

The 5th Spatial Planning Platform Meeting

Land Use Policy Formulation and Implementation: Opportunities and Challenges in Nepal

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Global Spatial Challenges

- Limited space, growing demand
- Transportation and infrastructure need
- Living culture and Housing need
- Global partnership vs self reliance
- Economy vs ecology
- Nature, biodiversity, landscape and recreation need

Spatial Challenges in Nepal

- Barren and unused land in hilly areas
- Flow of Migration from hill to plain area
- Fragmentation and loss of agricultural land
- Unplanned and haphazard Urbanization
- Informal settlements and unsecured land tenure
- Effect of climate change and Disaster vulnerability
- Lack of urban Infrastructure and utility
- Destruction of Natural resources
- Scarcity of drinking water and sanitation



Few examples

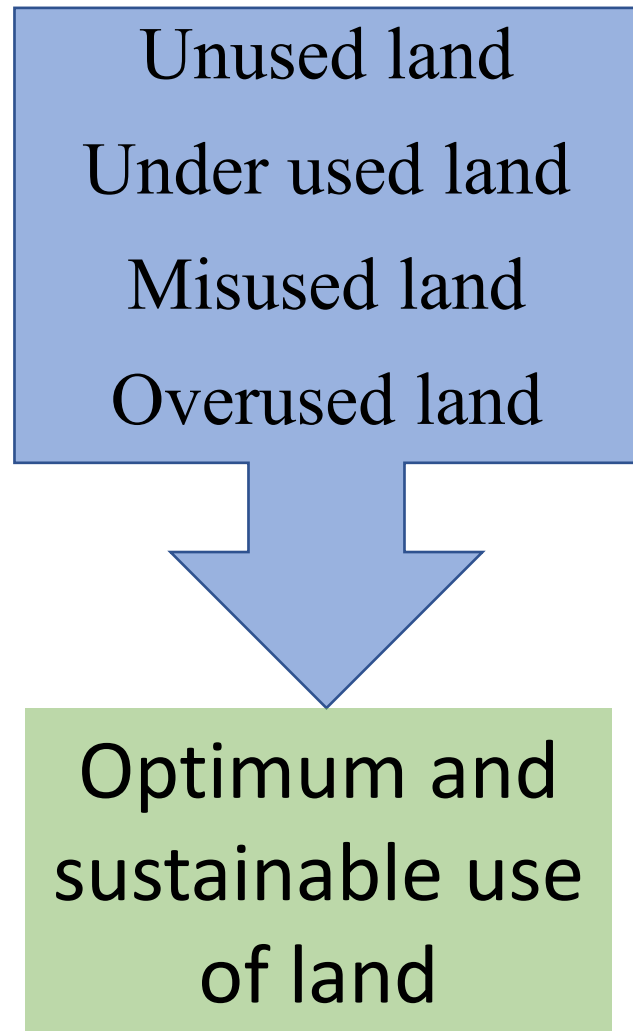
- Melamchi Floof (Sindhupalchok)
- 5 people have been confirmed dead, 20 people reported missing
- 337 houses fully damaged
- 525 families displaced
- 297 hectors of land of 1324 Families lost

(Melamchi Municipality)



- Koshi flood inundates Southern plain (Terai) area of Nepal
- Death of Hundreds of people
- Displacement of thousands of family,
- Loss of Agricultural land
- Loss of Millions of \$

Land Use Policy: Concept and Principle



- Promote Complementary Land use
- Regulate/ Maintain Competitive Land use
- Avoid Conflicting Land use

Land Use Policy: Formulation Process

- Review of existing system
- Focused group discussion
- International best practices
- National/International literature
- Key informant interview
- Zero draft of the policy
- Field observation and workshop
- First Draft of the Policy
- Multi stakeholder consultation
- Experts consultation
- Final draft of the policy
- Review of the other Ministries
- Review of the Cabinet Committee
- Approval from the Cabinet

Bottom up process

- Peoples demand
- Need based
- Subsidiarity
- Local knowledge
- Flexible

Top down process

- Scientific criteria
- Land capability
- Suitability analysis
- Expert driven
- Rigid

Participatory land use planning

- Appropriate fusion of both process

Land use policy

5 Objectives of land use policy

- Land classification
- Land use planning
- Implementation of Land use planning
- Mitigation of natural as well as human induced disaster
- Land valuation and taxation on the basis of parcel based land use allocation

Land Use Planning: Policy and Legal Arrangements

- Land Use Policy, 2015
- Land Use Act, 2019
- Land Use Regulation, 2022
- Some directives and circulars on land use classification in 2023
- Detailed Technical guidelines (draft prepared, yet to be approved)

Land Use Planning : Institutional Arrangements

- Federal Ministry and Survey Department
- Federal Land Use Council
- Provincial Ministry
- Provincial Land Use Council
- Local Municipalities
- Local Land Use Council

Land use planning: Role of various institutions

- Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation
 - Policy, standards, ensuring consistency
 - Directives, technical guidelines
 - Land use mapping, technical support
 - Dispute resolution among provinces, if any
- Province Ministry
 - Inter agency coordination in province level
 - Provincial planning
 - Dispute resolution and mediation between local governments, if any
- Local Governments
 - Review local land use classification
 - Local land used planning and its implementation
- Land use Councils (Federal, Provincial, Local)
 - Formulation of land use plan of respective level
 - Coordination among stakeholder
 - Policy support

Land Use Classification: Strategy and Results

Basis of Classification

- Existing land use
- Terrain topography
- Land Suitability
- Land Capability
- Local need



(Source: Survey Department, Nepal)

ID	Landuse	Area Sq. Km	% Cover
1	Agriculture	41279.15	27.89
2	Commercial	79.57	0.05
3	Cultural and Archeological	14.34	0.01
4	Forest	61712.80	41.70
5	Industrial	95.02	0.06
6	Mines and Minerals	25.85	0.02
7	Other	21867.35	14.78
8	Public Service	11405.11	7.71
9	Residential	1980.06	1.34
10	Riverine, Lake and Marsh Area	4943.04	3.34

CADASTRAL SUPERIMPOSE ON LAND USE ZONING



Implementation Challenges

- Land as a private property rather than natural resource
- Over dependency on land and lack of livelihood alternatives
- Land Administration practice
- Huge demand and high price of housing land
- Lack of motivation in Agricultural activities
- Lack of cohesion in sectoral policies
- Coordination among stakeholders
- Capacity of Local Government

Opportunities

- Federal structure and three tiers of the Governments with high level of commitment
- International commitments towards land use and spatial planning
- Civil society movements and awareness
- Technological innovation and development of ICT

Initiatives of the Ministry

- Inter ministry coordination mechanism
- Capacity Development of local level
- Onsite technical support
- Mapping and updating
- Technical Directives and Guideline
- Data service and web portal

Thank you for kind attention