



# **Chronology of National Agroforestry Policy Development in Nepal**

*2014-2019 AD (२०७१- २०७६ BS)*



## Chronology of National Agroforestry Policy Development (2014-2019 AD)

1. 2014: Nepal's Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS) recognized agroforestry as a vital component of agriculture.
2. 2014: First discussion on potential need of a National Agroforestry Policy initiated by then Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative (MoAC), Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MOFSC), and World Agroforestry (ICRAF).
3. 2015: First National Consultation Workshop on Agroforestry involving more than 150 diverse stakeholders representing the relevant Government Ministries/departments, educational and research organization, and relevant non-governmental organizations including farmer association & forest user groups etc., was jointly organized by then MoAC, MOFSC, ICRAF and ANSAB (Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresource) at Kathmandu. Based on this consultation, the Hon'ble Ministers of MoAC and MoFSC released the **"Kathmandu Declaration on Agroforestry, 2015"** which was signed by the respective Secretaries of these Ministries. The declaration identified the need of a National Agroforestry Policy for Nepal, and potential in partnering with ICRAF was recognized. (<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/sites/default/files/Kathmandu%20Declaration%20on%20Agroforestry-2015.pdf> ).
4. 2015: Then Ministry of Agri. Development (MoAD) nominated an Agroforestry Focal Point.
5. 2015: Senior Officers from both the MoAD and MoFSC made presentations at the Regional Conference jointly organized in New Delhi by ICRAF, APPARI (Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Institutes) and other partners. Delegates from 10 Asian countries, including Nepal emphasized the need of National Agroforestry Policies for their countries. (<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/sites/default/files/users/admin/New%20Delhi%20Action%20Plan.pdf> )
6. 2016: SAARC Regional Coordinated Program Consultation on Agroforestry organized in Kathmandu. (<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/sites/default/files/users/admin/SAARC-Kathmandu%20Resolution%20on%20Agroforestry-2016.pdf>).
7. 2016: A seven member **"Inter Ministerial Coordination Committee (IMCC)"** established to oversee the policy development process. Joint Secretary, MoAD nominated as its coordinator; with Joint Secretary, MoFSC; representative of then Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE); Agroforestry Focal Points (MoAD/MoFSC); and the Director of South Asia Regional Program of ICRAF as members.
8. 2016-2017: MoAD in collaboration with ICRAF received and implemented a Technical Assistance program from Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) (<https://www.ctc-n.org/>) to develop the national agroforestry policy. The process also received support from CGIAR Research Program, Forest Tree and Agroforestry (FTA).
9. 2016-2017: Three Geo-Regional Consultation Workshops organized at Mustang, Dhankuta and Chitwan, & 3 National Consultation Workshops organized at Dhulikhel and Kathmandu. A total of 360 diverse stakeholders representing policy makers and senior officials from nodal ministries, N/INGOs, civil society, academics and researchers, service providers, financial and insurance institutions, farmers (agriculture, livestock, NTFP), farmers' associations (private/community forest, peasants), foresters, wood Industries, businessmen, planner and experts, finance and legal experts, and representatives of local governments contributed to discussions.

10. 2017: IMCC members had a study tour to India (globally the first country developed and implemented a National Agroforestry Policy) and interacted with policy makers and scientists to understand the process of policy development and implementation. 2018: IMCC prepared a roadmap for policy development which was approved by both the nodal ministries.
11. 2018: Following the road map and based on the recommendations and inputs collected through various consultations from 500 stakeholders, IMCC through its 14 meetings finalized the draft policy, and submitted to the Secretary, MoAD.
12. 2018: MoAD circulated the draft policy for consent and clearance to 1) Ministry of Finance, 2) Ministry of Forest and Environment 3) National Planning Commission (NPC) 4) Ministry of Law and Parliament Affairs. 5) Department of Agriculture 6) Agriculture and Forest University 7) Farmers' Commission, and 8) National Agriculture Research Council (NARC).
13. 2018: MoAD received inputs/ consent from above ministries and institutions.
14. 2019: Modified draft policy submitted to Cabinet sub-committee.
15. 2019: Draft policy was reviewed by the Cabinet sub-committee. Comments received were incorporated, and the revised version presented to the Cabinet sub-committee.
16. 2019: Cabinet Subcommittee approved and submitted the policy to Cabinet.
17. **2019: National Agroforestry Policy of Nepal Approved by the Cabinet on 8 Ashad, 2076 (23 June 2019).**
18. 2019: Hon'ble Agriculture Minister formally launched the National Agroforestry Policy in the presence of representatives from MoFE, MoALD, FAO, ANSAB, NAF (Nepal Agroforestry Foundation), civil societies, invited regional guests and ICRAF on 3 July 2019. ([http:// www.worldagroforestry.org/blog/2019/09/23/how-grow-national-agroforestry-policy](http://www.worldagroforestry.org/blog/2019/09/23/how-grow-national-agroforestry-policy)).  
English version of policy is available at the website of the Ministry of Forest and Environment, Government of Nepal: [https://mofe.gov.np/downloadfile/National\\_Agrofores\\_Policy19\\_1601363312.pdf](https://mofe.gov.np/downloadfile/National_Agrofores_Policy19_1601363312.pdf)  
Chronology of policy development is available at the website of the Ministry of Forest and Environment, Government of Nepal: [https://mofe.gov.np/downloadfile/Chronology\\_National\\_Agroforestry\\_Policy%202076\\_1601453811.pdf](https://mofe.gov.np/downloadfile/Chronology_National_Agroforestry_Policy%202076_1601453811.pdf)

**Partner organizations other than ICRAF contributed to Policy:** ANSAB, CTCN, FAO, and NAF.

**Acknowledgements:** Policy Initiators: Former Ministers Mr. Hari P. Parajuli (MoALD) and Mahesh Acharya (MoFE). Noteworthy Persons: Secretaries and former Secretaries: Dr. Bishwa N. Oli, Yubak D. GC, Dr. Uday C. Thakur, Dr. Suroj Pokhrel, Sharad C. Paudel, Uttam K. Bhattarai, Swoyambhu M. Amatya, Dr. Shyam K. Shah, Joint Secretaries Dr. Rajendra Adhikari, Dr. Yogendra K. Karki, Tej B. Subedi, Resham Dangi, Dhanajaya Paudel, Dr. Sindhu P. Dhungana, Suresh B. Tiwari, Dilaram Bhandari, Lekha N. Acharya, Dr. Banshi Sharma, Basu D. Kaphle. Then **IMCC members:** Sankar Sapkota, Keshab Adhikari (Agroforestry Focal Point), Binod K. Bhattarai, Pradip C. Bhattarai, Pashupati N. Koirala, Ram H. Pantha, Sumana Devkota (Agroforestry Focal Point). Former VC (AFU): Kailash N. Pyakurel, Dr. Bhishma Subedi (ANSAB), Bishnu H. Pandit (NAF). Murari Joshi (Kathmandu Forest College). Former ED NARC: (Member, Planning Commission) Dr. D.B. Gurung. International Contributors: ICRAF team led by Dr Javed Rizvi; representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and ICAR, India; scientists from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka. Financial and technical support: Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).





*Launch of the policy by (left to right) Honorable minister, Chakra P. Khanal, MoALD; Secretary of Agriculture, Yubak Dhoj GC; Member, Nepal Planning Commission, DB Gurung; and Javed Rizvi, Director South Asia Program, ICRAF*



Sharad Chandra Paudel, Secretary MFSC (left) and Shyam Kishor Shah, Officiating Secretary, MOAD (right) signing the Kathmandu Declaration on Agroforestry (2015)



Participants during a national consultation workshop on agroforestry policy with Honorable Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation Mr. Mahesh Acharya (Centre in traditional dress) (2015)



Participants with Honorable Minister Mr. Hari Prasad Parajuli at the closing of consultation workshop (2015)



Minister of Forest and Environment (MoFE), Shakti B. Basnet reviewing the final draft of policy (2019)



*Javed Rizvi, Director, South Asia- ICRAF and Dr Yogendra K. Karki, Joint Secretary updating the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Honorable Minister of Agriculture Mr. Chakra P. Khanal, on final policy draft (2019)*

