

Prashamsa Thapa

PhD Candidate, Innovation in Global Development, ASU
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EDUCATION

Master of Science, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

May 2020

Dissertation: *An assessment of synergy and trade-off between climate goal and other sustainable development goals in Nepal*

Bachelor of Science, Environment Science

Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.

April 2016

Minor: Zoology

Thesis: *Assessment of park people conflict in buffer zones: Case of Chitwan National Park, Nepal*

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

College of Global Futures, Arizona State University, Tempe, US

August 2022 – May 2024

Graduate Research Assistant, The Future of Electric Vehicle Charging in Central Arizona

- Conducted an extensive literature review on electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and trends in Central Arizona
- Developed and mapped future scenarios to assess potential challenges and opportunities in EV charging
- Organized and facilitated a two-day workshop with 20 experts from academia, industry, and government to gather insights and validate research findings
- Supervised and mentored a team of three undergraduate research assistants, enhancing their research and analytical skills
- Produced a comprehensive report titled "Electric Vehicle Charging in Arizona: 2050," outlining strategic recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders

Graduate Research Assistant, The Evolving Solar Energy Innovation Ecosystem in Puerto Rico, Department of Energy

- Analyzed energy consumption patterns and household habits across four Puerto Rican communities using R for data analysis
- Developed metrics such as average daily load per household and monthly load profiles for each community.
- Collaborated with two PhD graduate research assistants to interpret data and refine methodologies
- Co-authored comprehensive community reports to inform community stakeholders of findings and support sustainable energy planning

Graduate Research Assistant, Defining and Implementing Equity Practices in Energy Utilities, Salt River Project

- Analyzed qualitative interview data to assess current equity practices within energy utilities
- Conducted data coding for qualitative analysis, identifying key themes and insights to inform project recommendations
- Collaborated with the team to provide regular updates and reports to the Salt River Project (SRP) equity team, ensuring alignment on project goals
- Co-authored the "Summary Report of Power Utility Interviews on Defining and Implementing Equity Practices" to support SRP's strategic initiatives in equity and inclusion

Graduate Research Assistant, Energy Poverty and Vulnerability in Arizona

- Analyzed Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) data to assess energy vulnerability in Arizona communities
- Utilized R to generate insights on energy insecurity in urban areas, identifying patterns and key areas of concern
- Presented research findings in the "Weekly Just Energy Transition Workshop" at the Center for Energy and Society, engaging stakeholders in discussions on energy equity
- Supervised and mentored one undergraduate research assistants, enhancing their research and analytical skills

Teaching Instructor, SFIS

May 2022 – July 2022

- Served as lead instructor for FIS 201: Innovation in Society, focusing on the multifaceted implications of

innovation on socio-political change

- Planned, prepared, and delivered comprehensive course materials to engage students in critical thinking on the societal impacts of technological advancements
- Facilitated dynamic class discussions and coordinated student presentations to foster collaborative learning and analytical skills
- Held weekly office hours, providing one-on-one support and mentoring to enhance student understanding and academic performance

Oxford Policy Management, UKAID, Nepal

Researcher and Editor

October 2020 – July 2021

- Conducted an extensive literature review as part of the Policy and Institutions Facility team to support climate adaptation strategies for Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (NAP)
- Analyzed qualitative primary and secondary data to assess climate-related vulnerabilities, risks, and adaptation options across multiple sectors
- Co-authored the report titled “Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Identifying Adaptation Options: Summary for Policymakers” to guide the Government of Nepal in integrating evidence-based strategies into the NAP process
- Supported stakeholder consultations, engaging diverse groups including government agencies, civil society organizations, women, youth, and indigenous communities to validate findings and ensure inclusive policy recommendations

School of Environment, Research and Development, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand

Research Assistant

August 2018 – August 2019

- Represented AIT as Secretariat at the Global Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) III Project Kick-off Workshop organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- Co-authored proceedings for the Global TNA III Workshop, contributing to strategic discussions on sustainable technology adoption for climate resilience
- Conducted desk research on data availability and sources for the development of Resilience Data and Analytics Services and a Decision Support System under the World Bank CARE Project
- Coordinated Climate Seminar as part of the master’s curriculum, managing scheduling, presentation preparation, paper coordination, and logistics to ensure smooth execution

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

CEO and Co-Founder, Resource and Change Management, Nepal.

January 2018 – Present

- Founded and led an organization dedicated to promoting sustainable development in underserved rural communities through technology transfer, education, renewable energy access, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable agriculture practices
- Oversaw the Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of a Fermentation and Compost Plant under Contract No. 12/DRM/NCB/2075-076 for Diktel, Rupakot Majhuwagadi Municipality, contributing to improved solid waste management and sustainable agriculture in the region
- Established and managed an integrated agriculture and learning farm, serving as a hands-on training center to promote sustainable farming practices and organic agriculture in local communities
- Led an Assessment of Planning and Monitoring Systems for local governments in Nepal under the Nepal Agriculture Service Development Programme, providing recommendations to enhance governance and monitoring frameworks
- Coordinated rural development initiatives focused on enhancing sustainable livelihoods through market facilitation, community development, and climate change adaptation strategies

Member, School for the Future of Innovation in Society Graduate Students Organization, ASU

May 2023 – May 2024

- Assisted in coordinating election process for the next Organization’s committee, including planning, logistics, and execution
- Organized bi-weekly committee meetings to facilitate chapter engagement
- Organized community events, including monthly assembly meetings for both in person and online students
- Assisted in establishing weekly GSO bulletin board reaching over fifty faculty members and one hundred students

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

“Rethinking Global Development” Speaker Series.

Fall 2021

- Organized two speakers series with four international panelists
- Coordinated logistics for online and in person attendance

- Led panel discussion titled “Development Reimagined Talk Series: (In)visible Dimensions of Infrastructure” and facilitated discussion between the four panelists

PUBLISHED WORK

- Thapa, P., Mainali, B., & Dhakal, S. (2023). Focus on climate action: what level of synergy and trade-off is there between SDG 13; climate action and other SDGs in Nepal?. *Energies*, 16(1), 566.
- MoFE. (2021). Vulnerability and risk assessment and identifying adaptation options: summary for policy makers.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Panelist, School for the Future of Innovation in Society

Spring 2024

- Participated as a panelist in an event titled “Capabilities and Agency in Global Development” and provided insights and analysis based on my expertise on human agency and capability, while also engaging with an audience of peers and faculty members

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- University Graduate Fellowship, ASU, Fall Semester 2024
- SFIS Graduate Travel Grant, ASU, Spring Semester 2024
- SpaceHACK for Sustainability Hackathon - Interplanetary Initiative, ASU, Spring Semester 2023
- J. Orin Edson Entrepreneurship + Innovation Institute Open Pitch Award, ASU, Spring Semester 2023
- SFIS Graduate Travel Grant, ASU, Fall Semester 2022
- Interdisciplinary Enrichment Fellowship, Graduate College, ASU, Fall Semester 2021- Spring Semester 2022
- Asian Institute of Technology Fellowship, 2018-2020

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in English and Nepali; intermediate in Hindi

SKILLS

- Coding & Data Analysis: R, Python, GIS, Excel (data visualization, pivot tables, data analysis)
- Research & Analysis: Scenario Planning, Qualitative & Quantitative Data Collection, Conducting Interviews, Qualitative Analysis, Survey Design
- Project Management: Workshop Facilitation, Stakeholder Engagement, Strategic Planning, Report Writing, Policy Analysis
- Technical & Analytical Tools: Data Visualization (Tableau, Excel), Statistical Analysis, Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Communication & Leadership: Public Speaking, Team Collaboration, Community Engagement, Technical Writing, Presentation Skills