are there against promotion of youth political participation in local level. All of these are issues still scarce in the current literature of the analysis of local governance and youth in Latin America.

Youth engagement has also been addressed from more economy-based perspectives. As the growth rate of the 15 to 24-year-old cohort in Latin America has continued to increase, in comparison to other age cohorts, it has brought to the fore, policy issues related to youth employment, productivity and entrepreneurship.

From the pragmatic aspects, there are 8 parameters commonly used for defining good governance. The government has to be participatory, focus on consensus, be accountable, ensure transparency, be responsive, function effectively and efficiently along with ensuring equity and inclusivity. The government has to follow the rule of law to give assurance for its' people in to the governance process and to make them free from corruption. Further, the government equally give focus on the minority issues and address the voice of vulnerable group in course of making decisions.

According to Dahal (1996), for ensuring good governance democracy is an essential prerequisite. A democracy can only leverage the morals of economic and freedom of politics and development of individuals to increase mass participation. The good governance is a situation where there is a mutual trust between the state and the citizen. Comparatively, an emphasis on the democratic form of governance should be given towards participation of its' citizen. They should participate in several initiatives and organizations even in government sectors. The idea that youth participation in government is connected with the growth of deliberative democracy at all levels of the government. Broadly, deliberative democracy creates spaces for an interaction of its people, and the policies relating to them.

Dryzek (2017) mentions, when people establish political dialogue of their preferences, values and judgements than only deliberative democracy can functions. He further defines aspects of a deliberative democracy, which is summarized here:

- Agencies where people purposely organized and continuously engage into the process.

- People have different and conflicting ideas. They do have different aims and do think for fixed choices, compulsion and beliefs.
- Deliberation is the basis of legitimacy; hence, decisions for changes in political and legislative process be tracked for the process.
- People identify their capacities to use methods in process of interactions.

According to Tindal and Tindal (2009), local government's nearness to people which rules in the good way on their issues. In some instances, representatives are not associated with parties, and may have the representation from relatively smaller areas and less accessible. It emphasizes for engaging discussion to conduct in local governments – to make people aware on an importance of engagement.

In different contexts when formal mechanisms are not giving spaces for youth, youth themselves seek the spaces around peace and development initiative outside of formal government frameworks. Sometimes they act individually and sometimes they form a group, take lead role and also work as brokers of politics brokers through different organizations and groups.

Sometimes youth are unresponsive or want to keep themselves away from working in formal structures and with leaders of political parties with an assumption of thinking them as corrupt and self-enriching. Hence, apart from addressing concerns around schooling their economy, they can be lured to the critiques on governance.

Two views are in existence around the function of political representative – trustee, and delegate (Tindal and Tindal 2009). Trustee is supposed to collect and organized people's opinion of their constituents and use their best decision. He or she delegates to in accordance with the wishes of the constituents. Youth engagement in local governance opens the pave for the development not only of youth themselves but also of the community(ies) where they belong to.

Young (2000) mentioned, confirming accountability and transparency is a basic guidance for youth's engagement. In that process people's representation is foremost thing with their power and authority. That gradually influence and develop tactics to address exclusion and those are the core for public participation processes.

Bryson (2016) stated about the purposes of youth engagement. These includes: completing legal aspects, symbolizing democratic engagement and inclusion; scaling up justice; awakening public and understanding their issues, exploring, generating potential solutions and developing policies, programmes in good quality.

Legitimacy is challenged notion in youth engagement, mostly highlighted in line with the process of engagement. From the technical perspectives of decision and fairness of decision process, decisions can disenchant people from government and disrupt implementation (Bryson 2016). Very commonly used in discussion about deliberative democracy needs that the participants understood the issues clearly, use right arguments and maximize right criteria for options and outcomes. From another perspectives of understanding legitimacy, the quality of the process making just and rational is essential. Procedural justice again linked with the idea of impartiality, transparency, focus to stakeholders' concerns and openness to people's idea.

Diversity and inclusion are other aspects to look in an engagement process. Stakeholder analysis, power dynamics analysis is required to ensure the under-represented and marginalized groups (Bryson 2016). Inclusion and exclusion are often used for ethnic, racial, gender or socioeconomic diversity for making them part in public participation. It may also be associated with social and economic diversity, relatively to the people for whom decisions are targeted.

Reviewing the literatures, the conclusion can be directed as the term 'good governance' is wide and lodges central spaces in development discourse. From the sociological vantage point, good governance is something which is directly connected to the society and their people, which sets the ground to foster democratic values. It is an integral part to incorporate in development process. It is clear from the above review that good governance is art of government where decisions are made transparently and influence officials to make responsible decision for bridging the gap between government and people.

Scholars have also paid attention on defining governance through different ways. Scholars tend to link governance with a democratic polity and the way to achieve democratic norms and values. Governance can be good as decisions and functions of government are based with agreement, engagement, legitimacy and accountability towards people. To conclude, good governance is that which fosters human and

community development through participation of different groups in which the programmes and plans have been targeted.

Youth engagement is a term that can be defined from different perspectives. Some define it as to enroll youth as beneficiary of programmes however, the purpose of engagement is not understood as beneficiary rather it explores for their engagement in meaningful way and in many stances, it should be self-initiated by the youth themselves. Through engagement, youth can contribute in decision-making, program design, policy making, budgeting and implementation. Youth Leadership Institute defines youth engagement as, meaningful, intentional and fully sensitized collaboration among youth and adult taking people's concern in center of development (Youth Leadership Institute 2009, p.13).

Youth engagement helps to identify the needs of young people, and to guarantee that their basic rights as recognized and enforced in different policy protocols. Young people's active and meaningful engagement in their societies, in democratic practices and processes is important not only on mainstreaming youth in the development process but also on their overall development.

Youth are seen as major players in development and stability; as ActionAid puts it: youth are not only the leaders of future but are drivers of change at present. Youth are an important stakeholder for achieving inclusive development (Action Aid 2019).

Because youth have openness and zeal to tackle challenges, they can come up with new and different ideas. At when, they are given opportunities they can direct programmes in good directions. Adult can be benefitted from the engagement of youth and understand better the issues and priorities through them (Innovations Center for Community and Youth Development, 2003).

2.2.3. Research Gap

There is the theoretical gap on the study on understanding the youth engagement in different contexts. It is not clear what type of factors are creating environment for promoting youth engagement into the governance process. Likewise, there is the gap whether the Government is paying ample attention on promoting youth engagement into the governance process or considering youth as only the beneficiary of the

services given by the Government. This study tries to answer the above-mentioned questions. Likewise, there has not been any specific study conducted on the issues of youth and their engagement into the Governance process and its' result after engaging them.

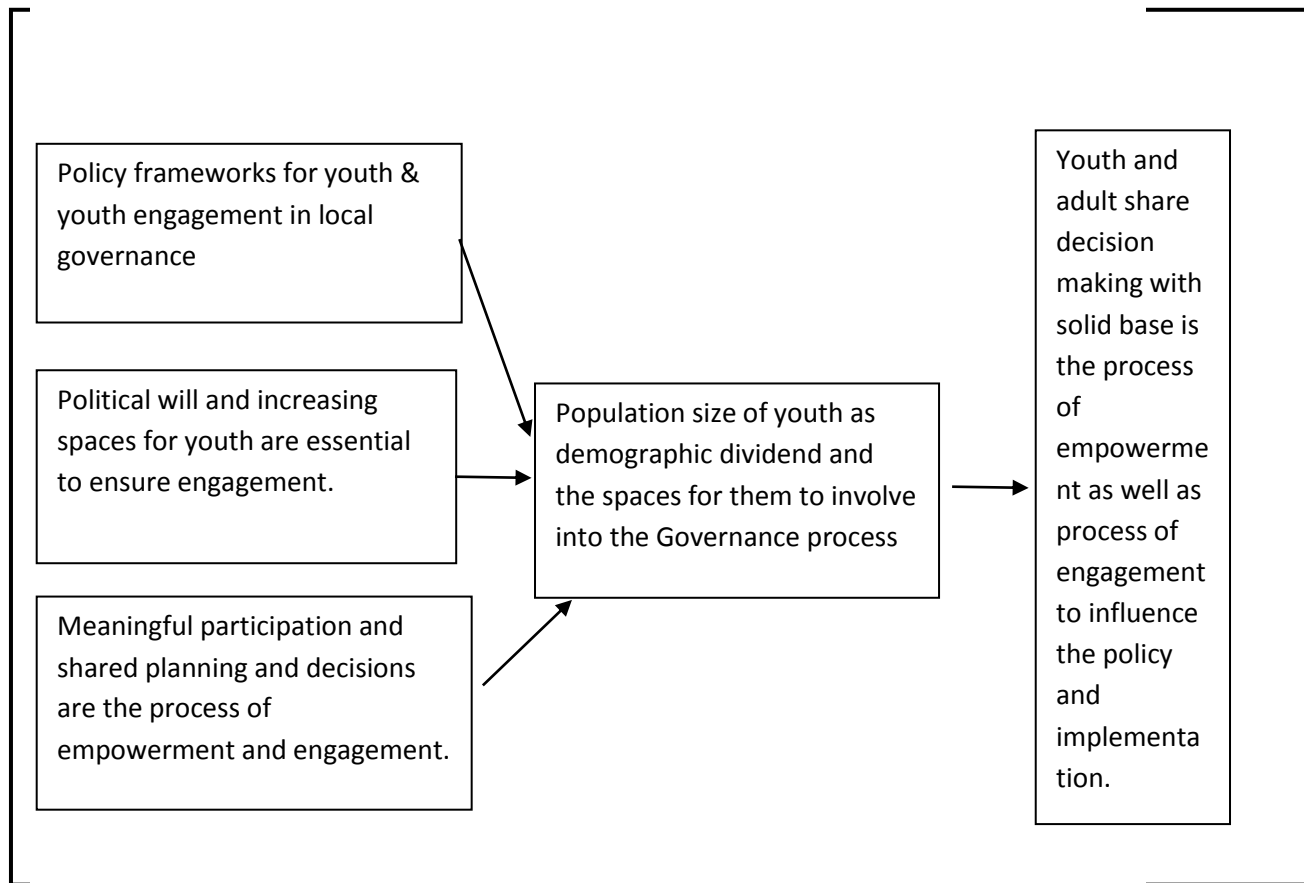
The study tries to explore what are the mechanisms and framework developed for addressing the issues related to youth into the governance process. While doing so, the study intends to explore the main areas of youth engagement into the Governance process and also intends to assess whether youth engagement in local governance is contributing to good/effective governance of municipality or not?

In this context, this research focuses on whether the policy provisions set in the federal level for youth engagement are adequately transferred into the local level or not. And the research also intends to explore the gaps in the local government to mainstream youth engagement into the local governance process.

As stated in the Youth vision 2025 the youth age has been classified into two age cohorts. Youth under the age 16-24 are accorded more emphasis in regard to education, health, training, leadership development and employment whereas the age group 25-40 years will be actively involved in employment, leadership, management, health, investment, in the youth and entrepreneurship and policy formulation/decision and implementation. The study tries to assess the municipality's youth programming in that way or not.

2.2.4. Conceptual Framework

Based on the review of literature related to the research topic, following conceptual framework has been designed.



CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Introduction

This chapter describes the detail methodological approach and process conducted while conducting the research. Mostly the research has adopted the qualitative methods however some data has been collected from the municipality to verify the secondary information. This chapter further deals about the selection of the study area, design of the study, sources of data, sampling procedure and data collection procedure and analysis techniques in details of each subsection, interpretation of each section in detail.

3.2. Nature and Sources of Data

The data collected for this research is qualitative in nature. To review the policy provisions the data has been collected from the available sources from an authentic Government sources including Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Youth Council, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration. To get the data of the research site, the data has been collected from the publication of Godawari municipality i.e. profile, yearly programme and budget, the number of elected representatives and their diversity in terms of age, inclusion and ethnicity.

The data for this research is derived from both primary and secondary sources.

1. **Primary Sources:** Primary data have been collected from original source that is from the ministry officials, young people, municipal staffs and political leaders (Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Ward Chairs). This has given the researcher first-hand information which has not been used before. The data has been gathered through the use of interview and questionnaires.
2. **Secondary Sources:** This secondary has been obtained from existing data that has been used before. This includes; journals, articles, books, thesis, policies and reports.

3.3. Research Design

This research intends to explore the areas of youth engagement in the local governance process and their ways of engagement in to the local governance process. In course of the assessment, this research also explores about whether, youth engagement in the local governance process contributes on promotion of effective and good governance system or not.

For the research, mixed method has been followed in collecting and analyzing the data. Qualitative method is the main focus however to capture the data, youth voices, quantitative method has also been adopted. While doing the qualitative analysis, content and discourse analysis related to youth engagement in local governance process has been followed. Apart from that, focus group discussion, key informant interview, and trend of youth programming has been analyzed. In the same manner, during the quantitative data collection and analysis, questionnaire method has been adopted.

This study is descriptive in nature, so, Godawari municipality was selected to carry out the study on youth engagement. Along with, review of the relevant documents of Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Youth Council and National Planning Commission, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance were selected.

3.4. Selection of Study Area and Population

The study area chosen for the study was Godawari municipality, Lalitpur, Nepal. The researcher selected Godawari municipality considering the municipality is one of the closer municipalities from Kathmandu which is located in the periphery of Kathmandu valley. Being closer to the federal government, an accessibility of information and coordination with the federal government is relatively easier. There have been focused interventions on youth empowerment through Ministry of youth and sports (MoYS) and National Youth Council on youth entrepreneurship, however, those programmes have been developed at federal level and chosen for implementation. From the initial review of existing literatures, in course of developing those programmes, there were not adequate consultation with youth and responsible groups. Likewise, Godawari is an accessible location for the researcher

having an easy access from Kathmandu, reachable youth groups, already established coordination with some of the municipality staffs and somehow familiar area are some of the other factors for choosing Godawari as research site.

Godawari is a municipality in Lalitpur District of Bagmati province . The municipality was restructured through the merger of the former Village Development Committees including Godamchaur, Bisankhunaryan, Thaiba, Badikhel, Lele, Devichaur, Dukuchhap, Chhampi, Chapagaun, Thecho, Jharuwarashi and Godawari in 2014 after the federalization process. According to the household survey of 2075, a total of 18262 households are living in the municipality. Out of 116,045 total residents, 58,302 are female and 57,743 are male. The total youth population (16-40 years) residing in the municipality is 50,108 and out of it, 25,338 are female and 24,770 are male (Municipality profile 2015).

3.5. Sampling

The theoretical sampling was used for the data collection starting from a group of high-level influencers/politicians including Mayor/deputy mayors, administrative chief who were the part of interview. As Glaser and Strauss (1967) describes theoretical sampling is the process of data collection for generating theory whereby the analyst jointly collects, codes and analyzes his data and decides what data to collect next and where to find them, in order to develop his theory as it emerges.

Theoretical saturation has been used for ensuring that adequate and quality data are collected to support the study. Data saturation occurs when my research is no longer hearing or seeing new information.

A total of 10 sample size from the Government officials includes executive vice chair and administrative chief, joint secretary of Ministry of Youth and Sports and Mayor of Godawari municipality and ward chairs of 6, 10, 11 and 13 were selected for the interview. Likewise, two experts working on youth issues were also selected. Government officials were selected as they are the one who develops and implement policies related to youth and experts were selected based on their expertise. Two focused group discussion with young people conducted in the process of data

collection and youth were selected from diverse background based on their education, accessibility to information, sex, ethnicity and wards.

3.6. Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

The research is basically focused on studying the areas of youth engagement in local governance process. For this, the research has applied qualitative methodologies, as the research targets to collect primary as well as secondary data from the sources. In particular, four specific data collection methods (techniques) applied to conduct the research:

1. Interview
2. Document Analysis
3. Focus group discussion (FGD)

3.6.1. Interview

Interview is a tool to collect primary data in qualitative research. According to Bingham and Moore, interview is a dialouge with a purpose (Baskota 2009: 108) Interview is an interactive process between two or more people in which one person answers verbally (Majumdar 2005: 236).

During the study a total of 10 including the Government officials and municipality elected representatives including Mayors and Ward Chairs were part of the interview. The names of the persons who were taken interview are enlisted in the Annex – I. The semi-structured questions were asked to all the persons who were taken interview. Some of the respondents have requested for anonymous inclusion of those information. Their names have not been stated neither they are included. But the information provided by them has been included in the study. Almost all interviews were conducted in formal setting but due to the priorities of the Mayor and Ward Chari in their respective offices, due consideration have been accepted during the interview process. In course of writing, follow up discussion had been conducted in telephone also.

Similarly, interview has been conducted with the administrative chief of National Youth Council, youth programme focal point from National Planning Commission,

youth focal point of the municipality, ward chairs and selected youth. Likewise, 2 unstructured interviews were conducted with the service receivers who come to the municipality office.

3.6.2. Content Analysis

During the study, literatures, facts and figures from various places were collected. Most important step was content analysis. Under content analysis, published and unpublished books, journals, research works, articles, notes, newspapers, magazines, and online information, country report, ministry documents', newsletter of National Youth Council, Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Planning commission had been reviewed.

3.6.3. Focus Group Discussion

The proposed methods are important and relevant for carrying out this research. The researcher intends to focus mainly on the interview and focus group discussion (FGD) however to verify and connect the findings of interview and FGD to the reality researcher has conducted the observation and informal discussion with the service receiver in the municipality. There are open-ended interviews where researcher can elaborate to propose insights in set questions, focused interviews that follow protocol, and surveys, which have structured questions designed for qualitative data (Yin 1994, cited in Karyeija 2009: 95).

Two FGDs were conducted to explore the issues of youth engagement at the local level by the youth themselves. FGDs with youth in which 16-40 years group youth from the existing youth club/networks, youth working in different themes, consumers' group youth, youth political representatives have been organized. Interview was conducted with the ward chair to explore the situation of the ward.

Along with the policies related to youth and linked policies related to youth engagement have been reviewed thoroughly.

3.7. Data Collection Procedure

At the beginning the researcher prepared the tentative list of possible respondents/participants for the study. A checklist was prepared for the study. The

researcher coordinated with the municipality and respective group through a local contact of municipality. The tools/interview checklist prepared and for data collection. Considering the COVID 19 situation, the health protocols was followed in course of collecting the data. Prior to the data collection, discussion and consent for research purpose was taken from all the participants.

3.8. Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedure

The study adopted mostly the descriptive and exploratory methods. Formal and informal interview and discussions were held with the municipality officials, elected representatives, Ministry of Youth and Sports and National Youth Council officials. While presenting the primary and secondary sources of materials and in-depth and/or informal interview, narrative and analytical study were carried out. Mostly interesting and important discussions during data collection and interview are presented as it is.

To analyze and interpret the data and information related to the study, all the collected information was organized and relevant information was selected. Following to that, through review of the selected data and information was conducted based on the relevancy, accuracy and reliability. All the collected data and information are organized and presented in the separate paragraphs and theme wise by creating the linkages among the paragraphs. All the interviews were recorded and categorized before presenting theme wise.

3.9. Ethical Consideration

Before taking the data from the respondents and key informants, their consent was taken. Similarly, the key informants asked whether the recorder can be used or not before taking their interviews. The key informants and respondents assured by confirming that the given version of him/her to be used for academic purpose only and shall remain confidential. Similarly, gender balance and sectorial balance maintained in course of FGD.

3.10. Limitation of the Study

Among various aspects of youth engagement in multiple domains, this research mainly focused on the aspect of youth engagement in local governance considering

Godawari municipality as a research site. Hence, the research doesn't cover other aspects apart from governance related to youth. The data collection for this research was carried in an adversity of COVID 19 which limits the researcher to limit the number of interviews and also the data collection process has been delayed and, in some instances, follow up on the data has been carried out virtually.

CHAPTER IV

POLICY AND PROGRAMMES ON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN NEPAL

4.1. Introduction

This chapter intends to review the existing policy frameworks developed by the Government on youth engagement into the local governance process. The chapter also creates the link between the policies of Nepal into the global frameworks related to youth. The researcher endeavors to assess critically on the constitution, structural provisions, policy provisions, and specific provisions outlined in the act and provisions set forth for youth engagement into the local governance process. This chapter also intends to analyze the historicity of the youth engagement in Nepal and how the things are being progressed into the process of youth engagement.

4.2. Existing Policies Related to Youth Engagement in Nepal

The UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security established a base for youth participation and also addresses the imbalance in employment and participation. The resolution recognizes that youth as a largest group of people have positive role they might play in peacebuilding and reconstruction. UNSCR 2250 further emphasizes the right of young people to engage in all levels of government, and that their issues and voices should be heard and addressed properly in relevant institutions and interventions. However, differing to other UN definitions of youth as people aged 15–24, UNSCR 2250 categories youth as being aged 18–29. (UNSCR2250).

The Constitution of Nepal (2015) has given ample spaces for youth engagement and collaboration with youth. In the section of directive principles of social justice and inclusion, the provision to establish atmosphere for the full enjoyment of political, economic, social and cultural rights, while enhancing engagement of youths in country's development has been highlighted. The Constitution has also created base for providing special opportunity in areas including education, health and employment for the empowerment and development of the youths and provide them with appropriate opportunities for the overall development of the nation. In the article

17 (gha), right to open an organization is included as fundamental rights. Likewise, in the article 51 (kha, gha and cha), there is the clause for including citizens into the governance process (Nepal Law Commission 2015). Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) has been functioning as an apex body to lead an entire youth development and sports related work since 2065 BS (2008) (Nepal Government 2008).

Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) is a focal ministry to promote and support youth development work in the country. Ministry has endorsed National Youth Policy 2010 and revised on 2015 with a vision to utilize the potential of youth in nation building process with their meaningful engagement. MoYS is responsible for executing the National Youth Policy and overarch all youth development work in country.

After an establishment of the Ministry, a National Youth Policy was formulated in 2068 BS (2011). Several other Ministries of Nepal Government have been implementing programs related to youth development including the issues related to education, health, agriculture, tourism, labor, employment and sports. The Youth Council Act 2015 (2072) is developed to coordinate youth related programs for youth development and mobilization. After promulgation of the youth Council Act, National Youth Council (NYC) is established on 2015 (2072 BS) to coordinate youth development and mobilization programmes (Nepal Law Commission 2015). Under the ministry, National Sports Council is also functioning which looks after sports related programmed.

The National Youth Policy 2072 sets a vision to empower young people in order to ensure role and utilize their inherent capacity of youth for building prosperous, modern and just Nepal. In that process youth integration and their meaningful engagement, capacity and leadership development has also to be ensured. The policy highlights to work on: education; health and family welfare. Similarly, the control of trafficking in and sale of human beings and; participation of youth in peace-building and conflict resolution are also been highlighted.

The National Youth Council Act 2072 is endorsed by the parliament of Nepal for the protection and promotion of youth issues through their empowerment from the local to national level. According to the Act, National Youth Council is established as an independent entity and set 36 members council as supreme board. The clause no.

(dafa) 6 has envisioned the rights and responsibilities of the National Youth Council to, develop and submit the long-term policy related to youth, implementation of the plan and programmes approved by the Government, formulation of standard for the organizations' affiliated with youth council, mobilization of youth volunteers on social development and formulation of policy related to that, creating motivation to the youth for national development, approval of the annual programme and budget and provide suggestions and guidance for youth development and mainstreaming of youth issues.

Likewise, National Youth Council Guidelines 2073 has been developed based on the clause no. 31 of National Youth Council Act 2072. Guidelines further added the rights, roles and responsibilities related to youth council to develop the standards and procedures for the organizations who want to affiliate with youth council, approval of the policy and programmes related to youth information centers, implementation of relevant programmes targeting the youths in substance use, ormulation of guidelines for the youth engagement in the local governance process,

NYC Act, 2072 (2015) has defined 16 to 40 years as youth age. And according to the census 2011, the population under that age cohort is 40.35 percent of total population (Nepal Law Commission 2015).

The National Youth Policy 2072 and National Youth Council Act 2072 defined youth as 16-40 years which constitutes 40.35% of total population. Government of Nepal has put its' commitment to empower youth by making them capable, competitive and independent through their meaningful engagement in decision making.

Nepal is a Federal Republic country with seven Provincial Governments (PGs) and 753 Local Levels (LLs). Each level of Governments has defined list of exclusive and shared powers under the Constitution and are fully functional. After the promulgation of constitution in the country in 2072, there have been some deliberate initiatives and programming has been started for mainstreaming youth engagement.

The review of the international framework, constitution and the existing polices from MoYS and NYC indicates that, there are good progresses are being made for youth engagement. The policies created the solid base to further design guidelines and programmes for the youth in the local level.

4.3. Programmes Related to the Youth Engagement in Nepal

National Youth Council (NYC), as a body to coordinate youth development work has been functioning to implement 10 years strategic plan, Youth Vision 2025 as a strategic plan to execute youth programmes in country since 2015. Youth Vision 2025, broadly categories five major areas/domains for youth development, i) quality and vocational education, ii) employment, entrepreneurship and skills development, iii) youth health and social security, iv) mobilization, participation and leadership development and v) sports and entertainment.

Out of these five pillars, pillar IV is explicitly on the areas of engagement of youth in the development process, though other pillars are cross-cutting each other. To coordinate and implement the Youth Vision 2025 and National Youth Policy, in each district there is a mechanism called District Youth Committee (DYC). Furthermore, Youth Vision 2025 has classified youth into 16-24 years and 25-40 years in terms of executing the programmes (Youth Vision – 2025 2015).

National Youth Council (NYC) has provisioned for developing the youth clubs at the local level based on the working procedure related to the formation of youth clubs and model youth parliament 2075. NYC further sets the structure of youth assembly through which youth gets organized and bring the issues and agendas at the political and decision-making level. The structures created at the local level are aimed to influence the decision-making process and making the decision-making bodies focused inclusive.

The 15th periodic plan (2019/20 – 2023/24) has provisioned the guidance for youth development and programming considering requirement to utilize the involvement in nations' prosperity by capitalizing on the demographic dividend as evidenced by the existence of 40.35% of the youth population. Further to this, 15th periodic plan set a clear objective (out of four objectives, one is related to youth participation) for meaningful youth engagement. The objective 3 of the plan entails, to motivate for meaningful participation of youths in the process of governance, and social, cultural, and economic transformation which further sets the strategies to establish youth innovation centers in all provinces, a model youth parliament, formation of youth clubs and their mobilization at each local level for their inclusive participation in the process of governance. Likewise, the formulation and implementation of policies and

regulations to be formulated by all levels of governments (National Planning Commission 2021).

Likewise, the Local Government Operation Act 2074 entails about the meaningful engagement of different groups in the planning process. The clause 15 provisions for the collaborative action between community groups & organizations, private sectors, intellectuals, cooperatives and consumer groups. Likewise, clause 24 entails about the provision of interim and long-term plan of the respective local government. In the sub-clause 5 of clause 24 there is the provision of engaging different groups such as women, children, youth, marginalized etc. in the planning process of local government (Nepal Law Commission 2017).

The concept of youth engagement in the local governance process in Nepal not that old concept. The discourse of young people's participation in the local governance has been started formally with the launch of Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) on 2013 in which one of the focus of the programme was on making accountable the governance actors toward their citizens and communities. And one of the outcomes related to that was on engaging youth as change agents in local level planning process and involve them in monitoring and oversight processes in order to make local governance actors accountable and to make the social mobilization programme more effective. The target set by the programme was 15% on the baseline value of 1.5% (retrieved from LGCDP Programme document 2013 on 20th June, 2021). After LGCDP, Nepal Government has been implementing Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP) programme since July 2019 and the programme also focuses on Capacity building of federal, provincial, and local governments and right-holders to ensure youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services and protection from gender-based violence and harmful practices, particularly for women, adolescent girls and youth: contribute toward health sector devolution, governance, and system strengthening (retrieved from PLGSP Programme document 2019 on 20th June, 2021).

Together with the discourse of youth engagement, there have been a programme called child friendly local governance (CFLG), which advocates for ensuring child friendly mechanisms and one of the important pillars for that is the meaningful engagement of children in the governance process. The role of CFLG has been

significant in providing a recognition to the child rights issues as the governance issues. It has helped integrate child participation and child friendly approach in the governance process (retrieved from National Strategy of CFLG 2068). The children harnessing their leadership in the child club (mostly based in school), and one of members of child club being nominated as a representative for the municipal council to bring children's voices in the planning process. CFLG programme has been started since 2068 and numbers of municipalities and wards have been declared as child friendly. Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) has endorsed the Implementation Guidelines on CFLG on 2078 and provisions 51 different indicators to ensure child friendly local Governance.

Thus, engagement of youth in governance involves their direct or indirect involvement in decision-making about policies, plans or programs in which they are concerned and their interest is focused. There are the constitutional and policy frameworks in place which sets the base for mainstreaming youth engagement into the governance process. Constitution however, doesn't explicitly mentioned about youth engagement, The National Youth Policy 2072, The National Youth Council Act 2075, Youth Vision 2025 mentioned and given the solid base for youth engagement into the Governance process. In the 15th Periodic plan acknowledges the importance of youth engagement into the governance process and Local Government Operation Act 2074 highlights about the importance of youth in governance process. There are not focused programmes from Government for youth engagement into the governance process however, the child friendly local governance programme is already in place and the programme aims to mainstream children into the governance process.

Local Government can play an important role on community service delivery and executing youth programming. Local Government has 22 different exclusive rights through which local Government can develop the plans, policies and programmes. For reflecting those aspects into reality, there should be effective and meaningful participation of youth. There are several groups, organizations and Government programmes are working for youth development, however, there is not effective coordination ensured among those work.

National Youth Council (2015) envisioned for the Youth Friendly Local Governance Strategy with following objectives;

- Collaboration, partnership and coordination with youth on the planning and programming of local Government.
- Proper mobilization of youth and collaboration among different stakeholders for ensuring entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
- Develop transparency, accountability, participation and ensure rule of law on the programme run by local Government by mobilizing youth.
- Engage youth on empowering marginalized groups, sector, community by mobilizing the youth population.

For achieving these objectives following major action plan has been developed by the strategy to develop minimum indicators of the youth friendly village and to develop basis for the work plan for youth friendly village.

After the promulgation of Constitution of Nepal in 2015, the country has established three tiers of Governments; federal, provincial and local level Governments. Each of the Governments have given importance to mainstream youth issues into the development process. Federal Government has been coordinating on youth issues through Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) and National Youth Council (NYC).

There have been various programmes in existence from other ministries related to youth. Apart from Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security and the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers have addressed the issues of youth by developing the programmes and policies.

In the National Education Policy 2076, there is the specific focus given on youth to mainstream technical and vocational education to youth. Addition to that, there is a provision to organize regular youth scientist conference and scientist' performance from the local to federal level (MoEST).

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) has issued the implementation guideline for youth focused programmes under Department of Agriculture. The Implementation Guideline 2071 envisages to create motivation among youth on agriculture with specific focus on fishing, vegetable farming, bee-

keeping, mushroom farming and production. The guidelines further identified the youth in the age cohort of 18-50 years who is interested on agriculture (MoALD 2021).

Prime minister youth self-employment programme is designed to execute the constitutional provision. The point no. 33 of the Constitution of Nepal has included the rights of employment as fundamental rights. Based on the constitutional provision, Act related to the Rights of Employment 2075 has been issued. In every years' policy, programme and budget the Government has been declaring the programme to end unemployment. The Act envisages to establish the Employment Service Center (ESC) to identify the unemployed people and provide at least of 100 days of employment services in one fiscal year to those people listed in the ESC. In case, the local Government is unable to provide employment opportunity, The Government of Nepal has to provide 50% of survival allowance of the basic salary of 100 days. For those listed unemployed youth, the opportunity has to be created in agriculture, irrigation, drinking water, tourism and other public domains (OPMCM 2021).

President Women Upliftment Programme is being rolled out by issuing the Implementation Guidelines 2073. The guidelines aim to ensure the rights of women and to end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls. The guidelines further envisage for livelihood related programmes for women in the areas of agriculture, non-agriculture and tourism (Office of President of Nepal 2021).

Three dimensions of federalism, political, administrative and financial are very much interlinked however, the political dimension demands inclusiveness and meaningful engagement of the people to establish people's supremacy (Fiscal Federalism 2022).

MoFALD issued the guidelines on budgeting process of local level on 2074. The guideline gives a clear direction on making the local level budget development process participatory. The guidelines provisions for making different committees for the formulation of budget and programmes. Among those committees, local tax counselling committee, resource projection and budget limitation setting committee, budget and programme formulation committee have to work together. Those committees should take guidance and support from different diversified groups of the community. The guidelines further highlighted about the steps of planning process of local Government as follows;

- Taking guidance and ceiling of budget from federal and provincial Governments
- Resource projection and total budget ceiling finalization
- Settlement level planning
- Prioritizing the issues/programmes of settlement level planning
- Budget and programme formulation by budget and programme formulation committee
- Review and Approval of budget from the municipal meeting and make ready for submitting in municipality assembly
- Approval of budget and programme from municipality assembly.

Among these seven steps, youth can play important role in the third steps of the planning process by making their active participation. Youth can bring the issues related to them as well as brings the issues of marginalized groups. Likewise, youth can influence the process of planning and programming with adequate budget and also put their position to work together on implementing the programmes. On the other hand, other group of people also provide support and guidance on mainstreaming youth priorities.

Reviewing all the acts, policies, guidelines and programmes, the conclusion can be made that, there are several initiatives and efforts have been given by the Government on ensuring youth engagement. The federal Government is more proactive on developing the policies and establishing a separate structure on youth development by establishing the separate ministry i.e. Ministry of Youth and Sports and National Youth Council. However, there are several gaps identified in course of reviewing the policies and programming. Different ministries have different programmes related to youth however, they are not coordinating each other and the apex ministry or council are not coordinating each other. There is the provision of appointing youth focal in each ministry however, the youth focal are not able to meet frequently. Due to the gap on coordinating the initiatives taken by different ministries and Government agencies, there is no proper data found in one place related to the youth programming.

Likewise, the policies developed at the federal level are not adequately transferred into the local level. The National Youth Council has designed the programme to cascade the policies into the local level and provisioned to develop the youth clubs at the local level based on the working procedure related to the formation of youth clubs and model youth parliament 2075 however, the municipalities near to the federal Government are not adequately aware and informed to the policy provisions. Apart from the model wards where National Youth Council is implementing the programme, youth in the municipalities are barely informed about the policy and programmes related to youth engagement. Only the policy and guidelines are in place however, the Government is not able to develop implementation plan, monitoring plan and allocating adequate budget towards the programming.

This has been indicating that, the Government is yet to trickle down the policies and programmes on youth engagement however, the base has been established. The establishment of ministry at federal level, appointment of youth focal in all the relevant ministries, National Youth Act, National Youth Policy, Youth Vision 2025 and structural provisions at local level indicating that, there are good progresses seen on mainstreaming youth engagement however, more effort is required to translate those policies and provisions into action at the local level.

4.4. Youth Positioning at Regional and Global Level

According to world youth development indicator, Nepal has been placed in 77th position. In South Asian Association of Regional (SAARC) countries, it is in fourth position. In many countries youth age is in between 15 to 35 years. United Nations and the World Bank have considered 15 to 24 years as of the youth. The NYC Act, 2072 (2015) has fixed 16 to 40 years as youth age which constitutes 40.35 percent of the total population. Youth Vision 2025 has categorized it further into two age groups. The first group is constituted of 16 to 24 years and second is 25 to 40 years.

Nepal is in 142 position in the world youth development indicator. In SAARC countries level, Nepal seems to be the lowest after Afghanistan as according to Youth Development Indicator. It is 0.39. Maldives stands first followed by Srilanka in terms of the both the position and the indicators.

The positioning of Nepal into the World Youth Development Indicators indicates that, Nepal has to do some focused engagement and interventions on uplifting the youth programmes for that, the engagement of youth into the local governance process would be one of the major avenues.

4.4. Status of Youth in Nepal and the Challenges Faced by Them

The population of youth constitutes 40.35% of total population. According to census 2011, the total population of Nepal is 26,494,504. Out of that 10,689,842 are youth aged 16-40 years (MoYS 2015). Among them, 54.5% and 45.8% are the male and female population respectively. This large number of populations also known as youth bulge have been contributing in the development process in many different ways. Nepali youths played significant role in Nepal's socio-political change and development. In 1950's political movement and also in of 1990's to 2007's, and also at present their contribution on improving the national economy through remittance.

Nepal's labour migration is pre-dominantly led by the youth. According to the Labour Migration Report 2020, annual outmigration from Nepal is 354,098 and 236,208 in the fiscal year 2017/18 and 2018/19 respectively (Labour Migration Report 2020). Labour migration from Nepal is pre-dominantly male with more than eighty percent of total migrant population in fiscal year 2017/18 and 2018/19 is under the age cohort 18-35 (Labour Migration Report 2017). From the last decade (2008/09) until 2017 the Department of Foreign Employment has issued 4 million labour approvals to Nepali workers (Labour Migration Report 2017).

There is the large contribution of youth in the country's economy. The youths in country have been working in formal, informal jobs at the country and outside of country. Youth working in country are in different professions related to security, health, bank, education and many more and the large proportion of youth have been contributing the national economy through the remittance. Only in the year 2018/19, the contribution of remittance in country is 8.79 billion USD.

Youths are contributing in rural economy through different domestic works by growing agricultural products including rice, maize, paddy, pulses, vegetables and supporting the household economies.

There are several prospects and opportunities for the youth in country. Being a newly federal country, there is the scope of their participation and leadership in the political process and to institutionalize the federal governance system. Being a country with richness in natural resources agriculture, herbal plants, tourism, water resources, forest, there is the potentiality to manage those resources and capitalize those in the national development. Growing economy, increasing network of economic avenues like bank, cooperative, microfinance are the areas where youth can seek their future.

Despite these opportunities, youth in the country are facing numerous challenges. Youths in the country are facing inequality, doesn't have relevant, timely and worthy employment opportunities and opportunities related to their development. The prolonged political instability and the lack of motivation of elder generation on brining younger generation into the mainstream politics and resultant frustration among the youth forced the youth to deviate from the ongoing development of the country. That results to migration, foreign employment (in many stances unskilled jobs), substance abuse and many more.

Another major challenge facing by youth is their integration into the development process. There is a gap on the institutional platforms for harnessing the myriad of youth-based resources and translating them into refined materials for the nation's development. On the other, whatever platforms existed into the communities are merely used as a tokenism. This perception has meant a lack of cooperation from people, promotion of more popular personalities, negative feedback, lack of support from the family and society.

In the fiscal year 2078/79, Government of Nepal has allocated 2.74 billion NPR to ministry of youth and sports for youth empowerment related initiatives including sports. The focus of the budget is to make youth patriotic, disciplined and entrepreneurs and the programmes targeted for youth. The budget provisions for making 12 thousand youth self-employed by providing loan for technical and vocational support through Youth and Small Self-Employment Fund with 50% of subsidy on credit guarantee. Likewise, the budget provisions for mobilizing youths into social activities including disaster management, environment conservation, relief, rescue and awareness-raising through the programme of National Youth Council. To motivate youth entrepreneurs to get involve in business, seed capital loan up to Rs

2.50 million in an interest rate of 1 % by keeping the project as collateral. For that initiative, the budget provisions for free registration and renewal along with policy facilitation. Likewise, youths having a graduate degree can access for concessional loan up to Rs. 2.50 million with maximum 5% interest rate putting educational certificates as collateral.

There has been some development at the provincial level however, province government seems to have given less importance to the youth sector than other sectors in the last two fiscal years. Gandaki has formed the Ministry of Youth and Sports for the first time in 2078 BS. Apart from that, no other province has even formed a youth ministry. The three province governments have emphasized on the establishment of youth councils. Karnali has formed Karnali Youth and Sports Council, Bagmati has formed Youth Council and province Sports Council and Lumbini has formed Youth Council. Karnali has emphasized on agriculture, public awareness, environment, skills, employment and other programs by connecting the youth as compared to other provinces. Apart from the Sudurpaschim province, other province governments have especially promoted youth self-employment programs. Only Province-1 has mentioned in the budget to work in the province by coordinating the Prime Minister's Employment Program.

Youth vision 2025 highlights the scope of youth mobilization and collaboration with youth. Youth can be instrumental on eliminating illiteracy, environment conservation, community health volunteer, entrepreneurship and skills development according to Dhungana.

The afore mentioned analysis indicated despite having several efforts from the Government, youths in the country are still facing the migration. Due to the longstanding inequality, lack of trust on the structural provisions at all levels of Government, tokenism and favoritism among the decision makers youth themselves are not that open to engage into the process. On the other hand, there are opportunities in the local level however, those opportunities are captured by certain group of youth and general youth are not getting benefit from that. Every year, the Government is presenting the policy and programme and budget however, there is the discrepancy on the budget and policy programme. Very nominal budget is being allocated to the youth from the federal Government. Likewise, the provincial Government is not much

aware about the youth programming and not giving guidance to the local Government on creating the solid base for youth programming in the local level.

Similarly, there is no proper mechanism to organize and mainstream youth issues in place in many instances. For formalizing the coordination and effective implementation of youth programming there is no adequate youth network in place at the local, district, provincial level. Though, National Youth Council has provisioned to form the youth network at ward level however, the decision is not yet fully implemented.

CHAPTER V

ENGAGEMENT OF YOUTHS IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN GODAWARI MUNICIPALITY

5.1. Introduction of Godawari Municipality

Godawari a Municipality was established on 2nd December, 2014 after the merge of previous village development committees i.e. old Godawarri, Badikhel, Bishankhunaryan, Godamchaur and Thaiba. Further in March 2017, there was an extension of municipalities and Devichaur, Dukuchhap, Chhampi, Thecho, Chapagaun, Jharuwarasi and Lele are added in the municipality. The municipality office is located at Bajrabarahi.

The total population of Godawari municipality according to Household survey 2075 of Godawari municipality is 116045. Out of which male population is 57743 (49.8%) and female population is 58302 (50.2%). The population of youth with age cohort 16-40 is 50108. Most of the youth of the municipality are engaged in agricultural chores and some of them are involved into the employment in formal and informal sectors. Some youth are in the international migration mostly into the middle east countries and India. 2190 household of the municipality is completely unemployed and 13572 are partially employed.

5.2. Policy, Plan and Programme of Godawari Municipality on Youth

Godawari municipality has developed several policies, procedures and guidelines related to youth.

Municipality has developed the Municipality Development Volunteer Mobilization Guidelines 2077 by realizing the importance of engaging youth into different developmental activities of the municipalities. The guidelines aim to provide short term engagement to the qualified candidates and to seek their support on public service support. In the long run, the guidelines aim to contribute on the SDGs through the spirit of volunteerism. The guideline outlines the areas for volunteerism including health, community education, social protection to children and elderly people, entrepreneurship development, periodic plan formulation, implementation and

monitoring etc. There is the selection committee formed under the chairmanship of Mayor or the assigned member of Mayor however there is not the participation of the issue.

Municipality has endorsed the Model Youth Parliament and Youth Club Formation Working Procedure on 2075 with a motto to empower youth into the parliamentary process. The procedure aims to form the youth club in each ward of the youth between 16-24 years and the respective ward chair or the assigned member from the ward chair should be the guardian of the youth club. There is certain procedure to be the member of the youth club and one of those is; the youth should verify their age from the ward committees. The youth club should be formed consisting following members; i) a youth from the priority group, ii) a youth from the most priority group, iii) a youth from the local entrepreneur, iv) a youth from local media, v) a youth from the sports , vi) a youth from the local artists, vii) a youth from the local cooperatives, viii) a youth from the local organizations, ix) two youth including one girl from the local schools and x) 5 youths nominated by the ward assembly.

The youth club should carry out activities related to facilitate on leadership and capacity development of youth in the municipality level, engage on formulating the programmes related to youth development in coordination with municipality office and to support municipality on formulating youth friendly programmes, ensuring active engagement to the local level awareness raising programmes, sanitation and environment conservation programme, child rights, women rights and human rights initiatives, and programmes on eliminating harmful traditional practices, ensuring youth mobilization and volunteer's engagement during disaster, creating support on implementing programmes related to National Youth Council and other relevant stakeholders, ensuring leadership role on implementing sustainable development goals (SDGs) and to conduct programme in coordination with youth council and local government,

Likewise, municipality has issued the Working Procedure on Managing Fund of Eliminating Gender Based Violence on 2077, Guidelines for Municipal Entrepreneurship 2076, Enterprise House Management Working Procedures 2077 which are directly linked with the youth.

The fiscal year 2078/79 annual programme and budget has briefly touched on the issues of youth. The annual plan envisions the long-term vision to make Godawari municipality an, 'agricultural and tourism city, inclusive, clean and prosperous Godawari'. The plan sets a goal to invest in agriculture, tourism, industry development and to make the municipality a clean and prosperous city. The plan sets the priority areas as, i) social development, ii) infrastructural development, iii) environment and disaster management, iv) institutional development, service delivery, and good governance. Under institutional development, the plan outlines the issues of youth and plans for youth development.

The municipality plans to provide self-employment and skill development training to the unemployed based on the roaster of the Employment Service Center. Detail list of unemployed youth has been decided to established and decided to establish Labor Information Bank. The labor bank will be established as a source to provide manpower to the developmental work of the municipality. The labor bank was further established as a bridge between unemployed and employment-providing companies. In the plan, it has been outlined to establish Business Knowledge Center to encourage youth on being entrepreneurs. In coordination with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Supply, a micro-enterprise development program will be implemented effectively. On the plan, the focus has been given to the returnee migrants with a slogan, skills of a foreign land, program for the community (Bideshko Sip, Swadeshko lagi Karyakram). Those programmes will be implemented in coordination with the cooperatives.

Furthermore, the self-defense training to adolescents, one ward one yoga center with an aim to declare Yog city (yog nagari). In every school, adolescent health promotion programme will be continued.

The youth, sports and entertainment policy has touched on the aspect of promoting youth volunteerism. The plan articulates on conducting the youth volunteerism programme for disaster management, imparting social responsibilities and other programmes. In the plan, the initiatives on ending different forms of violence among young women and girls has been mentioned.

Apart from sports, the plan outlines about the municipal youth assembly. For timely responding on the emergency situation, the youth group would establish as a quick

response group which can work in close coordination with Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, Red Cross, Nepal Scouts et.al.

Whereas, the fiscal year 2077/078 plan doesn't adequately cover the youth priorities into their plan. The focus of the plan was more into the COVID 19 response as Godawari was also severely affected due to the COVID 19 crisis. However, the municipality plan has provisioned the budget for the youth entrepreneurship and employment generation activities. This initiative also targets the returnee migrants' youths with an aim to help them to establish enterprise and to link them with the cooperative facilities. The plan also outlines to establish the herbal plantation into the community level targeting the youth. Likewise, the plan and budget has been allocated for making the municipality child friendly and establishing the child clubs in the ward/settlement level.

In the local level election 2074, among the 72 elected member 22 members are under the age cohort of youth i.e. 16-40 (Annex iii).

The table in the annex iii indicates that, there are good number of youths elected in the local level election however, most of them are not in the decisive role. One of the respondent mentioned, there are couple of members who have some knowhow about the activities from the federal level related to youth but those members rarely brings the issues and things to do at the municipality meeting.

This table in annex iv indicates that, the executive body of the municipality is dominantly led by the adult above 40 years. Though, there are some members are under the youth age-cohort, they are in minority. In course of reviewing the municipality executive committee meetings, there are none of the agendas presented for the youth empowerment except sports.

Same respondent highlighted, there is the gap on policy transfer of the federal level to local level. That respondents mentioned about the existence of National Youth Council (NYC), however, the respondent questioned, NYC never approached their municipality for youth empowerment related initiatives. The respondent serving as a focal of youth, education and sports shared, they don't discuss adequately about the issues and concerns related to youth. Their discussion related to youth is more centralized on the youth entrepreneurship, sports and very often on small issue-based

discussion however, those issues are not come up with level of youth rather, the ward chairs and responsible members of the municipality brings those issues into their table of discussion. According to the respondent,

there are some youth members in the executive committee however, they don't bring the issues of youth and their empowerment.

Whatever policies and procedures have been developed and adopted in the municipality level, there has been a realization for youth empowerment in in all the process of forming or adaptation of policies, none of the youth groups have been consulted. The municipality has adopted the Model Youth Parliament and Youth Club Formation Working Procedure on 2075 however there is not any youth club has been formed in the ward level.

This indicates that, there is systemic gap on bringing the voices and concerns of youth into the municipality level. The municipality hasn't tried to form the youth groups or networks into the municipality and ward level. That aspect is hindering youth to engage into the process and also increase dissatisfaction on the governance process of municipality.

5.3. Ongoing Interventions on Youth

Godawari municipality has also realized the importance of youth engagement. Another respondent mentioned about the realization and urgency of youth engagement in the decision-making process however, municipality hasn't developed proper mechanism to address the issues. There is not adequate effort given for from the municipal level to develop the policy framework related to young people in his working tenure. Though, there is not adequate policy provisions developed at municipal level, municipality has appointed the youth focal person. The youth programmes of municipality has been coordinated by the focal.

There is the importance of executing youth engagement in local governance by mainstreaming issues related to youth and their education, health, sports and entertainment. That process should be facilitated from the respective ministries to the local level, otherwise, local Government doesn't prioritize the issues like this as their focus remains on constructing roads and other infrastructures, the respondent

mentioned. There are informal youth clubs in the municipality and the youth are bringing their issues and concern related to them however, municipality is not able to allocate adequate budget. The youth groups and networks are playing supportive role on carrying out the activities of the municipality. Similarly, there are different youth priorities and issues come into the municipal assembly every year but the assembly is not able to address those all due to limitation on the resources.

In an interview another respondent outlines about the areas of youth engagement. The person has highlighted the role of youth on facilitating the development of municipality, sports and dealing the pandemic created by COVID 19. Mostly the respondent outlined about the youth volunteers in COVID 19. The municipality and some of the wards are implementing the prime minister self-employment programme targeting the migrant youths and providing training and entrepreneurship schemes to the youth. However, the respondent is not satisfied with the programme set by the Government. The youth are not happy with the standard set by the Government at federal level as the priorities of youth is different in ward level. The unemployed youth doesn't want to join the temporary position in the limited facilities given by the Government flagship programme, rather they want to have permanent and sustainable employment opportunities. They have been facilitating the focused group discussion in course of planning process but they haven't conducted the cluster-based planning targeting the youth.

Though the thrust of federalism is to share the power of federal government to local level, that has not been implemented adequately. There is the limitation created at the municipality level and ward doesn't have the leverage to carry out the cluster-based programming according to the respondent. The respondent also highlighted about the budget allocation on youth targeting the sports events and that depends upon the ceiling given by the municipality and approximately, NPR. 200,000 is being allocated.

Most of the ward and the political leaders are planning to mainstream issues of youth however, there are not adequate policy guidance and support from the federal Government. Until and unless, the policy developed at the federal level doesn't translate into the local level the ward chair cannot do their planned work, according to the respondent. The youth are not satisfied with the political system and the leaders as

the political system is not adequately addressing the issues and concerns of youth. That has been leading the frustration on youth and creating the obligation to migrate for better opportunities. The chair also highlighted on local governance is one of the entry points for youth participation, however, there is not specific attention given to mainstream that by the municipality. There is inconsistent ceiling for the planning no matter the population size is big or small. The respondent highlighted;

the ward is the largest ward in the municipality in terms of size and population however, the municipality is giving the same budget ceiling to all the wards. And in the ward, the respondent has been giving the focus on addressing the infrastructural development rather than the issues and concern of youth.

There are different consumers' group in the community are being led by youth. The ward has provisioned for distributing the disable friendly materials to the disable youth. Likewise, budget has been allocated for conducting sports events according to the respondent and the sports event is being coordinated by the youth network. There was no youth interested to enroll into the Prime Minister Youth Entrepreneurship programme, respondent has highlighted. The respondent has further mentioned , if the youth come up with the plan, ward is ready to support and interestingly one of the ward is the ward which has large number of small industries are registered however, those small enterprises are established by the youth themselves. There is changing trend on community people to lease their land for the external people to conduct small enterprises including mushroom, vegetable, cattle keeping etc.

Likewise, another respondent mentioned about his experience of conducting consultative discussion during the planning process. In his first year, the respondent has requested different cluster groups to bring the necessary programmes for their community however, the cumulative budget from the request is significantly high and not in the budget ceiling given by the municipality. In the first year, there was some request for youth programmes like vegetable farming, conducting small enterprise but those programmes were not successful. Hence, there was no consultative planning. Similarly, the respondent has quoted, the municipality has the decisive role and limits the role of ward. However, the respondent in the ward, they set a target in their ward and at first, they prioritized the focus on clean drinking water, then gradually on health, education and road.

The participants in the FGDs are not aware about the engagement of youth into the planning process. Interestingly, most of the youth are not aware about seven steps planning process. Those youth who are familiar with the process highlighted the ward chair has collected the issues by asking the individual member neither the group. The youth in the FGDs quotes, if the municipality approached them to engage into the process of governance, they are ready to support and facilitate the process with other groups. They urged the municipality to focus on the youth empowerment indicators rather than creating focus on the infrastructures like road, electricity, drinking water etc. They have to give attention on the issues of empowerment like human rights, civic education, awareness related to the policy provisions, life skills education, sexual and reproductive health rights' related education and importantly on the quality education. The youth group in the FGDs also blamed their elected representatives for not consulting them into the policy formation process or into the planning or implementation process.

In course of collecting the data, the indicators developed by National Youth Council (NYC) for youth friendly local governance has been discussed with the ward chair and municipality officials. In course of discussion with them, the indicators mentioned in the youth friendly local governance guidelines has been thoroughly discussed and the situation has been assessed. The detail of the indicators is mentioned in Annex iii.

The assessment indicated that there are many areas to work by the municipality to mainstream youth engagement into the governance process.

In terms of the indicators related to youth engagement in policy formulation and implementation process, there is only few indicators like % of youth elected in the local level election, % of youth engaged in settlement level planning, representation of youth in local Disaster Management Committee, where youth are considered as stakeholders and engaged into the process. Apart from that there is no representation of youth in education policy/guidelines formulation process, less representation of youth in school management committee, no representation of youth in local health committee, no representation of youth in monitoring and evaluation committee and policy or code of conduct related to youth engagement in local governance process has not been developed. Similarly, in the indicators related to the concerns of youth, a

smaller number of youths receives the training related to technical and vocational skills, due to the lack of proper information dissemination. Only 3-5% of budget on youth has been allocated and there is no adequate human resource trained for sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR), psychosocial counselling and other concerns related to youth. One school one nurse programme has not been implemented and there are no sanitary pads available in the schools. In relation to the indicators around participation and leadership development, there is not youth information or employment information center established, no youth clubs are in place at the ward and municipality level, a smaller number of youths received training on leadership development, disaster risk management, life skills and other capacity development trainings. No trainings related to internet and digital security has been provided to the youth. Reviewing the indicators related to special provisions for marginalized youth, there is the provision in place to make the school infrastructure disable friendly and in few schools the provision has been implemented and even the municipality new building is established disable friendly. Apart from that, there is no provision to include marginalized group in the policy process and plan implementation process. As there is not proper policy to include the youth in place, there is no attention to engage LGBTIQ youth. The municipality has not developed the youth profile however as a contact person related to youth has been assigned to the ward chair of one of the ward.

5.4. Challenges and scope for mainstreaming youth engagement

In course of the interview with Mayor, ward chairs and focus group discussion with youth, they have highlighted the challenges on mainstreaming youth engagement into the planning process. One of the respondents has highlighted that there is not guidance and support from the federal Government. The respondent is familiar with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) and National Youth Council but not much known about the policy and other documents. Being a municipality closer to Kathmandu, the focus of respective ministries is not adequate. The respondent agrees, the focus of municipality on youth empowerment is on sports and that work they are doing through youth clubs in their municipality and at the same time the programmes related to youth self-employment fund, youth entrepreneurship programming is being implemented but not implemented in-consultation with youth itself rather those programmes are being requested and coordinated through the ward chair. Due to the

COVID 19, impact also, they are not able to conduct all the process of planning specifically the settlement level planning.

All the respondents highlighted the priority of the municipality and wards. Most of the plan is around building roads, expansion of electricity, clean drinking water, schools et.al. rather they have space to focus on empowerment and engagement related to youth. Since the majority of the requests from the settlement level planning are on the physical infrastructure, we are not able to bring the plans related to the cluster/group-specific empowerment, another respondent highlighted. On the other side, in ward no. 11, the youth club is quite functional and the group of young people is coordinating with ward and ward has allocated the budget for disabled youth empowerment but the budget ceiling given by the municipality is very nominal and the ward is not able to maintain all the requests from the youth group, one of the ward chairs has highlighted.

The group of youth in the focus group discussion also mentioned the challenge that, they are not consulted by the municipality mechanisms and also not been familiar with the planning process. The youth groups that existed in the community is not for supporting the development of the municipality rather their focus is on their own empowerment. They mostly organize sports events and often conducted blood donation programmes and other social activities. In the focus group discussion, the respondents have highlighted the bureaucratic body of the municipality is not supportive of mainstream youth in the process of development. Though few members in the FGD have highlighted the programmes and initiatives from the municipality to support young people, the majority of the respondents mentioned their unfamiliarity with the work municipality is doing for the youth. And the same time, they are not familiar with National Youth Policy and other youth policy-related frameworks. The respondent mentioned about the multiplicity of the issues and concerns of women, children, and youth. The municipality has been addressing the concerns of different groups on a priority and need basis and often the purpose of youth engagement is not in priority. However, the municipality is implementing, a prime minister self-employment fund programme but there are not adequate youth applying for the issues of their concern.

Youth in the FGDs have highlighted the delayed bureaucratic process into the issues they raised in the municipality. One of the youth clubs in ward no. 11 has requested training on social enterprise skills however, the municipality team is not able to

respond to that on time. Likewise, they showed concern to the municipality for not developing guidelines and frameworks for youth engagement. The youth group highlighted, it should be the priority of municipality to formulate the policy, guidelines and framework to mainstream them into the governance process. If municipality come up with the plan, the youth group are ready to support and facilitate the process.

Reviewing the challenges shared by the municipality team and youth group, conclusion can be made that, there are issues and concerns in both sides however, both group (political leadership and youth groups) are interested to mainstream youth into the governance process. But, the political leadership should increase the horizon that, youth programming is not synonymous to the sports events or some flagship entrepreneurship initiatives. The political leadership should also explore and understand the existing policy, programmes and framework for youth engagement into the local governance process. Since, almost all the respondents from the political leadership are not able to mention about National Youth Policy, Youth Vision 2025, the guidelines for youth engagement, there should be tacit know how of the policies mentioned. Similarly, the programme should be developed for making youth as a separate cluster group like children, women and other.

CHAPTER VI

THEORETICAL REFLECTIONS AND CONCLUSION

6.1. Theoretical Linkages

Since the participation of youth is a recognized right, and in many instances population of youth constitutes as larger sect of society, they are not included into the decision-making processes (McGee and Greenhalf 2011). Youth participation in governance in many stances limited as youth being consulted as users of key services, without seeking their influential, political voice (Checkoway and Gutierrez 2006; Percy-Smith 2010). Higher than the participation, engagement goes beyond empowerment and creating capability of the stakeholders to engage meaningfully to the process and result influencing them. Godawari municipality has not been able to develop the policy and guidelines related to youth engagement into the governance process, however the realization of engagement is there among the political leadership. The policy and programmes developed by the federal government and ministries are not translated into the action at the municipality level. The notion of youth engagement is merely linked with their engagement into the sports events however, those events are also designed without their participation.

Empowering youth politically is the way to seek the possibility to have an influential role to influence decisions and produce right outcome for youth (Checkoway 2011). The bargaining and negotiating that occurs between youth and members of adult generations, when the political leaders or elected representatives or Government officials are dynamic and able to realize the essence of youth participation as a part of supportive role. In the broader spectrum of meaningful youth participation, Godawari municipality has acknowledged the formation and activism of youth clubs/group however, not promoted by creating conducive policy environment. The municipality has acknowledged youth as member but not included them into the decision-making level. Due to the larger and active age cohort (16-40 years), there is good numbers of youth being elected into the election, however, those youth are not in the decision-making level and most of them are in quota of the election.

The youth initiative planned for sports and nominal entrepreneurship engagement has been in place but the ground for fostering youth leadership who can contribute into

the overall development of the municipality is yet to be achieved. The youth in the FGDs also highlighted that fact.

The main theoretical base of this thesis is based on the participation theory convened by Roger Hart. As Hart (1992) outlines about the ladder of young people's participation in governance process, the municipality is in the lower level of the ladder where adult agenda and other manipulating young people to claim their engagement into the governance process is in place. The municipality team hasn't provisioned any mechanisms and structures to develop for including youth voices. As shared by one of the ward chairs, the initiatives developed by the municipality is designed by the municipality team for the youth rather the initiatives come from the youth themselves. In the generic level, the youth centric approaches are not being adopted.

Reviewing the participation ladder and spectrum, the process of participation of youth lies into the level of tokenism. It is the space where young people involve to give their voice but have no choice what they want to do and how they want to engage. The political leadership mentioned about the quotas for youth but there is no realization and ownership among them. Due to the absence formalize youth clubs in the community level, there is no spaces for practicing and harnessing their leadership. One of the major factors identified through the discussion with youth is there is the gap on having the proper policy base as well as gap on implementation of those policies.

The democratic institutions have to create solid spaces and background for all clusters of people including youth to participate in the planning of activities, services, examination of policies and ensure conclusions for budgets allocated for youth (Checkoway, 2011). In many circumstances, the practice of engaging youth has contributed for the wider political development and to mobilize community development help on ensuring peace and development beyond the government frameworks, and also to acknowledge young people the one who can actively involve on shaping the policies and programmes.

The study has further pointed out that on the importance of households and families in which young people are living. The same has been highlighted by the Mayor in his

interview and indicated the need to empower children and young people from the family and household level so that they can influence the decision at family as well as community.

Local governance enables for the favorable environment for the participation of stakeholders. It also promotes for the market-led and environment friendly development and also supports outcomes that increase the quality of life of local people (A. Shah & S. Shah, 2006). In that regard, local governance is a method to transfer power, responsibility, authority and resources centralized into the national to the local level. In this aspect, the purpose of local governance is to leverage good governance, build partnership with the group of its' concern. In Godwari municipality also, the municipality has been exercising the governance on the issues of children, women, disable people however, the municipality has not planned focused youth engagement into the governance.

Different scopes and avenues can be there to promote youth engagement into the governance process. The formal mechanisms established by the policy and system, and also informal and self-initiated mechanisms can also play vital role on ensuring engagement of youth into the governance process. The formal mechanisms such as National Youth Council and quotas for involving youth in local government frameworks should be developed as well as youth may seek the avenues to engage into the governance process by establishing the group of young people and organizing them as youth groups, clubs or network.

Very often, the formal mechanisms to mainstream youth in local governance are likely to be less effective as there is the dominance of adult however, the establishment of system is quite essential. On the other hand, informal forms of youth groups also helps on generating insights on understanding the process, and aspirations of young people.

The topic of engagement goes beyond the conventional focus on participating in electoral processes at the local level, but it covers the aspect of analysis of how and why young people participate in local politics beyond party politics, their contextual demands, the spaces created for the policy dialogue with local Government

representatives and the institutional opportunities and spaces for the promotion of youth engagement into the governance process at the local level.

In Godawari municipality, to mainstream the youth engagement in local governance a deeper understanding is required and also the focus should be given into the power sharing among young people and adult particularly during the interface between youth and state actors. That space is the settlement level plan out of seven steps planning where, young people can channel their hope, aspirations and plan for their empowerment as well as their contribution into the community development. The provision of mainstreaming youth into the governance and decision-making process helps on ensuring social justice, promoting youth development and building strong youth group. That also helps on creating strong civil society and creates a base for balancing between individual rights and state responsibility. The spaces can help on empowering youth for civic competence, identity, interpersonal skills and social responsibility among youth. Giving spaces is also a part of socialization, and help the purpose of youth being structured and contributing the planning and taking actions for their and community betterment. Youth garner social capital when involved in decision making, and these networks help young people become more productive citizens. When youth gets the space to engage meaningfully in their organizations, communities and process of state, they are more likely to contribute into the developmental benefits and social capital from being engaged. In essence, youth become more responsive to local needs when the voices of youth are considered during deliberation.

Those spaces can leverage the critical spaces. When youth get formal space to engage, they can come up with initial skepticism about the motivation of adults. As mentioned by one of the ward chair, whoever youth comes into the settlement level planning or in the ward assembly questioned on the programmes of ward but later when they get convinced they became our supporter and, in many stances, they are taking the lead on implementing the programme for ward. In those circumstances, the adults gave youth legitimate authority and responsibility, adults get time to establish positive relationships with youth and youth can get a sense of belongingness and connectivity with the municipality.

As stated during the discussion with youth group, it is important to emphasize the high level of enthusiasm of youth so that, youth gets motivated to participate into the process. That helps on fostering the shared governance and became strongly associated with positive affect and favorable evaluations of self and others. That requires municipality to seriously reflect on operations, and often to create new roles for youth and adults in order to derive the benefit of youth adult partnership. The municipality has to inform, organize and create spaces for bringing youth issues and concerns and later on addressing those issues and concerns so that, youth can feel responsive to contribute the developmental process. The municipality has to respect for youth voice and competency and there should be a balance of power and relationship with adults.

6.2. Conclusion

Youth engagement in local governance is crucial as youth can be instrumental on carrying and guiding the societal development through their leadership. Ensuring meaningful engagement of youth in to the governance process of local government can create two-fold effect; help on ensuring effective governance and also to ensure the informed leadership for future. The discourse of youth engagement into the governance process is not that older like the discourse of engaging children, women, disable people and other marginalized sectors of the society. However, there are some concrete development being made in terms of policy framework.

Mostly an establishment of Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Youth Council, National Sports Council are playing vital role on youth engagement and empowerment at the structural level. In the policy and programmatic level, National Youth Policy, Youth Vision 2025, guidelines on youth engagement in governance process and other documents have created the base for mainstreaming youth priorities. Following to the guidance of the Ministry and National Youth Council, several municipalities are in the process of translating the thrust of National Youth Policy and Youth Vision 2025 and implementing the programmes. Likewise, the Guidelines for Conducting Youth Parliament, Guidelines for Formulating Youth Club in ward and district level, Strategy on Child Friendly Local Governance, Strategy on Youth Friendly Local Governance, Local Government Operation Act are some of the major policies and guidelines related to youth engagement into the local governance level.

These policies, programmes and guidelines gives the clear outline for mainstreaming youth into the planning and programme implementation process with their full ownership.

Apart from the programmes set forth by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and National Youth Council, there are multiple ministries and department implementing youth programmes. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security, Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers as well as Office of the President have been designing and implementing the youth programmes targeting the local youths.

The research findings indicate that, there have been solid policy framework and structural frameworks are in place for youth engagement and programming however, several works to be done from the municipality to work on creating the structural and policy base for mainstreaming youth engagement. Youths are not part of decision-making processes at many instances and this is largely because of the gap on realizing the importance of youth engagement. Though, the major positions of the municipality including Mayor, Deputy Mayors and Ward Chairs have realized that, youth can be instrumental on supporting the development of their municipality, they also acknowledged that the mechanisms should be developed from the settlement level to the municipality level.

So far, youth in the municipalities are facing multiple challenges like unemployment, education drop out, substance abuse, discrimination, infrastructural issues . The group of youth in the discussion mentioned about that, they want to be the part of municipal activities and decision-making process but there is not adequate spaces and mechanisms to partake on those.

The study is based on the conceptual and theoretical framework that, youth are important group which can be the change agent in ensuring good governance in the municipality and if the structure and policy have been created for that, youth can play the important role on addressing the challenges the community is dealing with. Review of the municipality plan and policy indicated that, there are not adequate policy and structure developed for youth engagement and the leaders are treating in a

way that, they have allocated budget for sports events and provided vocational training to youth. The dissatisfaction youth group have shown towards the municipality team and the way youth group questioned the performance of municipality in dealing with the concerns of youth indicates that, municipalities are lagging behind on mainstreaming youth and their priorities. Most specifically on the factor of youth entrepreneurship, ward chairs are selecting the youth haphazardly and the real needed youth are not in priority. The youth group questioned the transparency and accountability of the municipality on dealing with the process.

Even though the youth group highlighted for supporting youth's participation in inclusive political processes and democratic practices, their wider enabling environment, individual capacity building and a specific focus on mostly needed youth group such as disable youth and women. There is the gap on the promotion of an enabling environment (legal frameworks, policies and plans) for young people's participation in a broad range of processes and areas at the local level. The municipality is not able to promote of young people's skills and capacities to participate actively in democratic practices including local and national processes given, there are some tokenistic representation of youth into the programme and process. Similarly, there is the gap on ensuring youth's participation and presence in decision-making at all levels and the disable youths also get space to engage into the governance process.

On the other side, the realization of elected representatives of the municipality about the value and importance of youth engagement into the governance process indicates that, the local Government is in a process of mainstreaming youth. However, the representatives in the local level are not adequately familiar with the policies and structure of the federal Government and following whatever directions comes during the annual programming and budgeting time. They are implementing the programmes of prime minister self-employment fund but not much satisfied with the process and requirements of the federal Government. In every year, they do allocate budget for youth but majority of the budget is on sports. The budget is being allocated based on the request of the settlement but in the settlement level planning there is not the participation of youth club or groups rather the participants of the settlement level planning are deciding for the programmes related to youth. The Mayor of the

municipality realized the need of empowering youth through the system and for that, he has highlighted to formulate the youth clubs in the community and those youth clubs should get trainings related to democratic practices, they can get exposure to foster their leadership and exposures related to their empowerment.

The research further argues that establishing the formal mechanisms for involving youth in local governance is one of the effective scopes to support youth inclusion in institutionalizing processes and that helps us on contributing the effective/good governance into the local level. However, informal forms of youth action can also generate insights on supporting the governance but there should be the proper judgement of the aspects like, how inclusive they are, and who are playing major role on making decisions. A profound assessment of young people's engagement in local governance requires an understanding on intergenerational power dynamics between young people and the adult generation, their socialization mostly the time when youth are interacting with the local bodies and society.

The findings of the research indicate that, there is the gap on space and structure to engage youth to foster their voices and ensuring meaningful opportunities to contribute to resolving issues and promoting positive change in their communities. The local municipalities can develop more concrete platforms and structures for youth participation, to support existing local youth networks and initiatives. On the other youth also can generate their interest on contributing the development process of their respective communities and to create an environment for empowering and supporting the youth, and created a sense of belonging towards the system.

Though, the informal youth groups and clubs existed in the municipality level are in place and contributing to the governance process, those informal groups are not mainstreamed and connected with the local Government system. The Government itself is not able to formulate the policies and programmes to link and mainstream those into the formal system so that, the youth groups and clubs existed in the community can contribute into the governance process.

Moving ahead on mainstreaming youth engagement, there is the spaces for municipalities to establish the youth clubs and congress to bring the issues and concerns of the youth. The body like municipality youth councils can function on co-

opting youth activists, can be the bridge between the youth of the community. That mechanism helps on fostering the youth-adult relationship and also on maximizing youth's motivation to participate. The sustained effort to demonstrate respect for youth voice and competency on key issues related to youth, creating spaces for empowering and supporting young people and to help them on gaining sense of belongingness and connectivity with adults can be created. Engaging youth on issues that matter is a new experience for adults also. The adult gets spaces to observe the competency of youth, create formal and informal relationships with the young people, and develop their own skills and experience in working in partnership with youth.

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Annex i

List of People Interviewed

S.N.	Name	Profession
1	Mr. Gajendra Maharjan	Mayor, Godawari Municipality
2	Mr. Jyoti Maharjan	Personal Assistant, Mayor
3	Mr. Bhaskar Thapa	Ward Chair, Ward no.- 13
4	Mr. Bishnuman Maharjan	Ward Chair, Ward no - 6
5	Mr. Nir Bahadur Desai	Ward Chair, Ward no – 11
6	Mr. Darshan Kumar Bista	Ward Chair, Ward no – 10
7	Mr. Madhab Dhungel	Former, executive vice chair, NYC
8	Mr. Baburam Dhungana	Former, administrative chief, NYC
9	Mr. Shyam Kaji Khatri	Personal Assistant of executive vice chair of NYC
8	Mr. Tilottam Poudel	Member, National Youth Council
9	Mr. Surendra Basnet	Executive Vice Chair, National Youth Council
10	Mr. Deepesh Kumar Ghimire	Lecturer, TU Central Department of Sociology

Annex ii

Participants of Focus Group Discussion I

SN	Name	Address
1	Mr. Bibek Timalisina	Godawari 10, Chapagaun
2	Mr. Bikash Ghimire	Godawari 11
3	Mr. Bishal Timalisina	Godawari 9, Sheratat
4	Mr. Riten Shrestha	Godawari 11
5	Mr. Sanjeeb Maharjan	Godawari 11
6	Ms. Pratima Timalisina	Godawari 10
7	Ms. Shristhi Karmacharya	Godawari 8
8	Ms. Neeva Shrestha	Godawari 11
9	Udit Timalisina	Godawari 8

Participants of focus group discussion II

SN	Name	Address
1	Mr. Rajendra Maharjan	Godawari 6,
2	Mr. Gaurav KC Ghimire	Godawari 5
3	Mr. Kshitiz Acharya	Godawari 6
4	Ms. Sushma Karki	Godawari 11
5	Ms. Sushma Bista	Godawari 5
6	Ms. Alisha Silwal Timalisina	Godawari 5

Annex iii

Indicator Based Review of the Municipality Status of Youth Engagement

SN	Indicators	Measurement				Total, numbe r	Basis of verification/Rema rks
1.	Indicators related to the engagement of youth in policy formulation and implementation						
i)	Participation of youth in education policy/guidelines formulation group	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1)	No (0) ✓		0	
ii)	Participation of youth in village and municipal education committee	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1) ✓	No (0)		1	Not in all wards and municipal level but in ward no. 8, 9 & 13 there is the participation of youth in municipal education committee
iii)	% of youth in school management committee	Above 40% (2)	30-40% (1.5)	20-30% (1) ✓	10-20% (0.5)	0.5	
iv)	Representation of youth in health committee	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1)	No (0) ✓		0	
v)	% of youth elected in local level election	Above 40% (2) ✓	30-40% (1.5)	20-30% (1)	15-20% (0.5)	2	
vi)	% of youth involved in settlement level plan formulation	Above 40% (2) ✓	30-40% (1.5)	20-30% (1)	15-20% (0.5) –	2	No table to conduct settlement level planning due to COVID 19 in last two years but in the previous years, there is the practice of collecting information from youth.
vii)	Representation of youth/youth network in	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1)	No (0) ✓		0	

	monitoring and evaluation comités					
viii)	System to ensure youth in the process of formulating policies and legal frameworks of municipality	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1)	No (0) ✓		0
ix)	Does the local government formulates the policy or code of conduct related to youth friendly local Governance	Yes (2 no.)	1 from Youth (1)	No (0) ✓		0
x)	Representation of youth/youth networks in local level disaster management committee	Yes (2 no.) ✓	1 from Youth (1)	No (0)		2
2.	Indicators related to the concerns of youth					
i)	Out of school youth in the municipality	Below 1% (2) ✓	1-3% (1.5)	3-7% (1)	7-10% (0.5)	2
ii)	% of youth receiving training related to education and vocational skills	Above 50% (3) ✓	40-50% (2)	30-40% (1)	20-30% (0.5) ✓	0.5
iii)	Institutions providing technical and vocational training and education	Yes (2 no.) ✓			No (0)	2
iv)	% of budget allocated for education	Above 10% (2)	7-10% (1.5)	5-7% (1)	3-5% (0.5)	0.5
v)	# of youth receiving SRHR training	Above 30% (2)	20-30% (1.5)	10-20% (1)	5-10% (0.5)	0.5

vi)	# of programmes conducted under the leadership of youth	Above 10 (2) √	6-9 (1.5)	3-5 (1)	1-2 (0.5)	2	COVID 19 related response work under the leadership of youth.
vii)	Psychological counselling center establishment	Yes (2 no.)			No (0) √	0	
viii)	% of youth receiving reproductive health service	50% and above (2)	40-50% (1.5)	30-40% (1)	20-30% (0.5) √	0.5	
ix)	% of young women receiving safe motherhood services	90% and above (2)	80-90% (1.5)	70-80% (1)	65-70% (0.5) √	0.5	
x)	Availablity of nursing and health sevices in schools	Yes (2 no.)			No (0) √	0	Not in all schools but the provision of nursing is started in the model schools of Bajrabarahi, Kitini and Phulchowki
xi)	Availabilty of sanitary pad in school	Yes (2 no.)			No (0) √	0	Municipality has strated the provision however, the procurement process is questioned by media and not able to proceed for the provision.
xii)	% of budget allocated in health sector	Above 10% (3)	7-10% (2)	5-7% (1)	Belo w 5% (0) √	0	
xiii)	% of schools with playground	90% and above (3)	80-90% (2)	70-80% (1)	65-70% (0.5) √	1	
xiv)	% of wards with public playgroud apart from educational institutions	90% and above (3) √	80-90% (2)	70-80% (1)	65-70% (0.5)	3	
xv)	Formation of municipal	Committ ee with	Only formati	No (0)		0	

	level sports development committee	33% of women (2)	on not ensured inclusion (1)	0	√			
xvi)	% of schools with an appointment of sports teacher	90% and above (3)	80-90% (2)	70-80% (1)	65-70% (0.5)	0.5	Assignment is given to the existing teachers of the school.	
xvii)	Inter-ward sports tournament in the last FY	Yes (2 no.)	√		No (0)	2		
xviii)	% of budget allocated for sports	Above 5% (3)	4-5% (2)	3-4% (1)	2-3% (0.5)	0.5		
xix)	Public park in local level	1 each in all wards (2)	Above 50% in the ward level (1.5%)	25-50% (1)	15-25% (0.5)	1.5		
	x x)	Trained youth on climate change and environment conservation	Above 30%	20-30% (1.5)	10-20% (1)	5-10% (0.5)	0.5	
xxi)	Marriage below 20 years	No (2)	A single case (0)	√		0		
3	Participation and Leadership Development							
i)	Youth and Employment Center establishment	Yes (2)	No (0)	√		0		
ii)	In each ward at least a youth club is in place and at least 4 meetings conducted	Yes (2)	Yes but no meetings (1)	No (0)	√	0		
iii)	Municipal level youth network formed and meet at least 4 times in a year	Yes (2)	No (0)	√		0		
iv)	% of youth received	80% and above (3)	70-80% (2)	60-70%	50-60%	0.5		

	leadership development, disaster risk management, life skills or other capacity development trainings			% (1)	(0.5)	√
v)	% of youth received training on digital crime and security	30% above (2)	20-30% (1.5)	10-20%	5-10% (0.5)	1
4	Special provisions for the marginalized group of youth					
i)	Provision to include the marginalized youth in their policy and plan of municipality	Yes (2)	No (0)			0
ii)	LGBTIQ focused programme included in municipality policy and programme document	Yes (2)	No (0)			0
iii)	Inclusion of the provision of making schools, health facilities and other institutions disable friendly in the municipality policy and programme document	Yes (2)	No (0)			2
iv)	Inclusion of marginalized groups including gender, religion, ethnicity, geographical locations	Yes (2)	No (0)			0
v)	Inclusion of	Yes (2)	No (0)			0

	programme related to the capacity strengthening of disable people in the planning of municipality		√	
vi)	Profile related to youth is developed	Yes (2)	No (0) √	0
vii)	Contact unit established related to youth in the local level	Yes (2)	No (0) √	0
viii)	Youth resource center is established at the local level	Yes (2)	No (0) √	0
Total				28.5

Annex iv**Elected Representative as Below 40 Years Age**

SN	Name	Designation	Ward	Age
1.	Raj Thapa (Mr)	Member	1	35
2.	Jhuma Parkuti (Ms)	Women quota	1	26
3.	Sangita Tamang (Ms)	Women quota	3	35
4.	Krishna Mohan Ghimire (Mr)	Member	4	38
5.	Hari Krishna Pahari (Mr)	Member	4	31
6.	Sita Timalina (Ms)	Women quota	4	36
7.	Sangita Sunar (Ms)	Women quota	4	36
8.	Milan Silwal (Mr)	Ward Chair	5	27
9.	Ishwor Man Dangol (Mr)	Member	5	39
10.	Amit Nagarkoti	Member	5	28
11.	Uma Khadka	Women quota	5	29
12.	Ramita Sunar	Women dalit quota	5	33
13.	Sanu maiya Mijar Dhakal (Ms)	Women dalit quota	7	38
14.	Bindu Tamang (Ms)	Women quota	8	33
15.	Gamala Bista (Ms)	Women quota	9	40
16.	Durga Sunar (Ms)	Women dalit quota	9	28
17.	Sujata Sunar	Women dalit quota	10	33
18.	Manoj Aacharya (Mr)	Member	11	36
19.	Krishna Devi Maharjan (Ms)	Women quota	11	40
20.	Reshma Nepali (Ms)	Women dalit quota	11	22
21.	Rabindra Maharjan (Mr)	Member	12	40
22.	Maiya Rokka Nepali	Women dalit quota	13	30

Annex IV

Elected Representative of the Municipality by their Age

SN	Name	Designation	Ward	Age
1	Gajendra Maharjan (Mr.)	Mayor		45
2	Muna Adhikari (Ms.)	Deputy Mayor		48
3	Harihar Karki (Mr.)	Ward Chair	1	51
4	Devendra Kumar Basnet (Mr.)	Ward Chair	2	57
5	Balmukunda Ghimire (Mr.)	Ward Chair	3	43
6	Mukunda Bahadur Pahari (Mr.)	Ward Chair	4	48
7	Milan Silwal (Mr.)	Ward Chair	5	27
8	Bishnuman Maharjan (Mr.)	Ward Chair	6	46
9	Giri Prasad Timalisina (Mr)	Ward Chair	7	50
10	Suka Bahadur Lama (Mr.)	Ward Chair	8	49
11	Aatma Ram Thapa Chhetri (Mr.)	Ward Chair	9	42
12	Darshan Kumar Bista (Mr)	Ward Chair	10	49
13	Nil Bahadur Deshar (Mr)	Ward Chair	11	55
14	Jagat Bahadur Maharjan (Mr)	Ward Chair	12	45
15	Bhaskar Thapa (Mr)	Ward Chair	13	46
16	Jaganath Maharjan (Mr)	Ward Chair	14	55
17	Sita Timalisina (Ms)	Women quota	4	36
18	Laxmi Pariyar (Ms)	Women quota	14	57
19	Bindu Tamang (Ms)	Women quota	8	33
20	Mithu Pariyar (Ms)	Women quota	6	72
21	Maiya KC Khatri (Ms)	Women quota	6	56
22	Mohan Bahadur Nagarkoti (Mr)	Dalit & minority group	6	55
23	Saroj Danuwar (Mr)	Dalit & minority group	8	35
24	Laxmi Bahadur Nagarkoti (Mr)	Dalit & minority group	9	30

Annex V
Interview Checklist

राष्ट्रिय युवा परिषदलाई सोच्ने प्रश्नको चेकलिष्ट

१) यस परिषदले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि के कस्ता नीतिगत व्यवस्था गरिरहेको छ ?

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२) परिषदले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताका लागि सञ्चालन गरिरहेका कार्यक्रमहरु के के छन् ?

परिषद	सञ्चालनमा रहेका कार्यक्रम	सञ्चालनको तयारीमा रहेका कार्यक्रम	सोचमा रहेका तर गर्न नसकिएका कार्यक्रम

३) यस परिषदले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताका लागि केहि बजेट विनियोजन गरेको छ ?

मन्त्रालयको नाम	विनियोजन गरिएको बजेट	कैफियत

४) परिषदले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको सन्दर्भमा हाल सञ्चालनमा रहेका नीतिगत तथा कानुनी व्यवस्थामा के कस्ता अभाव रहेको पाउनु भएको छ ?

मन्त्रालय	नीति तथा कानुन	पहिचान भएको अभाव	कैफियत

५) परिषदले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताका सन्दर्भमा हाल सञ्चालनमा रहेका युवासँग सम्बन्धित नीतिगत तथा कानुनी व्यवस्थामा के कस्ता चुनौती रहेको देख्नुहुन्छ ?

६. अन्त्यमा केहि सान्दर्भिक विषयको उठान भएमा छलफल गर्ने

समुह केन्द्रित छलफलको चेकलिष्ट

१) शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि तपाईंको स्थानीय तहमा स्थानीय, प्रदेश तथा संघीय सरकारले बनाएका नीति, नियम, रणनीति, कार्यनीति तथा योजनाहरु र कार्यक्रमहरु के कस्ता रहेका छन् ? त्यसलाई यहाँहरुले कसरी हेर्नुभएको छ ?

स्थानीय सरकार	प्रदेश सरकार	संघीय सरकार

२) शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि सरकारले गरिरहेका कार्यक्रम वा सञ्चालनको तयारीमा रहेका कार्यक्रमको बारेमा केहि थाहा छ ? साथै स्थानीय तहले गर्न नसकेका कार्यक्रमहरुको के के हुन् ?

सरकार	सञ्चालनमा रहेका कार्यक्रम	सञ्चालनको तयारीमा रहेका कार्यक्रम	गर्न नसकेका कार्यक्रमहरु
स्थानीय			
प्रदेश			
संघ			

३) तपाईंहरुको विचारमा शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको महत्व के छ जस्तो लाग्छ ?

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४) तपाईंहरुको विचारमा शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि स्थानिय सरकारले के गर्नुपर्छ जस्तो लाग्छ ?

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५) गोदावरी नगरपालिकाले युवालाई शासन प्रक्रियामा सहभागीता गराउनको लागि गरिरहेका प्रमुख कामहरु के के हुन् ?

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 ६)गोदावरी नगरपालिकाले के गर्यो भने शासकीय प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागितामा वृद्धि हुने थियो ?

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 ७) अन्त्यमा केहि भएमा छलफल गर्ने

स्थानीय तहका प्रतिनिधी (वडा अध्यक्ष वा सदस्यलाई) सोध्ने प्रश्नको चेकलिष्ट

१) स्थानीय तहले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवा सहभागिताको लागि के कस्ता नीतिगत व्यवस्था गरेको छ ? ?

२) स्थानीय तहको शासन प्रक्रियामा युवा सहभागिताको लागि वडा स्तरमा के कस्ता पहलहरु भईरहेका छन् ? (युवा लक्षित कार्यक्रम)

वडा नं.	विगतमा सञ्चालनमा रहेका र अहिले नभएका युवा लक्षित कार्यक्रम	सञ्चालनमा रहेका युवा लक्षित कार्यक्रम	सञ्चालनको तयारीमा रहेका लक्षित कार्यक्रम	सोचमा रहेका तर गर्न नसकिएका कार्यक्रम

३) तपाईंको वडाले शासन प्रक्रियामा युवा सहभागिताको लागि बजेट विनियोजन गरेको छ ? यदि छ भने

वडा नं.	विनियोजन गरिएको बजेट	कैफियत

४) तपाईंको विचारमा स्थानिय शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि के कस्ता नीतिगत, कार्यक्रमगत तथा गतिविधिगत कामहरु गर्नुपर्छ जस्तो लाग्छ ?

वडा नं.	नीतिगत व्यवस्था	संस्थागत व्यवस्था	कार्यक्रम	गतिविधि	कैफियत

५) स्थानिय शासन प्रक्रियामा युवाको सहभागिताको लागि के कस्ता समस्या तथा चुनौतिहरु छन् ?

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६. छलफलको क्रममा अन्य कुनै सान्दर्भिक विषयहरुको उठान भएमा छलफल गर्ने

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