



NAYA
Nepal APFSD Youth Alliance

High Level Dialogue Summary paper & Call to Action

This summary paper and call to action has been presented by Nepal APFSD Youth Alliance (NAYA) which is a platform created by young individuals and organisations participating in the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) Youth Forum 2021. This paper presents the key recommendations on sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, and climate action from the regional and international SDGs follow-up and review mechanisms and the commitments stated by the key Government officials of Nepal during the High-Level Dialogue organised by NAYA in 2021.

Currently, Visible Impact is serving as the secretariat of NAYA, which is a young woman-led organization that aims to bring visible impact on the lives of every woman, every girl, and every youth by unleashing social and economic leadership of girls, women, and youth through human-centered approaches.

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Introduction to Nepal APFSD Youth Alliance (NAYA)

NAYA is a platform created by young individuals and organisations participating in the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) Youth Forum 2021. NAYA envisions young people at the forefront of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development at the national, regional, and international levels. Currently, there are around ten youth-led and serving organisations and networks in the working group of NAYA, with a membership of about 70 young people in all their diversities.

NAYA recognises that young people in Nepal aged 10-29 comprise more than 41% of the total population, which is the highest proportion of young people ever in the history of Nepal. There is an opportunity to meet the targets of Agenda 2030, provided that these young people have access to quality education, good health services,

gender equality, a healthy environment, and the opportunity to participate meaningfully and inclusively in all decision-making processes.

In line with the above, NAYA organised a High-level Dialogue between key decision-makers and young people to facilitate the orientation and learning exchanges around the key recommendations from the regional¹ and international² review mechanisms for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The High-Level Dialogue was an opportunity to obtain updates from key decision-makers on SDGs implementation progress and to hear their commitment to implementing the recommendations of regional and global SDGs review mechanisms at the national level by bringing young people to the forefront of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

¹ APFSD Youth Forum and APFSD Intergovernmental Fora 2021

² High Level Political Forum 2021

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Recommendations from Regional and International follow-up and SDGs review mechanisms

This paper calls on the concerned stakeholders that include relevant government bodies including Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, National and Provincial Planning Commissions, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, National Women Commission, Ministry of Forests, and

Environment, National Youth Council to take into account the following recommendations from regional and International follow-up and SDGs review mechanisms and the relevant development actors such as NGOs, CSOs, youth activists, advocates and young people to urge and support decision-makers to do so.

Key recommendations from Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) Youth Fora

● Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR):

1. Foster collaboration and coordination. The Ministry of Health & Population should work in collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Education, Youth, and other related sectorial partners to bring in the topics of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), SRHR, and SDGs into school level curriculum. Also, encourage public-private partnerships.
2. Promote SRHR, prioritising youth engagement and inclusiveness in all aspects of policy and decision-making at the local levels.
3. Provide access to quality health services and information.
4. Provide quality adolescent health, gender, and disability-friendly services at all health facilities.
5. Make SRHR information and services accessible to all.

Goal 5

● **Gender Equality:**

1. Promote inclusive engagement of youth in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services during disasters prioritising access to abortion services, contraceptives, and sanitary pads, prioritising the safety of women, LGBTQ+ persons, people with disabilities, and other marginalised communities.

Goal 13

● **Climate Action:**

1. Encourage political involvement and actions for climate action.
2. Recognise and promote indigenous knowledge and skills.
3. Promote green jobs and green mechanisms, e.g., promote biogas plants, electric vehicles.
4. Ensure accountability in planning, research, implementation, and monitoring of climate plans and actions.
5. Research, invest and promote local entrepreneurship and youth innovations.

Key recommendations from Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) Intergovernmental Fora

Goal 3

● **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR):**

1. Increase delivery of quality comprehensive sexuality education that promotes human rights and gender equality (aligned with international technical guidance) in and out of school; and improve the availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services for young people.

Goal 5

● **Gender Equality:**

1. Promote a safe and secure working environment for vulnerable groups, considering women, youth, people with disabilities, home-based workers, and migrant workers.
2. Accelerate efforts to eliminate gender-based violence and violence against children by addressing discrimination, harmful social norms and practices, and gender stereotypes.

Goal 13

● **Climate Action:**

1. Strengthen climate information services for vulnerable sectors and communities.
2. Incorporate empowerment of youth, women, vulnerable and marginalised communities in policy actions.
3. Mainstream climate change into education for sustainable development.
4. Ensure that the policies address the disruption to educational opportunities resulting from climate change.



Key recommendations from High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

Goal 3

● Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR):

1. Improve public-private partnerships and promote SRHR, prioritising youth engagement and inclusiveness in all aspects of policy and decision-making of the local government.
2. With other related sectorial partners, the Ministry of Education should bring in the topics of Comprehensive Sexuality Education, SRHR, and SDGs into school and out of school curriculum. The interventions should focus on providing psychosocial support and counselling for the well-being of students.
3. Emphasize SRH services prioritising access to abortion services, contraceptives, and sanitary pads, especially for youth, during disasters, prioritising the safety of women, LGBTIQ+ persons, people with disabilities, and other marginalised communities.
4. Ensure provision of quality adolescent health, gender, and disability-friendly services, including SRH, at all health facilities. The provision of the information and services should be made accessible to all.

Goal 5

● Gender Equality:

1. Emphasize on the leadership of women and their full, effective and equal participation in planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of policies and programs that affect their livelihoods, well-being and resilience.
2. Ensure focus on women's equal access to and control over land and natural resources.

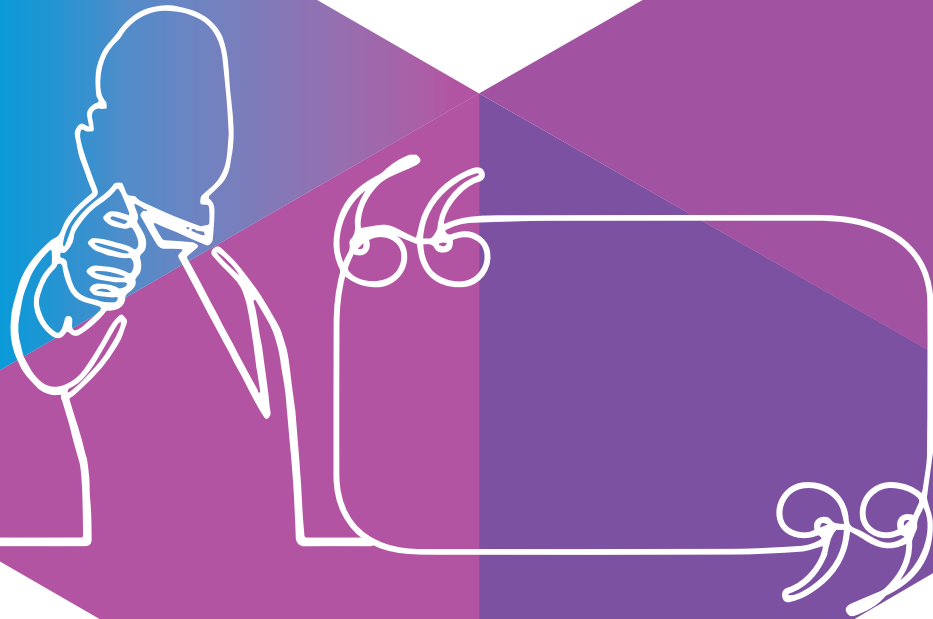
Goal 13

● Climate Action:

1. The government should institute sustainable, inclusive and climate-responsive economic recovery policies from the COVID-19 crisis as an important element of a sustainable growth strategy and ensure an immediate investment in climate-resilient, inclusive and just transitions while in line with countries' national circumstances, needs and priorities.



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Commitments from key decision-makers during High-Level Dialogue

NAYA organized a High-Level Dialogue on 21st September 2021 where key decision-makers and young people were brought together to a virtual forum to discuss unleashing young people at the forefront of the sustainable development agenda. Around 100 participants consisting of key youth activists; experts; the government joined the discussion forum, while wider young people joined it through social media live streams.

The key Government officials from various federal and provincial institutions who participated in the dialogue not only explained on how they have been engaging young people at different levels but also rendered progressive commitments to keep youth at the forefront of Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. Such commitments and their verbatim are quoted as follows:

Family Welfare Division (FWD)

With the help of the National Adolescent Health and Development Strategy, the Family Welfare Division has been working for youth and adolescents and has been directing policy-related activities within all the subcommittees.

There is a need to ensure the involvement of youths and adolescents in the planning stage of all the activities, ensuring their participation to coordinate within the community level and carry out different activities at the ground level.

Ms. Kabita Aryal, Family Planning and Reproductive Health Section Chief, Family Welfare Division (FWD)

- Family Welfare Division has been working to operationalize the Adolescent Friendly Health Services at local levels by collaborating with youth and adolescents in the programs initiated by the local governments and other stakeholders at the local level.
- The provision of adolescent-friendly health services is paramount, thus we also will work for the access of IEC, BCC among youths and adolescents in order for them to contribute and work together with the local levels for their own engagement and benefit.
- FWD has been working to enhance their partnerships with the youth organizations to better manage adolescent-friendly health services.

National Planning Commission (NPC)

NPC has been working to achieve SDGs with the activities aligned with the 4 I's, namely: Identification of needs and priorities, Instruments for applying for the activities and programs at all levels, Investments for various sectors and Institutionalisation.

- NPC has also been working to contextualize SDGs at the local level with the help of SDGs localisation guideline published to better implement SDGs at the 753 local units. In addition, SDGs self-report reviews have been performed, improvements have been added which will be continued in the days to come.
- Out of the 2500 billion budget, only around 1500 billion has been used for SDGs implementation, and most of the other funds for the private sectors, foreign employment and economy has not been able to be contributed through the internal budgets. This serves as a challenge and NPC is working to address this gap to effectively implement SDGs.
- In terms of NPC's work with youth, it has collaborated and coordinated with different youth platforms such as the National Youth Council, National Sports Council and various other stakeholders to foster youth development and for the achievement of SDGs.

NPC has been taking steps to promote youth participation and inclusivity at the local level with the establishment of Youth Centers at every Province. This also includes ensuring participation of youth in decision making in federal laws and policies, ensuring proper youth participation at all levels.

NPC commits to look upon all the suggestions and recommendations regarding the activities and budget along with coordination and planning for effective implementation of the activities and programs for SDGs achievement.

Mr. Khil Raj Rai, Program Director, National Planning Commission (NPC)

Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE)

Forests and environment sector, in general, have the greatest scope and potential to contribute to the SDGs. Some studies show that the forest sector touches the majority of sustainable development goals and targets with varied intensities and holds a significant stake in climate, biodiversity and environment-related SDGs as it plays a unique role in climate balance.

- The Government of Nepal highly prioritises the inclusion & participation of all the citizens of diverse age groups, gender, culture and abilities in its activities. Hence, engagement of youth is viewed as a component of inclusivity in every initiative of the Ministry of Forests and Environment.

- The Climate Change Policy 2019 provisioned the participation and mainstreaming of all genders and ensured social inclusion in climate policy formulation, institutional arrangement and planning and implementation of climate actions. Likewise, the current policy emphasizes the role of youth in awareness generation and capacity building in different areas of climate action including mitigation and adaptation. Therefore, the Ministry is looking forward to the involvement of youth in these spheres.
- The ministry has prioritised and placed youth's involvement in national and international climate change negotiations ensuring their participation in regular conferences, conventions, agreements and has continuously encouraged young researchers with financial support and by availing internships and other opportunities to young students.
- The ministry has incorporated Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) strategies

in the work plan and has emphasized the participation of youth from all sectors in planning processes such as National adaptation planning and has been encouraging provincial governments to ensure youth participation in strategies and action plans formulation.

Provincial Planning Commission, Lumbini Province

Localization of SDGs and different issues at the provincial and local levels is challenging and there is a need to contextualize sustainable development goals in Nepal with a strong focus on different thematic areas such as education, primary health care, drinking water, health, infrastructure, sanitation, agriculture, etc.

SDG is strongly associated with young people and there is a dire need for its strategic implementation in the context of Nepal.

Mr. Bamdev Chhetri, Vice-Chair, Provincial Planning Commission, Lumbini Province

I, on behalf of the Ministry of Forest and Environment would like to assure that the Ministry of Forests and Environment, through every appropriate, possible and feasible way, will ensure the participation of youth; especially the marginalized, young women and youth with disabilities in achieving SDGs especially with regard to the climate action and biodiversity-related goals.

Mr. Milan Dhungana, Under Secretary, Climate Change Management Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE)



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





Government of Nepal
Ministry of Youth and Sports

लक्ष्य प्राप्तिका लागि सम्बन्धकारी

युवावर्गमा नक्षत्र समान धारणा भएका संघसंस्थाहरूलाई कुनै माफ्का एजेण्डा लिएर एकीकृत पद्धति अपनाई लक्ष्य हासिल गर्न उत्प्रेरित गर्ने ।

शांति, न्याय र सशक्त निकायहरू

निर्णय लिने सबै तहहरूमा युवा प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित गर्ने, प्रभावकारी, जवाफदेही र पारदर्शी निकाय निर्माण गर्ने कार्यमा युवाहरूलाई संलग्न गराउने ।

जमिन माथिको जीवन

स्थलिय र जमिनमाथिको जलिय पर्यावरण, विपेश गरि बनजंगल, सिम्नार क्षेत्र, सुख्खा भूमिको संरक्षण, पुनःस्थापना र दिगो उपयोग सुनिश्चित गर्ने युवाको संलग्नता बढाउने ।

जलसृजिको जीवन

नदि, तालतालैयाहरूको दिगो व्यवस्थापन गर्न युवाको सहभागिता बढाउने ।

जलवायुमा पहल

महिला, युवा, स्थानीय र सिमान्तकृत समुदायमा केन्द्रित भएर जलवायु परिवर्तनको सम्बन्धित प्रभावकारी योजना तय्युमा तथा व्यवस्थापन गर्न क्षमता सुदृढिकरण गर्ने संयन्त्रलाई प्रबलन गर्ने ।

दिगो उपभोग तथा उत्पादन

फोहोर न्यूनीकरण, पुनःप्रयोग र पुनःप्रशोधनबाट फोहोर व्यवस्थापन गर्ने युवा स्वयमसेवा र नवीनतालाई प्रोत्साहन गर्ने ।

दिगो शहर र समुदाय

विविध सांस्कृतिक तथा प्राकृतिक सम्पदाको संरक्षण र सुरक्षा गर्न युवाको संलग्नतालाई सुदृढीकरण गर्ने ।

असमानता न्यूनीकरण

सामाजिक, आर्थिक र राजनितिक समावेशीकरणमा सबै युवाहरूलाई सशक्त बनाउने ।

उद्योग, नवीन खोज र पूर्वाधार

सूचना तथा संचार प्रविधिमा युवाको पहुँच बढाउने र विश्वव्यापी किकायती इन्टरनेटमा पहुँच पुऱ्याउन प्रयास गर्ने ।

गरिबीको अन्त्य

विकास एवं गरिबी न्यूनीकरणको अनुगमन कार्यमा स्थानीय युवाहरूलाई सहभागी गराउने ।

गोकर्गरीको अन्त्य

कृषि सम्बन्धी नवीन र स्मार्ट प्रविधि वारे ज्ञान भएका युवाहरूको कृषि व्यवसायमा आकर्षण र सहभागिता बढाउने ।

सुस्वास्थ्य तथा समृद्ध जीवन

युवावर्गमा स्वास्थ्य अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्ने, विशेषतः किशोरकिशोरीहरूको यौन र प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य तथा अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्ने ।

गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा

रोजगारी, मर्यादित काम र उच्चशिक्षाको लागि प्राविधिक तथा व्यवसायिक शीप भएका युवाको संख्यामा वृद्धि गराउने ।

लैङ्गिक समानता

वालिविवाह र जबरजस्ती विवाह र छैपडी जस्ता सामाजिक कुुरिहरूलाई अन्त्य गर्न युवाहरूलाई सशक्त बनाउने ।

स्वच्छ पिउने पानी तथा सरसफाई

समुदायमा स्वच्छ पानी तथा सरसफाईको पहुँच सुनिश्चित गर्ने स्थानीय युवा संजाललाई परिचालन एवं सलन गराउने ।

किकायती र स्वच्छ उर्जा

स्वच्छ, किकायती र दिगो उर्जामा युवाको नवीन खोज प्रबर्द्धन गर्ने ।

मर्यादित काम र आर्थिक वृद्धि

रोजगार, शिक्षा र तालिम पाएका युवाहरूको अनुपात बढाउने ।

युवा तथा दिगो विकास लक्ष्यहरू

दिगो विकासमा युवाहरूको सहभागिता प्रबर्द्धन एवं सुनिश्चित गर्ने ।



United Nations Nepal



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development



National Youth Council



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