

Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 843

First Author First Name Last Name	Tshering T. Lama O'gorman
Submitting Author First Name Last Name	Tshering T. Lama O'gorman
Correspondence	tshering.ogorman@hdr.mq.edu.au
Co-Authors >> E-Mails will be not listed	
Organisations	Macquarie University, Australia
Country	Australia
Region	Oceania
Title	The Conceptualization Of Climate Change Response In Nepal.
Keywords	Climate Adaptation, Governance, Environmental Justice
Type	List Of Focus Session
Focus Session ID	75

Abstract

Climate change adaptation programs need to attend to the disproportional and differential impacts caused by climate change within a society due to the processes by which social inequalities are maintained. In the mountainous country of Nepal, social inequalities exist that are based on historical power, caste, ethnicity and gender, among other factors. Research indicates that changes in climate have higher impacts for the poor in Nepal who live on vulnerable sites and own fewer assets. My research will consider in Nepal's context, whether climate change policies and adaptation interventions reproduce rather than address the social, cultural and political structures that have historically marginalized and deprioritized some groups. It will question whether these then exacerbate vulnerability to climate change, rather than reducing it.

Climate policies in developing countries such as Nepal, are heavily influenced by international actors and their world views through which aid and technical assistance are provided. My research uses an approach that is founded on environmental justice concerns, to explore through discourse analysis, the underlying world views, processes and associated power relations that have led to the emergence of climate governance in Nepal. It will scrutinize how climate change knowledge is received and interpreted in the Nepalese context and appraise whether climate governance in the country addresses environmental justice concerns. The research will seek to better understand and contest how some places have become the focus for climate change response in the country while others are deprioritized. It will explore opportunities to realise and articulate alternative and local forms of climate response. My research contends that it is necessary to include these perspectives into the climate change discourse to develop a politics and ethics that connects environmental justice concerns to climate governance that will serve all, particularly those who have contributed nothing but are hardest hit by global warming.