



Proceedings of National Seminar on Sustainable Development Growth, Equity and Sustainability

Jointly organised by:
Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE)
and
National Planning Commission (NPC)
September 3, 2012

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Acknowledgement

These proceedings summarises the discussion held during the National Seminar on Sustainable Development: Growth, Equity and Sustainability. Many organisations and individuals have contributed substantially towards the successful completion of the seminar and have provided valuable inputs in completion of these proceedings. The proceedings includes contextual background, summary of speech, presentations, and key issues highlighted during the seminar.

The seminar was jointly organised by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) and the National Planning Commission (NPC) with support from Institute for Social and Environmental Transition-Nepal (ISET-Nepal) and Niti Foundation on September 3, 2012, at the Everest Hotel, Kathmandu. On behalf of the supporting organisations, we would like to thank Mr. Barsha Man Pun, Finance Minister for inaugurating the seminar. We extend our gratitude to Dr. Madhav Karki of International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) for his contribution. We are also grateful to all paper presenters and participants for their contribution in making the seminar successful. We would also like to thank Digi scan for designing and printing these proceeding.

Acronyms

ADB:	Asian Development Bank
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product
ICIMOD:	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
ILO:	International Labour Organisation
INGOs:	International Non-governmental Organisations
ISSET-N:	Institute for Social and Environmental Transition – Nepal
LDCs:	Least Developed Countries
MoSTE:	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
NGOs:	Non-governmental Organisations
NPC:	National Planning Commission

Context

The recently concluded Rio+20 United Nations conference held in Brazil identified economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability as the three pillars of sustainable development. The conference saw world leaders, governments, private sector, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other civil society groups come together to rethink and refine ways of addressing the growing complexities of ensuring the continued human and economic development on an ever more crowded planet. The conference focused on two themes: (a) promoting a “green economy” to encourage sustainable development and eradicate poverty, and (b) developing an institutional framework to promote strategies to achieve the sustainable future the world envisions.

As one of the signatories of the Rio+20 Declaration, it was important and vital that Nepal must now engage in a discourse and strengthen its efforts to promote sustainable development and economic development and preserve the environment. With a 24 per cent of the population earning under 1.25 USD a day and a low level of human development, great political uncertainty, and rich but vulnerable natural resource base, Nepal is a nation evolving within a very fragile and intricate social, economic and environmental construct. For one of the world’s least-developed nations, addressing sustainable development and environmental preservation is a challenge in and of itself, and the patterns of unsustainable consumption and production and their negative impact on resource use which the larger political economy demands has only made that challenge greater. In fact, the existing political vacuum, lawlessness, short-sightedness and action motivated by personal gain have already directly and indirectly threatened the diversity and robustness of many local environmental bases. The growing threat of climate change impacts has only served to exacerbate the nation’s risks.

With a goal to initiate discourse on the three pillars of sustainable development, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) and the National Planning Commission (NPC) organised a half-day, national seminar on sustainable development with support from Niti Foundation and the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition-Nepal (ISET-Nepal) on September 3, 2012, at the Everest Hotel. Stakeholders agreed that the concept of sustainable development must be considered while defining strategies, policies and actions to address existing and future vulnerabilities as well as fair, equitable and environmentally-just national development goals.

Objectives

The programme (Appendix 1) was organised to initiate national- and local-level dialogue to ensure that Nepal's Rio+20 commitments are implemented and to shed light on the importance of sustainable development in Nepal. It was designed to share information related to the issues of sustainable development that emerged from post Rio+20 consultation with stakeholders who can support NPC in adopting a sustainable development planning framework for the upcoming five-year plan (2014-2019). About 100 representatives (Appendix 2) from Government of Nepal; political parties; international agencies, ambassadors and donor communities; and the media participated in the seminar. Usually excluded from policy discussions, various civil society organisations, including users' group, community-based organisations, and professional associations, were also invited. Finance Minister Mr. Barsha Man Pun attended on behalf of chief guest, Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai.



SESSION 1:**Chair: Uddhav Prasad Baskota**

- **Synopsis of Rio+20 by Mr. Purushottam Ghimire,**
Joint Secretary, NPC
- **Keynote address by Mr. Deependra Bahadur Kshetry**
Vice-Chairman, NPC
- **Speech by Dr. Keshab Man Shakya**
Minister, MoSTE
- **Speech by Mr. Barsha Man Pun**
Minister, MoF
- **Closing address by Mr. Uddhav Prasad Banskota**
Joint Secretary, Government of Nepal

Mr. Mohan Das Manandhar from Niti Foundation gave the welcome speech and explained the objectives of the seminar before inaugural session. Mr. Uddhav Prasad Baskota, Joint Secretary of MoSTE, chaired the inaugural session, which consist of a synopsis of the objectives, agendas, and achievements of Rio +20.

Synopsis of Rio+20

Purushottam Ghimire

Mr. Ghimire summarised the objectives, agendas, and achievements of Rio+20 conference, in particular focusing on the role of Nepal's delegation and achievements for LDCs. He provided the background to Rio+20—earlier international conferences on the environment. He discussed the outcome document, “The Future We Want,” which contains suggested measures such as renewing political commitments, green economy, and institutional development. Mr. Ghimire also talked about the important aspects of sustainable development, including poverty alleviation, food security, sustainable agri culture, drinking water, energy, health, tourism, sustainable urbanisation, and employment.



Keynote address

Deependra Bahadur Kshetry

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro from June 20 to 22, 2012 laid out a guideline for developed and developing countries regarding the steps they must take to ensure sustainable development and thereby address the crisis which has arisen from present consumption and production patterns. Participants expressed hope of alleviating poverty and hunger by 2015 as envisioned in the Millennium Development Goals and expressed their commitment to do the needful in the present as well as the future to achieve sustainable development.

To alleviate poverty, developed countries need to provide assistance to LDCs and countries in the South need to assist each other. The development and implementation of environment-friendly technologies and economic development need to be intensified through the promotion of foreign direct investment and international trade too.

The conference focused on eliminating shortcomings related to foreign development assistance. Our government needs to implement decisions made regarding climate change on the basis of international norms. It hopes to prepare a preliminary paper with inclusive, employment-oriented policies that promote high economic growth in this fiscal year. Employment generation, one of the key issues of Rio+20, will continue to get high priority, and we will incorporate the achievements of Rio+20 in the formulation of our action plans.

Majority of Nepalis depend on agriculture, which contributes to one-third of the total GDP. We can even prevent the emigration of youth if we can promote agriculture. The conclusions of Rio+20 will help us attract bilateral and multilateral aid for agriculture, the sector most vulnerable to climate change.

We aim to reach the level of a developing country by making optimum use of our resources to alleviate poverty and underdevelopment. We also seek to enhance international financial and technological trade by resolving extant problems.

We have decided to adopt a green economy for its value in sustainable development and have been doing our homework to implement the same at local as well as national level. We have also received aid from donors for this endeavor.

I would like to express the government's commitment to moving toward building a livable nation for present as well as future generations by alleviating hunger and poverty as stipulated in our international commitments.

To conclude, let me say that I believe that the conclusions derived from today's seminar will help the government formulate future action plans and policies.

Summary of speeches

Keshab Man Shakya, Ph.D and Barsha Man Pun

■ *Keshab Man Shakya, Ph.D*

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development or Rio+20 held in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil from 20 to 22 June 2012 highlighted three pillars of sustainable development—economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability—and defined an economy based on these pillars as a “green economy.” The understanding is that it is necessary to transform the whole economy into an environmental-friendly one in order to minimise the negative impacts of global warming and climate change. In its movement toward a green economy, Bhutan, for example, has proposed a new economic paradigm of “happiness and wellbeing” and Thailand is working toward what it calls a “sufficiency economy.” Other initiatives include South Korea’s adoption of a green market structure to reach to zero carbon emissions and our own status paper which gives mountain initiatives priority. Representatives of political parties, interest groups, and international donor communities, government officials, and journalists have gathered in this meeting to discuss the pillars of sustainable development and relevance in Nepal.

Economic growth: To encourage economic growth in Nepal, the issue of poverty alleviation needs to be addressed. About 25 per cent of the population still falls under the poverty line, people in rural areas are poorer than those in urban areas, and the per capita income gap between rich and poor is widening. Almost 3.2 million Nepali youth work outside Nepal and send their earnings to their relatives as remittance which is the second largest source of income sustaining national revenue. Imports of consumer goods have exceeded Nepal’s domestic production and export is very little with considerable trade deficit.

To promote green economy in Nepal the shortcomings revealed by a strategic analysis of consumption and production reveals have to be addressed. More particularly, Nepalis need to be aware of what they consume is a green product. Consumers and producers have to be motivated through subsidy and regulation. The government has to certify and label all products, whether manufactured domestically or imported. Green market can be set up by creating a demand for green products, distributing the products through green transportation, and ensuring a green supply using eco-labeling. Agriculture, foods, industrial goods, tourism, energy, transportation, science and technology, and physical infrastructures are all sectors which can be made green through intervention. Public procurements can sustain the greening of production, consumption and market operation.

Social equity: Access to and availability of food, income, health service, water and sanitation, education, natural resources, migration and other basic needs among different societal groups need to be analysed. Currently, society is disaggregated along ethnicity (Brahmin-Chhetri, indigenous and Madhesi), gender (male, female and third gender), ability (differently-abled and not), social position (Dalit and backward) and region (Karnali and Madhesh). To make the social pillar of sustainable development strong will

require improving social justice by strengthening social inclusion and equity. Nepal is in the process of writing a new constitution. The debate on the structure of the federal state centers around the question of representation based on ethnicity and region. The debate also extends to the question of reservations in government jobs, opportunities and facilities. All groups of society need to address the question of a green economy.

Various levels can be mobilised, such as national, regional and local; and by different sectors: government, non-government and private. The government is organised into ministries, departments and corporations to deliver services and carry out development activities. Civil society organisations critique political and governmental activities and exert pressure for change. Religious and cultural organisations sometimes play crucial roles during crises.

Environmental sustainability: To ensure environmental sustainability in Nepal, issues that need to be addressed are: mountain geology, river systems, climate, agriculture, forestry, and bio-diversity. Impacts of global warming, climate change, and air pollution are already visible, the decline in snowfall in the Himalayas, bursting of glacial lakes, landslides in the hills and flooding in the Tarai, lowering of groundwater table, disturbances in seasonal rainfall, uncertainties about agricultural production levels, changes in flora and fauna, and disease. These environmental consequences adversely effect the lives of people.

Environmental imbalances have had negative consequences on roads, irrigation, hydropower, buildings and industrial structures, crippling Nepal to meet its financial obligations. Energy is another grave problem for Nepal. There is possibility to produce alternative energy from solar, biogas and wind, but they are neither cost-effective nor widely available currently.

Economic growth and poverty alleviation, social inclusion and equitability, and environmental sustainability are characteristics of a green economy in Nepal. We have to plan, act and make progress in these fronts or our future will not be bright. We will not be able to maintain peace as scarcity and uncertainty will disturb the social harmony and governability of the state. The loss of hope among the youth to questions the survival of our sovereign nationhood.

■ *Barsha Man Pun*

Minister Pun thanked the organisers for providing him the opportunity to express his opinions on behalf of the Right Honorable Prime Minister at the seminar. He wished for the success of the seminar.

The Prime Minister led the Nepalese delegation to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development organised in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil from June 20 to 22, 2012 (Rio+20) at the invitation of United Nations General Secretary Ban Ki Moon. The topic of sustainable development embraced by the conference, which saw the participation of the heads of states and high-level delegation of 193 countries of the world including Nepal, is of utmost significance to a developing country like Nepal. The UN Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Rio Earth Summit, was held 20 years ago in June 1992. In the same city, delegations from 178 countries gathered, ultimately to issue the Rio Declaration and pass Agenda 21. The interdependent relationship among economic prosperity, social development and environmental protection is relevant in Nepal's context with regards to its sustainable development.

Following the inaugural session of the Rio+20 conference on June 20, the leader of the Nepali delegation, the Right Honorable Prime Minister addressed the conference, raising the innumerable challenges faced by Least Developed Countries, including that of poverty alleviation. He declared that sustainable development is possible only if equitable development is promoted. The issues of LDCs were included in the Rio+20 outcome document due to the active and coordinative role played by Nepal as the chair of the LDC Coordination Group. With the recent appointment of Nepal's envoy to the United Nations in New York, Gyanchandra Acharya, to the post of Under-Secretary General by the Secretary General, Nepal's active role has been appreciated internationally. Nepal was elected vice-chair on behalf of Asian countries. Paragraph 34 of the outcome document of the conference titled "The Future We Want" mentions global commitment to implement the Istanbul Programmes of Action 2011-2020 for LDCs with worldwide support and understanding. It is clear that LDCs were prioritised at the conference: their concerns were incorporated in over a dozen paragraphs or titles of the outcome document.

Recognising the need for sustainable development in mountain countries like Nepal, the document stresses on the need for more international aid and understanding for this region. It expresses solidarity about the need for a radical change in the global economic system and stresses that LDCs and developing countries should be provided with financial assistance, technical expertise and capacity-building in the wake of the increasing crisis resulting from the current trends in consumption and production, intensifying globalisation and climate change. The documents pointed to the need for a new structure to advance sustainable development widely.

The proper implementation of the aforementioned points will contribute to the overall development of LDCs and developing countries. None of us are unaware of the effects of climate change on Nepal's mountainous regions. A mountainous country like Nepal can benefit only by the proper implementation of the conclusions of the sustainable development conference. Poverty is the world's biggest problem. Nepalis, too, suffer from the vicious cycle of poverty. Sustainable development that we seek cannot be achieved if we fail to take forward both the programmes of sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Present

trend of production and consumption for sustainable development needs to be exchanged and to do that effective programmes for the fulfillment of the needs of the people have to be implemented. Similarly, sustainable development will be limited to the imagination unless the effects of climate change on Nepal's agricultural sector, which threaten to push Nepalis further into poverty, can be minimised. It is essential to pay attention to these issues, in this conference.

Suggestions for uniquely Nepali strategies that the government of Nepal needs to adopt to alleviate poverty, create an equitable society and intensify economic growth and development will be forthcoming. These suggestions will help the government to move forward in the days to come. The conclusions of this programme will be very beneficial to experts in this field and other stakeholders.



Closing address

Uddhav Prasad Banskota

The United Nations' Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio, Brazil, in June 2012 recognised that sustainable development can be achieved by strengthening the interrelationships among the economical, social and environmental aspects of development and that economic and social development must rest on the protection and promotion of natural resources. He thanked participants of the national seminar and believed that the conclusions from the second session of the seminar will help the government prepare a national strategy on sustainable development.

He took the opportunity to thank the chief guest of the seminar Honorable Finance Minister Barsha Man Pun for his presence and Honorable Minister for Science, Technology and Environment Keshab Man Shakya for his leadership of the programme, the vice-chairman and other members of the National Planning Commission and the participants of the seminar. Similarly, he thanked Niti Foundation and ISET-Nepal for their support in organising the seminar, and staff of the ministry involved in the programme.

SESSION 2:**Chair: Mr. Purushottam Ghimire**

- **Issue paper on economic development by Dr. Bhuwan Bajracharya**
Niti Foundation
- **Issue paper on social equity by Mr. Mohan Das Manandhar**
Niti Foundation
- **Issue paper on environmental sustainability by Mr. Ajaya Dixit**
ISET-Nepal
- **Post Rio+20 by Dr. Madhav Karki**
ICIMOD

Issue paper on economic development

Bhuwan Bajracharya, Ph.D

Dr. Bajracharya, Niti Foundation, spoke on economic development on behalf of Niti Foundation. He focused on the indicators of, hindrances to, and policies regarding economic growth and highlighted the objectives of development, the importance of and way to increase the economic growth rate, including through policy reforms.

Dr. Bajracharya averred that the overall objective of development was alleviating poverty, which it does by increasing GDP and per capital production, promoting social development, increasing employment and increasing economic growth by reducing inequality. He pointed out that economic growth is needed to increase per capital income, spending capacity, savings, investment, and employment opportunities as well as to increase tax on development projects. To achieve growth is contingent on a high demand for goods and services and the existence of different types of markets.

Dr. Bajracharya said that a high economic growth rate has not yet been achieved so far because of weak competitive capacity, weak production, inadequate savings and investment, lack of good governance, a weak private sector and policies which do not consider long-term development. but that it would be possible to achieve by creating an environment conducive to increasing investment and exports and enhancing accountability and transparency. He highlighted the need for policy-level reforms including partnerships between the private and government sectors, improvement in agriculture, tourism, energy, communication, industrial and rural sectors, commercialisation of agricultural production, development of technical education and strengthening of legal system.



Issue paper on social equity

Mohan Das Manandhar

Mr. Manandhar spoke about equitable development, arguing that state agencies, political parties and leaders, civil society, industrialists, farmers, workers, technicians, youth, women, NGOs, and INGOs are active partners in Nepal's development and that excluded groups and communities such as indigenous nationalities, Dalits, women, Madheshis, Tharus, Muslims, minorities and other oppressed and neglected communities must participate actively in development activities. He shed light on the state's efforts to promote inclusion, such as proportional representation in the election of the constituent assembly and appointments to different state agencies and reservations in state agencies and education as well as the promotion of traditional goods, creation of competent manpower and employment opportunities, and extension of access to public services. He presented statistics on Nepal's social and cultural diversity as well as on rates of inclusion and literacy access to maternal health among different communities and noted that the nation's resources should be divided equitably. He concluded by discussing the steps that the state needs to take to promote the participation of backward and other disadvantaged communities of Nepal in country's development.



Issue paper on environmental sustainability

Ajaya Dixit

Mr. Dixit's paper on environmental sustainability as the basis of a sustainable and prosperous future focused on the globalisation, climate change, Nepal's environment and biodiversity, alternative energy sources, waste management, natural disaster management; existing laws, policies and strategies; and measures to be taken in the future to promote sustainable development. He claimed that climate change had caused environmental degradation globally and that the decline was adversely affecting economic growth and social equity. He pointed out that Nepal's mountains, hills and Tarai plains are, in fact, interlinked and should be viewed as such. His presentation stressed that wildlife and agricultural species on the verge of extinction need to be conserved, especially if food security is to be preserved.

Mr. Dixit also stressed that sources of drinking water should be preserved and their quality maintained, ensuring that drinking water services were developed simultaneously with sanitation and health service. Stressing that renewable energy has a huge role to play in sustainable development. He said that energy sources like hydropower, solar power, bio-turbines, bio-gas and bio-briquettes should be increased in Nepal instead of relying on petroleum and traditional wood. His presentation observed that despite the large influx of rural populations to cities, most urban areas lacked adequate physical infrastructures.

He stressed that urban or rural sewage should be mixed with rivers or wetlands only after being treated and that measures should be taken to mitigate air pollution. He suggested that organic rather than chemical fertilisers and pesticides be promoted. He advocated that preparations for natural disaster management, rehabilitation and mitigation be taken in advance and that for those dependent on agriculture alternative livelihoods be developed, in part by exploiting renewable energy, in order to build their resilience to natural disasters aggravated by climate change. He also stressed that climate change places more challenges in the path of development and that the capacity to tackle them successfully needs to be built.



Post Rio+20

Madhav Karki, Ph.D

Dr. Karki focused on the steps Nepal needs to take in the post-Rio+20 scenario. He discussed the reasons natural resources had degraded, including migration and uncontrolled urbanisation, a weak development system, and weak local agencies. He pointed out the benefits Nepal had received from the conference as well as the major points of the outcome document. He suggested that poverty alleviation, growth of green economy, proper use of forest resources, preservation of energy and water resources, and the reform of urbanisation are elements of sustainable development.

The presentations were followed by discussion and a question-and-answer session. Those who did not have the opportunity to speak gave their input in writing.

Open-floor discussion and question-and-answer session

Some of the many comments and questions from the participants are listed below.

- Our policies and programmes are formulated but then forgotten because of lack of coordination between responsible agencies.
- We must stress equity more than equality.
- Impunity hinders the implementation of policies.
- The roles of community-based organisations and civil society organisations should be promoted.
- A policy promoting cost-effective, environmental-friendly alternative fuels should be introduced.
- The private sector should be engaged and involved in the sustainable development process.
- Policies must focus on saving the agricultural land that is fast disappearing as we build houses, fast tracks, and other infrastructure. Plans related to land use should be introduced.
- The issue of class, not just caste, should be considered.
- Is the government ready to make changes in the structures necessary for sustainable development?
- While indigenous knowledge is beneficial, it is not enough.
- What could the indicators of (active) participation be?
- Plans are made but not all stakeholders are included. Women, in particular, have a role to play in sustainable development and need to be empowered.
- Policies to preserve grass-root production must be introduced.
- Both participation and political will are necessary for development.
- More stress should be on implementation.
- Political and economic commitment from the leadership is necessary.
- The focus should be on decentralisation and on the capacity-building of local institutions
- Development doesn't happen through programmes organised in five-star hotels.
- Issues are locally based but policies are centrally based.
- Different ministries should work together but instead they compete with each other,
- The fact that bad governance and corruption are hindrances to development should have been highlighted.
- There should be a mechanism to monitor the accountability, responsibility and transparency of responsible agencies.
- How can public awareness be raised among locals?
- Reality is different than what is portrayed.
- How long should we depend on remittance?

Written comments

Participants who did not have a chance to speak submitted the following remarks:

- Implementing agencies should also participate in programmes such as this one and the formulation and implementation of policy should be simultaneous.
- More stress should be placed on the implementation than the theory of policies.
- Economists and environmentalists should be included in initiatives like this one.
- The commercialisation of agricultural sector will promote economic growth in Nepal.
- Capacity-building and awareness-raising of consumers is essential.
- Meaningful participation of civil society organisations is essential.
- The participation all concerned ministries, governmental agencies and partners would have been more meaningful.
- Ministries should take responsibility for long-term planning and the implementation and monitoring of their plans in order to ensure accountability and transparency.
- Local level programmes should be organised before national-level seminars are organised so that all issues can be addressed
- Women's participation should be increased
- Concern should be on poverty alleviation
- Dalits, women, disadvantaged, disabled, marginalised, and backward communities and minorities should be prioritised.
- Stress should be placed on promoting appropriate technologies and traditional knowledge.
- Provision of social security and inclusive employment.
- Initiatives to end discrimination should be taken at the policy level.
- The topic of sustainable development should be included in the curriculum of schools.
- Development should be phase-wise.
- To ensure Nepal's development, first the political crisis should be resolved.
- The concept of mainstreaming the issue of poverty at the policy-formulation level should be discussed intensely.
- The roles and responsibilities of the private sector, government and society for sustainable development should be discussed.
- Donor agencies might have participated till the end if presentations had been made in English.
- It was appropriate to use Nepali as the medium of discussion.
- Individual accountability should be promoted.
- Programmes like this are useful.

Conclusion

The National Seminar on Sustainable Development: Growth, Equity and Sustainability was successful in initiating a national discourse on the three pillars of sustainable development identified at Rio+20—economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability—and what they mean for Nepal among a broad range of stakeholders, including the government, the donor community, the media, the non-government, and the civil society. The discussion opened up the possibility of the NPC's getting a wide range of input for integrating the issues of sustainable development into Nepal's future plans and policies and developing a sustainable development planning framework.

It also exposed the need to improve the governance system to include sustainable development and promote coordination as well as to promote collaboration and coordination among governmental agencies as well as international agencies, technical groups, and local civil society groups in the planning and implementation of future actions.

The seminar made it clear that stakeholders are still not aware of how important a role they play in carrying forward the discourse on sustainable development in the wake of Rio+20's global pledge. There is a need for more dialogues at regular intervals in order to reach a larger audience and to take this initiation forward.



Appendix 1: Programme schedule

Time	Programme	
9:00 – 9:20	Arrival and Tea	
9:20 – 9:30	Welcome and Objective of Seminar	Mohan Das Manandhar, Niti Foundation
Inaugural Session Chaired by Secretary NPC		
9:30 – 9:15	Synopsis: Sustainable Development and Rio +20	Purushottam Ghimire, Joint Secretary, NPC
9:45 – 10:00	Key Note Address	Deependra Bahadur Kshetry, Vice-Chairman, NPC
10:00 – 10:15	Speech	Dr. Keshab Man Shakya, Minister, MoSTE
10:15 – 10:30	Speech	Mr. Barsha Man Pun, Finance Minister
10:30 – 10:40	Vote of Thanks	Uddhav Prasad Banskota, Joint Secretary, GoN
10:40 – 11:00	<i>Tea and Coffee</i>	
Technical Session Chaired by Secretary MoSTE		
11:00 – 11:15	Issue Paper on Economic Growth	Dr. Bhuvan Bajracharya
11:15 – 11:30	Issue Paper on Social Equity	Mohan Das Manandhar, Niti Foundation
11:30 – 11:45	Issue Paper on Environmental Sustainability	Ajaya Dixit, ISET – Nepal
11:45- 12:00	Post Rio+20	Dr. Madhav Karki, ICIMOD
12:00 – 13:00	Open Floor Discussion	Purushottam Ghimire, Joint Secretary, NPC
13:00 – 13:15	Summary and Closing	
13:15	<i>LUNCH</i>	



Appedix 2: List of participants

S.N	Name	Position	Organisation
1	Hon. Barsha Man Pun	Minister	Ministry of Finance
2	Hon. Dr. Keshab Man Shakya	Minister	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
3	Hon. Deependra B. Kshetry	Vice Chairman	National Planning Commission
4	Purushottam Ghimire	Joint Secretary	National Planning Commission
5	Dr. Abdur Rahim Mikrani	Member	National Planning Commission
6	Uddhav Banskota	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
7	Dr. Jay Ram Adhikari	Under Secretary	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
8	Jhanak Kumar Kshetri	Under Secretary	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
9	Bipeen Acharya	Section Officer	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
10	Asha Sharma	Agriculture Economist	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
11	Ram Kaji Khadka	Under secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
12	M.B Knuwar	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Energy,
13	Tulasi Sitaula	Secretary	Ministry of Physical Planning
14	Sunil Kumar Karn	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Urban Development
15	Sailendra Jha	National Programme Coordinator	ILO
16	D.B. Sigh	Sr. Environment Officer	ADB
17	Shishir Upadhya	President	ICT Association of Nepal
18	Shovan Sainju	General Secretary	ICT Association of Nepal
19	Chaya Sharma	President	Federation of Women Entrepreneurs Association of Nepal (FWEAN)
20	Dev Raj Bharadwaj	President	Association of Youth Organisations Nepal (AYON)
21	Bijay Poudel	Officer	Association of Youth Organisations Nepal (AYON)
22	Balkrishna Pokharel	Programme Manager	Federation of Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Nepal (FEDWASUN)
23	Sanjay Giri	Coordinator	FNCCI
24	Simon Lucas	Advisor	DFID
25	Hari Bhakta Sharma	Vice President	Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI)
26	Sharu Joshi	Programme Specialist	UN Women
27	Laxmi Gurung	Programme Coordinator	National Indigenous Women Federation (NIWF)
28	Prakash Bd. Kayastha	Executive Member	Federation of Nepal Cottage and Small Industries (FNCSI)
29	Upendra Poudyal	Vice President	Nepal Bankers Association
30	K. Takahashi	Ambassador	Embassy of Japan
31	Kikuo Ohno	Secretary	Embassy of Japan
32	Subarna K. Chitrakar	Vice President	Nepa Rastriya Party
33	Bed Bhattra	Director	National Human Rights Commission
34	Shiva Bashyal	Programme Officer	Rural Self Reliance Development Centre

35	Tulasi Gautam	Representative	Rural Self Reliance Development Centre
36	Dilli Ghimire	Chairman	National Association of Community Electricity Users-Nepal (NAECUN)
37	Amar Man Shakya	Secretary General	Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN)
38	Vijaya Sigh	ACD	UNDP
39	Bidur Mainali	Secretary General	Municipal Association of Nepal (MUAN)
40	Himalaya Pantl	Manager: Social Division	Nepal Water for Health (NEWAH)
41	Krishna Prasad Devkota	Member Secretary	Nepal Micro Hydro Development Association (NMHDA)
42	Dr. Madhav Karki	DDG	ICIMOD
43	Prof. Abhoy Kumar Das	President	Nepal Foresters' Association (NFA)
44	Anu Adhikari	Programme Officer	IUCN
45	Inge Vognilel	Representative	Norwegian Embassy
46	Tray Ifull	Representative	US Embassy
47	Maria A. Petrlsra	DCM	Embassy of Denmark
48	Srijana Chettri	Country Director	Asia Foundation
49	Basu Dev Amatya	Central Committee Member	Communist Party of Nepal (ML)
50	Bhubaneswari Parajuli	General Secretary	National Society for Earthquake Technology Nepal (NSET)
51	Jagat Deuja	Representative	National Land Rights Forum
52	Ranjan Shrestha	Senior Programme Manager	European Union
53	Dr. Tara Pandey	Consultant	ICIMOD
54	Pradeep Poudel	REE Expert	National Association of VDCs in Nepal (NAVIN)
55	Marcos Duprat	Ambassador	Brazilian Embassy
56	Khagendra Basnyet	Central Committee Member	Rastriya Prajatantra Party
57	Kim ILDo	Ambassador	Korean Embassy
58	Y.K Parajuli	Member	ISET-Nepal
59	Naresh Bir Shakya	Vice-President	Nepa Rastriya Party
60	Keshab Poudel	Editor	Spotlight Magazine
61	Janak Chaudhary	Secretary General	General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT)
62	Ananda Gurung	Economic Specialist	Korean Embassy
63	Tyler McMahan	Research Associate	ISET-Nepal
64	Parshuram Khapung	Secretary General	Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP)
65	Abdullah Miya	Reporter	Kantipur Daily
66	RameshworAdhikari	Correspondent	Avenues TV
67	Laxman Basnet	President	Nepal Trade Union Congress – I
68	D.M Pokharel	Advocate	ISET-Nepal
69	Binita Shrestha	Representative	MadeshVani
70	Narayanshree Adhikari	Publication Officer	ISET-Nepal
71	Sonam Sherpa	Journalist	Everest Media
72	Urmila Shakya	Reporter	Radio Sagarmatha
73	Him Bista	Reporter	Ujyaalo FM

74	Bimal Kumar Baniya	Representative	CPN (M)
75	Suraksha Thakur	MD	Madhesh Media House
76	Laxman Upreti	President	Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalist (NEFEJ)
77	Ravi Parajuli	Reporter	NTV
78	Himalaya Bhakta Pradhananga	Chairman	Chure Bhawar National Unity Party Nepal
79	Kanchan Mani Dixit	Researcher	ISET-Nepal
80	Yogendra Subedi	Researcher	ISET-Nepal
81	Shuvechha Khadka	Researcher	ISET-Nepal
82	Jayendra Rimal	Chief Operating Officer	ISET-Nepal
83	Ajaya Dixit	Executive Director	ISET-Nepal
84	Narad Bajracharya	Representative	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
85	Tika Bhandari	Reporter	Nepal Samacharpatra
86	Rukmini Tharu	President	Sanghiya Loktantrik Rastriya Party
87	Mohan Das Manandhar	Executive Director	Niti Foundation
88	Padmendra Shrestha	Senior Programme Officer	Niti Foundation
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