NARRATIVE REPORT

"Leave no one behind"
"Stand Together Now for a Peaceful, Just and Sustainable World"

NATIONAL SDGs SUMMIT 2019 & 4th SDGs Anniversary Celebration
25th September 2019
Staff Collage, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur, Nepal

In collaboration with:

Organizers:

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NEPAL SDGS FORUM & NGO FEDERATION OF NEPAL
NEW BANESHWOR, BUDDHANAGAR, KATHMANDU
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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction:

Nepal SDGs Forum celebrated SDGs Action Week from 21-27 September 2019 by organizing several activities and events in the local, provincial and national level. NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) the secretariat of “Nepal SDG Forum”, National Planning Commission (NPC), KOICA Nepal and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) jointly organized National SDGs Summit 2019 & 4th SDGs Anniversary Celebration on 25th September to mark the global week of Action. The Civil Societies’ Perspective Report on SDGs Implementation and Human Rights Perspective Report on SDG 16 were launched at the summit. The main objective of the Summit was to share the present scenario and progress status of 2030 agenda in Nepal. This SDGs 4th Anniversary and National SDGs Summit is organized to demonstrate solidarity with the UN Mission and Nepal’s commitment to SDG intervention in the country.

1.2 Time, Date and Venue:

This program was held on 25th September, 2019 at Staff College, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur.

1.3 Chairing:

The program was organized in the chairpersonship of Mr. Jitram Lama, the President of NGO Federation of Nepal. The chief guest of the program was Honorable Mr. Pushparaj Kandel, vice-chair of National Planning Commission. Special guests of the summit were Ms. Ayshanie Labe Resident Representative, UNDP Nepal and His Excellency Ambassador Republic of South Korea, Mr. Young Sik Park. Mr. Gauri Pradhan, CSO Representative; Tripti Rai, Country Director at Water Aid Nepal, Mr. Govinda Acharya, president of Federation of Nepalese Journalists; Ms. Sharmila Karki, CSOs Leader; Bhakta Bishwokarma, President of Dalit NGO Federation; Mr. Sunghoon Ko Director of KOICA Nepal and Mr. Naren Khatiwada, president at Youth Advocacy Nepal were guests in the program.

1.4 Inauguration of the Program:

The chief guest, Honorable Mr. Pushparaj Kandel inaugurated the program by lighting the 'Panas' Lamp.
2. WELCOME AND KEY REMAKRS FROM GUESTS:

The formal program started at 11:30am and was hosted by Mr. Ram Prasad Subedi, secretary general of NGO Federation of Nepal. The initial process of the program started with the call on dais to guests and speakers.

Welcome speech by Mrs. Bharati Pathak, Chairperson- FECOFUN, Nepal

Mrs. Pathak started her speech by addressing the guests and providing warm greetings to everyone. Her speech mainly focused on the efforts to be taken for the co-ordination and collaboration of government and the civil organizations. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) should not only be celebrated as a festival. Every individual and all the other organizations including the government should be aware of their roles in achieving the SDGs. The roles of civil organizations and the society for SDGs under the leadership of National Planning Commission (NPC) have been very supportive in the grassroots level. The initiation that has been taken by the NPC and the civil organizations should constantly be pushed and support them for work. The government should take the leadership and start working in the local levels to localize the SDGs. The government should be able to take the leadership at national and international level. Since, the government was not able to orient and reflect the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The reflection and discussion about the MDGs in the past reviewed, our weakness in terms of effectiveness in updating the activities, documentation, record keeping and leadership of government despite of the contribution from community level and roles played by various committees and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). But, we expect government to take effective leadership for SDGs implementation by respecting the roles and contribution of NGOs, community and civil societies. Let’s hope that the government will be able to take the initiative and update the SDGs from local to national level. In Nepal, the CSOs have effective contribution for achieving SDGs, its goals and indicators. Lastly, she ended her speech by thanking and welcoming everyone.

The opening of the program was done by lighting the lamp by the chief guests.

The report “Accelerating Localization of SDGs in Nepal, Civil Societies Perspectives on SDGs Implementation” was launched.

The program continued with the opening remarks by the guests.
Your Excellency Ambassador of Republic of South Korea to Nepal, Mr. Young Sik Park

Mr. Park started his speech with warm greetings and thanking NGO Federation for the program. He stated that the program is a wonderful platform to learn about the SDGs and its work in Nepal for all and the stakeholders. He assured to let his support for SDGs in Nepal. The progress in education and social sectors in Nepal has increased. He congratulated all the concerned stakeholders, NGOs, CSOs, NPC for their remarkable work in Nepal. He also mentioned that Korea will continue to invest in various sectors in Nepal like education, job training, regional development and various other social sectors through KOICA. There must be at least 10% economic growth every year for development and Nepal can achieve the growth through hydropower, roads, agriculture, recycle treatment system, development work and so on. We should be able to develop partners with private sectors. The infrastructures need to be build in order to maintain SDGs for long term. Above 70% of resources for the infrastructure development should come from the private sectors. He believed that in the coming years Nepal will be able to attain progress in SDGs and long term goals. At last, the stakeholders in government can work and have equal contribution on how the SDGs can be achieved. Therefore, he concluded his speech.

Mrs. Nevidita Datta, VANI

She started her speech by addressing the guests and providing warm greetings. She congratulated NGO Federation for organizing the National SDGs summit and celebration of 4th SDGs Anniversary along with successful SDGs action week. She started with the positive note about achieving the SDGs with strong collaboration between the government, CSOs and the private sectors. She also mentioned about the Global Accountability week (1st Oct – 4th Oct). She talked about VANI, Voluntary Action Network India as a network of voluntary organization in India. It works for strengthening external and internal environment for government sectors and talks about global standards. It also talks about dynamic accountability that merges over the government owners and the society, community and all the members who interact in their space. She also suggested that at first we should seek for the feedback and get back to the opportunity, by that we can all together go towards social transformation. She concluded her speech by wishing successful SDG and looking forward to country action plans to take it forward.

Mr. Bhakta Bishwokarma, President, Dalit NGO Federation
He started his speech by addressing the guests and providing warm greetings. He stated that the SDG global week of action has been celebrated for a week with different programs. The programs mainly focused on the localization of SDG in the context of Nepal. Globally SDG is 15 years long term thinking with the involvement of all the actors i.e. the state actors and the non-state actors. Not only the state or the government but all the sectors including CSOs, private sector, universities and all the levels of the state should be working together to achieve SDGs. The concept of Leave No One Behind explains that in every country or in every society, the backward and the marginalized group should be addressed. The groups should not be backward in terms of factors like financial, social, cultural, geographical, etc. In today’s world the first priority should be given to the marginalized groups and everyone should work together in achieving the goals. For the overall development of the country the prioritized groups should be addressed and followed. He also mentioned that in context of Nepal, the Dalit groups have been differentiated in terms of finance as well as social factors. They should be prioritized and put forward. The NPC is recognized as the focal organization for SDG. It has been working in two important plans i.e. 15 year plan and the 25 years long term plan. These two plans should be linked with SDG and should be reached to every society and community. He also mentioned that the allocation, execution and monitoring of budget is important. He also said that the Dalit groups should also be given chance to be involved in the government plans and structure. He requested that the multilateral and bilateral plans by UNDP should also focus on the priority groups. Therefore, he concluded his speech.

Ms. Sharmila Karki, CSOs Leader

She started her speech by addressing everyone. Her speech mainly focused on three things.

Firstly, the localization perspective in the context of Nepal. The progress should be done from the lower level itself. There have been joint roles and the contribution of the government and the various organizations from the time of MDGs itself. SDGs are the long term process and should be implemented from the local level. The plans should not be limited to the writings but also should be implemented in an individual’s life as well. The work should focus on the indicators of the programs and how the indicators determine the change in any society. Only one indicator does not define the society therefore, all the indicators of the plan should be processed well. She stated that this is a great opportunity for us to work together and move towards development.
Her second point was the equal approach. In terms of the constitution of Nepal, how should we fulfill the equal participation, how should we fulfill the differences or the varieties. We should also focus on the thing like for whom is this done. There should be equity approach for those who do not have the access.

Lastly, she mentioned that the government and the non-government sectors are responsible for the partnership and warning process. They have been jointly working in the partnership but have not been able to work for the caution or the warning. She assured that there will be enough support from the CSOs for this process. The SDGs should be linked with the government plans and proper monitoring should be done. The result and feedback from the program should be revised so that the future programs are based on them and should move towards progress. The democracy and the Human Rights should be respected and every work should be done with dignity and with collaboration. The most important thing is the good governance. Good governance also includes the accountability and the transparency. She mainly focused on the localization of SDGs and the allocation of resources. The resources should be properly allocated and distributed by the government. Therefore, these things look small but have adverse and great impact in bringing the change. The work should be done with respect and the partnership should be done where required. Therefore, she concluded her speech.

Mr. Naren Khatiwada, President, Youth Advocacy Nepal

He mainly focused on three things.

1. Firstly, the actual meaning of SDGs. How SDGs should be viewed and from whose perspective. He stated that the SDGs should be viewed from the perspective of the community and then only it will be implemented in proper manner.

2. Secondly, he mentioned that for the proper implementation of SDGs, we need resources. The resources may be obtained from any global countries by colonization. The developed countries provide 0.7% money but we have not received the 0.7% of the money. Every year 150 million dollar is received for development but 500 million is spend for trading. Likewise 700 million dollar is spend in international trading and 700 million is spend in taxes. Therefore, this is one important and serious matter to be addressed and discussed involving youths and their perspective as well. Youths are an important asset for development and achieving SDGs.

3. Finally, SDG is not only the concern of one unit or any CSOs but it is for all the individuals. Therefore, everyone should come together in the same platform and work together for achieving SDGs.
Mr. Pushpa Khatri, World Vision International Nepal

He started his speech by addressing the guests and providing greetings to everyone. He stated SDGs as a global celebration. According to him, SDGs is not only sustainable goals but it is disciplined goals as well. Sustainability is not only the subject of discussion but the disciplinary factors are as well the matter of concern. SDGs are not only limited to physical development or the capital development and the fact that it is accepted worldwide. As it is celebrated as a festival, the budget should be allocated accordingly. The national budget is important. According to the global trend the nation should separate the budget. He also focused on partnership. There should be equal participation from all the sectors i.e. private as well as public sectors. It is not only the responsibility of the government but of all the individuals. Therefore, focus should be put on localization. Work should be done from the local level itself. The leaders at the local level should be encouraged and implementation of SDGs from the local level should be done. The concept of Leave No One Behind should also focus on the children who are left behind. Where should we keep the children who are left behind in the global framework. Therefore, every field and every sector should have their contribution for SDGs. There should be commitment from every sector. Finally, we should focus on whether we have been able to achieve the concept of Leave No One Behind in terms of resources, participation, localization and reflection.

Ms. Shanta Laxmi Shrestha, Chairperson, Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC)

She started her speech by addressing the guests and welcoming everyone. Her speech mainly focused on the concept of Gender Equality. She focused on the concept of Leave No One Behind in terms of leaving no Girls and Women Behind for implementing SDGs and 2030 Agenda at all levels i.e. from local level to global level. She requested that according to SDGs and 2030 Agenda, this is the agenda for all. The private sectors, public sectors and also the parliament, every person is responsible for this agenda to be implemented and achieved. She humbly requested the Nepal SDGs Forum, NPC to include every group. The forum should be able to take every group actively and inclusively. Every sector should gender responsively implement the goals, by this the human rights of every individual is respected. At last she mentioned that Gender Equality is the pre-requisite for achieving all Sustainable Development Goals.
Ms. Tripti Rai, AIN Representative

She started her speech by addressing the guests and greeting everyone. She congratulated NGO Federation for the program. Association of International NGOs in Nepal is the loose network of International Organizations in Nepal. It plays the supportive role for the government and the communities. As for the program, she focused on looking back at what has been achieved. The key things in NPC to achieve the SDGs in Nepal are, it has developed the roadmap for all the indicators for Nepal in terms of where we want to be and where we want to go. The indicators are the part, where we like to focus attention on going forward. She also talked about the current financial analysis that on an average 2 trillion 25 billion investment is needed in SDGs in a year. There is 30% financial gap in achieving all the goals. There is a huge financial gap for achieving the Water and Sanitation goal, at least 195 billion is needed. The plans and policies should be properly made and implemented and the focus should be on the quality that needs to be ensured. Looking towards the monitoring system, there are 425 indicators to be monitored however only 250 indicators have some kind of existing data and information. If we want to properly move forward and accelerate, we need to be looking at concrete programs, the progress and the monitoring of the programs. To move forward, there is proper need of greater shade of understanding SDGs. For example, government of Nepal is preparing to declare Nepal as ODF by the end of this month. So for this we need to have greater shade of understanding on how it can be achieved and what it actually means in the local context. She stated that SDGs and nature are interrelated. She concluded her speech by saying that there should be proper partnership and collaboration among the development actors and the programs and policies should be designed in holistic approach for achieving the goals and developing the lives of the communities.

Mr. Govinda Acharya, President, Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ)

He started his speech by greeting everyone. He also expressed the gratitude on behalf of the Nepal Patrakar Mahasang to all the organizations conducting programs on SDGs. He stated that they also have set their plans to achieve the SDGs by 2030. The NPC has declared plan for 15 year development goals. For achieving these goals the government, CSOs and also the society should work in collaboration. The goals are declared but looking in terms of the achieving behavior, the
declared goals could not be achieved due to the lack of democracy, lack of unity, lack of peace in the country. In present context, the country has been able to bring democracy, develop constitution and complete the election and now the country should move towards the development and prosperity but still the country is lacking behind. The government is lacking behind to take the initiative for the collaboration with various private sectors and the CSOs to achieve the SDGs. Various important development plans are made and distributed by the government but are not achieved. The roles and responsibilities of every sector should be seriously reviewed and followed.

He also focused on the democratic condition of the country. He stated that the democracy and the constitution of the country are brought by us but this democracy and republic can be the threat. At present, some groups are also raising their voice to bring back the monarchy which may cause instability in the country. This maybe a barrier in achieving the SDGs. At last he concluded his speech by saying that the only option for democracy is the democracy itself so we should move towards co-ordination and help in bringing peace and stability in the country for achieving the goals.

Mr. Gauri Pradhan, CSO Representative

He started his speech with warm greetings and congratulating everyone for the 4th anniversary of the SDGs. He stated that we have adopted the international commitment i.e. the SDGs and have made it our national commitment. We have integrated the national 15 year plan and developed various rules and regulations. The localization has also been done. According to the Voluntary National Review (VNR), there are three bases to be focused on. They are financial, social and environmental. The financial and social bases have improved whereas in case of the environmental basis, those people who are at the financial risk, the improvement cannot be seen in their favor. He also stated that this time is not the time for celebration; it is the time to work. It’s time for acting. Act now and celebrate in 2030. We should focus on the work and think that have we actually achieved success or not. The steps that are taken by us are positive but still the work has not been completed. Not only the state but the governments at all levels are responsible for implementing SDGs. Every municipality should have programs focusing on SDGs and its indicators. The marginalized and the backward groups should be uplifted from all the levels. The state has its important role but it alone cannot achieve the goals. There should be co-ordination and collaboration with all the sectors and work together to achieve the goals. We are in the process of achieving progress but still have some weaknesses. Looking back at the MDG, 60%-80% goals were achieved. Now we have our country’s constitution, we have democracy so we will be able to achieve the goals by 2030. We will be able to develop sectors like education, health, social, etc. He stated that Nepal is now the richest as looking back to the history. The nation is getting rich but the gap between the rich and poor is the highest till date. There should
be connectivity among the citizens for successful implementation of the goals. The budget should reach the local levels. He also mentioned the development status of Korea and how our nation’s manpower is being drained. Therefore, he concluded by saying that it is the time to work and work together hand in hand to uplift the country.

Ms. Ayshanie Labe, Resident Representative, UNDP Nepal

She started her speech with the warm greetings. Her speech mainly focused on the changes that are happening around the world. She stated that from the last couple of years changes are happening around the world. Various plans and strategies are developed, spoken about and are also tried to be connected. Some changes are happening. The CSOs are working very hard in bringing the change. The private sectors have their role in changing the behavior. Sustainable dimension is happening. Various sectors are growing their business and moving towards the change. But the question is that, are the changes enough? The latest report produced by the key scientific team shows that there are at least 4 dimensions that have not got to the target. They are inequalities, climate, biodiversity loss and waste. Important initiatives should be taken to address these issues. Around 800 million people in the world are living in less than Rs 200 per day i.e. the 9% of the global population. 1 billion people are not only living below 1.9$ a day but also don’t have toilets, houses, electricity. 1.3 billion People are living in the multi-dimensional poverty i.e. not having some lights, working fuel, place to live, etc. 1 billion people live in Rs 200 to Rs 300 per day. In terms of inequality, 4 billion people don’t have any type of social security or any kind of protection system. Nepal also follows the same trend; about 6 million people are below the poverty line. There is still a lot to do in terms of inequality in SDGs. There should be various targets of interventions to reduce poverty. People from different ethnic groups, geographic locations, social identifications and deprivation on more mothers, grandmothers, sisters, daughters, daughter in laws should be involved as the concept of leaving no one behind. Regarding the climate change, this is the time of consciousness. We should now come with the plan and not with the speech. We should plan more and waste less. We should look at each other respecting the rights of each and everybody. There should be Public Private Partnership and we should learn from it. Nepal is considered as one of the least developed country. The skills are low in the country. Youths are not probably interested. The skills and technologies should be improved. There is funding gaps. There is 7 trillion USD gap for SDGs achievement, at the same time the global asset is 300 trillion. At last she concluded her speech by raising the question on where to invest the money?
Mr. Pushparaj Kandel, Vice Chair, NPC (Chief Guest)

He started his speech with warm greetings to everyone. He mainly focused on how determined are we to move forward and implement the SDGs. In Nepal, the focal point for SDGs is NPC under the leadership of the Prime Minister. The NPC is responsible to be doing the work but instead we have been contributing by only taking part in the programs organized. The 17 goals of SDGs were accomplished after 43 long years. The three main things in SDGs as 2nd campaign were: the improvement in the goals were seen but was not achieved completely, the division of goals were not satisfactory as in terms of health there were only 8 related goals and developed countries were only included. The situation is such that the resources are at one side and the work is in the other side. When SDGs were being globally declared, Nepal was declaring its constitution. Both the commitments are almost similar. Various subjects have been included. SDG is one independent program for Nepal. There are 10 long term goals. Nepal is lacking behind as it spend almost 70 to 80 years for democracy. Among our 10 goals, 3 are linked with the 16th SDG goal. The way we are progressing shows that we have not taken SDGs in a light manner. The SDGs has not been implemented at the provincial level and the local level. The steering committee has been formed under the leadership of Prime Minister. The committee should focus on how the government should do the adjustments and move forward in achieving the SDGs. It should also focus on how the country should move towards developed from undeveloped.

He also focused on some points to be tackled and some challenges.

Firstly, the actual meaning of SDGs, how and why was it developed and what it includes. We should all understand this and make others also understand this. SDGs cannot be achieved by working alone. Everyone should work hand in hand to move forward towards progress and achievement of the goals.

Secondly, the problem of the tools and resources.

Thirdly, we should focus on prioritization. We should be able to describe where we are and where we want to be. We should gather all the available information and also the additional information. Existing datas should also be collected from all levels. Priority should be given to those who are really in need.

His fourth point was good governance. The government should focus on the things that need improvement. The resources should be provided by the government to all the social sectors and push them to work. It should work on the collection or the distribution of the resources.
Lastly he focused on partnership. Democracy was brought by everyone so we should work together for SDGs as well. Everybody should be included. No one should be left behind. The government has no intension to have control over it. Localization of SDGs is important. Therefore, he concluded his speech.

3. GOAL WISE PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Parallel Sessions: Goal wise presentation

Panel – 1

Goal 01: Ratna Karki, RRN
Goal 02: Laxmi Gurung, FIAN
Goal 03: Tina Gorkhali, RECPHEC
Goal 04: Ram Gaire, NCE Nepal
Goal 06: Rajendra Aryal, FEDWASUN
Goal 13: Gita Pandey, KIRDARC

Panel - II

Goal 11: Surya Narayan Shrestha, NSET
Goal 16: Jit Ram Lama

Panel – III

Goal 05: Kalpa Rai, BBC
Goal 08: Ramesh Lama, Disabled Federation
Goal 12: Jyoti Baniya, Consumer rights Fed
Goal 15: Sita Aryal, FECOFUN

Panel – IV

SDGs and Youth: Naren Khatiwada
SDGs and Dalit: Bhakta BK
SDGs and Child: Noor Jung Shah
SDGs and Media, Mr. Bal Krishna, ED, ACORB
Four panel discussion thematic sessions were organized to discuss on specific goals. Because of time constraint, two sessions got merged into one hall where panel discussion was done turn by turn. Panel-1 and Panel-2 was merged in discussion hall- Mechi and Panel-3 and Panel-4 was merged in Discussion hall- Gandaki.

The first panel discussion was held by the General Secretary of RECPHEC (Resource Centre For Primary Health Care), Chair Mr. Shanta Lal Mulmi. It was convened by Mr. Krishna Thapa from SMC Federation.

The first panel consisted of 6 goals which were to be elaborated in detail by representatives of 6 different organizations. There was strict demarcation of time for each presentation i.e 5 minutes and remaining time was allocated for open floor discussion.

**Goal-1**

**Presenter- Mr. Ratna Karki: Executive Director of RRN (Rural Construction Nepal)**

At first, brief introduction of the first goal of SDGs i.e No poverty was made. He illustrated what is the target and present status. The government report cited showed that the country is making progress in meeting the target.

Along with this, he pointed out the challenges faced by civil societies while working on Goal-1 which included:

- Increasing income gap.
- No substantial reduction of migration outside country.
- Remittance based economy
- Substance agriculture
- Lack of employment
- Unequal distribution of resources

He also mentioned about the way forwards to achieve the goal which included:

- Development priority to agriculture, tourism and hydro-energy sections.
- Formalization of informal sectors and more employment generation through manufacturing and service sectors.
- Effective implementation of social security system
- Progressive taxation.
Goal 2- Zero Hunger
Presenter- Ms. Laxmi Gurung: Representative from FIAN (Food First Information and Action Network) Nepal.

At first, brief introduction of the organization was made. The organization is Nepal section of FIAN International and has been working on right to food and nutrition since 2008. Miss. Gurung listed out some of the works done by her organization on SDG-2 which included:

- Facilitated Ministry of Land Management Agriculture and Cooperative of Karnali province to formulate province level RTF Act i.e Food Production, Right and Sovereignty Act 2075.
- Facilitated for the 5th amendment of National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act from the RTF Perspective.
- Facilitated local government to formulate food and nutrition security strategy plan as per the section 22 of RTF Act 2075.
- Knowledge generation through case documentation, research study and disseminated the information.
- Capacity strengthening and mainstreaming localization.
- The organization also filed case in the supreme court i.e. Sonaha case and destitute people.

Miss Gurung also talked about some of the challenges being faced to achieve Goal-2. Some of the issues raised include:

- Wider issues, but limited capacity, time and resources.
- Misunderstanding and unclear working mandate suffocating the goal designs by government.
- Confusing government mechanism to promote and support CSOs action to meet the SDG Goals and Targets.

The way forwards highlighted by her include:

- Alignment of laws, policy and programs with SDGs.
- Co-ordination and collaboration among government, CSOs, Private sectors.
- Common understanding about SDGs and the implementation among all stakeholders.

Goal 3- Good health and well-being
Presenter-Ms. Tina Gorkhali: Representative from RECPHEC.

The presentation started with short introduction of Goal number 3 by Ms. Gorkhali. She talked about the challenges faced in the implementation of Goal-3 which included:

- Situation of incomplete coverage of Environment Health and Sanitation still in half of the population,
Discrimination at all sector and level.
Commercialization of health; Private Sector
Irrational practice of medicine and medicine technology.
Medical cost leading to poverty
Climate change and desertification bringing out new health challenges: Emergence of new disease: Ebola, Kalazar, Dengue.
Low drinking water and sanitation coverage
Health of senior citizen and citizen of special needs.

The way forwards mentioned included:

- Political commitment
- Commitment from bilateral and multilateral agencies.
- Improved access and utilization of quality health services.
- Financial protection.
- Equity in health services as per economic status.
- Integration of health in all policies.
- Multi-sectorial collaboration and partnership: Within state and also with state, private sector and civil society.

Goal-4: Quality Education

Presenter-Mr. Ram Gaire: Representative of NCE Nepal (National Campaign for Education Nepal).

Brief introduction of SDG 4 and its targets was made. The current status of education in Nepal as expressed in lash report of Ministry of Education was cited. He mentioned some of the hindrances to achieve the goal being:

i) Governance: very weak
   - Education sector receives highest number of complaints.
   - Less participatory policy and plan formulation and decision making process in school.
   - Concern of accountability and responsibility at all levels.

ii) Quality of Education
   - Huge mass of students is at the underperforming level.

iii) Financing gap
   - The budget allocation for education and the need of investment in education still is suffering gap. 10.2% of budget has been allocated for education. However additional 197.85 billion is required for insuring minimum requirement of free and compulsory education.
The matters which need immediate attention to achieve the goal were mentioned:

- Education financing: Privatization of Education
- Teacher’s management.
- Promoting good governance and accountability.
- Empowerment of the local government.
- Literacy and skills programs for women, disable, vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- Lifelong learning and adult learning system.

The collaborative and advocate role of CSOs to achieve to goal was highlighted.

**Goal 6- Clean Water and Sanitation**  
**Presenter- Mr. Rajendra Aryal: Chairperson of FEDWASUN (The Federation of Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Nepal)**

At first, brief introduction on the work of organization and the fundamental provision in constitution regarding right to sanitation (Art. 35(4) of the Constitution of Nepal) was made. The current situation of availability of drinking water to 88% population was mentioned. The coming program of the government to make declaration of 100% ODF (Open Defecation Free) state on Sept 30, 2019 was cited.

Some of the challenges talked about were:

- Quality of available drinking water.
- Need of replacement of community tap from separate supply in each household.
- Disposal of water wastage.

The way forwards raised included:

- Proper management and transformation of wastage into resources.
- Collaboration between about 42000 sectors working in water sanitation.
- Effective implementation of government policies and the mandate of council of ministers made in Jestha.
- Effective working for reduction of water borne diseases.

**Goal 13- Climate Action**  
**Presenter- Ms. Gita Pandey from KIRDARC (Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre)**

The presentation started with the attention on climate change by quoting Youth Climate Activist, Greta Thunberg. A short introduction of the organization was made. The need for focus on climate protection as the must requirement to achieve all other goals under Sustainable Development Goals was mentioned.
Ms. Pandey also gave reflection on current status of Nepal in case of risks from global warming with reference to latest natural disasters. At present, though the contribution of Nepal in Green House Gases contribution is just 0.06%, it stands in 4th position concerning the matter of risk of global warming. The effect on GDP due to the disasters like floods of 2017, 2019 was also mentioned which is a major hindrance for meeting all SDGs.

Citing the report of ICIMOD published on Feb,2019, the risk on the Hindu Kush Himalayas and glacier meltdown due to global warming, attention towards the issue was drawn. The issue of economic obstacle to combat the issue of climate change was also raised. It was mentioned that approximately 100.10 million dollars is required to combat the climate change issue in Nepal as per SDG Goal.

The ways forwards that we need to be consider were also discussed. Some of them include:

- Technological help from foreign countries.
- Cross border actions.
- More involvement of vulnerable groups.
- Equally active local governments.
- We should advocate in a way that donor invest based on the concept of equality.

Panel – 2

**Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**

**Presenter: Surya Narayan Shrestha from NEST**

Mr. Shrestha shares his experiences, working in the field of SDG no 11 that is Sustainable cities and communities. His experience working in earthquake affected areas and earthquake affected people. He mentioned, to reduce the rate of death of people from different Natural Disaster, NSET is working for a long time and they have been able to reduce the rate by some percent.

**Challenges**

- While defining about the indicator to be used for achieving this goal, the NSET organization has been trying to go with that indicator but due to complexity in indicator and lack of resources they are not being able to determine the growth rate of sustainable societies and community.

**Way Forward**

He shared some facts about the infrastructures before and after the earthquake of 2015A.D in context of Nepal relating it with the SDGs 11.
In early time there was only 50,000 earthquake resistance houses in Nepal but, after the earthquake of 2015, the number if earthquake resistance house has been tremendously increased which is around 10 lakhs in number and this is good progress to be noticed.

In 2068/2069 only 5% of houses was earthquake resistance, in 2070/2071 the number of earthquake resistance house was increased up to 14 to 15%.

After the earthquake of 2072 houses are being with earthquake resistant method and if the speed of making houses with safe housing method then the chances of achieving goal number 11 is high.

Reconstruction of old houses should be continued further for the sustainable cities and communities development and for that effort and action should be taken by local government by establishing Disaster Preparedness Team in every earthquake prone areas and other areas also.

The strategy for development should be made progressive, where the misconception about the development mechanism should be changed with regards to developing large infrastructures.

Less sustainable infrastructural development should be preferred than unsustainable infrastructural development.

The number of death of people due to different kind of disaster is 900 per year, it should be decreased up to 220 because reducing the number of death to zero is impossible at a time.

Hence if we start working by considering above mention issues then it is possible achieve goal no 11 by 2030.

Goal: 16

Speaker: Jit Ram Lama, President, NFN

Mr. Lama stated that, all the sustainable development goals up to number 15 is thematic goal which particularly works for the respective theme only. Some of the key points of his presentation are:

- The goal number 16, is a cross cutting and political goal, it can be also known as goal of every goal.
- This goal especially tries to maintain and promote peace, justice, inclusiveness all over nation including every marginalized group of nation.
- This goal can be achieved by doing advocacy about the importance of its achievement for the development of nation.
- This goal follows 10 main type of indicator which include promoting gender equality, right to information to civil society and so on.
- National human right commission should act strongly according to the type of case, and the justice should be fair for both the citizen and government so that the chances of achieving the goal number 16 can be higher.
Good governance is necessary to maintain, in order to reduce corruption and it is only possible if every laws and rules start get implementing. And character like dynamic accountability, transparency should be within the government of country. By this, the citizens will get answer of any doubt.

Everything can have loop hole within them, and the system of government also have some so it’s the primary responsibility of every citizen and civil society to improve the current situation with new and innovative plan and strategy.

Peace, People, Planet and prosperity are the 4Ps which is necessary to be with in the nation to achieve this goal number 16 by 2030.

Open floor discussion started.

One of the participants, Vedvyas Lamichhane drew the attention on some issues along with few suggestions for better achievement of SDGs like: Implementation of friendly governance and more focus on micro nutrients to eradicate poverty. The issue of politician opting for foreign treatment, current status of job oriented education and lack of attention to climate changes effects in Terai region.

Another participant raised question regarding the Green House Gases emissions from agriculture sectors. Addressing which Ms. Gita Pandey replied that the government through NDC (Nationally Determined contribution) has set the criteria regarding GHGs emission from agricultural sectors and target to reduce it.

Similarly, the discussion on SDGs took place with the question from other two participants as :

1. Is the infrastructural development is enough for sustainable cities and communities? What about the problem of pollution around the city, is not this necessary to be controlled for achieving this goal?
   - The question was addressed by Surya Narayan Shrestha where he stated as, of course pollution around the cities matters for sustainable cities and communities and the organization where he is working is carrying out activities to solve this problem, it’s just he don’t have exact data for now about progress in controlling pollution due to time limit for this panel discussion. So, he was extremely sorry for the inconvenience. Lastly, he mentioned that the organization is trying to promote eco-friendly societies in various ways through our daily activities.

2. What are the action the different NGOs/INGOs doing about the deforestation in Ring road and Nijgadh Airport?
- The question was addressed by Gita Pandey and the queries about stand of CSOs in the matter of cutting down of trees of Ringroad area and Nijgadh forest was addressed my all the panel members in general. The efforts done separately by NGOs was cited. Upcoming program called Climate Strike Nepal to draw the attention of authority to reconsider such massive deforestation was also mentioned. The discussion came to the conclusion that the CSO society condemn the decision of such massive destruction of trees.

Panel 3 and 4

Session Chair: Ganesh BK
Moderator: Kedar Khadka
Summarizer: Gopal Lamsal

The panel consisted of 4 goals and 5 thematic groups which were to be elaborated in detail by representatives of respective organizations. There was strict demarcation of time for each presentation i.e 5 minutes and 2 minutes extra time to conclude their presentation and remaining time was allocated for open floor discussion.

Goal 15: Life on Land

Presenter: Mrs. Sita Aryal, Representative from FECOFUN

Her presentation began by providing the brief introduction about contribution of community forests in SDGs. Key points from her presentations are:

- The five pillars of SDGs i.e. People, Prosperity, Peace, Partnerships and Planet are all crucial to play their respective roles in contributions of Goal no. 15.
- Role of community forests in reduction of natural calamities and conservation of biodiversity.
- Conservation of flora and fauna through community forests.
- Effective environmental service through community biodiversity.
- Employment opportunities by mobilizing manpower for contribution of forests conservations.

Mr. Bal Krishna, Executive Director of ACORAB, SDGs and Media

Brief introduction about SDGs and media was made. He mentioned bout the context of MDGs and SDGs. MDGs being explained as donor’s agenda and was only limited in Kathmandu Valley whereas, SDGs were designed, agreed and adopted by all the Member States of the world, including Nepal. He also mentioned the crucial role media in spreading and ensuring the
commitment in 7 Provinces, 753 Local government, 6743 Wards and thousands of communities in Nepal.

He also emphasized the general perception and actual role of media.

General Perception

- SDG 16.10 on public access to information and fundamental freedoms
- SDG 17: for coalitions

Media role:

- Contribution in achieving all SDGs
- Localization of SDG
- No one Left Behind: Bringing those millions left behind in the conversation
- Shift the People from receiver/observer to doers

Mr. Krishna talked about the issues and challenges, SDGs communication and way forward which are as follows:

Issues and challenges

- Knowledge and understanding about SDGs
- Localization of SDGs
- Taking it as differently
- Understanding about media related goal: not only 16 all 17
- Capacity of Media Persons
- SDG Information and media partnership

SDGs Communication

- The right information
- To the right person
- At a right time
- In a right format
- Through the right medium

Way forward

- Freely accessible and validate database and information center for the media
- Capacity Development of Journalists
- SDG media campaign through local media
- SDG media group
- Promotion of Volunteer journalism
- Joint Network among NGOs and Community based Media
SDGs and Youth
Presenter: Naren Khatiwada, President, Youth Advocacy Nepal

Mr. Khatiwada started his presentation by defining the SDGs as "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (Brundtland Report 1987)

He also emphasized on not having our own definition and understanding in our local context and just spreading the definition from international figures.

He stated 3 core pillars of SDGs:

- Social factors
- Environmental factors
- Economic factors

Integrating SDGs with youth, Mr. Naren Khatiwada raised the concerns relating the subject matters where he stated the multiple topics on general situation of youths, challenges, challenges, policy framework, youth initiatives for SDGs and ways forward.

General situation of youths

- Youth accounts 40.35 percent out 26 million population (CBS 2011)
- Limited meaningful political and civic participation.
- Access to equitable quality education (88% only)
- Less focus on technical and vocational education.
- Limited lifelong learning opportunities (Formal, Non formal and informal)
- Limited health information, services and facilities.
- Fully unemployed, 19.2% (ILO).
- 5 Lakh young people in labor market which can only provide job opportunities to 10%.
- 1500-2000 young people for foreign labor migration daily.
- 29% contribution by remittance in GDP. However, challenges in migration cycle (Country of origin, transit and destination countries)
- Less favorable environment for self-entrepreneurship (Legal Hurdles, Skills Development, Seed Money, motivation, market)
- Gender, class, caste, ethnicity, geographical, religion, language, nationalism issues
- Drug abuse.
- Involvement in criminal activities.
Challenges:

- Limited information about SDGs,
- Brain and labor drain.
- Lack of motivation.
- Youth Bulge.
- Political manipulation
- Traditional teaching contents and methods.
- Inappropriate policy framework.
- Unequal power and resource distribution
- Lack of coordination and collaboration among line ministries.
- Limited partnership between youth and adult

Policy Framework

- National Youth Policy, 2072
- Youth Vision 2025 (2072)
- Five pillars:
  1. Professional and Quality Education
  2. Employment, Entrepreneurship and skills development
  3. Health and social security
  4. Mobilization, participation and leadership Development
  5. Sports and Entertainment
- National Youth Council
- Youth Employment Fund
- National Sports Council
- Others

Youth Initiatives for SDGs

- Awareness raising
- Capacity development
- Networking, coordination and collaboration
- Knowledge generation through study and research
- Policy Advocacy
- Individual actions

Ways Forward

Individual actions

- Learn, Unlearn and re-learn
- Transformative theory (Continuity, Stop, Modify and Innovation)
Taking leadership role
Broader social awareness against discrimination and untouchability
Youth- Adult partnership (Broader social movement)

State actions

- Meaningful political and civic participation in the decision making process should be increased.
- Access to equitable quality education, vocational and technical education and lifelong learning opportunities.
- Access to affordable quality health information and services.
- Various programs with investment in youth up to 10%.
- Linkages, coordination and collaboration between various line ministries should be strengthened.

SDGs and Dalit
Presenter: Bhakta BK
He started his presentation by putting forward the problems of discrimination and untouchability, that dalit communities are facing so far. The key points from his presentation are highlighted as follow:

Issues and challenges

- Discrimination and untouchability towards people of dalit communities as well as deprived groups including women, minorities and so on.
- Discrimination linked with religions
- He raised the question, Is it due to discrimination that Dalits are under poverty? Or is it poverty, that Dalits are facing discriminations and untouchability?
- Created gap to peruse education, economic growth and medicine.

Way forward

- Remove discrimination based on any caste, ethnic group or marginalized and deprived communities.
- Create employment opportunities for people belonging from dalit community.
- Regulate laws according to the need of the community rather than the choices favorable for higher level authority.
- Follow the constitution while drafting the law to better meet the situations of problems and provide alternatives.
- Bring focus program for the target group.
- Allocation of necessary budget for the program.
Therefore, he concluded his presentation on positive note to track all the programs related to dalit and their problem solving by 753 governments at local level.

**Goal 05: Gender Equality**  
**Presenter: Kalpana Rai, Representative from BBC**

Kalpana Rai started the presentation with brief introduction about BBC and it’s contribution in the field of gender equality.

She stated it’s four core values:

1. Capacity building
2. Awareness
3. Youth mobilization
4. Participatory

The issues and challenges along with way forward she highlighted in the field of SDG and women and in terms of gender equality are:

**Issues and challenges**

- Lack of awareness in gender equality.
- Lack of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB)
- Lack of collaboration and co-operation among government bodies and CSOs.
- Lack of data especially in case of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and lack of disaggregated data.
- Recognizing diversity of genders/ women have been left behind

**Way forward**

- Ensure equal participation of females in all sectors and levels of government, NGOs and INGOs, civil societies and community level work.
- Create awareness of SDGs at grass root levels.
- Develop disaggregated data system
- Collaboration with government bodies and CSOs as well as private sectors.
- Meaningful participation of women of all identities including sexual minorities.
- Gender Responsive SDGs implementation.

**SDGs and Child**  
**Presenter: Noor Jung Shah, Representative from National Action and Coordinating Group (NACG)**
Mr. Shah provide a brief introduction about the NACG and it’s purpose to strengthen inter-agency work including with governments and children groups to end violence against children at the beginning of his presentation.

The thematic areas of NACG in two different contexts are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAARC Thematic Areas</th>
<th>Additional Thematic Areas for Nepal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Early Marriage</td>
<td>1. Alternative care children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Corporal Punishment</td>
<td>2. Children with disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Trafficking</td>
<td>4. Street children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Child Labor</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Presenter highlighted **situation of children in Nepal** as:

- Children under the age 18 are 41.84% (Central Bureau of Statistics [CBS], 2012).
- The multi-indicator survey shows that 37.4% children aged 5 – 17 are involving in child labor (CBS, 2014a).
- Population monograph study shows that the child marriage situation is 36.3% aged 10 – 18 years (CBS, 2014b).
- The three-yearly (2015-2017) average number of child victims was 782 and 4 percent were the victims of trafficking while more than one-thirds were victims of sexual assault and were at high risk of trafficking (NHRC, 2018, p. xiv)
- Child birth registration is 58.1% (NPC, 2018).

**Laws, Policies and Status highlighted** were:

- Nepal is a state party to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Article 39 of Nepal Constitution 2015 clearly mention about fundamental rights of the child.
- Nepal government has promulgated various national laws and policies
  - Children Act, 2018
  - Free and Compulsory Education Act 2075 BS
  - Social Security Act 2075 BS
  - Civil and Criminal Code 2074 BS
  - School as Zones of Peace guideline and directorate 2011
  - Second Cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Recommendation by UN. There are 49 recommendations to Nepal government directly related to child rights and 42 recommendations are accepted.

Mr. Shah stated the indicators of SDGs which are directly associated with children health and wellbeing:
Presenter also various dimensions in the concern of SDGs and youth relating the opportunities, gaps and challenges on SDGs implementation and lastly civil society involvement on SDGs which are as follow:

**Opportunities**

- New political structure and local government presence
- Local government operational act 2074 BS
- Blend the SDGs and plan from local level to provincial level.

**Gaps and challenges on SDGs implementation**

- Implementation and Practice (eg. Structure, Planning Vs Budget, Inter-ministerial)
- Capacity, knowledge and prioritize
- Policy, Act and SDGs indicators (eg. Age 14, 17 but standard 18 below)

Mr. shah therefore, concluded his presentation by concluding with some important key points:

- Plan and program in line with SDGs in Federal level but still lacking at provincial and local level. Necessary to localize the SDGs to blend the program and planning with SDGs.
- National Child Rights Council is formed at federal level according to child act 2075 but necessary to activate and institutionalize at the provincial and local level.
- Necessary to create the entity for child protection at provincial and local level and need to develop the standards on child protection with localizing SDGs.
- CSOs need to analyze the budget for child with SDGs child indicators which influence to local government to internalize the gap to address in plan and program.

Lastly, the involvement of civil society on SDGs was under two themes:

- Children theme core team formation (SDG 16)
- SDG 16- Children theme
  - Gap Identification
Mr. Ghimire started by providing roadmap of concept on levels of government i.e. local, provincial and central level. According to him all humans are beggars and he has divided it in two types:

1. **Physical**: Physical poverty covers lack of material requirement, monitory value, physical environment, production, construction, scientific creation, government policy, legal provision & support system.

2. **Mental**: The mental poverty covers lack of dream, plan, vision, skill, entrepreneurship training, inner guideline, love, respect, caring attitude, conscience, confidence, & kindness.

Mr. Ghimire stated, generally the person tries to solve physical demand by lending or by mutual cooperation. If this idea does not work, they are compelled to beg in street just for survival. Since, the scarcity is worldwide. But, in advanced & developed society, the government has support system. In underdeveloped countries, the public complain to fate for begging situation or complain bitterly to government. It has high chance of creating rival thought & community level fight in society. They may convert into reform leader or destructive leader. Thus, many countries are having security threat.

He presented some figures about the beggar population in Nepal which are:

- More than 5,000 (Kathmandu post, 2014) street beggars in Kathmandu, who have not shelter, food, clothe, and other resources and wear dirty and fade dresses.
- Many of them are young children who took to begging coerced by their parents.
- Differently able people and senior citizens are compelled to beg just for survival.

Therefore, he concluded by explaining the role of local body, province and state in following ways:

- To generate revolving fund to support street beggars.
- To handover all the street beggars to related organization.
- To request government to prepare separate law or act for entrepreneur works & environment than begging in street.
Goal 08: Decent Work and Economic Growth
Presenter: Ramesh Lama, Representative from Disabled Federation

Mr. Lama started by providing brief information of his work in the issues of disability. He has been working to cope up the challenges and hindrances faced by disabled people. He also mentioned about the general perception of people regarding handicap and their sympathetic words and behaviors towards the people belonging from disabled community. Some of the key points of his presentation are highlighted as:

Issues and challenges

He stated 5 dimensions on the issues and challenges with regards to SDGs. They are

1. Lack of relevant and realistic data of disabled people which directly affects them to negligible often resulting in unheard voice.
2. Attitudinal barrier (special sympathetic behavior).
3. Lack of documentation skills.
4. Lack of accessibility and disable friendly infrastructures.
5. Lack of meaning participation of people with disability.

Way forwards

- Provision of leadership and vocational training.
- Establishment of disable friendly infrastructures.
- Use of appropriate technology for disable people.
- Inclusive and meaning participation.

Therefore, he concluded with the positive note stating, disability as a societal, economic and environmental barrier and not by any physical or functional disability. So, in order to achieve SDGs it is must to take forward from the perspective of disable community.

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
Presenter: Jyoti Baniya, Representative from Consumer rights Federation

Presenter started by giving brief introduction of the Consumer rights federation. He mentioned Universality, Integration and Transformation are the main components of SDGs which also incorporates mainly with the responsible consumption and production. Some of the key points he highlighted during his presentation are:

- Ensuring the safe, sound and sustainable environment with access to clean energy i.e. safe drinking water and clean air to breathe in the crucial period of climate change.
Implementing the long term framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.

- Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
- Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle.
- Aware consumers on responsible consumption with informed choices.
- Aware people at the individual level, involving changes of habits and routines by making choices that have less harmful effects on the environment.

Open floor discussion:
Participant “A” drew the attention of the floor by questioning the lack of participation of people in the discussion. Likewise, time management and strict monitoring of SDGs though all sectors was requested to ensure.

Participant “B” addressed the query on working more specifically on ground levels with marginalized group.

Participant “C” stated the discussion lacked in being critically specific with respect to it’s indicators.

Participant “D” requested to address the queries more in person rather than giving presentations for effective queries and problem solving mechanisms. Participant also requested to increase the time frame and make it more inclusive.

Participant “E” requested the program to be inclusive in the near future.

4. CONCLUSION:

The summit was concluded with the agreement that all the stakeholders would join hands for the achievement of the Global Goals. Nepal Government, UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations should come together for the achievement of the 2030 agenda. President of NGO Federation of Nepal Mr. Jitram Lama said that collaboration among the stakeholders and accelerating localization of SDGs is the key to success of 2030 agenda. "We urge all the stakeholders to join the hands in this global movement to make this world a better place to live for all and we have started with this partnership", he concluded.
5. GALLERY: