

Climate Concern

Belem Climate Change

Conference Special Edition



Photo Credit: UNFCCC

Overview

The 30th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the UNFCCC took place from 10 to 21 November 2025 on the edge of the Amazon rainforest in Belém, Brazil. Heat, humidity, torrential floods, vibrant protests of civil society groups and Indigenous Peoples inside and outside the venue, as well as an unexpected fire on the second last day of the conference, underscored the urgency of the climate crisis and the rapidly closing window to act. André Corrêa do Lago, Brazilian Presidency, shared eleven open letters outlining the Presidency's vision for COP30 and called upon the world to work together in the spirit of *mutirão*, an indigenous Brazilian term, emphasizing collective effort to achieve shared goals.

More than thirty years ago, the world gathered in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, where the architecture of the modern climate paradigm was established. Ten years ago in Paris, world leaders agreed to collectively limit the temperature rise to 1.5°C by the end of the century, recognizing the warning from scientific findings, including those from IPCC, that crossing the 1.5°C threshold would unlock an irreversible pattern of slow-onset and extreme weather events. Since then, countries have submitted a series of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), also known as national climate action plans.

The first assessment of the collective implementation of the Paris Agreement's (PA) goal and long-term purpose was conducted at COP28 (2023), which produced a few notable outcomes, including the historic call to transition away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner. One of the key conclusions was that there is a huge ambition and finance gap. Equally dire is the adaptation finance gap to implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) of developing countries. The conference sought to address these gaps.

The Advisory Opinion (AO) of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) reinforced the 1.5°C goal of limiting the temperature rise by the end of this century as a primary legally binding target. The IPCC states that to stay within the carbon budget for 1.5°C, emissions need to be reduced by 43% by 2030 from 2019 levels, and reach net zero by 2050.¹ In contrast, the updated NDCs submitted by 113 Parties (which later totaled to 122 by the end of COP30) would reduce emissions to only 12% below 2019 levels by 2035.² This is all happening against the backdrop of an increasing number and scale of extreme climate impacts, disproportionately affecting climate-vulnerable countries. For example, even at a 1.2°C rise, Nepal faced six glacial lake outburst floods this year, and the post-monsoon flood and landslides killed at least 75 people.

This COP was also the first COP where the cycle of the Paris Agreement was fully in motion, with the conclusion of the first GST, submission of biennial transparency reports (BTRs), and submission of enhanced NDCs, reflecting the outcomes of the GST-1. Parties proposed several new agenda items, the most contentious ones being the finance provision from developed to developing countries (Article 9.1 of the PA), response to the NDC synthesis report, BTR synthesis report, and unilateral trade measures, on which Presidency consultations were organized.

Touted as an implementation COP, focusing on how to do rather than what to do, this COP was also seen as a COP of truth, called by the President of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. The outcomes of the conference, however, fell significantly short of what was expected and required to tackle the worsening impacts of climate change.

“Held in the backdrop of a deepening divide on climate action and geopolitical context, COP30 didn't deliver everything but was indeed able to signal positive momentum on key issues of adaptation finance, an action plan on gender, global stocktake, and just transition, among others.”

I. What did the Belem Climate Change Conference deliver?

A. Global Mutirão decision (fossil-fuel phase out, halting deforestation, and tripling adaptation finance)

The political package outcome of the COP30, global mutirão decision³, grounded in human rights and equity, reaffirms the 1.5°C temperature goal, with a recognition that the carbon budget is rapidly shrinking. Furthermore, it stresses the need for rapid, deep, and sustained emission reductions, informed by the IPCC findings, to achieve net zero by 2050.

The summit generated unprecedented momentum on a just and equitable fossil fuel phase-out and reversing deforestation, with more than 80 countries publicly endorsing the fossil fuel roadmap. However, the final decision reflected significant compromise: due to the strong resistance of petro-states and higher emitter developing countries, the Presidency only established a voluntary roadmap on fossil fuel phase-out and

1 IPCC, Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, 2018. <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15>

2 UNFCCC, Update to the NDC Synthesis Report, 2025. https://unfccc.int/ndc_synthesis_report_update.pdf

3 UNFCCC, Global Mutirão: Uniting humanity in a global mobilization against climate change, 2025. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2025_L24_adv.pdf

reversing deforestation, as opposed to having a collective agreement. It was also announced that the fossil-fuel roadmap will be guided by the first international conference on transitioning away from fossil fuels, being held in Santa Marta in April 2026, jointly led by Colombia and the Netherlands.

The decision, moreover, reaffirmed the finance obligations of developed countries and calls upon all actors to mobilize \$1.3 trillion annually and triple adaptation finance by 2035, later than what the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) had hoped for (2030) and without a clear baseline year. Additionally, the decision launched dialogues on enhancing international cooperation, from the lens of trade to safeguard against unilateral trade measures that could disadvantage developing countries.



Two other major initiatives—the Global Implementation Accelerator and Belem Mission to 1.5—were launched to keep 1.5°C within reach, support the implementation of NDCs and NAPs, and strengthen international cooperation.



B. Global Goal on Adaptation Indicators

COP30, also dubbed as an adaptation COP, aimed to finalize the list of 100 indicators, outlined under Article 7 of the PA, to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change. At the end of the summit, 59 voluntary indicators were adopted,⁴ which faced resistance in the closing plenary, particularly due to the absence of the means of implementation indicator (finance, capacity-building, and technology development and transfer), crucial for translating adaptation plans into action on the ground. It is expected that the revision of the indicators will continue through the two-year programme, Belém-Addis Vision, which will be concluded at COP32.

C. Global Stocktake

No follow-up outcomes had been agreed upon till COP30, after GST-1 was concluded in COP28. The decision agreed at COP30;⁵ however, it was much narrower in scope than anticipated and largely procedural, falling short of the expectations of many groups. The decision on the modalities of the UAE dialogue established a facilitative and non-prescriptive process to support Parties in implementing the outcomes of GST-1, with a particular recognition of the provision of finance, capacity building, technology development and transfer, and enhanced international cooperation as key enablers.

The decision on the refinement recognizes the importance of inclusivity in all GST processes, underscores the central role of the IPCC outputs, while also acknowledging other scientific inputs from developing countries, and requests the co-facilitators to enhance inputs on loss and damage, response measures, and international cooperation, where appropriate. The annual GST dialogue encourages Parties to draw on lessons learned and good practices.

D. Just Transition

The decision to adopt the Just Transition Mechanism, aka the Belem Action Mechanism, was hailed as a milestone by the civil society groups. This was the first time the Just Transition Work Programme, operationalized in 2023, was provided with a forward-looking, concrete mechanism. The decision includes strong rights-based and inclusive language, such as human rights, labour rights, gender equality, migrants and internally displaced persons, people of African descent, education, youth, elderly people, and persons with disabilities, among others. However, instead of being launched at COP30, it requests SB64 to recommend a draft decision on the process for its operationalization for consideration in COP31.

⁴ UNFCCC, Global Goal on Adaptation, 2025. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/gga_cop30_5.pdf

⁵ UNFCCC, Outcome of the matters relating to global stocktake, 2025. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2025_L06_adv_0.pdf

E. Loss and Damage

The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) launched the call for funding requests on the first day of COP30, under its start-up phase, to provide \$250 million to developing countries to take action on loss and damage.⁶ This is a positive step, although the fund (\$817 million) is woefully underfunded compared to the scale of the support required by developing countries (\$400 billion/year). Discussions on the resource mobilization will take place in the upcoming board meeting of FRLD.

COP30 also saw the completion of the third review of the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM),⁷ which was supposed to be concluded at COP29. WIM's function is to enhance knowledge, strengthen dialogue, and enhance action and support on tackling climate induced loss and damage. Some of the major outcomes of the WIM review include the agreement to prepare a State of Loss and Damage Gap Report, long advocated by developing countries and civil societies, and develop a voluntary, knowledge product on how Parties could develop and integrate consideration of loss and damage into national response plans.

F. Gender Action Plan

The GAP sets five priority areas: capacity-building, knowledge management and communication, gender balance, participation and women's leadership, coherence, gender-responsive implementation, means of implementation, and monitoring and reporting.

COP30 also saw the adoption of the Belém gender action plan (GAP) for 2026–2034, and the implementation of GAP will take place in conjunction with the review of the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender at SB70 in 2029.

II. Nepal at the Belem Climate Change Conference

Nepal, actively engaged in the negotiations across key items, including the GGA, finance, loss and damage, GST, carbon trade, GAP, and participated in the Presidency consultation on mountains and climate change. The Nepali civil society was equally proactive, joining the people's summit, which drew 70,000 people to the streets of Belem, as well as attending and speaking at side events and actions within the Blue Zone. CSO groups advocated for adequate and accessible finance from FRLD, adaptation finance, BAM, and solutions rooted in the rights and protection of Indigenous Peoples, human rights, and climate justice.



⁶ FRLD, *Barbados Implementation Modalities*, 2025. <https://www.frlld.org/node/bim>

⁷ UNFCCC, *Third Review of the WIM*, 2025. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WIM_review_cop30_1.pdf

A) Pre-COP activities

1. Youth Capacity-building and Consultation

CEN and NYCA, in partnership with DCA, LI-BIRD, and Visible Impact, organized a pre-COP capacity-building on COP30 and consultation to prepare a uniform set of youth priorities. Ms. Shreya K.C. from Clean Energy Nepal opened the session by sharing how the COP process works, key COP decisions so far, and ways to make one's participation meaningful, either by following negotiations or being active in side events and registered demonstrations. Ms. Alisha Thapa, from Visible Impact, focused on gender and climate, emphasizing how climate events disproportionately affect women, leading to greater household responsibilities, school dropouts, child marriages, and mental health challenges. Ms. Aakriti Dotel, Network Coordinator of NYCA, introduced the work of the network and encouraged collaboration, and the importance for youth to closely follow the discussions at COP30.



Ms. Dipika Lama, representing NIDWAN, discussed the intersection of climate impacts and the leadership among Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities. She called for accessible climate knowledge and stronger recognition of indigenous knowledge systems in decision-making processes. Ms. Mega Maskey, from WOSSO, then highlighted the risks of glacial melt, black carbon, water scarcity, and increased vulnerability in mountain regions. She noted that despite Nepal's dependence on mountain ecosystems, the mountain agenda is missing in NDC 3.0.

Mr. Prajwol Bickram Rana, from WYCJ, spoke on the implications of the advisory opinion of the ICJ, focusing on the responsibilities of high-emitting states, fossil fuel industries, and private actors. The session concluded with Mr. Prajwol and Mr. Prakash Lama, from CEN, facilitating a discussion to consolidate key youth priorities for COP30.

2. Interaction with the Minister and MOFE

CEN and NYCA, along with the partners, coordinated with the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) for a youth exchange with Nepal's COP30 delegation team, in the presence of Hon. Dr. Madan Prasad Pariayar, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development. Before an interactive discussion, Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Chief of Climate Change Management Division (CCMD), presented a brief overview of Nepal's COP30 preparations and key priorities guided by the position paper.



Dr. Dhakal stressed that the future belongs to the youth and shared that the government will work closely with young people to embed their ideas and leadership into national climate strategies. Following this, Ms. Aakriti and Mr. Prajwol, representing youth, shared the key call to action:

1. Ensure fairness—vulnerable countries like Nepal need more support, not more debt.
2. Scale up locally led solutions—Nepal commits 80% of climate finance to local communities.
3. Advocate for mountain ecosystems in global climate policy—they are water towers for billions.
4. Climate action must include youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups.
5. Support renewable energy and green jobs while ensuring fairness for workers and communities.

“The government will take the youths’ voices positively, incorporate their recommendations, and ensure that climate policies and actions are inclusive.” Hon. Dr. Madan Prasad Pariyar

Dr. Pariyar then closed the session with his commitment to meaningful youth engagement in the COP process and beyond, and thanked all the participants for their proactive leadership.

3. CSO Consultation on COP



The Pre-COP consultation session was organized with the members of the civil society by CEN, NYCA, and partners, under the CANSA Nepal, and was facilitated by Mr. Prakash Lama from CEN. Dr. Maheswor Dhakal, Chief of CCMD, delivered a brief address on Nepal's COP30 preparation and how CSOs and youth can support. He emphasized the importance of the mountain agenda in climate discussions and shared that eight scientists from Nepal are contributing to the IPCC's seventh assessment report (AR7), which will be critical in strengthening the representation of mountain issues at the global level.

Mr. Rajan Thapa, from WWF, provided a scene-setting presentation, highlighting the major milestones in COP history, and explained that Nepal has showcased positive leadership in global climate negotiations. Dr. Dharam Raj Uprety, from Practical Action, explained that Nepal's NDC has a clear adaptation target, while he noted that there may be challenges in implementation, especially in accessing finance and coordination at all levels.

Ms. Shreya K.C., from CEN, presented on the NDCs and GST discussion at COP30. She explained that all countries are obligated to prepare, communicate, and implement NDCs, while the GST assesses the comprehensive progress of these NDCs. Ms. Deepika Lama, from NIDWAN, followed with a video showing how climate change disproportionately affects gender, indigenous communities, and people with disabilities.

Ms. Aakrtiti Dotel from NYCA underscored that the youth role should be a key priority in climate negotiations, and Nepal must set an exemplary role in the UNFCCC process by fostering the youth engagement at the forefront. Key priorities from the discussion:

1. Maintain continuity and institutional memory in Nepal's climate negotiation team to strengthen long-term diplomatic engagement.
2. Invest in research to identify specific national adaptation needs and priorities.
3. Prepare and submit a strong national proposal to access the Loss and Damage Fund (worth around \$5–20 million).
4. Promote inclusive participation of all groups, including people with disabilities, in national and international climate dialogues.
5. Strengthen youth participation in climate policy, negotiation, and implementation processes.

4. Global Day of Action Celebration

The Global Day of Action for Climate Justice is an international mobilization uniting people, movements, and frontline communities calling for urgent, fair, and transformative climate action. Each year, thousands gather around the world to demand justice, equality, and true system change. To show solidarity and ensure Nepal's voice remained part of the global call, a symbolic indoor photo action was organized by NYCA and partners. The event aligned Nepal with global actions taking place in Belém during COP30 and other countries worldwide, reinforcing Nepal's commitment to climate justice, reparations, and climate finance for vulnerable communities.



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Participants gathered in small groups to create the main theme banner for the Global Day of Action and additional posters and placards carrying diverse messages such as Pay Up for Climate Finance, Our Rivers Are Our Heritage, No False Solutions, and You Owe Us. These artworks were later used in the photo action as a collective symbol of Nepal's solidarity. Participants created short TikTok videos, reels, and photos to expand digital reach, helping spread the message of climate justice to a wider online audience.

5. Mountain Day Celebration

The Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Environment, in support of and collaboration with KIRDARC, DCA, LIBIRD, CEN, NYCA, UNDP, FAO, WWF Nepal, IWMI, OPM, Save the Children, YAE Nepal, organized International Mountain Day 2025 and Post COP30 debrief on 11 December 2025 in Kathmandu under the theme "Mountains Matter for Water, Food and Livelihoods in Mountain and Beyond." The program aimed to update the concerned stakeholders about Nepal's participation and COP30 outcomes and way forward for the next COP process. The program was chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, and moderated by Ms. Geeta Pandey, with participation from government institutions, development partners, UN agencies, experts, youth representatives, and mountain community members.

The inaugural session commenced with welcome remarks by Ms. Deepa Oli, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, followed by the formal inauguration by the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Dr. Madan Prasad Pariyar, Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development. A short video on COP30 provided an overview of global climate negotiations and their relevance to mountain regions. Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Joint Secretary and Chief of the Climate Change Management Division, shared key COP30 outcomes with a focus on the mountain agenda, while Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana, Former Joint Secretary, presented the draft Nepal Mountain Resilience Strategy, outlining national priorities for strengthening mountain resilience.

Remarks from Ms. Akriti Dotrel (NYCA), Ms. Antonia Flück (SDC), and Ms. Alice Akunga (UNICEF, Officiating UN Coordinator) highlighted the importance of youth engagement, international collaboration, and inclusive approaches to mountain development. The afternoon session featured a keynote address by Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mishra on the role of glaciers in sustaining water, food, and livelihoods, followed by a panel discussion with experts and community representatives. The event concluded with a strategic dialogue on the Roadmap from Belém to Bonn, identifying key actions to advance Nepal's mountain and climate change agenda in upcoming international processes.

A two-panel discussion was held titled "Glaciers Matter for Water, Food and Livelihoods in Mountain and Beyond," moderated by Dr. Santosh Nepal (IWMI). The panelists included Dr. Rijan Bhakta Kayastha (Kathmandu University), Ms. Yanjii Sherpa, Dr. Archana Shrestha (Department of Hydrology and Meteorology), Mr. Arun GC (FAO), and Mr. Chhitup Lama (Community Representative, Humla).



“Marking the International Mountain Day 2025 under the theme ‘Mountains Matter for Water, Food and Livelihoods in Mountain and Beyond’ and the strategic discussion on Mountain Agenda, outcome of COP30, and way forward for the upcoming UN Climate process.”



The program concluded with a final panel discussion titled “Roadmap from Belém to Bonn: Advancing Mountain and Climate Change Agenda,” moderated by Mr. Manjeet Dhakal, Head, Climate Analytics. Panelists Mr. Kaushal Kishor Ray (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mr. Kanak Mani Dixit (Senior Journalist), Dr. Bimal Regmi (OPM), and Ms. Shreya K.C. from CEN shared perspectives on diplomacy, evidence-based policy, media engagement, and youth leadership to advance Nepal’s mountain agenda in global climate processes.

B) During-COP activities

1. Virtual Sharing from Belem

In close coordination with the Government of Nepal, an overview session of the first week of COP30 and Nepal’s leadership was organized, where Hon. Minister Dr. Madan Prasad Pariyar, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development, delivered his remarks as the head of the Nepali delegation. The sharing program was also joined by Hon. Ambassador Mr. Nirmal Sharma from Nepal to Brazil. Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Chief of CCMD, shared in detail how Nepal is lobbying to push the mountain agenda in the negotiations. Similarly, climate expert Mr. Manjeet Dhakal, from Climate Analytics, reflected on the overall progress of multiple negotiation items and their implications for Nepal. Climate finance expert, Mr. Raju Pandit Chhetri from PRC, shared the status of the negotiations on climate finance. Transparency expert, Mr. Rajan Thapa from WWF, elucidated on the discussions under BTR, Ms. Deepa Oli from the Ministry explained areas of convergence and divergence on the gender action plan, and Mr. Pradyumna Rana from ICIMOD highlighted how the mountain agenda was reflected across thematic areas in COP discussions.



2. Side event on ‘Regional Climate Diplomacy: A way forward for the air pollution problem.’

CEN joined the side event on regional diplomacy, organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute in the Pakistan Pavilion. Ms. Shreya K.C., from CEN, spoke on the air pollution crisis and the measures being taken in Nepal. She highlighted how air pollution has become a major public health threat, burdening social care, productivity, and everyday life, and stressed the importance of connecting the dots between air pollution, health risks, our development narrative, urban planning, just transition, and ultimately, urban health justice.



Other speakers included Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, who shared measures taken in Punjab, Pakistan; Mr. Harjeet Singh, an Indian climate activist, emphasized the need to move away from Global North-style development

models that have caused immense environmental harm; Mr. Ziaul Huque reflected on the efforts in Bangladesh, such as clean cooking and transport; and Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri from SDPI underscored the urgency of treating air pollution as a national and regional priority. The dialogue concluded that regional governance, stronger data-sharing frameworks, and synchronized policies are essential if South Asia is to move beyond fragmented responses and toward lasting solutions.

3. Side event on youth leadership

A session on intergenerational climate justice and the vital role of young people in shaping equitable and inclusive climate solutions was organized in the Denmark Pavilion, which brought together youth leaders, government representatives, and civil society actors, highlighting:

- The power and impact of youth leadership in climate action
- Nepal's youth-inclusive climate policies and practices
- Best practices for meaningful global youth engagement
- The urgency of fair, inclusive, and rights-based climate governance



The panel was joined by Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Chief of CCMD and Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal; Ms. Zvezdana Bozovic, RES Foundation; Ms. Dulari Parmar, YUVA; and Ms. Kriti Shrestha, DCA in Nepal, and was moderated by Mr. Prakash Lama, Clean Energy Nepal. Furthermore, Tunisian youth negotiators Ms. Malek Romdhane and Mr. Ahmed Elhadj Taieb shared their inspiring stories of how they transitioned from youth activism to becoming influential party delegates. As climate impacts continue to intensify worldwide, the session emphasized that ensuring youth voices are heard, valued, and integrated into policy processes is crucial for achieving climate justice and long-term resilience.

C) Post-COP activities

1. Discussion with youth

The Post-COP event was organized to enhance youth understanding of the COP process and provide insights into Nepal's position, priorities, and progress from COP30. Mr. Manjeet Dhakal provided a brief overview of the major outcomes from this conference. Similarly, other youth speakers: Ms. Dipika Lama from NIDWAN, Ms. Astha Shrestha from WAT GP, Ms. Anupama Rajya



Shahi from Eco Heart Nepal, Mr. Prayash Adhikari from DBI, and Ms. Mega Maskey from WOSSO reflected on the outcomes from GEDSI, youth engagement, loss and damage, and gender lens, among others.

“Youth delegates returning from COP30 reported a gap between symbolic presence and meaningful power. They highlighted challenges such as limited accessibility to negotiation rooms, tokenistic inclusion in side events rather than decision-making spaces, and the difficulty of translating community-level evidence into negotiation text. One delegate emphasized that ‘youth are given opportunities to speak but not much consideration,’ pointing to the need for more strategic, evidence-based, and collectively mandated advocacy to move beyond tokenism and influence the core negotiation processes.”

2. Discussion with Civil Society Organizations

A post-COP30 discussion with civil society organizations was held on 15 December 2025 to reflect on the outcomes of COP30 in Belém, Brazil, and their implications for Nepal. While COP30 reaffirmed the 1.5°C goal and advanced decisions on adaptation, loss and damage, gender, and just transition, participants noted that overall ambition remains insufficient due to political compromises by major emitters. The dialogue brought together government representatives, civil society, youth, women, and disability rights advocates to align global outcomes with national priorities ahead of COP31.



Speakers Mr. Manjeet Dhakal, Mr. Sandeep Chamling Rai (adaptation and loss and damage), Mr. Raju Pandit Chhetri (finance), Ms. Amita Thapa Magar (article 6), Ms. Akriti Dotel (youth), Ms. Pratima Gurung (GEDSI), Mr. Prakash Lama (mitigation), and Ms. Mega Maskey (gender) emphasized widening gaps in mitigation ambition and adaptation finance, persistent challenges in accessing predictable and adequate climate finance, and the need for clear national arrangements to operationalize the FRLD. The discussion also stressed that inclusive, rights-based climate action must move beyond representation to meaningful participation, and that gender, mountain, and equity agendas should be fully integrated into Nepal's climate policies and financing, particularly as the country prepares for LDC graduation in 2026.



“ The post-COP discussion with CSOs noted that while COP30 reaffirmed the 1.5°C benchmark and generated momentum on a just fossil fuel phase-out, final decisions reflected significant compromises due to resistance from major emitting countries and petro-states. The session highlighted that key outcomes, such as the voluntary initiative on fossil fuel phase-out and the call to triple adaptation finance, emerged from a process strained by ‘deep political divides’ and the absence of key players, underscoring the continued challenge of translating urgent scientific imperatives into binding, equitable action. ”

Nepal's Do's in 2026-2030

1. The Government of Nepal (GoN) must form a dedicated negotiating team for the country's effective presence at climate change-related multilateral processes. This team should be formed with the engagement of relevant ministries and departments, including other stakeholders working on climate change and international climate negotiations under the coordination of the Ministry of Forest and Environment (MoFE). This can lead to effective and outcome-oriented engagement of Nepal in global climate negotiations.
2. Timely stocktaking of all the initiatives in the climate change regime and their proper documentation, including the lesson learnt, needs to be done. Nepal can share such cases in global platform as best practices.
3. An analysis of the effectiveness of the Position Paper should be done post-COP.
4. The government must prioritize climate-responsive gender justice by adopting an intersectional approach, including but not limited to rural women, Dalit women, indigenous women, Madhesi women, queer communities, and women with disabilities.
5. Policies should recognize the diversity of multiple intersectional identities and address the concerns of diverse women, youths, Indigenous Peoples, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. Recognition and promotion of Indigenous knowledge and practices must be emphasized as they play a key role in developing effective local climate solutions rooted in traditional wisdom and intergenerational knowledge transfer.
6. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion on Climate Change has affirmed that granting licenses for fossil fuel extraction and providing fossil fuel subsidies could violate international law. It has also clarified that states can incur responsibility for failing to exercise due diligence against harmful acts committed by private parties. Therefore, the government should ensure compliance with international legal obligations and move toward a sustainable and just energy transition.
7. Prioritization of the green economy, encompassing entrepreneurship, business, and employment, to advance renewable and clean energy development.
8. Employ youths, women, and Indigenous People as agents of change to advance just energy transition by promoting equitable green skills, technology transfer, and capacity building.
9. Intergenerational equity must be upheld by avoiding actions that cause irreversible harm to the climate, such as significant greenhouse gas emissions.
10. With 2025 being the International Year of Glacier Conservation, Nepal should advance the Mountain Agenda by emphasizing its unique ecosystems and biodiversity in relation to the Dushanbe Glacier Declaration 2025.
11. Climate finance should include a reserved dedicated portion for capacity building, education, health, entrepreneurship, and green technology for youth. Moreover, policies must promote inclusive disaster risk reduction through early warning alert systems and address the growing health impacts of changing temperatures, including communicable, foodborne, and vector-borne diseases.
12. The adverse effects of climate-induced disasters and displacements on mental health, as well as sexual and reproductive health, especially among vulnerable populations, must also be duly recognized and addressed.
13. It's important to increase investment in research to ensure that there is ample scientific understanding of climate change scenarios and impacts in different sectors. Needed adaptation and mitigation strategy, as well as Nepal's position in global negotiations on these sectors, shall be developed based on such scenarios.
14. Implementation of climate change policies, plans, and programs must consider other major global policy instruments such as the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the Sendai Framework on DRR, and Sustainable Development Goals, including others sectorial policies at the federal and provincial levels.
15. Realizing the important role of the Provincial and Local government in implementing climate action, the federal government must provide support in formulating and implementing the required policy, programs, and plans, including the mobilization of financial and technical resources.

For further details



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