

Mid Western Region Observed Climate Change Awareness Program *Brief Report*

Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCKMC) successfully organized Climate Change Awareness program at three districts of Mid Western Region viz. Salyan, Rolpa and Pyuthan. The report on Climate Change Vulnerable Assessment has listed these districts as high, moderate and low vulnerable districts



respectively. The important gathering including District Education Officer, Political leaders, Chairperson of School Management Committee, Principal, Teachers, Journalists, Nepal Army, Police, Armed Police and Students in all districts curiously observed the following events of the program.

A. Inauguration



On July 22, 2015, Mr Iswor P Khanal, Chief, Faculty of Science, NAST and Mr Krishna Prasad Acharya, Chief District Officer, Salyan district jointly inaugurated the program at the premise of Shree Tribhuvan Jana HSS, one of the oldest school at Khalanga, the

headquarter of Salyan district. Addressing the program, Chief District Officer highlighted on the local level environmental change being observed at Salyan and urged to conduct research to find out whether they are the impacts of climate change. On July 25, 2015, Prof Dr Jiba Raj Pokharel, Vice-Chancellor, NAST inaugurated the program at Shree Balkalyan HSS at Liwang, the headquarter of Rolpa district. Addressing the program he stated that the adaptive capacity of local people has to be strengthened to cope with impacts of climate change at local level. On July 28, 2015, Dr Buddhi Ratna Khadge, Secretary, NAST inaugurated the program at Shree Mahendra Namuna HSS at Khalanga, the headquarter of Pyuthan district. Addressing the program he

highlighted on the role of students in disseminating the climate change information for local people residing on the rural village of the country.

B. Climate Change Quiz and Poster Display

On the same day NCCCKMC organized Climate Quiz at the premise of Shree Tribhuvan Jana HSS at Salyan, Shree Balkalyan HSS at Rolpa and Shree Mahendra Namuna HSS at Pyuthan.



Altogether 31 schools (10 at Salyan, 11 at Rolpa and 10 at Pyuhtan) participated in the quiz program. About 1500 students and 30 science teachers from participating schools observed the quiz program enthusiastically.



Students and teachers also observed the colorful posters carrying messages on climate change science, climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation measures in simple Nepali language. Finally, prizes were distributed to the winner and participating teams of climate quiz.

C. Interaction Program

On the same day, an interaction program was also organized in the seminar hall of Shree Tribhuvan Jana HSS at Salyan. Mr Pawan Kumar Neupane, Scientific Officer, NAST and an environmentalist in the team briefly explained climate change science and adaptation measures. The participants of the



program watched a short film on climate change and climate change knowledge management. Mr Neupane answered the questions on climate change adaptation and mitigation measures raised by the participants. Due to the heavy rainfall, organizing the interaction program seemed to be impossible at Rolpa and

Pyuthan districts on the same day. However, an interaction program with students of class 10 was arranged at Shee Balkalyan HSS on the next. About 150 students actively participated in the program. Mr Neupane briefly highlighted on the impacts of climate change. Mr Naryan P Gaire, PhD Scholar, NAST and a dendrochronologist in the team briefly mentioned about dendrochronology and its application. Mr Neupane and Mr Gaire also replied the queries raised by the students.

D. District Level Program

On the next day, the Climate Change Awareness Program, an Interaction Program on Climate Risk Management: Local Initiations and Experiences Knowledge was organized at the seminar hall of District Development



Committee in all three districts. In the program, Prof Dr Jibaraj Pokharel, Vice Chancellor, NAST highlighted on the climate change and disaster issues and the use local knowledge and materials in building earthquake resilient houses at rural villages in the country. Dr Bimala Devkota explained on the importance of mainstreaming climate change risk management in local development plans. She also highlighted on fourteen steps for mainstreaming climate risk management in local development plans. Mr Pawan Kumar Neupane highlighted on climate change science, climate change impacts and adaptation measures. He briefly explained on increasing trend of temperature, rainfall variability and their impacts on agriculture, biodiversity, water resources, human health and infrastructures. Altogether about 250 participants including Chief District Officer, representative from GOs, NGOs, representative of political parties, Journalists and teachers discussed on the climate change issues being observed at their locality.