



**CONSULTATION AND DIALOGUE OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES ON NEPAL'S EMISSION REDUCTION PROGRAM DOCUMENT (ERPD)**

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## Abbreviations

ACOFUN	Association of Collaborative Forest Users' Nepal
AFFON	Association of Family Forest Owners Nepal
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CFUGs	Community Forest User Groups
CIPRED	Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DCC	District Coordination Council
DDC	District Development Committee
DGM	Designated Grant Mechanism
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ERP	Emission Reduction Program
ERPA	Emission Reduction Payment Agreement
ERPIN	Emission Reduction Program Idea Note
ERPD	Emission Reduction Program Document
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FONIJ	Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Journalists
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
GFN	Green Foundation Nepal
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoN	Government of Nepal
HIMAWANTI	Himalayan Grassroots Women's National Resources Management Association
ILO	International Labor Organization
IPOs	Indigenous Peoples Organizations
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
LCs	Local Communities
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MoFSC	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NCBs	Non-Carbon Benefits
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NFDIN	National Foundation for Development of Indigenous Nationalities
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
RDN	Rastriya Dalit Network
NIWF	National Indigenous Women's Federation
REDD	Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RL/REL	Reference Level/Reference Emission Level
RDN	Rastriya Dalit Network
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
RRI	Rights and Resources Initiative
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SIS	Safeguard Information System
TAL	Terai Arc Landscape
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples
VDC	Village Development Committee
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

# PART 1

## Introduction

A national level program titled “**Consultation and Dialogue of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Nepal's ERP**”, held at Hotel Radisson in Kathmandu, on December 5-6, 2016, discussed about the issues and concerns of Nepal’s indigenous peoples and local communities that need to be addressed in the Emission Reduction Program Document (ERP) under Nepal’s REDD+ program.

The event took place at a time when the Government of Nepal (GoN) is developing, through its consultant, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF Nepal), the ERP for piloting of Emission Reduction Program (ERP) in Nepal’s 12 districts in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) area. With the ERP consultations almost drawing to a close, the ERP process will end in January 2017 when the GoN will submit the document to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the World Bank.

The two-day national level multi-stakeholders program was organized by Centre for Indigenous Peoples’ Research and Development (CIPRED) in collaboration with the Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), the Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN), Tharu Kalyankari Sabha, Nepal Indigenous Women’s Federation (NIWF), Association of Collaborative Forest Users Nepal (ACOFUN), Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Journalists (FONIJ), the Green Foundation Nepal (GFN), ASMITA Nepal, the Association of Family Forest Owners Nepal (AFFON) and the Himalayan Grassroots Women’s National Resources Management Association (HIMAWANTI) Nepal with financial support from Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI).

### Objectives

The objectives of the program were:

1. To increase awareness among the participating members/representatives of the indigenous peoples (IPs) and local communities (LCs) about the ERP and its development process.
2. To discuss the concerns and issues of the indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to Nepal’s REDD+ program, particularly the ERP.
3. To develop a common position paper of the indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to the ERP.
4. To submit the common position paper on Nepal's ERP to the Government of Nepal to ensure the rights of IPs and LCs in its development and implementation.

## Methodology

A participatory approach was adopted during the consultation and dialogue program. For this, presentations with comments, feedback, question & answers sessions, plenary discussion, group discussion and presentation methods were used.

At first, the participants were made aware about their issues and concerns of indigenous peoples and local communities in REDD+, particularly in the development phase of ERPD through presentations by the hosts. The participants were informed and updated about the concept of ERP under REDD+ and its process and progress in Nepal through presentations by the Nepal government and its consultant for this task, WWF Nepal. The presentations were followed by question & answer sessions, where presenters responded to the participants' queries. Experts facilitated the process.

Then the participants were divided into six groups. Each group was assigned with a set of questions for group discussion and group work. After the group work, there were group presentations where one of the team members from each team delivered presentation. The presentations were compiled into the draft position paper by a write-up team.

The write-up team then presented the draft position paper in the plenary. The floor provided comments and feedback. Then the write-up team, incorporating all the inputs and feedback, gave the final shape to the common position paper, which was read out by a member of the write-up team before the hall that was received and acknowledged by the floor with loud applause. The outcome document was then collectively handed over the chief of REDD Implementation Centre, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) and through him to the Nepal government for its development and implementation.

There were very interesting and intense discussions during the program on the issues and concerns of indigenous peoples, local communities, Dalits, Women, Madhesi and forest dependent poor. The sessions were highly interactive and the participants took keen interest in all the activities.

## PART 2

### Activities of the program

The program was divided into two sessions: opening session, paper presentations and development of common position paper of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities on Nepal's ERPD (Annex I).

#### Opening Session

Ms. Pasang Dolma Sherpa, Executive Director, CIPRED, opened the consultations and dialogue of indigenous peoples and local communities on Nepal's ERPD Program, welcoming all to the program. In her opening remark, she gave the context in which the program was being held. She stated that Nepal is preparing an ERPD and in that connection, the WWF Nepal has conducted consultations in the 12 districts of Terai.



She also stated that the WWF Nepal is due to hold a mid-term review meeting on December 7, 2016 before submitting the ERPD to the Government of Nepal (GoN) in January 2017.

She highlighted the objectives of the program that were to make aware the participants about ERPD and its process, to know whether the indigenous peoples and local communities' voices have been incorporated in the document, to hold dialogue on how the concerns and issues of the indigenous peoples and local communities are addressed in it and to develop a common position paper in that regard and submit it to the Government of Nepal for ERPD development and implementation.

Ms. Sherpa also expressed her hope that everybody will actively participate in the program and support for its success. The program was chaired by Dr. Pasang Sherpa, Chairperson, CIPRED. The Acting Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), Mr. Resham Bahadur Dangi was present as the chief guest.



Also present in the inaugural ceremony were Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana, Chief of REDD Implementation Center (REDD IC); Mr. Ganesh Bahadur Karki, Chairperson of FECOFUN; Mr. Raj Kumar Lekhi, advisor and former chairman of NEFIN; Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey, Chairperson of Green Foundation Nepal; Ms. Pasang Dolma Sherpa, Executive Director of CIPRED; Mr. Danda Gurung, Chairperson of FONIJ; Mr. Gehendra Keshari Upadhyay, Chief of the Monitoring Division, MoFSC, amongst others. A total of 129 participants including the representatives from various Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), government officials and media persons, attended the program (Annex II).

Ms. Bharati Pathak, General Secretary, FECOFUN, acted the master of ceremony during the opening session.

Speaking at the opening session, the program's chief guest **Mr. Resham Bahadur Dangi**, the acting Secretary of MoFSC, said the concept of REDD initially emerged as a means to address deforestation in tropical countries and later entered Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other countries.

He shared that the international community was first attracted to Nepal's REDD concept because of the country's international commitments and rich biodiversity, its indigenous peoples and their symbiotic relationship with forests, and the increasing trend of deforestation that Nepal had witnessed over the last few years.



He said that the ERP has been proposed only in the 12 districts in Terai as this would be a piloting project. The potential risks could be very high if we go on a massive scale without first trying and testing, he justified.

In another context, Mr. Dangi said there should no longer be confusion regarding scientific forest management. Though the term was used in public debates, there is no mention of it in any of Nepal's forestry policy documents as it actually meant sustainable forest management.

Clarifying on how the government views the REDD+, he said Nepal will pursue any opportunity as far as it is beneficial to the country, and REDD+ is one such pursuit. He further said everything accomplished in the Readiness Phase should not be considered a waste as that has provided many of us the basis for our participation in various international forums. It has also helped us prepare a database of Nepal's various forestry reference levels that could come in very handy in research.

He said the carbon market operates in a different way and the private sector needs to be engaged in it as the sector has a big role in the purchase and sale of carbon stocks. On whether Nepal should go for a forestry loan in the future, he said Nepal certainly should go provided that it can make the best use of it. He stressed on continued dialogue and exchange of ideas amongst the stakeholders to overcome any setback ahead in REDD+.

**Mr. Raj Kumar Lekhi**, Advisor, NEFIN, said this consultation event holds great significance for indigenous peoples and local communities in Terai and expressed his concern if all the representatives from that region have made it to the program.

Tharu people are very close to the Nature that they have been conserving for hundreds of years, he said. But we have seen cases in which they are restricted to use forests products even for their birth and death rituals, he lamented. He stressed on the need to reach to them to ensure their access to information about their rights and about international instruments such as ILO 169 and UNDRIP.

**Mr. Ganesh Bahadur Karki**, Chairperson, FECOFUN expressed his view that now enough has been discussed about documents such as ERPIN, Designated Grant Mechanism (DGM) and National REDD Strategy. He stressed that the upcoming ERPD should be



looked at on the wider frame of climate change. Expressing his doubt over the REDD+ program's likelihood to deliver, he suggested we rather concentrate on things that are certain to work for us.

He stated that in Nepal, there are different forest management approaches in practice, including the community forest management system, and added that we need to discuss to determine whether a program like ERP can be of any real help for our cause or not.

**Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana**, Chief, REDD IC said researchers have criticized REDD+ mainly for its potential tendency of recentralization, for not respecting indigenous peoples' rights, especially the customary rights in the context of Latin America, in particular, and for encouraging the market approach in the trade of carbon.



He was of the view that REDD+ program has uncertainties and therefore pointed out to the need to have broader discussions amongst the stakeholders before we push ahead. We have to make sure the opportunities outweigh the risks, he said.

As to why Nepal has selected only 12 districts for ERP, he said the ERP is just a piloting project and depending upon its results we can replicate it in other places too. He went on to say that ultimately there will be no alternative to taking the REDD+ program to a national scale to counter the problem of carbon leakage.

He also said that REDD+ program has offered benefits more to the indigenous peoples than anyone else, in terms of securing rights as per international standards. He stated that Nepal's REDD+ has adopted four main approaches, namely the community based approach, the multi-stakeholder approach, the multi-sectorial approach, and the inclusive approach.

The government is willing to sort out any misunderstanding or shortcoming in the REDD+ process or policy documents, if there are any, through dialogue with the stakeholders, he concluded.

**Gehendra Keshari Upadhyay**, Chief, Monitoring Division, MoFSC said he found the consultation program to be positive and forward-looking. He laid an emphasis on holding wider consultations with concerned stakeholders, including those at the grassroots level.



**Dr. Pasang Sherpa**, Chairperson, CIPRED, said the country is going through a political transition and therefore it is hard to say what kind of political setup Nepal will have in the future, and despite this uncertainty, Nepal saw the formulation of certain forestry sector policies and strategies, including the National REDD+ Strategy, Forestry Sector Strategy and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.



It is widely speculated if these policy documents, including the ERPD, address the concerns/issues of the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis and other marginalized groups, as per standards set by various international instruments related with the rights of these communities

Institutional structures, tenure rights, the issues of representation, participation and roles of indigenous peoples and local communities, benefit sharing mechanism, safeguard policies and FPIC procedure are some of the major considerations in ERPD, he pointed out.

Dr. Sherpa, also the chair of the program, expressed his hope that this two-day dialogue will result in a common position paper that best reflects the common issues and concerns of the indigenous peoples and local communities with regard to ERPD and thanked the chief guest, Mr. Dangi and all other distinguished personalities for their participation in the opening session.

## Presentations and Feedback



There were four presentations made. The first and second presentations were delivered by Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey and Dr. Pasang Sherpa respectively whereas the third and fourth by Dr. Mohan Poudel from REDD IC and Mr. Ugan Manandhar as ERPD consultant respectively.

Mr. Pandey and Dr. Sherpa's presentations basically focused on the possible issues and concerns of Nepal's indigenous peoples and local communities that need to be addressed in ERPD. The presentations were an outcome of a review earlier by a team of Mr. Pandey, Dr. Sherpa and Arun Rai of relevant international instruments, including Cancun Safeguards and Paris Agreement under UNFCCC, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and ILO 169, and Nepal's Constitution and national policy documents, including the National REDD+ Strategy, Forest

**Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey** delivered his presentation titled “Forest Land Rights of *Banbasi*<sup>1</sup>: A Brief Analysis of Policies and Programs on Climate Change”. He stated that international instruments, such as Paris Agreement under UNFCCC, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and VGGT, provides for the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities and endangered and marginalized groups as well as for gender equality, women empowerment, the conservation of biodiversity and the Mother Earth and climate justice, and called on all stakeholders to respect the provisions.

He highlighted the importance of traditional knowledge and skills of forest-dependent communities and asked for the recognition of their cultural rights and indigenous forest management system. He underscored the need to conduct Free, Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) procedure with these communities and said they should be given preferential rights in matters related to forest tenure and control.

Tenure rights of the indigenous peoples, local communities and other marginalized groups imply a bundle of rights that include rights related to access, control, use and consumption, compensation, occupancy and management of land and forests, he explained. Comparing Nepal’s current situation in that regard, with that of Mexico, he concluded that Nepal still has a lot of things to improve on.

Mr. Pandey also said concerns and issues of these communities have been properly addressed in the National REDD+ Strategy and the Emission Reduction Program Document. In the existing scenario, the forest-related communities at the grassroots level can hardly reap any benefits from REDD+, he summed up. He asked the concerned stakeholders and agencies to comply with international standards and develop national strategy and program documents, specifically REDD+ Strategy and ERPD in a manner that ensures climate justice, cultural, environmental and carbon rights and prosperity of these communities.

**Dr. Pasang Sherpa** delivered his presentation, titled “Issues and Concerns of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Nepal’s ERPD” with the focus on the issues and concerns of the indigenous peoples and local communities with regard to various aspects of ERPD.

Dr. Sherpa explained that his presentation had three main objectives which were to increase awareness about the concerns and issues of the indigenous peoples and local communities with regard to the ERPD in compliance with FCPF Methodological Framework Guidelines, to provide insight for the upcoming presenters to understand the floor’s expectations from them and to provide the idea for the participants to identify their issues and concerns in developing the common position paper.

He stated that the question of engagement of the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis and other marginalized groups, with gender equity and social inclusion, in all phases and at both present and future institutional structures of ERP remains one of their major concerns.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Pandey explained that he used term *banbasi*, for the sake of convenience, to collectively refer to the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis and all other forest-dependet and marginalized groups.

Likewise, the regulatory aspect as to how Nepal's relevant laws will be harmonized with international instruments, mainly ILO 169, UNDRIP, CBD and the Paris Agreement and Cancun Safeguards under UNFCCC, with regard to the rights over natural resources and customary practices of the indigenous peoples, local communities, is another important consideration in ERPD.

He emphasized that the ERPD should clearly speak about issues related with tenure rights and control of these communities in the ERP area and that it should also provide for dispute resolution measures for any potential conflicts that may arise. Underscoring the need to implement FPIC, he expressed concerns whether or not the recent ERP district level consultations duly followed the procedure.

Dr. Sherpa said indigenous peoples and local communities are concerned whether ERP safeguard policies would address potential risks and vulnerabilities associated with the program. He opined that the Cancun Safeguards, the World Bank's social and environmental safeguard policies etc should be at the core of the ERP's safeguard mechanism.

That whether or not the indigenous peoples and local communities will have an easy and equitable access to the benefit sharing mechanism and the recognition of non-carbon benefits also remain a major concern, he said. These communities are also concerned whether or not the contributions that they have made through their customary forest management systems would be recognized in the national forest monitoring system.

Concerns regarding the involvement of the indigenous peoples and local communities and the use of their indigenous knowledge and experience in carbon measurement and monitoring along with the issue of technology transfer and capacity building of these communities were also included in his presentation.

Dr. Sherpa emphasized that traditional and cultural practices and forest-based livelihood practices and forest-related lifestyles should not be considered the drivers of deforestation and that they should not forcibly evicted from their ancestral lands and territories.

He further said that any development of physical infrastructures and hydropower projects and livelihood alternatives will have significant bearings on the lives of indigenous peoples and local communities and such activities may only promote corporate interests but devalue, displace or destroy the traditional knowledge, skills, environment conservation practices, arts and cultures of the indigenous peoples and local communities.

**Dr. Mohan Poudel**, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, made his presentation titled ' REDD+ policy process and status of Nepal' with the objective sharing understanding, status, activities and approaches of REDD+ in Nepal.

He explained the basic theory of REDD+ and its evolution as a global agenda under UNFCCC since 2005 to 2009. He stated that Nepal's REDD+ process is guided by the Warsaw Framework that National Strategy, National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), Safeguards Information System (SIS) and FREL/FRL as four major components.

Nepal submitted its ER-PIN document to the World Bank (WB) in 2013 and is now preparing ERPD in its Readiness Phase II, he said, adding that Nepal intends go for Emission Reduction Payment Agreement (ERPA) to begin REDD+ piloting in 12 TAL districts till 2022 in which it will receive the payment.

He explained that there are three phases of REDD+ development, with the tasks carried out in the phase I being preparation of national REDD+ Strategies and Action Plan, development of technical system and capacity building, the tasks in the phase II being implementation of demonstration activities, piloting technical system and more capacity building and the tasks in the phase III being national level implementation, national MRV and incentives for verified emission reductions.

Reviewing the REDD+ progress, Dr. Poudel explained about its four components, namely organization and consultation, national REDD strategy, Reference Emission Level (REL), and Monitoring & Measuring, Reporting and Verification (M & MRV) system.

He also said the WB has two REDD funding tracks—Readiness Fund and Carbon Fund and that Nepal is now in the process of accessing the Carbon Fund, with the first payment to be received in 2022 after the implementation of ERP starting in 2017.

Dr. Poudel also provided details of the proposed ERP site, the 12 Terai Landscape (TAL) districts: Banke, Bardiya, Bara, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Kapilbastu, Chitawan, Dang, Nawalparasi, Parsa, Rautahat and Rupandehi. He said 7.35 million people, most of them being forest-dependent and indigenous peoples, reside that area that has high value ecotourism and rich biodiversity.

The resulting expanded forest area, development of community-based forestry regime, value addition to forest through non-carbon benefits, establishment of institutional structures, capacity building etc will be the opportunities created by the ERP, he said.

He, however, added that the diverse and complex nature of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, over-expectation and competing interests of stakeholders, political and policy hurdles, uncertainty about natural calamities etc will remain as challenges of the proposed ERP.

**Mr. Ugan Manandhar** from WWF Nepal delivered his presentation titled “Development of Emission Reduction Program Document” in which he said the 12 districts have been chosen for ERP piloting because the region is productive in terms of both agriculture and forestry, is densely populated by indigenous communities resulting in a mixed culture and has rich biodiversity.

He stated that ERPD will be developed stepping on the relevant past policies and strategies, but said the program will not solve all the problems. It will assess, over the next five years, possibilities such as whether or not carbon and non-carbon benefits are viable in this program, he said, adding that the program is intended to move ahead respecting the safeguard concerns associated with the program.

Though the REDD process started back in 2005 under UNFCCC, no agency has so far come forward for funding except the World Bank, he informed. He said countries going for ERP have to undergo the WB’s eight-step ERPD preparation review process, and that the WB has shown interest in Nepal because of the country’s success in community-based forest management system.

He said his team is preparing ERPD that has 18 sections and 50 sub sections compared to the ERPIN’s 17 sections and 41 sub sections, as determined by the WB, and based on its Methodological Framework that 38 criteria and 75 indicators. The ERPD will have five major components namely emission reduction

program, consultation with stakeholder, and legal, technical and social aspects, he informed.

Mr. Manandhar said his team held consultations with the stakeholders at various levels and found the application of FPIC to be one of the most challenging parts of the whole consultation process, as it lacks clarity in terms of its procedure and indicators.

Briefing on the consultation progress so far, he said his team has conducted three half day consultations in 12 districts attended by a total of 822, with 25 % women participation, and three regional consultations with NEFIN and FECOFUN. It held the Inception Meeting last August and the mid-term review program is due on December 7, with the ERPD projected to be finalized February 2017.

Sharing some of the findings of his team, Mr. Manandhar said of the 12 TAL districts, Kailali and Dang have the largest forest areas while Rupandehi and Rautahat have the smallest. Likewise, over the last 15 years, Kailali has the most carbon emission whereas Parsa has the least. He put the emission reduction estimates through the five REDD+ interventions at 14 , 42.7 and 72.8 (millions of tons Co2e) in the years 2015-20, 2015-25, 2015-30 respectively.

#### Participants Queries & Comments



Comments and queries on the presentations put forth by the participants are as follow:

#### **Bimala SK, Kanchanpur, RDN**

On the use of the term 'local communities', Ms SK asked what groups the term categorically referred to. She also suggested that initiatives should be taken to make amendment to the Local Body Resources Mobilization and Management Procedure 2069 espousing policies contained in the REDD+ strategies and ERP documents so that VDC secretaries, after having developed an increased understanding about these matters, would make budget allocations for the local communities in the annual VDC program.

#### **Buddhi Prasad Uprety, AFFON**

Mr. Uprety commented that without government interferences, private and family forests owners should be allowed to use their forests as they like.

#### **Dilli Giri, FECOFUN Banke**

Mr. Giri said the term '*banbasi*', used in one of the earlier presentations, was confusing. He asked, if the government takes international forestry loan, would the local communities have to take the burden? He also shared his experience that

there is no consistency in what government forestry officials at the grassroots level and at the central level say.

**Surbir Pokharel**, FECOFUN Chitwan

Mr. Pokharel commented that whenever there is a new project going to be launched, merely conducting FPIC is not enough, but the policy document should ensure shares for the locals as well.

**Fakala Tharu**, advisor, Tharu Kalyankari Sabha

Mr. Tharu asked why the mention of the word Tharu in the presentations was missing and how the concerns of Tharu community would be reflected in the to-be-made position paper. He further asked why Nepal's forestry laws have not been able to comply with standards set by international instruments such as ILO 169. He was skeptic if the Tharus were consulted on ERPD at district level.

**Rakesh Karna**, Under Secretary, the Department of Forest

Questioning the right definition of indigenous peoples in terms of land occupancy and geography, Mr. Karna inquired why the Dom community from Terai and others involved in high altitude forest management not invited to this consultation.

**Devi Sara Pulami Magar**, NEFIN Nawalparasi



Ms Pulami Magar asked in what context the term 'sanatan' was used in the presentation. She also asked why nobody came to inform them about the ERPD district level consultation in her home district Nawalparasi. It was only after they insisted that the district forest officer (DFO) called them for the program, she said. She also asked who else represent in the district level feedback redress mechanism, and pointed out to the need for upcoming ERP structures to be inclusive.

**Ganesh Bahadur Karki**

Mr. Karki commented that the ERPD should clearly come up with the benefit sharing of above the ground carbon and below the ground carbon. He also suggested the threats of REDD+ should be widely discussed and appropriately addressed.

**Kamal Magar**, NEFIN Parsa

Mr. Magar expressed reservation over the use of the term 'banbasi', saying the term has not been used before in the relevant documents and therefore creates confusion as to what communities it covers.

**Ramrup Prasad Kurmi**, ACOFUN

Mr. Kurmi asked which forest management approach between scientific forest management and community forest management can be considered successful in Nepal's context. He also asked if local stakeholders apart from those from TAL districts have been invited to this program.

**Tunga Bhadra Rai**, National Coordinator, NEFIN, Climate Change Program

Mr. Rai stated that the term 'banbasi' has only created confusion and that it should be banished from the position paper unless any community is willing to identify itself as such.

**Bharat Kattel**, Private/Family Forest Owners Nepal.

Mr. Kattel asked what benefits private forests would be getting for their contribution to emission reduction. Why issues/voices of (Bhot) mountain districts not included in here?

One participant asked would not it have been better for them to provide their input and feedback if the consultation program had been held after the consultant team came up with an ERPD draft?



### Response on the Questions and Comments

After the participants put forth their queries and opinions, the four presenters took their turn to clarify.

**Dr. Pasang Sherpa**

Responding to questions as to what specific arrangements should be provisioned there in ERPD to address the indigenous peoples and local communities' issues and concerns, Dr. Sherpa said it is up to the floor to decide through discussion what kind of arrangements they would want in the ERPD.

He clarified that through his presentation he called for action that ensures that the people who do not possess their land ownership certificate but have been staying there for a long time should not be forcibly removed.

In response to a question why the Tharus did not have a separate mention in his presentation, Dr. Sherpa said Tharu community is one of Nepal's enlisted indigenous peoples groups and therefore it is needless to mention them separately while writing. He also added there should not be any confusion as to who the indigenous peoples are as the NEDIN Act 2058 clearly provides the official definition.

**Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana**

Clarifying the confusion over scientific forest management and community forest management, Dr. Dhungana stated that there have been certain forestry management approaches practiced by the government, including as the scientific forest management and the community forest management. Whatever the forest management regimes may be, they are all the same objective-wise.

On the FPIC modality, he said it is hard to find a right FPIC modality that is acceptable to all. Going to the grassroots level and seeking consent of all is impracticable as there are 1200-1400 forest user groups in those 12 districts, he said. Even

development partners, such as the World Bank are not clear about its exact modus operandi, he added.

Dr. Dhungana was of the opinion that compared to forestry laws, REDD+ policies have been much flexible and friendly to indigenous peoples and local communities in securing their rights. He, however, said there

are certain complexities associated with REDD+. The bottom line is, if the cons outweigh the pros, we simply have to discard REDD+, he added.



### **Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey**

Mr. Pandey clarified that he used the term 'banbasi', for the sake of convenience, to collectively refer to all the marginalized groups, including the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis, endangered groups, the differently-abled people and the forest-dependent poor. He also explained that by using the term 'sanatan, he was making a reference to 'ancestral' lands and clarified it does not have any religious connotation.

He asserted that there should be a separate institutional structure for REDD+ implementation program as per Nepal's future state restructuring and the multi stakeholders should have proportionate representation at all levels of the structure, and that FPIC should be placed at the heart of all consultations.

### **Mr. Ugan Manandhar**

Responding to a remark that a consultation after developing an ERPD would have been more fruitful, Mr. Manandhar said his team has almost finished assessing all the feedback and comments received at recent stakeholder consultations and will be able to present the reviewed document before the final ERPD program.

## **Group Work, Presentations and Feedback**

After the lunch on day one, the participants were divided into six groups for group work and discussion. Each group was assigned a set of questions on one of the major aspects of REDD+ and was asked to come up with the 3/4 answers after holding discussion amongst the group members.

The topics and the set of questions given to each group were as follow:

### **Group I**

**Topic:** Institutional Structures and FPIC

#### **Questions:**

- How to ensure participation, representation and roles of Indigenous Peoples (IPs), local communities, Dalits, women, the forest dependent communities and the poor at all levels, especially at district and local levels?
- How to address gender equity and social inclusion?



## **Group II**

**Topic:** Benefit sharing and Non-carbon benefit

### **Questions:**

- How to ensure benefit flow in a simple, equitable and effective way?
- What should be the benefit sharing arrangement? How to manage expectations among the beneficiaries? How is Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) going to intervene in potential discontent?
- How to make payment for the non-carbon benefits (biodiversity, herbs, fruits and socio-ecological balance etc)?
- Will the benefit sharing recognize the roles of the customary practices?
- How is NCB approach paying off IPs and LCs for their contributions?

## **Group III**

**Topic:** Safeguards

### **Questions:**

- How does the safeguard plan ensures legal and customary rights of IPs and LCs (should give special attention to), taking into consideration applicable laws, including national laws and obligations under international law
- What about the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in feedback and grievance redress mechanism set up at local, ERP and national levels? Could also be built on existing FGRM, including customer?
- Is FPIC going to be practiced in formulation, implementation of landscape, provincial and district level projects? What is the right modality?

## **Group IV**

**Topic:** Tenure rights

### **Questions:**

- How is the question of land and resources tenure rights (including legal and customary rights of use, access, management, ownership, exclusion etc) and category of rights holders in ERP area, including IPs and LCs being addressed?
- What will be provisions for dispute resolution in conflict situation in ERP area?



### **Group V**

**Topic:** National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV), Reference Level (RL)

#### **Questions:**

- How is NFMS going to account the contributions made (in emission reduction, carbon stock and NCBs) through traditional forest management system?
- Is MRV going to be only technical, ignoring the traditional and indigenous knowledge system of IPs and local communities who have been so close to nature?
- What about the rights-based community approach and for that matter, capacity building and technology transfer?

### **Group VI**

**Topic:** REDD+ Interventions

#### **Questions:**

- How will the indigenous knowledge and customary practices, including collective ownership of forests be ensured?
- How will the displacement of the landless from settlement area be avoided?
- How will the potential risks of involuntary relocation and resettlement from ancestral territories and confiscation of customarily owned land be handled?
- What plans are in place to ensure the fees are not exorbitant and administrative procedure is complicated?
- How will the issue of the forest owners' limiting to fell trees, sale of forest products be addressed?
- How to ensure that indigenous knowledge, skills, customary conservation and cultural practices are continued not displaced and/or destroyed?
- What is capacity building plan for IPs and local community?



A member from each of the group presented the group's works in front of the hall. The write-up committee then collected the presentations to develop a draft of the common position paper. The team members were:

Mr. Birkha Bahadur Shahi, Mr. Thakur Bhandari, Mr. Tunga Bhadra Rai, Mr. Mohan Lama, Ms. Nanu Thami and Ms. Parbati Tiwari

### Floor Comments and Feedbacks on the Common Position Paper



At the outset of day two, the write up team presented the draft of the common position paper and participants commented on the draft and provided their feedback.

#### Spell out stakeholders

Most of the participants who commented on the draft asked to clearly mention the terms such as community forest user groups, collaborative forest users group and private/family forest owners, customary forest owners, endangered groups, madhyawarti forest consumer group, single women, Dalits, as stakeholders throughout the document. Ms. Dibya Gurung voiced her concern that the term women, alongside the indigenous peoples and local communities be spelt out in the document as women are prime stakeholders in the REDD+ program.

#### FPIC procedure

One participant remarked that representatives from the concerned organizations should have the mandate to represent their organizations and that FPIC should be understood as taking consent from these representatives, but not necessarily from all the members of the communities.

#### Clarity on term 'traditional' needed

One participant questioned the use of the word 'traditional'; asking activities happened how far in the past is to be considered traditional. Another participant, Mr. Parwati Rana, the Kanchanpur NEFIN DCC chair, said the word covers all the rituals from birth to death of the indigenous peoples who are so closely related with the Nature and suggested 'from primitive times' can be used in place it.

#### 100% benefits allocation for community

One of the participants said the benefit sharing ratio of 60-40 percent between the community forest user groups and the government in the case of community forestry is not acceptable, and proposed that 100 percent benefit should go to the community forest user groups. Mr. Ramji Gajurel from FECOFUN said the ERP should provide for 100 percent benefit allocation for user groups in the case of

collaborative forestry as well. A member from the position paper drafting team clarified that the 60-40 percent allocation was meant only for national forests.

### **Recognize customary laws and practices**

Mr. Gokul Prasad Dura representing the Dura community said as there are many forests in Nepal that are owned by the indigenous peoples as per customary laws, the ERPD should recognize those laws. He also asked to mention solar energy along with biogas and improve stoves as alternative energy. Mr. Lok Bahadur Dura from Lamjung echoed the same concern.

Mr. Phatte Bahadur Tharu from Tharu Kalyankari Sabha remarked that while raising concerns about financial returns from REDD+, the position paper should not lose the sight of the fact that forests are more related with the existence of indigenous peoples and local communities. As such, the ERPD, he opined, should ensure their easy access to forest resources for their living. Another participant suggested the position paper should also consider Nepal's future local and federal legal systems when the country practically adopts federalism.

### **Empower local level REDD+ mechanisms**

Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey from Green Foundation was of the opinion that the position paper should identify local level actors/mechanisms as having the decisive role in REDD+ program. He also stated that the document should speak about potential risks related displacement of people from their settlement areas, and that the indigenous practices for enhancement of carbon stock should get a mention in the position paper.

### **Differently-abled people as stakeholder**

Mr. Birkha Shahi from FECOFUN said though in Nepal's context we mention women, Dalits, and other marginalized groups separately; there is a practice of mentioning 'indigenous peoples and local communities' only in international documents, with the term local community encompassing all other non-IPs stakeholders. He asked to mention 'the differently-abled persons' as a REDD+ stakeholder in the document.

### **Human rights standards in REDD+ policy**

One participant said that ERPD programs and policies should also reflect standards set by international human rights instruments, along with other international laws and principles that advocate the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

## PART 3

### Final Outcome: Common Position Paper and its Submission

The write-up team took note of all the comments and feedback on the draft of the common position paper and finalized it incorporating all the concerns and issues. A member of the write-up team read out the full text of the common position paper, which the floor received and acknowledged with loud applause. Then the representatives of the participating organizations collectively handed over the common position paper to Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhugana, chief of REDD IC, and through him to the Government of Nepal. Present at the handover ceremony were Dr. Pasang Sherpa, Bhim Prakash Khadka, Raj Kumar Lekhi, Danda Gurung, Nanu Thami, Shanti Bidari, Dibya Gurung, Gokul Prasad Dura, Krishna Rana, Bina Shrestha, Ganesh BK, Ghana Shyam Pandey, Fakada Tharu, Ram Kumar Kurmi, and Barsha Parajuli.



In the position paper, the indigenous peoples and local communities have demanded an inclusive and participatory REDD+ structure for ERP.

They have also asked the government to put in place the safeguards policies as per international provisions including those in Cancun Safeguards and cautioned the government to respect traditional knowledge, skills and customary practices of these communities.

It has asked for preferential tenure rights for the indigenous peoples and local communities and an equitable and accessible benefit sharing mechanism for the indigenous peoples and local communities and the adoption of participatory carbon measurement and monitoring system.

## Common Position Paper of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Nepal's Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD)

Nepalese Indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis and the forest-dependent poor, as known to all, have been contributing to forest conservation and management with their traditional knowledge, skills and experiences since a long past. As a result, the forest area of Nepal has been significantly increased resulting in forest resources and products. Despite, these remarkable contributions, the forest-dependent communities mentioned above have hardly been able to reap the benefits from forests and forest products.

While the National REDD+ Strategy is yet to be finalized, the government, in haste, has started preparing Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD) to formulate the Emission Reduction Program (ERP). Taking stock of this situation, the common position paper, incorporating the issues and concerns of the Nepalese indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities, has been prepared so that the government addresses the issues through the ERPD.

The position paper is an outcome of a national level multi-stakeholders' program entitled—Consultation and Dialogue of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on ERPD— held on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 in Kathmandu. The program was jointly organized by the Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), National Dalit Network (RDN), Tharu Kalyankari Sabha, Nepal Indigenous Women Federation (NIWF), Association of Collaborative Forest Users Nepal (ACOFUN), Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Journalists (FONIJ), Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development (CIPRED), Green Foundation Nepal (GFN), ASMITA Nepal, Association of Family Forest Owners Nepal (AFFON) and the HIMAWANTI Nepal

Through this Common Position Paper, we would like to emphasize that Nepal as a party state, formulates Nepal's REDD+ Strategy and Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD) in strict compliance with the provisions related with the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities provisioned in the various international treaties, conventions, protocols and commitments (including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Sustainable Development Goals, the ILO Convention 169, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Paris Agreement), as well as the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of State Policy as enshrined in the Constitution of Nepal.

### **Institutional Structure**

- Inclusive, full, effective and decisive participation of the indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities be ensured in every level and process of ERPD's institutional structure.
- The inclusive, full, effective and decisive participation of the above-said peoples should be made from the community level to the central level as determined by Nepal's state restructuring.

## **Safeguards**

- Indigenous peoples and local communities' rights over the natural resources should be ensured by acknowledging the indigenous peoples symbiotic relationships with land, forest and water while traditional knowledge, skills and livelihood practices should be respected keeping in mind their roles in promoting and safeguarding of these resources.
- The indigenous peoples and local communities should not be deprived of their rights to continue their traditional occupations.
- An appropriate arrangement with the provision of compensation should be made to mitigate the the possible risks.
- REDD+ safeguard measures in the ERPD should be provisioned as per the standards under the Cancun Agreement and various human rights-related national laws and policies and international instruments.
- The arrangement of the alternative energy should be made in participation of the afore-said peoples without tampering their traditional culture, values and norms, and such alternative energy should be available to them with cost-effective, easy and simplistic ways.

## **Benefit-sharing and Non-Carbon Benefits**

- An independent and authorized committee should be formed for the indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities to have an easy, equitable and effective access to carbon and non-carbon benefits.
- The benefit-sharing standards, acceptable to the indigenous peoples and local communities, should be specified and beneficiaries' expectation should be well-managed.
- An independent and authorized committee should be formed to address the dissatisfaction and grievances related with the benefit sharing with involvement of the indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities.
- The benefit sharing arrangement should ensure cent percent benefits for the forest owners of community-based forests, customary forests, and private forests while the allocation should be made as per the Climate Change policy in relations to other type of forests.
- Making sustainable development of the the forests, non-carbon benefit should be clearly defined including its evaluations and benefits. While doing so, the contributions to non-carbon benefits, made through traditional, customary practices at the community level, should also be recognized and taken into account.

## **Forest Tenure Rights and Control**

- Preferential forest tenure rights should be given to the indigenous peoples,

local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, Muslim minority, differently-able people and other marginalized communities.

- Preferential rights to forest carbon, in terms of its preservation, promotion and benefits resulting from it should be given to the indigenous peoples and local communities.
- The indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, differently-able people and other marginalized communities should be given their sovereign rights to forest tenure and forest management.
- There should be no government interferences in private and family forests; and carbon rights in such forests should be given to the forest owners.
- Rights of the indigenous peoples and local communities over the territories they have been traditionally using, for settlement, farming and grazing should be recognized and the ownership of such lands should be transferred to the respective communities.

### **Carbon Measurement and Monitoring**

- National Forest Monitoring System should recognize and taken into account the contributions made by the indigenous peoples and local communities through their traditional and community-based forest management practices.
- While measuring, monitoring and verifying the forest carbon, traditional knowledge and skills of the indigenous peoples and local communities should be used for the adoption of the rights-based and community-based approach.
- While carrying out carbon measurement and monitoring program, an effective representation of the indigenous peoples and local communities should be ensured. Capacity building and technology transfer program should also be introduced for these peoples.
- The communities that have traditionally been managing forests at the local level should be identified, the data should be compiled and such data and community experience should be given authenticity.

### **Interventions in Deforestation and Forest Degradation**

- Activities related to the lifestyles and cultures of the indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private/family forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, the Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities should not be termed as drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.
- Physical infrastructures, hydropower projects and livelihood alternatives should not be developed in commercial interests that devalues, displaces or destroys the traditional knowledge, skills, environment conservation practices, arts and cultures of the indigenous peoples and local communities.

### **Free, Prior Informed Consent (FPIC)**

- While planning and implementing the ERPD, consultations through FPIC

procedure should be mandatorily carried out with the indigenous peoples, local communities, community forest users groups, collaborative forest users groups, private forest owners, women, Dalits, Madhesis, Muslim minority, the differently-able people and other marginalized communities through their federations or networks.

- FPIC should be conducted only after communicating in their mother tongue or the dialect and giving enough time to the concerned community.
- A mechanism should be put in place to redress grievances with regard to FPIC.

Hereby, we jointly call on the Government of Nepal, the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, the donor agencies and the stakeholders to fully address these issues and concerns while formulating and implementing the Nepal REDD+ Strategy and the ERPD.

### Closing Remarks

With the handover of the position paper, different personalities aired their views.

**Ms. Dibya Gurung** said women should be treated as primary actor or stakeholders in the REDD+ program as they have a deeper engagement with forests in day-to-day life. She further said this status would help them have their representation and participation in policy making at the central level and its implementation at the district and community levels.



**Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey** expressed his opinion that Nepal's prosperity through the sustainable management of natural resources is the need of the hour. Stating that Nepal has been able to increase its forest area from 5.5 million hectares to 6.6 million hectares over the past 40 years through the local people's participation, he said Nepal has set an example in the world of the effectiveness of the community-based forest management approach practiced by the indigenous peoples and local communities.

He, however, said despite Nepal's forest area growing, the issues of poverty, unemployment and good forest governance still remain. He concluded that there



are four ways of effectively dealing with this situation and set the country on the path to prosperity—by ensuring sovereign rights of the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, and other marginalized groups; by practicing the sustainable management of forest; by organizing forest users groups, networks and federations; and by consolidating our education system, technology and mandates set in related international instruments.

**Mr. Bhim Prakash Khada**, Vice Chairperson, FECOFUN, demanded that 80% of the funds received by the government from developed countries in carbon trade should go to the people and communities who are actually involved in emission reduction. The government should honestly and proactively implement measures to address the issues and concerns expressed in the position paper, he added.

He also stated that the government has the slogan of ‘Prosperous Nepal through Forests’, but said this alone is not enough. “It should come with concrete policies



and programs for that. There should be the formulation of policies that ensure the access of the local communities to forest resources. The government should come up clearly with development of community forestry.”

**Mr. Kamal Mitrakoti Magar**, Parsa NEFIN DCC Chair said the indigenous peoples had their reservation over the use of the term ‘banbasi’ (forest dwellers) in a presentation the previous day, but expressed his satisfaction that the clarification was made.

“I feel that the way the indigenous peoples and local communities have come up with a common position paper (with regard to ERPD) is very positive,” he said.

**Mr. Arvind Khare**, Senior Advisor, RRI, laid a primary emphasis on the rights and control of the indigenous peoples and local communities over their forest resources



in REDD+ Program. Citing a recent World Resources Institute data that 38.7 billion ton carbon was preserved in the countries where the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities were recognized, he said that the recognition of the rights of these communities is essential for the preservation of carbon in REDD+.

He remarked that in its initial proposal document, REDD+ program had been described as an instrument that would clarify and recognize the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, but with the program progressing, the idea is waning.

Mr. Khare cautioned against certain pitfalls of carbon trade. He said that as per the current provisions, the measurement, monitoring and verification of carbon in forest will be carried out by experts coming from out of the country. The locking period will remain for 25 years which would mean indigenous peoples and local communities would require keeping their forests in the same state no matter what happens to the carbon price in the market.

He was of the opinion that this ERPD document should ensure the rights of Nepal's indigenous peoples and local communities as there would be no carbon preservation without first securing their rights. He said that Nepal's forest carbon monitoring approach should be community-based to make sure foreign consulting companies do not take away all the benefits.

He also stressed on the implementation of Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) procedure in REDD+ programs. Giving an example of how FPIC should be



conducted, he said in his place (India) the procedure requires that at least 70 percent of the consulted adult people after having received the full information give their consent in writing and in a culturally appropriate way.

Likewise, Mr. Khare said the money received from carbon trade should directly be provided to communities taking into account the forest area and the duration the community has preserved. The communities should be allowed to continue to use forest resources for their living, he added. Unless these four conditions are met, the REDD+ should not be accepted, he concluded.

**Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana**, stated that Nepal, one of the 47 countries affiliated with World Bank for REDD+ program, is still in the readiness phase, and said it is the indigenous peoples and local communities, rather than the government, that need the REDD+ program in the country.

Unlike the criticism that the Nepal government is moving ahead bureaucratically

with REDD+ program without much listening to the indigenous peoples' voices and NGOs, he clarified that the government always has pursued a multi-stakeholders approach in this program and will continue to follow this policy in the days to come.

Responding to an earlier query about the right modality of FPIC, Dr. Sindhu said that he personally feels that it is a process of taking consent of the people for any project going to be implemented in their locality against four considerations—their life liberty, dignity and prosperity. It is a multi disciplinary concept, not specific to any one community and that the government will adopt this idea in REDD+ programs, he added.

He said it is a good sign that all the rights holders have stood on one platform for their rights and expressed his commitment that he would do his level best to implement and address the issues and concerns contained in the common position paper.

In his closing speech, **Dr. Pasang Sherpa**, Chair of the program expressed his belief that the activities carried out over the past two days met the objectives of the conference, and that the deliberations were very fruitful. He also said apart from ERPD, the position paper, the outcome document of the conference would also be helpful in giving Nepal's ERPD a final shape.

On behalf of the organizers, Dr. Sherpa extended thanks to RRI Senior Advisor Arvind Khare, MoFSC acting secretary Mr. Resham Bahadur Dangi, REDD IC Chief Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana and Mr. Ugan Manandhar from WFF Nepal for all their support and their presence in the program. He also thanked the program facilitators, media persons, co-organizers, participants and the program staff for their active participation and contribution to make the program a huge success.

# PART 4

## Media Coverage and Dissemination of Program

The program received wide media coverage, with some of the major media outlets publishing/broadcasting stories about the program. There were a number of journalists from different radio stations, televisions, newspapers, and online new portals present in the venue to cover the event. Online news portals, including [ekantipur.com](http://ekantipur.com), [onlinekhabar.com](http://onlinekhabar.com), [esamata.com](http://esamata.com) and [ratopati.com](http://ratopati.com); newspapers, including *Rajdhani daily*, *The Himalayan Times*, *Gorkhapatra*, *Rajdhani*, *Nayapatrika daily*, carried the story while News channels, such as ABC Television, Sagarmatha Television, NTV Plus and News 24 TV and Gorkha FM, Ujyaalo Radio Network and CIN Radio Network broadcast programs on the event (Annex IV).



## Conclusion

The program was highly successful in meeting all its objectives. As a result of the program, the participants gained increased awareness and understanding about the issues and concerns of the indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to the REDD+ program, specifically the ERPD. The program also provided them information and updates about REDD+ program, with special reference to ERPD, and its process and progress at national and international levels.

The event offered the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, and other marginalized groups a unique opportunity to stand on a common platform and voice their common concerns in Nepal's ERPD. The initiative also sent a strong message that, when required, these communities can join their hands for their common cause.

Most importantly, after the two days' rigorous dialogue and deliberation, the participating members and representatives from the indigenous peoples and local communities developed a common position paper, incorporating their voices with regard to the proposed ERP. The position paper will remain an important document for the consultant and the government to address the issues and concerns of the indigenous peoples and local communities in ERPD and beyond.

Besides, the participation was overwhelming covering and benefitting a wide spectrum of communities and constituencies. The methodologies used and activities remained highly effective. The extensive media coverage helped the voices of the indigenous peoples and local community reach larger audiences, including concerned government agencies and those at very grassroots level.

With the mid-term review and the submission of ERPD to the government just ahead, the program timing and its topic were befitting. Considering the program's effectiveness and success, such programs are highly recommended in the future, too.

## Annexes

### Annex I: Program Schedule

Consultation and Dialogue of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Nepal's Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD)

Venue: Hotel Radisson, Kathmandu

December 5-6, 2016

#### Day One (December 5, 2016)

8:00- 9:00	Registration and Breakfast
<b>First Session</b>	
9:00 – 10:30	Inaugural Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair, Dr. Pasang Sherpa, Chairperson, CIPRED</li> </ul>
	<b>Welcome Remarks and Objectives of the Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pasang Dolma Sherpa, Executive Director, CIPRED</li> </ul>
	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey, Chairperson of Green Foundation Nepal</li> <li>Mr. Raj Kumar Lekhi, advisor and former chairman of NEFIN</li> <li>Mr. Ganesh Bahadur Karki, Chairperson of FECOFUN;</li> <li>Mr. Gehendra Keshar Upadhyay, Chief of the Monitoring Division of MoFSC.</li> <li>Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana, Chief of REDD IC</li> <li>Mr. Resham Bahadur Dangi, Acting Secretary of MoFSC.</li> <li>Conclusion of Inaugural Session: Dr. Pasang Sherpa</li> </ul>
10:30–11:00	Tea/Coffee
<b>Second Session</b>	
	<b>Presentations</b>
11:00–13:00	<b>Moderator: Dr. Dhruba Acharya</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey</li> <li>Dr. Mohan Poudel/Dr. Sindhu Dhungana</li> <li>Queries and Comments/feedback</li> <li>Dr. Pasang Sherpa</li> <li>Mr. Ugan Manandhar</li> </ul>
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:30	Group Division & Group Work
15:30–17:00	Group Presentations, Discussions and Feedback
17:00–17:30	Formation of Drafting Committee of Common Position Paper on ERPD
17:30	End of the Day I

#### Day Two (December 6, 2016)

8:00–9:00	Registration and Breakfast
9:00–11:30	Presentation, Discussion and Finalization of Draft Common Position Paper on Nepal's ERPD
11:30–11:50	Tea/Coffee
11:50–12:50	Reading out of the Common Position Paper and Handover to the concerned Govt. Officials
12:50–14:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Dibya Gurung</li> <li>Mr. Ghana Shyam Pandey</li> <li>Mr. Bhim Prakash Khadka</li> <li>Mr. Kamal Mitrakoti Magar</li> <li>Mr. Arvind Khare</li> <li>Dr Sindhu Prasad Dhunbgana</li> </ul>
14:00–14:10	Closing by Dr. Pasang Sherpa
14:10–15:00	Lunch
15:00–16:00	Reflection of the Program

## Annex II: List of Participants

SN	Name	Organization	Designation	District	Contact No	Email
1	Parbati Tiwari	FECOFUN	FPC	Parsa	9845230802	parbattiwari68@gmail.com
2	Bal Krishna Shrestha	FECOFUN	Member	Parsa	9845040936	
3	Ramji Pd. Bajagai	FECOFUN	Chairperson	Bara	9845097061	
4	Indra Bdr Upreti	FECOFUN	S Member	Rautahat	9855041899	
5	Prem Kumari Timalisina	FECOFUN	S. Member	Rautahat	9845439553	
6	Ajaya Kumar Chaudhari	Tharu Kalyankari Sabha	Member	Siraha	9852830563	
7	Khum Pd. Subedi	Green Foundation	Chairperson	Parbat	9857623935	subedikhum72@gmail.com
8	Laxmi Pariyar	Green Foundation	Member	Parbat	9843075515	
9	Laxmi Nepali	RDN	Member	Bara	9804246268	
10	Bishnu BK	RDN	Member	Banke	9848100494	
11	Tikendra Chaudhari	Tharu Kalyankari Sabha	Member	Chitawan	9855066778	tikendrach@gmail.com
12	Dambar Thapa Magar	NEFIN	NEFIN DCC Chair	Banke	9848027618	
13	Manju Kumari Somakar	RDN	Member	Dang	9866933304	
14	Nanu Thami	NIWF	Secretary	Dolakha	9860373263	nanuthami@yahoo.com
15	Sarita Ghimire BK	RDN	Member	Chitawan	9845635590	
16	Thakur Pd. Panday	FECOFUN	Member	Navalparasi	9847145008	
17	Mana Bhandari	FECOFUN	Member	Navalparasi		
18	Saraswoti Silwal	FECOFUN	General Secretary	Bara	9845254205	
19	Bharat Kattel	AFFON	Chairperson	Gorkha	9851176800	
20	Meena Raji	NIWF		Bardiya	9848101021	
21	Kamal Tilakoti Magar	NEFIN	Chairperson	Parsa	9845677378	
22	Ambar Bdr. Bishokarma	RDN	Member	Rautahat	9845134261	
23	Prem Wati Rana	NEFIN	Chairperson	Kanchanpur	9848783192	
24	Sunita Lama	ASMITA Nepal	Member	Makawanpur	9845027703	
25	Santi Bidari	ASMITA Nepal	Treasurer	Makawanpur	9845028074	
26	Sangit Basyal	Green Foundation	Member	Dang	9857821880	

27	Bhimarjun Regmi	Green Foundation	Member	Dang	9857824302	
28	Devi Sara Pulami	NEFIN	Member	Nawalparasi	9857041503	
29	Jyoti Darai	NIWF	Treasurer	Nawalparasi	9847074882	
30	Manjita Kumari Chaudhari	Tharu Kalyankari Sabha	F. Chairperson	Dang	9844964682	
31	Manita Shrestha	NIWF	Member	Bara	9801073611	
32	Raj Kumar Lekhi	Tharu Kalyankari Sabha	Advisor	Siraha	9851218618	
33	Bimala SK	RDN	W C General Secretary	Kanchanpur	9843678423	
34	Sushila Panjiyar	NIWF	Chairperson	Parsa	9845038536	
35	Hum Nath Bhattarai	FECOFUN	Chairperson	Kapilbastu	9847082583	
36	Goma Bharati	FECOFUN	Member	Kapilbastu	9847151520	
37	Ram Bahadur Chaudhari	Tharu Kalyankari Sabha	Vice Chair	Rautahat	9845282784	
38	Karna Bahadur BK	RDN	Vice-Chair	Bardiya	9848167436	
39	Dol Kumari Sapkota	FECOFUN	Member	Lamjung	9841353025	
40	Kalpana Sunuwar	RDN	Member	Nawalparasi	9843902309	sunarkalpana30@gmail.com
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## Annex III

### Summary of Review

#### **Literature Review on the Issues and Concerns of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to be Incorporated in Nepal's ER-PD and Gap Analysis in Some of the Relevant Documents**

*By Ghana Shyam Pandey, Dr. Pasang Sherpa and Arun Rai*

The purpose of this review was to examine the literature to identify issues and concerns of the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, Dalits, and other marginalized groups that need to be addressed in Nepal's Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD) and to analyze existing gaps in the relevant documents.

For this purpose, documents, particularly Nepal's Emission Reduction Idea Note (ERPIN), the National REDD+ Strategy (draft), the Carbon Fund's Methodological Framework, the ERPD Template, the Nepal REDD+ CSOs-IPOs Alliance's Joint Position Paper, Cancun Safeguards, the Convention on the Biodiversity, the Paris Agreement, Nepal's Constitution and relevant natural resources management-related laws and policies were reviewed.

Our study carried out alongside rounds of meetings and discussions generated some very useful insights into Nepal's indigenous peoples and local communities' issues and concerns in respect to the upcoming ERP. The findings/observations are presented in the ensuing paragraphs.

While Nepal is gearing up for ERP, certain important documents, the National REDD+ Strategy is yet to get its final shape. Without making a robust safeguards information system (SIS) based on SES indicators and without fully acknowledging and addressing the safeguard concerns expressed by the indigenous peoples and local communities that were fed into the SESA, ESMF, Nepal's indigenous peoples, local community, the Dalits, women and Madhesi community stand vulnerable in the ER program.

The review show that it is quite imperative that the safeguard measures in ERPD secure the customary rights and ensure the continuation of traditional cultural, livelihood practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, with their effective engagements in ERP. The Cancun Safeguards and the World Bank social and environmental safeguards should be well at the heart of the ERP's safeguards system.

It is crucial for the indigenous peoples and local communities to have effective participation, representation and roles in all the phases/process of ERP and at all

the levels within its institutional structure, also taking the concept of gender equity and social inclusion into account.

Mechanisms for sharing the benefits, redressing grievances and resolving conflicts have remained some of the important aspects of the entire ERP process. Moreover, effective engagements of the indigenous peoples, local communities, women, the Dalits, and other marginalized groups are found to be their key concerns in it. When it comes to benefit sharing, the review shows that an equal emphasis has to be laid on non carbon benefits and that it holds a great significance for indigenous peoples and local communities to have their customary conversation methods, traditional lifestyles and practices taken into consideration.

In the reviewed position papers, the indigenous peoples and local communities have voiced their concerns that their cultural practices and forest resources-based lifestyles should not be considered drivers of deforestation. Their traditional, collective ownership of forest lands, territories should not imply a status of landlessness. While addressing the drivers, the interventions should not limit or violate the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities to collect and consume forest products, including timber, herbs, and fodder; to use pasturelands; and to continue their traditional livelihood practices. Also the interventions should not result in the forced eviction or involuntary resettlement or displacement of these peoples from their ancestral territories. The introduction of alternative livelihood and energy programs should not undermine, or put at risk the indigenous knowledge, skills and practices that have been contributing to ecological balance since ages.

The review also identified certain gaps in the documents. While Nepal has already endorsed international conventions, such as ILO C 169, UNDRIP, the Convention on the Biodiversity, the Paris Agreement, and has remained a state party to UNFCCC, its certain domestic laws are yet to be harmonized with those international provisions. For example, Nepal's existing Forest Act fails to recognize customary laws that has resulted in tenure rights issues of the forest lands, customarily and collectively owned by the indigenous peoples.

Nepal's Constitution has duly guaranteed the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities over natural resources, but not all of them have been effectively enacted into laws and implemented. The National REDD+ Strategy has failed to recognize the indigenous peoples and local communities as right holders, instead of mere stakeholders. It lacks clarity in tenure rights issues. Certain forest data seem consistent.

There is also a lack of clarity about the FPIC in the REDD+ Strategy in terms of its effective mechanism and modality. The use of FPIC procedure can be questionable in ongoing ERP consultations. The issue of tenure rights in forestry is very weak in this document. The usufruct rights are provisioned in the document that only limits the rights of the forest dependent indigenous peoples, local communities and the marginalized groups. Documents such as ERPIN and the REDD+ Strategy do not strongly come up for these communities' carbon rights, but create procedural and policy bottlenecks, making it difficult for the indigenous peoples and local communities to reap benefits from REDD+. These documents have not sufficiently envisioned adjustments that have to be made in the future in the context of Nepal's state restructuring, meaning the provisions of these documents are mostly likely to be ad hoc in nature.

## Annex IV The Media Coverage of the Program

### Published News and Articles

*The Himalayan Times*

# ERPD workshop organised

**Himalayan News Service**  
*Kathmandu, December 5*

A two-day national workshop on 'Nepal's Emission Reduction Programme Document' kicked off on Monday in Kathmandu to collect feedback from the indigenous people and local communities on ERDP.

The workshop was organised by the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development in collaboration with FECOFUN, NEFIN, RDN, NIWF, HIMAWANTI, AFFON, the Green Foundation, Asmita Nepal, the FONIJ, and the Tharu Kalyankari Sabha.

According to organisers, the workshop will end on Tuesday with a ceremony for handing over a common position paper to government authorities after discussion with locals and people belonging to indigenous communities.

# Indigenous people demand respect for their rights

**Himalayan News Service**  
*Kathmandu, December 6*

On the second day of the two-day workshop on Nepal's Emission Reduction Programme Document held in Kathmandu, people from indigenous and local communities demanded guarantee of their rights while implementing emission reduction programme.

The Centre for Indigenous People's Research and Development handed over a common position paper to the government demanding that they not be barred from continuing their traditional occupation.

Chairperson of CIPRED Pasang Sherpa said, "We want to ensure that the ERD and the Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation programme keeps our traditional and cultural practices safe."

Receiving the common position paper, Chief at REDD Forestry and Climate Change Cell Sindhu Prasad Dhungana said the cell would submit the document to the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and assured the government would secure their rights of local and indigenous people while preparing and implementing carbon emission-based programmes.

The workshop was organised by the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development in collaboration with FECOFUN, NEFIN, RDN, NIWF, HIMAWANTI, AFFON, the Green Foundation, ASMITA Nepal, FONIJ, and Tharu Kalyankari Sabha.

In the 26-point common position paper, people have stated that no intervention would be entertained at private and family forests, and the carbon rights of their forests should be given to the owners. Ownership and forest rights should be given to the indigenous and local people.

Since a majority of indigenous people in Nepal are still dependent on forests for their livelihoods and have a symbiotic relation with the forest and natural resources, sustainable management of forest and biodiversity is important to secure their distinct identities and customary practices, and their ability to pass this on to their future generations.

Nepal is the fourth most vulnerable country to the impacts of climate change, which has more severely affected indigenous people and communities dependent on forests. Therefore, it is very important for indigenous people to understand the dynamics of climate change and engage in the formulation of policies and programmes to address the impacts of climate change for better environmental sustainability and development.

Nepal has ratified many international conventions, including ILO Convention No 169, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and adopted UNDRIP in 2007.

## सरकारसमक्ष २६ बुँदे अडान

काठमाडौं। कार्बन उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रममा स्थानीय समुदाय र आदिवासी जनजातिका सरकार सम्वोधन गर्न माग गरिएको छ। वन संरक्षण र व्यवस्थापनमा संलग्न रहि आएका एक दर्जनभन्दा बढी सामुदायिक संस्थाले सरकारसँग त्यस्तो माग गरेका हुन्।

बुँदे वित्तियम चलेको संसार र परामर्श सम्मेलनमार्फत उनीहरूले सरकारसमक्ष २६ बुँदे अडानपत्रसमेत पेश गरेका छन्। अडानपत्रमा नेपालको रेडब्लुस रणनीति र कार्बन उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम दस्तावेजले नेपाल पछारिनु भएका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सन्धि, महासन्धि, अभिसन्धि र प्रतिबद्धताहरू पालना गर्न माग गरिएको छ। त्यसै, कार्बन उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्न बनाइने सबै तहको सरकार र प्राधिकार आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको गुण, प्रभावकारी र निष्पक्ष सहभागिता हुनुपर्ने माग गरिएको छ।

आदिवासी जनजातिको

जन्, जमिन र जंगलसँग अत्यधिक सम्बन्ध भएकाले उनीहरूका परम्परागत ज्ञान, सीप, जीविकोपार्जनलाई सम्मान र संवर्द्धन गर्दै अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्नुपर्ने, परम्परागत पेसाबाट विस्थापित गरिन नहुने, जोखिम न्यूनीकरणका निम्ति क्षतिपूर्तिसहित उचित व्यवस्थापन गरिनुपर्ने, बैकल्पिक ऊर्जाको व्यवस्था गर्दा सम्बन्धित क्षेत्रका समुदायको सलमतामा सरो, सहज र सुपथ रूपमा उपलब्ध गराउनुपर्ने मागसमेत गरिएको छ।

अडानपत्र सामुदायिक वन उपभोक्तृ महासंघ, आदिवासी जनजाति महासंघ, राष्ट्रिय दलित नेटवर्क, वारु कल्याणकारी समा, आदिवासी जनजाति महिला महासंघ, आदिवासी जनजाति पत्रकार महासंघ, छिन फाउण्डेसन, आदिवासी जनजाति अनुसन्धान तथा विकास केन्द्र अस्मिता नेपाल र पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती बस्ती

## कार्बन उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रममा जनसरोकार सम्बोधन गर्न माग

संस्थाले सरकारसमक्ष २६ बुँदे अडानपत्र बुझाएका छन्।

काठमाडौं, मङ्सिर २१ गते। सरकारले बनाउन लागेको कार्बन उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रममा स्थानीय समुदाय र आदिवासी जनजातिको सरोकारलाई प्रभावकारी रूपमा सम्बोधन गर्न माग गरिएको छ। राबधानीमा मेला भएका वन संरक्षण र व्यवस्थापनमा संलग्न एक दर्जनभन्दा बढी समुदायिक संस्थाले सरकारसँग त्यो माग गरेका हुन्।

दुईदिने सम्मेलनपछि उनीहरूले सरकारलाई २६ बुँदे अडानपत्र बुझाएका छन्। अडानपत्रमा नेपालको रेडब्लुस रणनीति र उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम दस्तावेजले नेपाल पछारिनु भएका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सन्धि, महासन्धि, अभिसन्धि, प्रतिबद्धताहरू पालना गर्न माग गरिएको छ। यसै उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम

सञ्चालनका लागि निर्माण हुने सबै तहको संरचना र प्रक्रियामा आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको पूर्ण, प्रभावकारी र निष्पक्ष सहभागिता हुनुपर्ने माग पनि समेटिएको छ।

समुदायिक वन उपभोक्तृ महासंघ नेपाल, नेपाल आदिवासी जनजाति अनुसन्धान तथा विकास केन्द्रलगायतका संस्थाको अगुवाइमा मेला भएका देशभरका अभियानाहरूले आदिवासी जनजातिको जल, जमिन र जङ्गलसँग अत्यधिक सम्बन्ध भएका कारण आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको परम्परागत ज्ञान, सीप, जीविकोपार्जनलाई सम्मान र संवर्द्धन गर्दै उनीहरूका अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्न पनि माग गरेको छ।

उनीहरूले सामाजिक बाँडफाँटमा आदिवासी जनजाति

र स्थानीय समुदायको सरल, समन्वयिक र प्रभावकारी पहुँच हुनुपर्ने, साम बाँडफाँटसम्बन्धी असन्तुष्टि र गुनासा सम्बोधन गर्न आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको संलग्नतासहितको एक स्वतन्त्र र अधिकारसम्पन्न समिति गठन गरिनुपर्ने माग गरेका छन्।

यस्तै जनको मु-स्वामित्व र अधिकार आदिवासी र स्थानीय समुदायलाई हुनुपर्ने, वन कार्बन संरक्षण सम्बन्धित र उत्पादन, उपभोगको अप्रतिष्ठित आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायमा हुनुपर्ने, निजी तथा पारिवारिक वनमा सरकारको कुनै हस्तक्षेप हुन नहुने र परम्परादेखि आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायले भोग्छलत, चरिचरत गर्दै आएका भूसेत्रलाई मान्यता प्रदान नै स्वामित्व समुदायलाई नै हस्तान्तरण गरिनुपर्ने माग गरिएको छ।

## राष्ट्र

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# उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण दस्तावेजमा ११ संस्थाको साभामा अडान

सुखिन शर्मा/राबधानी  
काठमाडौं, २१ मंसिर

राष्ट्रिय रेडब्लुस रणनीति निर्माण प्रक्रिया अन्तर्गतमा रहेको समयमा 'उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम' दस्तावेजमा नेपालका आदिवासी जनजाति, स्थानीय समुदाय, महिला, दलित, मधेसी, अपांग, विपन्न वर्ग, अन्य सीमान्तकृत समुदाय र वनमा आश्रित समुदायको सवाल र सरोकारलाई समेटेर ११ संस्थाले संयुक्त अडान जारी गरेका छन्।

नेपालको रेडब्लुस रणनीति र उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम दस्तावेजले नेपाल पछारिनु भएका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सन्धि, महासन्धि, अभिसन्धि, प्रतिबद्धताहरू जैविक विविधता महासन्धि, मानव अधिकारको विज्ञानको घोषणापत्र, विज्ञान विकास लक्ष्य, आईएसओ महासन्धि १९९४, आदिवासी जनजाति अधिकारसम्बन्धी संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघीय घोषणापत्र, पेरिस सम्मोतालगायत र नेपालको संविधानले व्यवस्था गरेका मौलिक अधिकार र राज्यका नीति निर्देशक सिद्धान्तहरूलाई अग्रगण्य पालना गर्नुपर्ने अडान राखेका छन्। आदिवासी जनजाति, स्थानीय समुदाय, महिला, दलित, मधेसी, अपांग, विपन्न वर्ग तथा अन्य सीमान्तकृत समुदायको प्रतिनिधित्व गर्ने नेपाल आदिवासी जनजाति महासंघ, सामुदायिक वन उपभोक्तृ महासंघ नेपाल, राष्ट्रिय दलित नेटवर्क, वारु कल्याणकारी समा, आदिवासी जनजाति

महिला महासंघ, नेपाल आदिवासी जनजाति पत्रकार महासंघ, छिन फाउण्डेसन नेपाल, आदिवासी जनजाति अनुसन्धान तथा विकास केन्द्र, अस्मिता नेपाल, पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती तथा पारिवारिक विज्ञान बस्ती

उत्सर्जन न्यूनीकरण कार्यक्रम सञ्चालनका लागि निर्माण हुने सबै तहको संरचना र प्रक्रियामा आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदाय, सामुदायिक वन, साकेदारी वन निजी तथा पारिवारिक वन, दलित, महिला, मधेसी, मुस्लिम अल्पसंख्यक, उत्पीडित वर्ग र अपांगता भएका व्यक्तिको समावेशी, पूर्ण, प्रभावकारी र निष्पक्ष सहभागिता हुनुपर्ने अडान रहेको छ। संरचनालाई समुदायदेखि राज्य पुन:संरचनाको ढाँचाअनुसारको तहमा निर्माण गर्नुपर्ने अडान राखेका छन्।

यस्तै, गरी ११ संस्थाले आदिवासी जनजातिको जल, जमिन र जंगलसँग अत्यधिक सम्बन्ध भएकाले आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको परम्परागत ज्ञान, सीप, जीविकोपार्जनलाई सम्मान र संवर्द्धन गर्दै उनीहरूका अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्नुपर्ने अडान राखेका छन्। आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको अधिकार र परम्परागत पेसाबाट विस्थापित गर्न नहुने अडान छ। सम्भावित जैविक न्यूनीकरणको निम्ति क्षतिपूर्तिसहित उचित व्यवस्थापन

गर्न माग राखेका छन्। सोमबार सरकारलाई अडान पत्र पेश गर्दै उनीहरूले रेडब्लुस सुरक्षा नीतिबारे क्यानकुन सम्झौता र मानव अधिकारसम्बन्धी राष्ट्रिय अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय मापदण्डअनुसार कार्यान्वयन गर्न माग राखेका छन्। बैकल्पिक ऊर्जाको व्यवस्था गर्दा सम्बन्धित क्षेत्रका समुदायको सलमतामा सरो, सहज र सुपथ रूपमा उपलब्ध गराउनुपर्ने र त्यस्ता विकल्पको प्रयोग गर्ने क्रममा ती क्षेत्रका समुदायको परम्परागत संस्कृति संरक्षारलाई भने आँच आउन हुँदैन।

लाभको बाँडफाँटमा आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायका व्यक्तिको सरल, समन्वयिक र प्रभावकारी पहुँचका लागि एक स्वतन्त्र र अधिकार सम्पन्न समिति गठन गर्न माग राखेका छन्। उनीहरूको स्वीकार्यतासहितको लाभका बाँडफाँटका मापदण्डहरू बनाई लाभप्राप्तिका अपेक्षाहरूको व्यवस्थापन गर्न माग गरेका छन्। लाभ बाँडफाँटसम्बन्धी असन्तुष्टि र गुनासाहरू सम्बोधन गर्न आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायका व्यक्तिको सलमता सहितको एक स्वतन्त्र र अधिकार सम्पन्न समिति गठनको माग राखेका छन्। लाभको बाँडफाँटको पद्धतिमा शतप्रतिशत सुनिश्चित गर्न अन्य वनको हकमा पनि जलवायु नीति अनुरूप गर्न माग राखेका छन्।

वन काठान संरक्षण संवर्द्धन र उत्पादन,

उपभोगको अप्रतिष्ठित आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायमा हुनुपर्ने उनीहरूको माग छ। वनमाथिको मु-स्वामित्व र स्वतन्त्रपूर्वक व्यवस्थापन गर्ने सार्वभौम अधिकार, आदिवासी र स्थानीय समुदायका व्यक्तिको हस्तक्षेप हुनुपर्ने उनीहरूको अडान छ। निजी तथा पारिवारिक वनमा सरकारको कुनै हस्तक्षेप हुनुहुँदैन र त्यस्ता वन क्षेत्रको कार्बनको अधिकार जग्गाधनीलाई नै हुनुपर्दछ। अडानमा भनिएको छ, 'परम्परादेखि आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायले भोग्छलत, चरिचरत गर्दै आएका भूसेत्रलाई मान्यता प्रदान नै स्वामित्व समुदायलाई नै हस्तान्तरण गरिनुपर्ने माग गरिएको छ।'

खर्चन मापन अनुगमन र प्रमाणीकरणमा अधिकारमूलीक समुदायमा आधारित पद्धति अवलम्बन गराउन आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायमा निहित परम्परागत ज्ञान सीपको उपयोग गर्न माग राखेका छन्। 'कार्बन मापन र अनुगमनमा आदिवासी जनजाति र स्थानीय समुदायको प्रभावकारी प्रतिनिधित्व हुनुपर्दछ।' अडानपत्रमा उल्लेख छ, 'उनीहरूलाई क्षमता विस्तार र प्रविधि हस्तान्तरणका कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन गरि नुपर्दछ।' स्थानीय स्तरमा भएका परम्परागत वन व्यवस्थापन गरिरहेका समुदायको पहिचान गर्ने र तथ्यांक तयार गर्ने र उनीहरूका माग भएको अनुभव र तथ्यांकलाई अधिकारिकता दिन माग छ।

Media	Hyperlink
<b>Television</b>	
ABC Television	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSJjranFlos">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jSJjranFlos</a>
News 24 TV	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxV4B0byBol&amp;feature=share">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxV4B0byBol&amp;feature=share</a>
Sagarmatha Television	
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ekantipur.com	<a href="http://kantipur.ekantipur.com/news/2016-12-06/20161206204319.html">http://kantipur.ekantipur.com/news/2016-12-06/20161206204319.html</a>
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