

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference
of Parties (COP) and Nepal's participation from 2011-2021

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Letter of Recommendation

I certify that this dissertation entitled "**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) and Nepal's participation from 2011-2021**" has been prepared by Pratik Dotel under my supervision. I hereby recommend this dissertation for the final examination by the research committee at the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University in the fulfillment of the requirements for MIRD 525 Thesis for the Master's Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy.

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Prem Raj Khanal

Thesis Supervisor

2022 July 15

Declaration

I hereby declare that the work has been done by myself and no portion of the work contained in this document has been published or submitted in support of any application for any other degree or qualification of this or any other university or institution of learning. In case of others authors' information, ideas and arguments, the source have been duly cited and acknowledged as per the requirements. The copyright of this research work belongs to the author.

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Pratik Dotel

2022 July 15

Approval Sheets

Abstract

Climate change has emerged as a burning issue around the world which has created an existential crisis for the living beings of the world. Climate change is a transcended issue which is nearly impossible for single country to cope with its impacts. Realizing the gravity of the issue, international community joined hand to minimize the effect thus forming the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Every year, state party comes to a forum, Conference of Parties (COP), for a dialogue, to tackle the efforts collectively.

The main objective of this research is to find out how Nepal as party to UNFCCC, has played its role in terms of commitment and negotiations in the COP held every year from 2011-2021. The research illustrates how Nepal as a developing country, has raised issues of climate change that has directly impacted the country's environment in the international convention. This also talks about Nepal's efforts it has implemented in its political boundary to keep up with its commitment. The findings shows that in course of a decade, Nepal has nothing new to offer in terms of negotiation, nothing peculiar agenda has come from Nepal's side in the conference and Nepal only has interest in the climate fund that are to be provided by the developed countries.

Abbreviations

BAU	Business as Usual
COP	Conference of Parties
GHG	Green House Gases
GLOF	Glacier Lake Outburst Flood
HDI	Human Development Index
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LAPA	Local Adaptation Plans for Action
LDC	Least Developed Country
LED	Low Emission Development
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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Chapter 1. Introduction

1.1 Background

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a global environment treaty addressing climate change concerns that came into existence in 1992 at United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro commonly known as Earth Summit (Rajamani,2011). After a round of negotiation, treaty was signed by 154 states during the summit and thus, treaty entered into force on 21 March, 1994 (Cicin-Sain,1966). UNFCCC seeks to lower and stabilize the greenhouse gases concentrations to a level which would not possess a threat to the living beings on earth and on the earth climatic pattern. The Conference of Parties (COP) of UNFCCC is the highest authority that decides, oversees, review and implement the climate change concerns of the world (Population Reference Bureau, 2000). COPs have been used to review what countries (the countries who signed up) have done, and to measure progress. It is an international forum where negotiations take place for the next round of emissions cuts. They are an important way to track progress and figure out what needs to be done in the future.

In 1995, countries around the globe came into negotiation table to reinforce the international commitment to climate change and within period of two years parties accepted the Kyoto protocol (UNFCCC, 2002). Kyoto Protocol, in general commits developed and industrialized countries and transitional economies to significantly lower down the Green House Gases (GHG) emission to a target that is agreed upon. Kyoto Protocol lawfully binds parties of well off nations and puts them on big burden under the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and individual capabilities, because it considers them for the contemporary high level of GHG

emissions in the atmosphere (UNFCCC,2002). Up to 2022, there are 197 parties to the treaty and 192 parties to Kyoto Protocol and the Protocol came into effect in 16th February 2005 (UNFCCC, 2022) The Kyoto Protocol first obligation period started in 2008 and ended in 2012 while second obligation period began in 2013 and recently concluded in 2020 (UNFCCC, 2022).Up to 2022, 26 meetings of COPs is hosted in different parts of the globe. The major paradigm shift moment for climate change convention was Paris Agreement, COP21, which was held in 2015 and came into effect on fourth November, 2016 and the strategic goal of the Paris Agreement is to control the global warming to a range below 2 degrees Celsius, most probably to the limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels (NDRC, 2017). To reach this goal of climate neutrality, countries are aiming to reach worldwide peak emissions of greenhouse gases as soon as possible to avoid a climate change crisis by mid of this century. The Paris Agreement is a substantial achievement in the multifaceted climate change process because it brings all nations together to work on a common goal to combat anthropogenic climate change. The Paris Agreement is perceived as an important tool to address climate change with universal cooperation. Many countries are involved with taking responsibility based on their shared contributions to the problem and are pertinent to resolve this issue in the near future.

Nepal is a member to the UNFCCC and has been effectively taking part in the COP discussion process from the initial days. Nepal as a Least Developed Country (LDC) is in make or breaks state to the result of the UNFCCC dealing process and has been up until this point well conveying to the world about difficulties and valuable open doors from the environmental change (Bhatta, 2021). As per the arrangement of the UNFCCC, Nepal has taken different drives in conceiving fitting polices, legitimate instrument, program, institutional and monetary game plans toward environment

strength. Nepal emits only 0.027 percent to global greenhouse emissions, but it is among the most risked zone because of the climate change (Bhatta, 2021). Climate change has many visible adverse impacts, such as famine, extreme rainfall, floods, mudslides, and the flooding of glacier lakes. These impacts primarily affect communities with low socioeconomic status. The climate change has also caused threat to the human security aspect of the Nepali people. Frequent drought, heavy flooding are in frequent tendency in recent years.

This conference is very important to small, mountainous countries like Nepal, as it could determine their survival. Himalayan countries are observed to be more severe due to the anthropogenic climate change caused because of the byproducts of carbon emission by other countries of the world. From beginning of COP, countries like Nepal has always raised the issues of effects of climate change on the glaciers in the upper Himalayan regions. Failure to agree on a new global agreement at these meeting would be disastrous. The effects of this will be most pronounced in poorer and more mountainous countries like Nepal. Nepal is a regular participant at COP and is committed to raising the voices of low- and small-sized countries (Mandal, 2021).

In COP, Nepal will continue to focus on the issues facing low- and small-sized countries. In 2010, Nepal developed a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to make an attempt to the country's most pressing and important adaptation requirements. In 2011, Nepal developed a Climate Change Policy that calls for eighty percent of total budget to be spent in the grassroots level. Likewise, Nepal has drawn up a National Framework for Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) in 2011 in order to actualize the plan of action and localize adaptation attempts; Nepal has also begun channeling climate finance with respect to Climate Change Budget Code since

2013 (Ministry of Forest and Environment, Government of Nepal, 2018) . The Paris Agreement is taken as a next leap towards climate combat. Nepal efforts for combating climate change can be viewed in the form of before Paris Agreement and after Paris Agreement period. Nepal is a party of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and has given its consent to the Paris Agreement. Nepal has signed up to join the global fight against climate change with an aim of containing temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius (Wagley, 2019). This will have important impacts on the country's environment and economy. Nepal is a party to the Paris Agreement, which means it, is devoted to sinking greenhouse gas emissions. In order to meet its targets, Nepal has been working to improve energy efficient and renewable energy sources.

While talking about climate change in the South Asian region and COP, Bangladesh was the country which has tried to establish its vulnerabilities through the concept of loss and damage. Nepal, as a country has tried to focus on mitigation and adaptation. Nepal as a frail country in order to combat climate change must try to establish and advocate the issue of loss and damage in the UNFCCC conferences.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Nepal is an active member of UNFCCC and is a party to COP. From the initial days, Nepal has actively raised the issues of the climate change impact on its bio-diversity in the forum. Nepal being a least developed and small island countries in international politics, much of its efforts could not be highlighted and documented in the international sphere. In much of the cases, poorly developed and small island countries negotiation and commitment to climate change combating efforts are often neglected and much of the credit is often given to OECD countries. This thesis, in

general, talks about the role of Nepal in climate change mitigation and its commitment and negotiation to protect and help slow down of anthropogenic cause of climate change in its region. This research analyzed Nepal's efforts in order of before and after of Paris Agreement (COP21). This is done because Paris Agreement is perceived as a major achievement in the field of climate change mitigation and lot of strategies and perception are reviewed after the COP21 meeting.

1.3 Research Question

- What are the commitment and negotiation priorities of Nepal in UNFCCC COP from 2011-2021?
- How Nepal as a developing country, has raised issues of climate change?

1.4 Research Objectives

- To discuss commitment and negotiation priorities of Nepal in UNFCCC COP from 2011-2021.
- To explore Nepal's role in raising the issues of climate change.

1.5 Significance

As climate change issues are more of mainstream in the international politics, poorly developed and small island countries states commitments and negotiation are often ignored. Least developed and small islands are more susceptible to rapid climate change and are the one who have to suffer more due to aggressive climatic patterns. This research tries to shed light on the effort of least developed and small island countries, in particular Nepal, and its commitments and negotiation to mitigate the climate change. This thesis also talks about Nepal's negotiation in the international

forum for it and all of the least developed and small island countries nations to compensate them due to the climate change loss and damage.

1.6 Chapter Organization

This thesis is divided into six different chapters. The first chapter talks about the introduction portion of the thesis. In this chapter, short description about UNFCCC and COP is explained and Nepal's entry to UNFCCC is also dealt. Statement of problem, research question and objective are also dealt in the chapter. The second chapter contains literature review of the topic and conceptual framework of the research is also highlighted in this chapter. The third chapter talks about research methodology. Inside research methodology; research design, location, data collection and analysis methods, limitations and ethical concerns are discussed.

In fourth chapter, the thesis deals about findings of the thesis. In my case, Nepal's commitment and negotiation in UNFCCC COP are discussed. This is the main part of thesis where actual findings are jotted down. The penultimate part of the thesis is conclusion where crux of the thesis is discussed. The ultimate chapter is reference where citations are quoted and authors are credited to their work.

Chapter 2: Review of Literatures and Conceptual Framework

2.1 Literature Review

Human induced climate change in 20th century was primarily regarded as an ambiguous study of a less important and trivial scientific phenomenon. It's also possibly the urgent long-term issue that regimes everywhere in the world are dealing with. With a focus on significant international treaties and agreements made along the road, this insight offers a concise impression of the history of climate change as an international political issue.

Environmental issues made their worldwide and intergovernmental debut in the second part of the 20th century. Stockholm, Sweden hosted the first global environmental meeting in 1972(Brunnee, 2009). International environmental politics underwent a sea change as a result of this UN-organized summit. It sparked the founding of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as well as pledges to coordinate international initiatives to advance sustainability and protect the environment.

The Stockholm Conference, on the other hand, was simply a postscript to climate change. The problem was primarily seen as a scientific one rather than a serious political crisis. However, between the time of the conference held in 1972 and in the late 1980s, influential policymakers paid attention as experts raised alarm about the risks presented by rising greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) and this event was acknowledged at the First World Climate Conference in 1979 and the 1988 Toronto Conference on Climate Change (Young, 2010). In 1988, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

reached an international agreement to form an intergovernmental assessment of climate change knowledge, effects, and retort options (IPCC, 1992). The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was formed for conducting this assessment, and it has since produced five comprehensive assessments that have been subjected to rigorous evaluation procedures. The IPCC is currently engaged in the Sixth Assessment Report, which was released in 2021 (IPCC, 2021). The panel has been criticized for being too careful and too partisan and exaggerated. Nonetheless, its reports are widely regarded as the influential foundation of information on climate change knowledge and impacts. The IPCC released its first evaluation report in 1990 (IPCC, 2021). It rang an alarm bell that emissions due to anthropogenic actions are significantly rising the concentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gases. As a result, call for international treaty gained momentum within the global sphere.

The UN General Assembly started a negotiation on the matter of anthropogenic emissions which in later years became the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in response to the momentum generated by the IPCC reports. The Convention was later embraced on May 9, 1992, and was made available for signature to the parties at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Young, 2010). This was the first, one of its kind international agreements which in later years were accepted by most of the countries worldwide with 197 Parties (Brunnee, 2009).

The Treaty's primary goal is to contain carbon emission concentrations in the biosphere at a level that prevents risky anthropogenic interfering with the climatic process. The Treaty recognized the presence of human induced climate change and separated countries into three major sets based on various obligations. Particularly, it

assigned the majority of responsibility for combating it to industrialized nations (known as Annex I Parties), without postulating on the methods to decrease it. Since then, every year Conference of Parties (COP) has been conducted throughout the world. This is the UNFCCC's supreme decision making organ. Countries (known as Parties) review the Convention and make decisions to encourage its implementation at COPs. COP 1 conference started in 1995 with plans to cement the UNFCCC's obligations, which gave rise to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol (which entered into force in 2005) (Fletcher & Parker, 2007).

It was the first major event in which industrialized countries were given binding GHG reduction targets. Even though global emissions increased, these countries reduced their emissions. Since then, 192 of the UNFCCC's parties have already approved the protocol. When globe's largest emitters, most especially the United States, refused to ratify it in 2001, it was somewhat derailed. The Doha Amendment prolonged Kyoto's obligations until 2020, thereby helping to lay the groundwork for the successive Paris Agreement.

Negotiations on that would come after the Kyoto Protocol in 2020 began at COP 13 in 2007(Rajamani, 2011). As a final ground to make an agreement could not be met at COP 15 in Copenhagen in 2009, the next key effort could not be channelized until COP 21 in Paris in 2015 (Sundmann 2007). Governments and activists greeted the Paris Agreement with caution. It fixed an aspiring goal of keeping temperatures, well below 2 degrees Celsius and pursuing determinations to contain the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The fact that all states - industrialized and developing - were mandated to present their all-inclusive nationally determined contributions was significant for the Agreement (NDCs). Essentially, these were the climate change to

plans to be made by individual states. The Paris Agreement offered countries until 2018 to improve and settle on guidelines for fully implementing the agreement before it goes into effect in 2020 and the Paris Rulebook, a framework for enforcing the agreement, was acknowledged at the 2018 COP 24 in Poland (UNFCCC, 2021). However, some technical issues were postponed and are still being worked out.

Nepal and Climate Change

Climate change appears to be more devastating in least developed nations such as Nepal. Because of its central location in the Himalayan range, Nepal is in region between east to west Himalayas region. Nepal's diverse ecosystem reflects the country's distinctive ecological location, as well as altitudinal and climatic variations. Despite accounting for only 0.09 percent of earth's landmass, Nepal offers wide range of flora and fauna (NBS, 2002). Similarly, Nepal is a non-coastal country with inhabitants of around 29 million people that is vulnerable to the extreme effects of climate change.

Nepal has a distinct climatic distribution throughout its political boundary. Nepal has land stretching from hot to winter only 200 kilometers from south to north. Most areas in Nepal are dependent on the monsoon, which varies according to elevation. Countrywide temperatures are around 15 degrees Celsius and upsurge from north to south. Precipitation averages 1,500 mm per year, rising from west to east because west region lies in the rain shadow of the Himalayas; the northwest corner receives the least rainfall (Dahal, 2010). Precipitation also differs according to elevation; ranges above 3,000 m experiences heavy rainfall, whereas heavy rainstorms are observed below 2,000 m (USCSP, 1997). The recent rapid melting of snow in the Upper Himalayas is one of the most serious and tangible pointers of the effects of

climate change in Nepal. The Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) phenomenon has become more common as glaciers in the Himalayan region melt. Flooding on an unprecedented scale has been observed in various parts of the country over the last two decades. Since the last few decades, variations in climatic patterns like temperature, precipitation, and snowstorm are frequent in Nepal. Climate change has had an impact on five main segments: water resources, cultivation, forestry, biodiversity, and wellbeing of people (Sundmann 2007).

After the mid-70s, warming appears to be consistent and ongoing. Between 1977 and 1994, the average yearly temperature increase was 0.06 degrees Celsius (Shrestha et al. 1999). Rise in the temperature was reported to be greater in mountainous areas of the country, such as the central and upper Himalayas, and considerably less in the Terai Madhesh region. Additionally, upsurge of the temperature in the wintertime was greater than in other periods. In accordance to a new study, Nepal's mercury is on the upper side at a rate of about 0.41 degrees Celsius in every ten years (Dahal, 2005, Kansakar et al. 2004, Sherstha et al. 2000).

Furthermore, for unknown reasons, temperatures are rising exponentially at higher region of the Himalayas. The monsoon is also getting stronger, with cloudburst becoming frequent phenomenon. Furthermore, the onset of the monsoon has been delayed in recent years (Dahal et al. 2009). Climate change is becoming a constant phenomenon changing the trend of various land features over a large area. Except in a few cases in specific areas, the trend in aggregate precipitation has changed over time. A clear picture is being observed in the recent years in the river flow patterns in certain rivers where the number of floods days has been in the rise. The tributary stream changes are frequent in the tropical time due to glacier melt, and in certain

cases, the GOLF occurrence has increased flooding risk, which is more likely to have occurred due to increase in temperatures. Due to climate change, there are radical changes in natural resources and land patterns. The retreat of glaciers in the higher Himalayas and the disappearance of a number of water sources are two important examples to showcase effects of climate change on natural structure of earth. However, such burning issue on impacts of climate change in the natural resources and their effect on the countries are not seriously negotiated and discussed in the international forums because participants failed to recognize that earth's resources are in no manner merely the assets of any individual nation, but rather the belongs to all of living beings worldwide.

The Ministry of Forest and Environment is responsible for forging collaboration among concerned agencies for global climate negotiations. Being an underdeveloped country, still, Nepal is flexing its international inspiration and reputation in climate change negotiations. As a LDC state, it is that proactively participating in the events of climate dialogs. As a member of the G77 and China, Nepal has shown a prominent role during the negotiations.

Nepal raises its concerns in the G77 and China through LDCs. In climate discussions, Nepal has undertaken the lead in advocating for matters correlated to the impacts of climate change on high altitude ranges in accordance to the Kyoto Protocol. As a Himalayan republic, Nepal is constantly on a front role to raise agenda in international climate negotiations at the UNFCCC. However, Nepal like countries is always pushed to the bottom line, often discarding their issues as trivial and dumping in the baskets and their opinions ignored in intercontinental climate dialogues. Somewhere the frequent changes in the name of Ministry is also responsible for the negligence of

climate issues, as frequent changes also starts to erase the institutional memory which in return is considered in the international arenas as government is not serious enough for negotiating the climatic issues of Nepal.

As COP is the supreme organ for decision making for the issues of climate change, this forum is regarded as most important from the perspective of developing countries like Nepal. Underdeveloped countries like Nepal, it is the most favorable forum to present its issues induced by the anthropogenic climate change and make a mark to commit international organization to really focus on its major problems.

2.2 Efforts of developing states to tackle climate change

Maldives

The Maldives believes that climate change topic is one of the pressing development and security risk of the 21st century. The climate change caused by human activity is causing the climate system to break down and harm the environment. The negative effects of the current behavior are already happening, and they will impede the efforts to realize sustainable development then put the small island nation and people at risk. With the rise of sea level, Maldives has a challenge of protecting its legacy and protect it for the future generations. Climate change is a cross cutting development issue and in fact involves all the socio-economic aspects of human life. In accordance to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), small island developing states (SIDS) like the Maldives are the most helpless states when it comes to combating the challenges of global climate change. Furthermore, contributing minimal emission of carbon to the biosphere, SIDS is among those least prepared to deal and acclimatize to its effects.

Fighting climate change requires international cooperation. Any failure to come to an agreement to drastically reduce emissions will endanger our ability to flourish and survive. Recognizing this, the international fraternity is proactively working to minimize the existing effects and expected future negative repercussions by effectively putting the UNFCCC's provisions into practice. The Maldives make a trivial contribution to global GHG emissions. Maldives is gravely concerned about the poor progress of international efforts to curb global warming because the country has not made a big contribution to the causes of the problem.

Maldives, however, is committed to achieving a future of low-emission development (LED) and is determined to contribute to a worldwide solution. In the context of extreme vulnerability, Maldives have come up with its own National Climate Change Policy Framework 2015, to build resilience with its regional and global partners. The Climate Change Policy Framework of Maldives suggests the regime and its citizens the tactical regulation for retorting to climate change influences over the subsequent 10 years (2014–2024)

To be adaptable to these impacts, the framework offers five major strategically important procedures that offer a roadway to a unified approach, for the benefit of Maldives. According to the report published by the Government of Maldives in 2014, following goals are adopted which are described below:

GOAL 1. Justifiable funding in adaptation programs of climate change should be guaranteed and low emission improvement measures must be assimilated. ;

GOAL 2. Reinforce the future on low emission and safeguard energy requirements of the country;

GOAL 3.To address present and future extremes of global warming, climate resistant structures should be strengthened. It should be a plan for adaptation action;

GOAL 4.Must increase the advocacy on the behalf of small islands developing nations in the leading international negotiations to make aware the issues in cross sectorial areas.

GOAL 5. Maldives seeks to nurture sustainable development while protecting the socio-economic, security, sovereignty from the effects of climate change. (Government of Maldives, 2014)

Maldives has set a goal to reduce the country's emission by 24% from business as usual (BAU) by 2030 through global coordination and cooperation. (Government of Maldives,2020) Different measures and policies as well as programs through international assistance are being enforced by the government to meet this goal. To obtain above goals measures are undertaken by Maldivian government which include:

30% of the Maldives energy demand to be supplied by solar cells for its citizens by 2018(ADBI,2019). A imperishable private investment in renewable sectors was commenced in 2014 in order to minimize the risk for the country's private partners with renewable technologies and the country is in plan to transform the current energy grids into hybrid solar-diesel renewable energy system in the outer island regions. (Government of Maldives, 2020)

Maldives intends to subsidize import duty to all kinds of renewable energy apparatus. Establishing renewable energy investments favorable policies. Channeling financial apparatus through country's big financial institutions to promote renewable energy and encouraging energy-efficient practices and technologies in public infrastructures

and incorporating energy-efficient methods into the building regulations. Stringent rules must be applied in order to improve the quality of automobiles on the road utilizing emission criterion and age restriction on policies to upgrade standards of automobiles on the roads using emission criterion and age limits on automobiles. . (Government of Maldives, 2020)

The Maldives as a small island nation have always proactively associated itself in the UNFCCC process since its inception and ratified the Convention on June 12, 1992, and it went into effect there on March 21, 1994(UNFPII,2017). By this logic, the Maldives was one of the first states to endorse the Paris Agreement, the Kyoto Protocol, and the UNFCCC.

Bhutan

Due to climate change, Bhutan is extremely susceptible to its negative effects. Bhutan being a landlocked, least developed nation with a delicate rugged environment, the vulnerability is increased by the population's great reliance on subsistence farming and the crucial role that hydropower plays in economic development. By pursuing low emission growth routes across all sectors, rising emissions after economic development will be a necessity to be reduce in order to maintain carbon neutrality. The Climate Change Policy was created in order to handle the opportunities and difficulties brought on by recent advancements in the countrywide and worldwide ground of climate change. This Policy was industrialized throughout the course of a participatory and collaborative process. At the national and municipal levels, a variety of concerned parties from governmental and non-governmental organizations. (National Environment Commission, 2020)

The Royal Government of Bhutan pledged to maintain carbon neutrality at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) in 2009 and reaffirmed the pledge as part of their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement in 2015. This pledge was made as part of Bhutan's effort to preserve the planet for both current and future generations. According to the first NDC, foreign assistance in the form of funding, expertise, skill development, research, and responsiveness are needed in order to undertake climate initiatives. Bhutan should be equipped to acquire and accept worldwide assistance whereas mustering some home assistance in order to achieve economic self-reliance and self-sufficiency. The following declarations and actions shall serve as a roadmap for the execution of climate change initiatives in Bhutan for the efficient and competent implementation of this policy. According to the report published by the Government of Bhutan in the year 2020, following are the objectives as mentioned in that report:

Objective 1: Undertake carbon zero initiative: The government adopts necessary actions to achieve carbon zero position ensuring environmentally stable development and in the meantime taking all precautionary measures to promote socio-economic activities by following low GHG development path.

Objective 2: Establishing durability to climate change: The government moves in the direction to protect and promote life, liberty, happiness of its citizens from the hostile effects of climate change via developing adaptive ability and resilience to contain the vulnerabilities and by encompassing adaptation actions into planning procedures of all developmental stages.

Objective 3: Safeguarding means of execution: The government makes an effort to guarantee acceptable means of enactment (through investment, expertise, capability

building, research and responsiveness, assimilation) to support both modification and adaptation activities.

Objective 4: Efficient and synchronized actions: The government ensures efficient, synchronized and co-operative countrywide approach for realizing climate change action by evading replication of all hard works and flourishing synergies via coordination and collaboration. (National Environment Commission Royal Government of Bhutan, 2020)

The purpose of the strategy is to ensure that the Paris Agreement's commitments, such as country contributions to achieving the temperature goal, are completely carried out. The Agreement's long-term objective of Bhutan becoming carbon neutral by the second part of the twenty-first century has already been met, and the policy outlines steps Bhutan can take to keep its carbon neutral position. Procedures have been encompassed in the regulations to ensure accountability of action which is an important foundation of the, and to guarantee that Bhutan's actions can have backing in a country-driven and clear style.

Bhutan has made an institutional arrangement to look after the climate change policy to effectively implement throughout the country as a commitment towards UNFCCC.

National Climate Change Committee: National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), the NEC considers entire climate change strategy and monitoring issues, deliver all sorts of deliver overall supervision on the Climate Change Policy, and confirm that the procedure is realized across each and every areas. In addition to assisting the NEC/NCCC, the NECS leads the development of nationwide climate change strategies and plans such as NDCs, NAPs.

Climate Change Coordination Committee (C4): (C4) is the technical frame in Bhutan that serves as a medium for discourse and collaboration of climate change-related issues, and it makes recommendations to the NCCC/NEC. The Prime Minister's Executive Order of October 16, 2016 established the committee and the Climate Change Division of NECS assists the C4 in carrying out its mandates and functions. . (National Environment Commission Royal Government of Bhutan, 2020)

Observing the effectiveness and implementation of the CC Policy and Action Plan:
NCCC and C4 will monitor overall policy implementation progress as follows:

Through CCD/C4, C4 observes the execution of the related plan and procedures in every two year, all governmental divisions and organizations must deliver C4 with updates and reports on their improvement in executing the policies and actions outlined in the plan of action

Bhutan's second National Development Plan (NDP) reaffirms the country's commitment to remaining carbon neutral while also charting a course to improve mitigation actions and plans via sectorial Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) and the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plan 2020. The development strategies were created for critical areas such as human inhabitants, food security, industry, and land transportation. Green technology, invention, clean energy and green job creation are among the sectorial strategies aimed at segregating economic development and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The country's carbon neutral status was established by its most recent greenhouse gas inventory, which showed emissions of 3.8 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) in 2015 and removal of 9.4 million tons of CO₂, for a net carbon sink balance of 5.6 million tons of CO₂e(Government of Bhutan,2015). While the 2nd NDC is ambitious and includes

specific targets for carbon reduction, Bhutan will need financial, mechanical, and capital assistance from both national and international donors to meet its new climate targets.

Maldives and Bhutan both are countries of South Asia as is the case of Nepal. Nepal in its case has always negotiated for small island developing states and least developed countries and these countries both fall in the category. So, by analyzing the works done by these countries which are in the same geographical proximity, study of Nepal in regards to its role in the minimization of effects of climate change becomes more understandable. Maldives and Bhutan as countries of SAARC region has initiated proactive moves in terms of reduction of carbon emission, taking these as a cornerstone Nepal should also introduce proactive and strategic plans to overcome the issues of emission of carbon and reduce to net zero as that of Bhutan.

2.3 Conceptual Framework

The establishment of UNFCCC can be derived to the concept of multilateralism. After the World war, the concept of multilateralism continued to gain momentum. Multilateralism is an alliance of different countries to achieve common goal. After world wars, multilateralism concept gained momentum. Consultation, inclusion, and solidarity are founding principles of multilateralism. Its operation is guided by collectively developed rules that ensure long-term and effective collaboration. UNFCCC came into existence after the multilateralism idea gain momentum. After the establishment of United Nations Organizations, cooperation and coordination among the states became a primary mantra.

Economic and infrastructural development gained paced within the world and pollution of environment was observed in a rapid pace. Environmental pollution is

transcended problem, each and every states were affected by it, those who polluted were affected and those were negligible contributors were affected too. A single state cannot control the pace of anthropogenic climate change, so the world had to come together to solve this phenomenon. With the idea to combat climate change member of UNO came together in a single place and created UNFCCC to tackle the growing pace of climate change. The research specifically talks about human induced climate change that is affecting the countries worldwide. With the rapid industrialization, burning of fossil fuels has increased exponentially which has eventually resulted in the emission of greenhouse gases which has directly resulted to the warming of the earth's temperature and in return induced climate change in the contemporary era.

This thesis talks about the COP forum as an international arena for raising the national and international issues induced due to the global warming and also an internationally accepted as the supreme decision organ when it comes to raising the issues of climate change.

The research has tried to analyze from 2011-2021, so in this term Paris Agreement is the most important phenomenon, it is because it was the conference where parties agreed to limit earth temperature to 1.5 degree C and new paradigm was setup for the other agendas to be negotiated in the years to come revolving around the Paris Accord. In this thesis, the research is completely based on the ground realities that actually are done by the Nepal as an LDC in the COP conference in the past 11 years.

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

3.1 Research Design

Based on secondary data from government reports, press release, journal articles, IPCC report and UNFCCC archives, qualitative research methodology is used to analyze UNFCCC COP and Nepal's Participation from 2011-2021.

3.2 Research Site

The research was conducted based on secondary data through desktop review and analysis, completely based on online articles and information. This is a qualitative study targeted to Nepal's commitment and negotiation in international forum i.e. UNFCCC. So, this thesis tried to integrate perspective from global to glocal.

3.3 Data Collection Method

The data and material collection are done through secondary sources which were journals articles, governments report, and IPCC report and all the relevant literatures that could be accessed on this topic.

3.4 Data Analysis

The research is done through triangulations of data from different sources namely reports, journal articles and press releases. All the relevant documents that are important for the dissertation are reviewed and analyzed thoroughly and main information are extracted accordingly. As, the analysis is completely based on qualitative method, historical development of the events are presented within the thesis. Content analysis of the articles and journals are the base of this study to skim

out the Nepal's efforts and commitment in the COP conference and whether it has fulfill its obligations according to the commitment made in the forum.

3.5 Ethical Concerns

The research is based on the qualitative method and all the information that are written in the thesis are based on the secondary data. So, the question of anonymity and confidentiality of participants are of trivial issue. The thesis is based on secondary method of data collection, so whenever possible, the original writer are given their credit, by quoting their work in the footnote and in the references itself. The work is rewritten retaining to the original work and plagiarism in most case omitted. Most cases, plagiarism are omitted and all the writings are of researcher.

3.6 Limitations

As with other studies, this one has also some restrictions. To fulfill the criteria for the MA in International Relations, the research is completed. Therefore, its sample size, study materials, and data analysis are below what the students are capable of. This research cannot be generalized as a result.

Chapter 4: Nepal's participation in COP from 2011-2021

4.1 Participation up to Paris Agreement (2011-2015)

The COP17 was organized in Durban, South Africa in 2011. Nepal was represented by the then Environment Minister Hemraj Tater. He emphasized the importance of impartiality, righteousness, and global harmony for the existence and well-being of the marginalized community. The major agendas on which Nepal placed importance at the highest levels were:

Implementation of the outcomes of the climate conferences in Bali and Cancun significant progress in adaptation, extenuation, economics, expertise transfer and development, and capability building, the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period to keep earth's temperature upsurge below 1.5° C (UNFCCC,2011). Under the authority and guidance of COP, the Cancun Adaptation Framework, Technology Mechanism, and Green Climate Fund will be operationalized, with an importance given to LDCs. Replenishment of the LDCF and other climate capital, as well as calm and quick entree to National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) execution and NAP planning and enactment.

Recognized REDD + and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as significant tools for ecological development and dearth alleviation (UNFCCC, 2011). Despite Nepal's limited resources, Minister iterated to have designated adaptation as a National Survival Strategy to safeguard its publics, livelihoods, and environments. In accordance with the National Framework on Local Adaptation Programme of Action, Nepal committed to begin developing crucial and instantaneous adaptation arrangements within NAPA, with 80 percent of the capital channeled to the local level

(LAPA) (UNFCCC, 2011). In addition, the minister committed to endorse clean and renewable energy improvement for the matter of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. He also recalls Nepal's launch of the Mountain Initiative in Copenhagen in 2009. The statement emphasized the burning issues of decreasing snow cover and melting of glaciers in the Upper Himalayas, as well as the vulnerability of poor people living in mountainous areas. The statement also emphasized the importance of declining snowfall and melting glaciers in the mountains, as well as the vulnerability of poor people living in mountainous areas (UNFCCC, 2011). The Nepal government also prearranged a parallel episode at COP 17 with participation of dignitaries from many states to highlight the mountain agenda and develop cooperation among mountainous countries. In the concluding remarks, the minister urged a change of stance from a pledge-based method to a result-based method (UNFCCC, 2011).

Nepal, like other low income based economies, must actively contribute in the design and implementation of the Green Climate Fund and other funds to guarantee that they are easily reachable, justly distributed, and have a transparent control mechanism. In this context, there is a growing recognition that Nepal requires more active and strategic participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations.

The COP18 was organized in Doha, Qatar beginning in 2012 which was headed by the then Minister for Environment, Science and Technology Dr. Keshab Man Shakya. In the conference, Minister opened the remark by stressing the action done by government to draw attention on adverse consequence of climate change on mountain. The Government of Nepal in the year 2012 prearranged an International Conference of Mountain Countries on Climate Change in Kathmandu to create a framework in

which Himalayan nations and international organizations for the purpose of cooperation to communicate the adversarial effects of climate change (Shrestha, 2013). The Kathmandu Call for Action was adopted by this conference to proceed ahead with the Mountain Initiative. Our country implemented climate adaptation actions in accordance with state's own National Adaptation Programme of Action, Climate Change Policy, and the agendas of Local Adaptation Plan for Action (LAPA). LAPA allows for the addition of climate adaptation onto local and state designing, as well as the identification and implementation of crucial and instant adaptation activities with the involvement of root level societies (Shrestha, 2013).

While the country is enthralled by advancement on certain unresolved subjects, more optimistic outcomes on other critical issues are required. The major concern was about the unfulfilled capital pledge to the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), which is important to the execution of the LDC work program. Nepal requested assistance in enabling LDCs to profit from different existing funding apparatuses. Nepal vehemently supports a five-year extension of the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period.

COP18 must make concrete decisions to put COP13's outcomes into action in order to reach a global agreement on issues such as modification, adaptation, capital, knowledge transmission and progress, and capability enhancement. Nepal welcomed advancement toward establishing the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as a single legal entity fund under the UNFCCC, and is equally alarmed by the insufficient capitals. As a result, COP18 needed to increase assistance and establish a direct access procedure. In the meantime, stresses the accessibility of new, supplementary, acceptable, foreseeable, and long-term funding.

The important decision made in the conference was to extend the Kyoto Protocol amendment until the second obligation period, which starts from 2013 and ends in 2020. The regime also decided to create a legitimate framework to ensure the protocol's smooth implementation. The conference recognized methods to addressing loss and damage related with climate change effects in low income based nations that are especially exposed to the negative repercussions of climate change in order to improve adaptive competence. The conference decided to create a mechanism that would be especially useful for ensuring the unhindered execution of expertise handover and economic assistance to underdeveloped countries. The GCF is likely to begin operations in the second half of 2013, with activities beginning in 2014. Climate financing was at the heart of the conference's discussions, but no such systematic agreement has been reached as the poorly developed countries had hoped. Industrialized states only reiterated their pledge to endure long-term climate capital assistance to developing countries, as promised at COP 17 (Shrestha, 2013).

The COP19 took place in 2013 in Warsaw, Poland. In the Warsaw Conference, governments made additional critical decisions to keep the world on track for an international climate change agreement in 2015. The 2015 agreement has two objectives:

First, nations must join hands to effectively limit the emissions quickly to chalk out long term vision to take off the planet from the dangers of climate change, while also increasing adaptation capacity. Second, encourage countries more on immediate and broad-based action. Negotiations in Warsaw focused on implementing erstwhile meetings' agreements, as well as continuing the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (IISD, 2013). The meeting came to a

conclusion in 27 hours of intense discussion after its scheduled end time, with ADP decision that called on parties to start preparing internal policies for their intended nationally determined contributions, and move in the direction for overall enactment of the Bali Action Plan and pre-2020 ambition. Event also settled to establish the Warsaw international loss and damage mechanism, as well as the Warsaw REDD+ framework, a set of seven resolutions on REDD+ finance, institutional provisions, and methodological matters (IISD, 2013).

In Nepal's context, the Nepali Delegation team led the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) at COP19 with high expectations. The delegation was not only charged with educating about the adversities of climate change, but also with securing funds to tackle the adversities of climate change in the area. Nepal was officially appointed as the LDC group's leader for the 2013-14 fiscal years in December (Rayamajhi, 2013).

The LDC Group emphasized that this COP must deliver on four major fronts:

Minimizing carbon emissions so that earth's climate is in the acceptable emission path: Increasing financial assistance to LDCs to address the climate change ; Establishing a global mechanism on loss and damage to cover the agendas not included in the adaptation and conceptualizing a road map about how negotiations should process in order to make an agreement in 2015. These issues are termed as political agendas and are likely to spark a debate in the conference (Rayamajhi, 2013).

Nepal advocated for the development of a sustainable roadmap for climate funding in order to meet the \$100 billion target agreed for 2020 and the path comprised specific plans to achieve \$60 billion within 2016, with 50% set aside only to the adaptation (Rayamajhi, 2013). A comprehensive observation, reportage, and confirmation

arrangement for economic funding was to be defined, as well as the measure and portion of finance from private and public sources was to be spell out.

The COP20 was organized in Lima, Peru in 2014. Nepal raised an issue of adopted IPCC reports at the conference, stating that it is still unambiguous: unless the international community immediately reduces emissions. Nepal emphasized that the world is on pathway for a 3-5 degree temperature rise, so all the countries must take an vehement mitigation arrangements, including brief term of five year commitment objectives and prolonged mitigation obligations by industrialized countries and other states that are incapable of implementing theses actions; additionally, the international community should come to a term on a mechanism for increasing capacity over a time; and third, must agree on a road map for assessable, original, and innovative mitigation measures (UNFCCC, 2011). Nepal also had requested that the LDCF be replenished immediately.

Up to that time, the LDCF had received a smaller amount than one billion dollars for executing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), primarily designed to address the persistent and direct adaptation needs. Nepal urged developed countries to keep the LDCF in mind when allocating future funds. The crucial NAPAs of the LDCs had to be accomplished by 2020 (UNFCCC, 2011). Nepal's social and economic development has been jeopardized by climate change. Deluges, famines, cyclones landslides, glacier flooding, rise of sea level all becoming more frequent and intense in the region. The IPCC reports confirmed the more likely of these severe and irretrievable consequences. SAARC region is mostly vulnerable to climate change and associated catastrophes; the 16th SAARC Summit meeting, organized in 2010 in the capital Thimphu of Bhutan, and adopted the Thimphu Statement on Climate

Change as a cornerstone of advancing regional coordination and climate-related activities (UNFCCC, 2011). Despite the country's technical and financial constraints, Nepal has executed number of policies institutional framework and enactment, which includes the enactment of NAPA's utmost and instantaneous adaptation activities. The country established a devoted budget code to formalize climate funding and plan for zero-carbon advancement. Nepal requested all of the participants of the conference to come up with a Special Work Program on Mountains in accordance with Article 4.8 of the Agreement in order to minimize climate change susceptibility and connected loss and damage (UNFCCC, 2011).

The COP21 was observed in Paris, France in 2015. Nepal raised the voices of developing and least developed countries in every conference in which it has participated, including COP21. At COP21, Nepal focused on signing a treaty to aid in the reduction of climate change. Nepal is another country affected by GHGs emitted by developed countries. As a result, Nepal raised its voice in support of developing technology that will aid in the fight against all of these situations. Nepal also focused on the loss caused by all of these events. Nepal implemented a variety of practices to help alleviate and adapt to climate change.

For the first time, Nepal adopted a climate change budget. Climate change issues are also addressed in the National Plan The major issues that Nepal called for were; demand for administrative obligation, guidance, and preparedness from all participants of the countries, particularly those with the greatest capability and emissions, to investigate a variety of options for increasing level of commitment on increasing mitigation and adaptation for the pre-2020 time, with all participants taking equal responsibility to this universal efforts. This global determination calls for the

approval and efficient implementation of the Kyoto Protocol's Doha Amendments (Adhikari, 2015).

The outcomes of the technical expert meetings should be thoroughly made to be executed in the ground, with clear execution pathways emerging to close the emission gap by 2020 (Adhikari, 2015). This facilitates a clear action oriented pathway toward achieving a long-term goal. Countries with the greatest capacity and historical emissions must provide enough technical and economic assistance to countries with limited ability and emissions in order to contain adaptation costs.

The section is divided into before and after Paris Agreement because Paris Agreement is taken as cornerstone in terms of negotiation in COP. Before Paris Agreement, major step regarded as Copenhagen Conference held in 2009, till 2015, every year vulnerable and LDCs main agenda was to contain the rise in temperature of earth to not more than 2 degree Celsius but somehow in these years, the issue was a major bone of contention in regard to the negotiation and finally in 2015 the issue of temperature limit was achieved in Paris, so now after Paris Accord, the issue in coming years would evolve more into practicality for the implementation or to achieve this accord, so for this reason the chapter is divided into before and after Paris Agreement.

Similarly, in these years, Nepal as a LDC country, also focused its all negotiation priority in limiting the temperature not more than 2 degree Celsius and in 2015 this was finally achieved which was a very great sight of news for the underdeveloped worlds.

4.2 Participation after Paris Agreement (2016-2021)

The COP22 was organized in Marrakech, Morocco in 2016. Following the recent development of the Paris Agreement came into effect on November 4, 2016; the debate regarding the prolongation of the effort under the ad hoc body was additionally debated at the Paris Agreement's governing body (CMA1). As coming to an agreement in the APA meeting in May 2016, the COP 21 recognized the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) by its resolution 1/CP.21, with the mandate to improve procedures, methods, measures, and strategies; and to concoct to come into effect of the Paris Agreement (Ministry of Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, 2016).

All of the APA agenda items concerning procedures and knowledge discussion are very vital for Nepal. Nepal discussed the APA agenda matters based on the technical issues and their implication for COP22, stressing Nepal's systematic apprehension for the conference.

The mitigation strategy of the NDC is of pertinent issue of the APA, particularly how analyze, channelize, display, and authenticate the obligations made by participants. This agenda item's substantive topic will be NDC features, information, and accounting. It is critical to link the goals set in NDCs to the endorsed upon mercury rise goal. However developing additional NDC measures and procedures, careful contemplation should be given to the low income countries like Nepal regarding the flexibility.

The Paris Agreement's global adaptation goal provides a clear direction for the discussion of future adaptation communication guidance. These adaptation communications must be capable of identifying adaptation needs and addressing

resource constraints in LDCs like Nepal. Massive time and heavy resources are invested while coming up with national adaptation plans, so these should be clearly acknowledged in these discussions. One of the issues Nepal must address is the incorporation of conventional and original information, performances, and ground level ingenuities into adaptation.

Transparency of support and action is a critical topic to be addressed under APA. It aids in accounting to the actions taken as well as assistance delivered in areas like alleviation, variation, economics, expertise development and handover, and capability building. However, there must be no confusion regarding the framework's areas of work and vital issues in regard to what it covers and addresses. In these discussions, what is important for Small Island and least developed countries must be thoroughly addressed in terms of flexibility. Many propositions had emerged, including that the instrument be conducive, stringent, as well as it must look into national situation and its proficiencies. This is still in the debated and was very important topic at COP22.

Countries were urged to continue increasing their financial contributions toward the previously agreed-upon \$100 billion per year by 2020 target, as well as to achieve a better balance of adaptation and mitigation (Ministry of Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, 2016).

Some countries had hoped for more forceful language on this, because adaptation has long lagged behind mitigation, to the detriment of the most vulnerable countries.

The COP23 was organized in Bonn, Germany in 2017. Despite several decisions made over the last two decades, Nepal expressed its concerned about the slow progress toward full implementation of the Convention. With only about a year left to complete the work program for finalizing the Paris Agreement's rulebook, progress on

COP23 is critical. As Nepal moves forward with the Paris Agreement's implementation, it should not be burdened with additional reporting requirements. In recent years, Nepal has been inspired by countries that have taken bold climate action to promote renewable energy, clean transportation, and climate resilience. In this regard, Nepal urges countries with higher emissions to take immediate action to keep temperature increases just less than 1.5 degrees Celsius, as directed by the Paris Agreement (UNFCCC, 2017).

Global leaders gather in the conference to discuss about assisting developing countries like through capability building, skill transfer, knowledge sharing Global leaders gathered at COP23. Nepal had requested the international powers to create an environment of mutual trust in order to prepare the rule book that will guide the Paris Accord's implementation.

Nepal, in addition had emphasized the timely acceptance of the rule book and execution of the agreement, had requested the technical and monetary assistance that it is entitled to as an underdeveloped nation.

Nepal itself had developed a status paper to make its negotiation effective in the conference. The status paper covers pertinent issues such as Paris Accord programs, mitigation measures, adaptation, enactment methods, and cross-cutting agendas such as climate and gender. The paper enlisted Nepal's involvements and provides demands in these areas while combating climate change. Using recent flooding as an example, Nepal had raised an issue of separate funding for loss and damage, requesting the international community in the COP23 to provide space for vulnerable countries to negotiate on the financial help as compensation for loss and damage. Nepal had called on for clear pathways to a \$100 billion per year contribution from

developed countries by 2020, as agreed at the Paris COP21 (UNFCCC, 2017). Nepal also made an attraction among the developed west for assistance in the areas of expertise transmission and capability enhancement.

The COP24 took place in Katowice, Poland beginning in 2018. Nepal, low income economy and high risk of climate change, lobbied in the global community at the 24th meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to contain the rise of temperature to 1.5 degree C exceeding pre-industrial level. In this conference, President of Nepal addressed the forum and reflected the sensitivity of human induced climate change. Nepal, in accordance to the status paper prepared for the conference, raise issue of pro-activeness of developed nations, called on to revise their NDCs by 2020 in the line with IPCC report, available science based knowledge. Nepal stressed that current global ambition would not put us on track to contain earth's temperature rise to 1.5 degree C so global effort and target must be increased faster than ever (Joshi, 2018).

Throughout the negotiations, Nepal remained aligned with the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group. As per the document, it clearly stated that the UN Framework Convention, Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Accord all agree to limit the rise of earth's temperature to 2 degree C and there are certain needs and demands of LDCs to obtain these ambitions so these should be recognized and must encompass assistance through climate finance. In addition to this, Lady President as a woman raised the issue of vulnerability of women because of climate change in the underdeveloped countries like Nepal. She appealed the international community to be more sensible towards gender issues too induced by the climate change.

To address this demand Nepal stressed to developed world to provide clear roadmap containing strategies and methods to assist \$100 billion per year by 2020 (Joshi, 2018). Nepal urged developed nations to pledge sustainable and adequate climate finance to help LDCs to address climate risk. The finance must be utilized to address countries special needs; adaptation must be of high priority while maintain a balance between adaptation and mitigation. The government reiterated on the simplified application, approval and disbursement of fund that are important to tackle climate change.

Nepal a vulnerable country due to climate change negotiated with rich states to ensure that Paris Agreement loss and damage provision executed fully. COP24 should be a negotiation table to provide instruction regarding evaluation of Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage from Climate Change. Nepal called on international community to make a global effort to keep check on the average temperature rise below 1.5 degree C in context of Talanoa Dialogue on countries to contain GHGs that are directly responsible for atmospheric temperature rise. The IPCC report on 1.5 degree C is a valuable contribution to Talanoa Dialogue (CMS Law-Now, 2019).

Key outcomes of COP24 were:

Prior to 2020, parties' obligations are to be restructured and reorganized in the line of NDCs. The parties made a structured framework regarding mitigation and adaptation strategies as well as financial package for climate action in underdeveloped worlds.

Parties now are required to report their emission status and procedures to reduce them every two years from 2024.

Pledge and review cycle is taken as regulation for global stock which allows the parties of the convention to take into account of their advancement for meeting their objectives. Developed economies have pledged \$100 billion per year starting from 2020 to fund climate oriented actions in developing countries. Parties are directed towards utilizing of the fund with a new collective goal with core idea incorporated into meaningful actions and transparency of implementation. To move forward needs and priorities of developing countries should be taken into account in November 2020 according to the Katowice Rulebook (CMS Law-Now, 2019).

The following key issues remain unresolved:

Common regulation for carbon markets and emission trading are the main issues that remained unsolved. Many experts marked not making a consensual agreement on market mechanism for emission trading to be the most disappointing aspect of COP24.

According to IPCC report that was released in October 2018, convention parties' could not come into term to contain global warming to less than 1.5 degree C exceeding the level before the era of industrialization. The final agreement omitted, emission level committed to 2030 (CMS Law-Now, 2019).

The COP25 took place in Madrid, Spain in 2019. Nepal Government again reiterated, the Paris Agreement commitment to keep global temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius appears untenable, as carbon emissions continue to rise, with over 55 billion tons of GHGs released in 2018 (UNFCCC, 2019). This pattern of rising carbon emissions has endangered countries, particularly the least developed, such as Nepal. Nepal has shown substantial progress for implementing its climate change agenda, including our National Climate Change Policy, which has rerouted its 80% of finance

in the grassroots level. Nepal has begun a vulnerability risk assessment, a national adaptation plan, and is in the process of completing disaster response and preparedness for all municipalities.

Nepal urges parties to make significant progress on the Enhanced Transparency Framework, which is the foundation of a well-functioning Paris Agreement, based on the procedures and guidelines agreed in Katowice last year. We also need to move forward with the 2017 Koronivia Joint Work Program on Agriculture, and we urge all parties to expedite funding for the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage beyond existing ODA grant-financing mechanisms (UNFCCC, 2019).

Nepal aims to achieve 80 percent electrification through renewable energy sources by 2050, with an appropriate low-carbon energy mix (UNFCCC, 2019). First, electricity must be decarbonized. This year, the government has set aside approximately \$40 million USD for e-mobility. We've also put in place a number of mitigation-friendly policies, such as a National REDD Strategy to maximize forest carbon benefits and a National Rural and Renewable Energy Programme to support clustered micro hydro, solar, biogas, and improved cook stove programming (UNFCCC, 2019).

As Nepal lies within a unique geography of fertile Himalayan region priority are given to three areas: climate finance, knowledge transfer and sharing of skills. Comprehensive discussion about loss and damage, knowledge development, capability enhancement, climate finance and formal and informal networks are the core areas in the line to discussions. Nepal has made an effort in COP25 to execute Article 6 with the assurance that funding and technology transfers will be made available to benefit the least developed countries (LDCs) for the purpose of climates resilient. It lies in the commitment of the parties and in their sincerity to implement

article 6 as mentioned in the Paris Accord. Nepal is in its forefront to develop new plan of action to create climate resilient community with increasing impacts of climate change. To facilitate climate action on the ground the government came up with new climate change policy in 2019, promulgated climate legislation and moved ahead with the Local Adaptation Plans of Action Framework (LAPA Framework. The revised nationally determined contributions are being revised as well.

The execution of article 6 of Paris Agreement was discussed at COP25 and was unable to be resolved in the COP of the same year at the Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany. Article 6 is critical because it expects governments to execute their national greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction objectives, termed as NDCs, through market and non-market outlooks with voluntary international coordination. It inevitably proceeds to the establishment of an international tradable arrangement for emissions and the imposition of a carbon price (Chidede, 2019).

Loss and damage, knowledge improvement, skill transfer, capability enhancement, and climate finance are all key areas of negotiation. The participating countries must submit implemented NDCs by 2020, and the major obstacle of COP25 is inspire countries to improve ambition and increase execution drive in order to fulfill the obligations set up by Paris Agreement objectives (IISD, 2021). Countries must become more ambitious for the purpose of reducing the jeopardies and effects of climate change.

States agreed to present their updated carbon-cutting strategies at COP26 in 2020. Developed countries agreed to meet their climate change commitments by the end of 2020. The new Climate Ambition Alliance includes 73 countries and several non-state actors who have pledged an allegiance to net zero emissions by 2050 (Chidede, 2019).

The COP26 was organized in Glasgow, U.K in 2021. There was a gap of 1 year due to Covid-19, a pandemic which postponed the conference in 2020. The primary goal of Nepal's engagement in UNFCCC COP26 is by effectively preparing its plan of action, its submission of commitment and progress done according to the commitment at the national level. Nepal has strategically prioritized its action as its part to efficiently coordinate and collaborate in various functions by increasing its ownership, obtaining feedback and guaranteeing cooperation. Nepal aspires to have strong management and demonstration at the COP26, bringing various agendas such as loss and damage, climate finance, adaptation and pliability, and an enriched transparency framework. The Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba attended the conference after covid which was a public fanfare not to be missed.

The following are the anticipated key outcomes.

With more well prepared and strategic delegation team in the Glasgow, the Nepali participants successfully raised its pliability outline in the intercontinental forum. Nepal raised a pertinent issue of access to climate fund mechanism and cooperation to address the climate vulnerability management and flexible needs to accommodate vulnerable communities through low carbon finance and resilience. Nepal has showed its dedication to achieve net zero emission by 2045 as well as increasing country's clean energy share in energy demand to 15% and forest cover to 45% by 2030 (UNFCCC, 2021). Nepal remains steadfast in its commitment to implementing the Paris Agreement. The government submitted its ambitious concept paper on NDC with action plan to decarbonize the national economy. The government also emphasized the Himalayan region's problems as a outcome of climate change. With mercury on the constant rise as compared to global average, melting of glaciers, less

snowfall in the Himalayan region. Extreme climatic events are happening more than often resulting in the loss of human lives, biodiversity and loss of economic activities. With Prime Minister in the delegation team, much more was expected from the Nepal's public but no new peculiar ideas were on the table but rather was an ambitious commitment were made which are difficult to achieve analyzing the country's administrative smoothness and proactive wellbeing.

The key takeaways of Glasgow Conference were:

The Glasgow conference included a peculiar goal committed by developed nations of agreeing to double their climatic funds given to developing worlds by 2025 from 2019 levels taking the contribution to around USD 40 billion (Carbon Brief, 2021).

An additional fund of USD 356 million was pledged to the Adaptation Fund, and an important dialogue has been initiated on the argumentative issue of loss and damage.

While all of these are positive development showcased by developed countries, their commitment of financing \$100 billion/year climate financing commitment to developing countries by 2020 is yet to be met (Carbon Brief, 2021).

4.3 Overall Efforts of Nepal for Climate Change Mitigation

Nepal has actively participated in the COP conference since its inception and has played a major role as a LDC country to raise and tackle the anthropogenic climate change issues.

This section talks about the efforts and activities Nepal has undertaken in the last 11 years to tackle the burning issue of the climate change. In accordance with the provisions of the UNFCCC, Nepal has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at

developing appropriate policies, legal instruments, programs, institutional arrangements, and financial arrangements for climate resilience. Nepal has endorsed number of policies and acts which are very pertinent to show that it is always serious about the catastrophes of the climate change. In addition to enactment of new rules and laws, the state has come up with upgraded (aspiring) NDC for Nepal is estimated to price \$28.4 billion. In addition to these, Nepal has issued number of strategies and vulnerabilities assessment report which it has committed in the forum in response to combat climate change. In the last decade from COP17 to COP26 Nepal has come a long way. Nepal has addressed its commitment in the forum, tried to fulfill on its behalf and has negotiated in fair manner to get what it wants and somehow has tasted fair success. Nepal's plans to spend high sum of compensation from climate fund into greater good of local level is highly regarded and praised in the international community.

The major agendas on which Nepal placed emphasis in COP17 were implementation of the outcomes of the climate conferences in Bali and Cancun significant progress in adaptation, extenuation, economics, expertise transfer and development, and capability building, the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period to keep earth's temperature upsurge below 1.5° C. Under the authority and guidance of COP, the Cancun Adaptation Framework, Technology Mechanism, and Green Climate Fund will be operationalized, with an importance given to LDCs. Replenishment of the LDCF and other climate capital, as well as calm and quick entree to National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) execution and NAP planning and enactment. Recognized REDD + and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as significant tools for ecological development and dearth alleviation (UNFCCC, 2011). Despite Nepal's limited resources, Minister iterated to have designated adaptation as a National

Survival Strategy to safeguard its publics, livelihoods, and environments. In accordance with the National Framework on Local Adaptation Programme of Action, Nepal committed to begin developing crucial and instantaneous adaptation arrangements within NAPA, with 80 percent of the capital channeled to the local level (LAPA) (UNFCCC, 2011). In addition, the minister committed to endorse clean and renewable energy improvement for the matter of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The then Minister for Environment also recalls Nepal's launch of the Mountain Initiative in Copenhagen in 2009. The statement emphasized the burning issues of decreasing snow cover and melting of glaciers in the Upper Himalayas, as well as the vulnerability of poor people living in mountainous areas.

The statement also emphasized the importance of declining snowfall and melting glaciers in the mountains, as well as the vulnerability of poor people living in mountainous areas (UNFCCC, 2011). The Nepal government also prearranged a parallel episode at COP 17 with participation of dignitaries from many states to highlight the mountain agenda and develop cooperation among mountainous countries. In the concluding remarks, the minister urged a change of stance from a pledge-based method to a result-based method (UNFCCC, 2011). Nepal, like other low income based economies, must actively contribute in the design and implementation of the Green Climate Fund and other funds to guarantee that they are easily reachable, justly distributed, and have a transparent control mechanism. In this context, there is a growing recognition that Nepal requires more active and strategic participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations.

COP18 Nepal Government opened the remark by stressing the action done by government to draw attention on adverse consequence of climate change on mountain. The Government of Nepal in the year 2012 prearranged an International Conference of Mountain Countries on Climate Change in Kathmandu to create a framework in which Himalayan nations and international organizations for the purpose of cooperation to communicate the adversarial effects of climate change (Shrestha, 2013).

The Kathmandu Call for Action was adopted by this conference to proceed ahead with the Mountain Initiative. Our country implemented climate adaptation actions in accordance with state's own National Adaptation Programme of Action, Climate Change Policy, and the agendas of Local Adaptation Plan for Action (LAPA). LAPA allows for the addition of climate adaptation onto local and state designing, as well as the identification and implementation of crucial and instant adaptation activities with the involvement of root level societies (Shrestha, 2013).

While the country is enthralled by advancement on certain unresolved subjects, more optimistic outcomes on other critical issues are required. The major concern was about the unfulfilled capital pledge to the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), which is important to the execution of the LDC work program. Nepal requested assistance in enabling LDCs to profit from different existing funding apparatuses. Nepal vehemently supports a five-year extension of the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period. COP18 must make concrete decisions to put COP13's outcomes into action in order to reach a global agreement on issues such as modification, adaptation, capital, knowledge transmission and progress, and capability enhancement. Nepal welcomed advancement toward establishing the Green Climate

Fund (GCF) as a single legal entity fund under the UNFCCC, and is equally alarmed by the insufficient capitals. As a result, COP18 needed to increase assistance and establish a direct access procedure. In the meantime, stresses the accessibility of new, supplementary, acceptable, foreseeable, and long-term funding.

In respect to COP19, the Nepali Delegation team led the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) at COP19 with high expectations. The delegation was not only charged with educating about the adversities of climate change, but also with securing funds to tackle the adversities of climate change in the area. Nepal was officially appointed as the LDC group's leader for the 2013-14 fiscal years in December (Rayamajhi, 2013).

The LDC Group emphasized that this COP must deliver on four major fronts:

Minimizing carbon emissions so that earth's climate is in the acceptable emission path: Increasing financial assistance to LDCs to address the climate change ; Establishing a global mechanism on loss and damage to cover the agendas not included in the adaptation and conceptualizing a road map about how negotiations should process in order to make an agreement in 2015. These issues are termed as political agendas and are likely to spark a debate in the conference (Rayamajhi, 2013).

Nepal advocated for the development of a sustainable roadmap for climate funding in order to meet the \$100 billion target agreed for 2020 and the path comprised specific plans to achieve \$60 billion within 2016, with 50% set aside only to the adaptation (Rayamajhi, 2013). A comprehensive observation, reportage, and confirmation arrangement for economic funding was to be defined, as well as the measure and portion of finance from private and public sources was to be spell out.

In case of COP20, Nepal raised an issue of adopted IPCC reports at the conference, stating that it is still unambiguous: unless the international community immediately reduces emissions. Nepal emphasized that the world is on pathway for a 3-5 degree temperature rise, so all the countries must take an vehement mitigation arrangements, including brief term of five year commitment objectives and prolonged mitigation obligations by industrialized countries and other states that are incapable of implementing these actions; additionally, the international community should come to a term on a mechanism for increasing capacity over a time; and third, must agree on a road map for assessable, original, and innovative mitigation measures (UNFCCC, 2011). Nepal also had requested that the LDCF be replenished immediately.

Up to that time, the LDCF had received a smaller amount than one billion dollars for executing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), primarily designed to address the persistent and direct adaptation needs. Nepal urged developed countries to keep the LDCF in mind when allocating future funds. The crucial NAPAs of the LDCs had to be accomplished by 2020. (UNFCCC, 2011) Nepal's social and economic development has been jeopardized by climate change. Deluges, famines, cyclones landslides, glacier flooding, rise of sea level all becoming more frequent and intense in the region. The IPCC reports confirmed the more likely of these severe and irretrievable consequences.

SAARC region is mostly vulnerable to climate change and associated catastrophes; the 16th SAARC Summit meeting, organized in 2010 in the capital Thimphu of Bhutan, and adopted the Thimphu Statement on Climate Change as a cornerstone of advancing regional coordination and climate-related activities (UNFCCC, 2011). Despite the country's technical and financial constraints, Nepal has executed number

of policies institutional framework and enactment, which includes the enactment of NAPA's utmost and instantaneous adaptation activities. The country established a devoted budget code to formalize climate funding and plan for zero-carbon advancement. Nepal requested all of the participants of the conference to come up with a Special Work Program on Mountains in accordance with Article 4.8 of the Agreement in order to minimize climate change susceptibility and connected loss and damage (UNFCCC, 2011). In Nepal's context, Nepal has in its cases has raised issue of climate change in the SAARC forum up to its limitations. In the third summit held in Kathmandu, climate change was a major issue of discussion and it has always followed through to the recent years.

In COP21, Nepal raised the voices of developing and least developed countries in every conference in which it has participated, including COP21. At COP21, Nepal focused on signing a treaty to aid in the reduction of climate change. Nepal is another country affected by GHGs emitted by developed countries. As a result, Nepal raised its voice in support of developing technology that will aid in the fight against all of these situations. Nepal also focused on the loss caused by all of these events. Nepal implemented a variety of practices to help alleviate and adapt to climate change. For the first time, Nepal adopted a climate change budget. Climate change issues are also addressed in the National Plan.

The major issues that Nepal called for were; demand for administrative obligation, guidance, and preparedness from all participants of the countries, particularly those with the greatest capability and emissions, to investigate a variety of options for increasing level of commitment on increasing mitigation and adaptation for the pre-2020 time, with all participants taking equal responsibility to this universal efforts.

This global determination calls for the approval and efficient implementation of the Kyoto Protocol's Doha Amendments (Adhikari, 2015).

Meanwhile in COP22, Following the recent development of the Paris Agreement came into effect on November 4, 2016; the debate regarding the prolongation of the effort under the ad hoc body was additionally debated at the Paris Agreement's governing body (CMA1). As coming to an agreement in the APA meeting in May 2016, the COP 21 recognized the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) by its resolution 1/CP.21, with the mandate to improve procedures, methods, measures, and strategies; and to concoct to come into effect of the Paris Agreement (Ministry of Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, 2016).

All of the APA agenda items concerning procedures and knowledge discussion are very vital for Nepal. Nepal discussed the APA agenda matters based on the technical issues and their implication for COP22, stressing Nepal's systematic apprehension for the conference.

The mitigation strategy of the NDC is of pertinent issue of the APA, particularly how analyze, channelize, display, and authenticate the obligations made by participants. This agenda item's substantive topic will be NDC features, information, and accounting. It is critical to link the goals set in NDCs to the endorsed upon mercury rise goal. However developing additional NDC measures and procedures, careful contemplation should be given to the low income countries like Nepal regarding the flexibility. While analyzing governmental documents of Nepal, adaptation is in the priority in the government agendas and adaptation resilience development is in the priority list of the government.

The Paris Agreement's global adaptation goal provides a clear direction for the discussion of future adaptation communication guidance. These adaptation communications must be capable of identifying adaptation needs and addressing resource constraints in LDCs like Nepal. Massive time and heavy resources are invested while coming up with national adaptation plans, so these should be clearly acknowledged in these discussions. One of the issues Nepal must address is the incorporation of conventional and original information, performances, and ground level ingenuities into adaptation.

Transparency of support and action is a critical topic to be addressed under APA. It aids in accounting to the actions taken as well as assistance delivered in areas like alleviation, variation, economics, expertise development and handover, and capability building. However, there must be no confusion regarding the framework's areas of work and vital issues in regard to what it covers and addresses. In these discussions, what is important for Small Island and least developed countries must be thoroughly addressed in terms of flexibility. Many propositions had emerged, including that the instrument be conducive, stringent, as well as it must look into national situation and its proficiencies. This is still in the debated and was very important topic at COP22.

Countries were urged to continue increasing their financial contributions toward the previously agreed-upon \$100 billion per year by 2020 target, as well as to achieve a better balance of adaptation and mitigation (Ministry of Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, 2016). Some countries had hoped for more forceful language on this, because adaptation policies have long lagged behind mitigation, to the impairment of the most exposed nations.

In the COP23, despite several decisions made over the last two decades, Nepal expressed its concern about the slow progress toward full implementation of the Convention. With only about a year left to complete the work program for finalizing the Paris Agreement's rulebook, progress on COP23 is critical. As Nepal moves forward with the Paris Agreement's implementation, it should not be burdened with additional reporting requirements. In recent years, Nepal has been inspired by countries that have taken bold climate action to promote renewable energy, clean transportation, and climate resilience. In this regard, Nepal urges countries with higher emissions to take immediate action to keep temperature increases just under 1.5 degrees Celsius, as directed by the Paris Agreement (UNFCCC, 2017).

Global leaders gather in the conference to discuss about assisting developing countries like through capability building, skill transfer, knowledge sharing. Global leaders gathered at COP23. Nepal had requested the international powers to create an environment of mutual trust in order to prepare the rule book that will guide the Paris Accord's implementation.

Nepal, in addition had emphasized the timely acceptance of the rule book and execution of the agreement, had requested the technical and monetary assistance that it is entitled to as an underdeveloped nation.

Nepal itself had developed a status paper to make its negotiation effective in the conference. The status paper covers pertinent issues such as Paris Accord programs, mitigation measures, adaptation, enactment methods, and cross-cutting agendas such as climate and gender. The paper enlisted Nepal's involvements and provides demands in these areas while combating climate change.

Using recent flooding as an example, Nepal had raised an issue of separate funding for loss and damage, requesting the international community in the COP23 to provide space for vulnerable countries to negotiate on the financial help as compensation for loss and damage. Nepal had called on for clear pathways to a \$100 billion per year contribution from developed countries by 2020, as agreed at the Paris COP21 (UNFCCC, 2017). Nepal also made an attraction among the developed west for assistance in the areas of expertise transmission and capability enhancement.

Similarly in COP24, Nepal, low income economy and high risk of climate change, lobbied in the global community at the 24th meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to contain the rise of temperature to 1.5 degree C exceeding pre-industrial level. Nepal, in accordance to the status paper prepared for the conference, raise issue of pro-activeness of developed nations, called on to revise their NDCs by 2020 in the line with IPCC report, available science based knowledge. Nepal stressed that current global ambition would not put us on track to contain earth's temperature rise to 1.5 degree C so global effort and target must be increased faster than ever (Joshi, 2018).

Throughout the negotiations, Nepal remained aligned with the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group. As per the document, it clearly stated that the UN Framework Convention, Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Accord all agree to limit the rise of earth's temperature to 2 degree Celsius and there are certain needs and demands of LDCs to obtain these ambitions so these should be recognized and must encompass assistance through climate finance. To address this demand Nepal stressed to developed world to provide clear roadmap containing strategies and methods to assist \$100 billion per year by 2020 (Joshi, 2018).

Nepal urged developed nations to pledge sustainable and adequate climate finance to help LDCs to address climate risk. The finance must be utilized to address countries special needs; adaptation must be of high priority while maintain a balance between adaptation and mitigation. The government reiterated on the simplified application, approval and disbursement of fund that are important to tackle climate change. Nepal a vulnerable country due to climate change negotiated with rich states to ensure that Paris Agreement loss and damage provision executed fully.

COP24 should be a negotiation table to provide instruction regarding evaluation of Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage from Climate Change. Nepal called on international community to make a global effort to keep check on the average temperature rise below 1.5 degree C in context of Talanoa Dialogue on countries to contain GHGs that are directly responsible for atmospheric temperature rise. The IPCC report on 1.5 degree C is a valuable contribution to Talanoa Dialogue (CMS Law-Now, 2019).

Meanwhile in COP25, Nepal Government again reiterated, the Paris Agreement commitment to keep global temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius appears untenable, as carbon emissions continue to rise, with over 55 billion tons of GHGs released in 2018 (UNFCCC, 2019). This pattern of rising carbon emissions has endangered countries, particularly the least developed, such as Nepal. Nepal has shown substantial progress for implementing its climate change agenda, including our National Climate Change Policy, which has rerouted its 80% of finance in the grassroots level. Nepal has begun a vulnerability risk assessment, a national adaptation plan, and is in the process of completing disaster response and preparedness for all municipalities.

Nepal urges parties to make significant progress on the Enhanced Transparency Framework, which is the foundation of a well-functioning Paris Agreement, based on the procedures and guidelines agreed in Katowice last year. We also need to move forward with the 2017 Koronivia Joint Work Program on Agriculture, and we urge all parties to expedite funding for the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage beyond existing ODA grant-financing mechanisms (UNFCCC, 2019).

Nepal aims to achieve 80 percent electrification through renewable energy sources by 2050, with an appropriate low-carbon energy mix (UNFCCC, 2019). First, electricity must be decarbonized. This year, the government has set aside approximately \$40 million USD for e-mobility. We've also put in place a number of mitigation-friendly policies, such as a National REDD Strategy to maximize forest carbon benefits and a National Rural and Renewable Energy Programme to support clustered micro hydro, solar, biogas, and improved cook stove programming (UNFCCC, 2019).

As Nepal lies within a unique geography of fertile Himalayan region priority are given to three areas: climate finance, knowledge transfer and sharing of skills. Comprehensive discussion about loss and damage, knowledge development, capability enhancement, climate finance and formal and informal networks are the core areas in the line to discussions.

Nepal has made an effort in COP25 to execute Article 6 with the assurance that funding and technology transfers will be made available to benefit the least developed countries (LDCs) for the purpose of climate resilient. It lies in the commitment of the parties and in their sincerity to implement article 6 as mentioned in the Paris Accord. Nepal is in its forefront to develop new plan of action to create climate resilient community with increasing impacts of climate change. To facilitate climate action on

the ground the government came up with new climate change policy in 2019, promulgated climate legislation and moved ahead with the Local Adaptation Plans of Action Framework (LAPA Framework).

The revised nationally determined contributions are being revised as well. The execution of article 6 of Paris Agreement was discussed at COP25 and was unable to be resolved in the COP of the same year at the Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany. Article 6 is critical because it expects governments to execute their national greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction objectives, termed as NDCs, through market and non-market outlooks with voluntary international coordination. It inevitably proceeds to the establishment of an international tradable arrangement for emissions and the imposition of a carbon price (Chidede, 2019).

At last, in COP26, The primary goal of Nepal's engagement in UNFCCC COP26 is by effectively preparing its plan of action, its submission of commitment and progress done according to the commitment at the national level. Nepal has strategically prioritized its action as its part to efficiently coordinate and collaborate in various functions by increasing its ownership, obtaining feedback and guaranteeing cooperation. Nepal aspires to have strong management and demonstration at the COP26, bringing various agendas such as loss and damage, climate finance, adaptation and pliability, and an enriched transparency framework. The following are the anticipated key outcomes.

With more well prepared and strategic delegation team in the Glasgow, the Nepali participants successfully raised its pliability outline in the intercontinental forum. Nepal raised a pertinent issue of access to climate fund mechanism and cooperation to

address the climate vulnerability management and flexible needs to accommodate weak communities through low carbon finance and resilience.

Nepal has showed its dedication to achieve net zero emission by 2045 as well as increasing country's clean energy share in energy demand to 15% and forest cover to 45% by 2030 (UNFCCC, 2021). Nepal remains steadfast in its commitment to implementing the Paris Agreement. The government submitted its ambitious concept paper on NDC with action plan to decarbonize the national economy. The government also emphasized the Himalayan region's problems as an outcome of climate change. With mercury on the constant upwards trend as compared to global average, melting of glaciers, less snowfall in the Himalayan region. Extreme climatic events are happening more than often resulting in the loss of human lives, biodiversity and loss of economic activities.

5. Conclusion

The main purpose of establishment of UNFCCC was to tackle the rapid climate change that was threatening the life and habitats of human beings and the earth itself. With UNFCCC came into existence in 1992, the party to the convention agreed to discuss the climate change issue every year and Conference of Parties (COP) was evolved

Nepal is a party to the convention and from the time of inception, is an active party to the conference. Till now 26 COP are held in different parts of the world and Nepal has successfully attended all of the conference. Nepal, being a least developed country, has always lobbied for the developing nations. The thesis especially focuses on the efforts Nepal has done in COP conference to tackle climate change in the last 10 years from COP17 to COP26. Nepal first Ministerial Council Meeting in KalaPathar, near the base of the Mount Everest in 2008 was a paradigm shift for the world to know that our Himalayas snow is melting at alarming rate. This drew attention of the world leaders about the commitment of Nepal to tackle the climate change. It has channelized its 80% of national budget to local level to implement National Adaptation Programme of Action. Nepal has been successful in negotiating for Green Climate Fund which is vital to fund for its enforcement to tackle for the climate change hazards.

Till now the main problem of the COP for developing nations like Nepal is the fund insufficiency. So, COP must decide to increase funding and establish a direct access process. In the meantime, stresses the availability of new, additional, adequate, predictable, and long-term funding. Climate financing is always at the heart of the conference's discussions, though no such agreements have been reached as the least

developed and developing countries had hoped. This remains the most bottlenecks for developing countries to channelize their efforts to sustain the programmes related to climate change.

Nepal is one of the country that is most affected by GHGs emission by developed nations. So, to control these Nepal has always raised its voices against in the Cop forums. Nepal has suffered a lot due to its repercussions. As a result, it has voiced its issue of developing technology that will aid in the fight against all these situations. For the first time in history, Nepal adopted a climate change budget. In COP26, Nepal has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2045, as well as increasing the share of clean energy in the country's energy demand to 15% and forest cover to 45% by 2030. Nepal remains steadfast in its commitment to implementing the Paris Agreement. Can it be able to meet its ambitious goal, is a part to be seen in the future.

This research gives a compiled picture of what Nepal has done for the protection from climate change hazards in last ten years. It gives a clear picture of what the country has done in polices and rules formulation and implementation level to protect the environment, how it has channelized its resources in the COP forums to negotiate with developed worlds and has shown its presence in the forum. In addition, Nepal has not come up with new agendas that are peculiar in nature but has always raised issues which are already in the forum for discussion. New agendas of the soil must be realized and be put through in the forum to showcase its seriousness in the climate change issues.

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