



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022



Dr. Madhusudhan Adhikari
Executive Director
Alternative Energy Promotion Center

Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPCC), established on 3 November 1996 under the aegis of the Development Board Act 2013 BS with the mandate of promoting renewable energy technologies in rural areas of Nepal has rapidly evolved into national and international levels. It has been recognized for working in the area of renewable energy technologies and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Renewable energy is a locally accessible and available source of energy in remote areas which contributes in accessing modern energy with reducing carbon emission, ensuring reliable power supply and diversification, enhancing energy security and reducing dependency on imported fossil fuels. AEPCC has been significantly contributing towards achieving the national goal for balanced regional development throughout the country by providing energy services in geographically and socio-economically remote areas of the country.

The 15th periodic plan aspires for a 12 percent contribution of renewable energy in the total energy consumption by fiscal year 2080/81. The plan aims to provide electricity to an additional 5 percent of the total population through 13 megawatts of micro and mini hydropower, 127 megawatts of solar and 10 megawatts of wind energy. It also intends to implement climate change adaptation plans at 550 local units from the existing 217.

AEPCC established a dedicated Climate and Carbon Section in 2010. This section is responsible for coordinating renewable energy and

energy efficiency related climate change mitigation and adaptation activities at a national and local level. It works to identify and develop Nepal's portfolio of renewable energy related carbon projects (both CDM and voluntary markets) and is responsible to handle the activities to develop the project concepts and proposals for Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other international climate funds to increase access to international climate finance.

At present, AEPCC is planning to develop the carbon neutral village to demonstrate the implementation of the carbon neutrality concept. Basically, the concept of carbon neutral means maintaining balance between emissions of carbon and absorption of carbon from the atmosphere. Similarly, the Second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) has envisioned that by 2030 at least five tourist destinations will be carbon neutral. Nepal being a less contributor of GHG emission, there are many places within the country, which can adopt this carbon neutrality concept and expand/replicate to other areas of Nepal.

Nepal is among the most vulnerable nations to climate change with the country's fragile topography, climate-sensitive livelihoods of the people and their limited adaptive capacity. As a Least Developed Country (LDC) with an insignificant contribution to past and current global emissions and limited financial resources, Nepal has suffered since ages by climate change.

AEPCC greatly appreciates the effort of Annapurna Media Network (AMN) for initiation and continuation of the campaign on Unity for Sustainability. Moreover, AEPCC is happy to be a part of it. We have already signed MoU to work together in the campaign. I wish all the success of the campaign.

“**GREEN PARTNERS SAY**”



MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER

Adapting to Sustainable Responsibilities:



Chiranjibi Neupane
Program Manager
Unity for Sustainability

Unity among all climate stakeholders is a prerequisite for sustainability. Climate change and its issues, which have been the subject of much interest and challenge in recent times, are being coordinated by the Annapurna Media Network. We are recalling all our activities, efforts and assists in this monthly newsletter.

This month had action oriented programs. Throughout the month, AMN sister organizations organized roundtable discussions, dialogues with various national and international experts on climate change. The UFS team has continuously been interacting with economists, financial experts, environmentalists, climate scientists, and think tanks to promote the sustainable growth model.

In collaboration with the Lions District 325 B1 Nepal and LEO District Council 325B1 Nepal, we screened climate change awareness videos at various schools that benefitted over 12,000 school students. We recently strengthened our team by partnering with various environmental organizations like Khaalisisi Management Pvt Ltd, Digo Bikash Institute, Greenhood for People and Wildlife, The Jane Goodall Institute Nepal, PARC and Cycle City Network, Remit Tree and World Vegan Organization Nepal.

All the stakeholders shared best wishes to the Unity for Sustainability campaign. Together, we can achieve sustainable results.



ACTIVITIES



The Annapurna Media Network organized a round table discussion with the Female Foresters Network (FFN) team on “women's perception on climate change” on 4 March 2022 at the AMN Corporate Tower, Kathmandu. The session was chaired by Dr Radha Wagle, Joint Secretary and Chief of Climate Change Management Division at Ministry of Forests and Environment and was moderated by Mr Kamal Dev Bhattarai, AMN team member. During the program, the participants discussed harmful effects of climate change on women.

Dr Wagle shared the concurrent issues and challenges of climate change from women's perspective. She also shared reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Likewise, gender social inclusion expert Dibya Devi Gurung said that women have been affected on the basis of access and identity. “Those who do not have much access to the resources have been affected the most,” Gurung said. According to her, access to resources is equal to property, network, knowledge and education.

She further said that the effect of climate change varies on the basis of geographical condition and ethnicity. Janajatis, minorities and Dalits are the most vulnerable groups as they have to face discriminations on natural resources, she said, among them, Chepang women are the main victims as climate change directly hampers their livelihood. President Chure-Tarai Madhes Conservation Development Board Assistant Secretary Srijana Shrestha said that the harmful plants grown as a result of climate change have affected the lifestyle of women. Women have an indispensable relationship with the forests as they spend most of their time there collecting firewood, food for the cattle, etc, she added, they now have to spend a lot of time in the dense forests due to lack of timbers which has increased the risk to their life from wildlife.

At the end, Female Foresters Nepal expressed solidarity with the Unity for Sustainability.



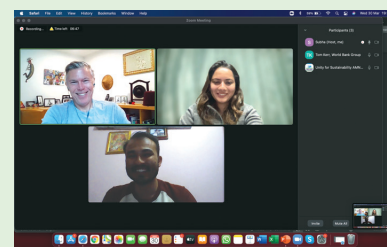
On 5 March 2022, AMN and Simrik Ventures in association with the UFS campaign celebrated the International Women's Day acknowledging the women staff for all their hard work, achievements, struggles, and dedication.



On 28 March 2022, the UFS team had a meeting with the Board Members of the RECOFTC team in Lalitpur. The attendees from the RECOFTC team were: Ms Aspara Chapagain - Chairperson, Honorable Dr Bimala Rai Paudyal - Member, Prof. Dr. Abhoy Kumar Das - Member, Dr Swayambhu Man Amartya - Member, Dr. Sushila C Nepali, Member and Dr. Shambhu Dangal, Country Director.



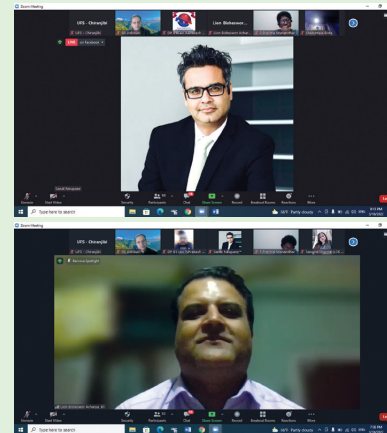
On 2 March 2022, the UFS team met the Chief Commissioner of the Election Commission Dinesh Kumar Thapaliya. The discussion mainly focused on the behavioral change communications to maximize sustainable practices during the elections.



On 30 March 2022, a virtual meeting was organized with Thomas Kerr. He is a lead climate specialist, South Asia at the World Bank Group. The main agenda of this interactive discussion was the mitigation and adaptation of climate change issues.



Shristi Singh Shrestha from The Jane Goodall Institute Nepal with the UFS team at the Annapurna Corporate Tower, Kathmandu.



In association with the Lions Club: Lions Club Nepal (International Districts 325 B1) and Leo International District 325B1, the UFS team produced a theatrical video on climate change awareness—“Our Green Future - Sowing the Green seeds” on 11 March 2022.

Green Ambassador



**Nepali producer/
actor/writer
Khagendra
Lamichhane joined
UFS as a Green
Ambassador.**

Communications...



“The UFS campaign vows to continuously advocate sustainable environmental practices in order to ensure our collective green future.”

**Subha Khanal Thapa
Director of Communications
Unity for Sustainability**



ASSOCIATION WITH MORE GREEN PARTNERS



Detailed newsletter coming soon. It will be available on www.amnnepal.com/u/s.
For further details: u/s.amn@gmail.com | www.amnnepal.com/u/s | 9801047630

