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Climate Finance Architecture in Nepal: Mapping Public Funding Modalities and Mobilization Challenges

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Statement of the Problem: Nepal's climate finance needs to meet its quantified mitigation targets, as expressed in NDC 3.0, requires around USD 73.74 billion, with 85% of the total contribution from international sources. Similarly, the need of USD 18 to 20 billion for adaptation priorities between 2025-2035 are expected to be met from international climate finance and support. Given the heavy reliance of the country on the international public finances, understanding flow becomes crucial to effectively plan and mobilize those finances. There are some international sources for climate finance tracking, however its deep-dive breakdown at the country level is lacking. Moreover, the mobilization of international climate finance, especially for developing countries like Nepal, faces significant challenges that require proper identification and counteractions. Based on the national database system AMIS, managed by the Ministry of Finance (MoF), this study identifies 109 out of 2208 listed projects between 2013-2023 to have strong climate significance with a total commitment of USD 1.72 billion. This commitment made by the international public sources (UNFCCC and non-UNFCCC) marked a significant difference between climate finance availability and need. Following key Informant Interview (KII) and thematic analysis of data, this study also identifies major constraints in Governance, Institutional Arrangements and Regulations, Finance Management Systems, and Project Implementation that hinders effective climate finance mobilization in Nepal.

Biography

Sumnima Ghimire is a Research Associate in the Department of Energy and Climate Change at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), based in Thailand. Originally from Nepal, Sumnima completed her master's degree in Climate Change and Sustainable Development at AIT in May 2025. Her professional experience includes impactful roles, including internships with renowned organizations like the Rockefeller Foundation (ARO-Bangkok). Her interests are centered on conducting technical climate research and policy analysis.

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