

Nepal Administrative Staff College
6th South Asian Conference on Public Policy and Governance
“Resilience and Renewal: Reenvisioning Governance through Youth Engagement, Digital Transformation, and Cultural Narratives in South Asia”

9–10 April 2026 (26 – 27 Chaitra 2082)

Schedule: Parallel Technical Sessions

Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 1: Mass Uprisings and Future of Governance

Venue: Swoyambhu Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30– 09:40	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:40– 09:50	Social security system in Nepal: Policy and governance - Dr. Ramesh Kumar KC (PAAN) - Dr. Dilip Raj Poudel (PAAN)	Dr. Ramesh Kumar KC
2.	09:50– 10:00	From compliance to responsiveness: rethinking internal control mechanisms in Nepal’s public administration - Manju Kumari Jaisi (Undersecretary, GoN; Executive Committee Member, PAAN)	Manju Kumari Jaisi
3.	10:00– 10:10	Implementation challenges of public grievance redress system (grs): An exploration - Md. Abdul Alim (NSU)	Md. Abdul Alim
4.	10:10– 10:20	Performance variations and reform strategies in bangladesh's public sector: An institutional and managerial analysis of the performance management system - Md. Fauzul Kabir (NSU)	Md. Fauzul Kabir
5.	10:20– 10:30	Regional cooperation under pressure: Mass uprisings and governance challenges in south asia - Vera Jasmine Shrestha (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Pasang Syangtan (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Nitesh Shrestha (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Vera Jasmine Shrestha
-	10:30– 10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50– 11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Dr. S.M. Rezwan UI Alam, Associate Professor, North South University (NSU)

Discussant: Mr. Mohan Das Manandhar, Chairperson, Niti Foundation

Moderator: Ms. Chandni Kayastha, Training and Research Officer, Nepal Administrative Staff College

Note: All presenters and members of the session management team (session chairs, discussants, moderators, rapporteurs and session hosts) are kindly requested to arrive at the venue by 8:45 AM and be seated at least 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the technical session.

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Schedule: Parallel Technical Sessions

Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 2: Responsive Public Administration – Room A

Venue: Janaki Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:10 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:10–09:20	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:20–09:30	Does perception matter? Exploring how intersectional employee perceptions of the reservation system influence inclusivity in Nepal’s civil service - Baburam Bhul, PhD (Nepal Open University; Office of the Auditor General, Nepal)	Baburam Bhul
2.	09:30–09:40	How effective is the Nepal electricity authority's online performance appraisal system? Insights from a qualitative study - Bharat K.C. (Nepal Electricity Authority)	Bharat K.C.
3.	09:40–09:50	ADR for VAT dispute resolution in Bangladesh: A critical assessment - Dipa Rani Halder (NSU)	Dipa Rani Halder
4.	09:50–10:00	Assessing the effectiveness of the farm broadcast unit (FBU) of Bangladesh Betar (Radio) - Nusrat Harun (NSU)	Nusrat Harun
5.	10:00–10:10	Voluntary Turnover Decision from Nepali Civil Service: Unravelling the Experiences of Joint Secretaries - Pramod Niroula (NASC) - Shailendra Prasad Bhatt (NASC)	Pramod Niroula
6.	10:10–10:20	Beyond glass ceiling – Challenges and realities of Nepali female bureaucrats through a feminist institutionalism lens - Radha Wagle (Female Foresters Networks, Nepal; Biodiversity & Climate Adaptation Specialist, Glen Eira City Council, Australia)	Radha Wagle
7.	10:20–10:30	Assessing the healthcare quality gap: Public service delivery at civil service hospital - Sabik Neupane (NASC) - Roshani Bhujel (NASC)	Roshani Bhujel
-	10:30–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Dr. Narayan Baskota, Technical Advisor, Niti Foundation

Discussant: Mr. Rajendra Adhikari, Senior Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

Moderator: Ms. Antovna Gyawali, Deputy Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Schedule: Parallel Technical Sessions

Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 2: Responsive Public Administration – Room B

Venue: Manjushree Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:20 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:20–09:30	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:30–09:40	Administrative responsiveness under fiscal federalism: institutional and economic evidence from Nepal's local government - Ashim Acharya (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Poonam Regmi (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Shoumya Risal (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Ashim Acharya
2.	09:40–09:50	The cross-sectional study on the effect of self-awareness on the job performance of employees of government of Nepal - Chandni Kayastha (NASC)	Chandni Kayastha
3.	09:50–10:00	Training and gender sensitivity in local governance: Evidence from elected representatives in Nepal - Geetanjali Upadhyaya (NASC) - Dr. Nirmal Kumar Raut (TU) - Shailaja Upadhyaya (NASC) - Deepesh Acharya	Geetanjali Upadhyaya
4.	10:00–10:10	An assessment of procurement governance in Bangladesh railway: A case of selected five development projects - Md. Golam (NSU)	Md. Golam
5.	10:10–10:20	Health financing in municipalities in Nepal: A study of Kathmandu, Lalitpur & Biratnagar metropolitan city - Sabik Neupane (NASC) - Pritha Paudyal (NASC)	Pritha Paudyal
6.	10:20–10:30	Impact of corporate governance in the general industry in Nepal - Tek Raj Paudel (MPA)	Tek Raj Paudel
-	10:30–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Mr. Krishna Gyawali, former Secretary, Government of Nepal

Discussant: Dr. Sushmita Acharya, Lecturer, Public Administration Campus, Tribhuvan University

Moderator: Mr. Yagya Prasad Dhungel, Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 3: Innovation & AI for Digital Governance

Venue: Araniko Hall, Sampada Sadan

Time: 09:10 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:10–09:20	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:20–09:30	Enhancing training transfer with generative AI: A quasi-experimental approach - Anup Bhurtel (NASC)	Anup Bhurtel
2.	09:30–09:40	Public policy challenges of integrating innovation and artificial intelligence (AI) into digital governance in Nepal - Belisha Raut (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Sadiya Awale (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Sushil Nepali (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Ujwala Maharjan (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Belisha Raut
3.	09:40–09:50	Reforming Nepal’s social security protection architecture through digital transformation: Institutional coordination, governance innovation, and inclusive digital public infrastructure - Dr. Sugam Jung K.C. (Tribhuvan University) - Radha Kandel (Employees Provident Fund, Nepal)	Dr. Sugam Jung K.C.
4.	09:50–10:00	From physical presence to digital care: Ageing in migrant societies - K.D. Dushmanthi Silva (University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka)	K.D. Dushmanthi Silva
5.	10:00–10:10	The digital land management system (DLMS) - Mohammad Monoar Hossain (NSU)	Mohammad Monoar Hossain
6.	10:10–10:20	Effect of entrepreneurial self-efficacy on women entrepreneurial survivability in Nepal: Moderating role of information communication technology - Radha Devi Ghimire (Central Department of Public Administration, CDPA)	Radha Devi Ghimire
7.	10:20–10:30	Digital leadership in practice: How online trainers navigate hierarchy to lead in government training institutes - Shital Moktan Tamang (NASC)	Shital Moktan Tamang
-	10:30–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Mr. Subash Dhakal, Deputy Director General, Department of Information Technology

Discussant: Mr. Hempal Shrestha, Tech Specialist

Moderator: Dr. Shyan Kirat Rai, Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 4: Culture, Identity, and Social Transformation

Venue: Annapurna Hall, Sampada Sadan

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30–09:40	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:40–09:50	Cultural dimension of policymaking in Nepal: Reimagining an overlooked domain in a transforming world - Aatisha Malla (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Durga B.K. (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Indra Pun (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Lal Bahadur Pun (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Prashamshya Karmacharya (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Aatisha Malla
2.	09:50–10:00	Politics in symbolization of Dharahara as national monument: Built environment as a symbol of collective identity Saurav Koirala (NASC)	Saurav Koirala
3.	10:00–10:10	Displaced toponyms, disrupted identities: Ethnography of Magar place names of Siddhartha highway sector between Butwal–Palpa corridor - Dhan Bahadur Reshmi (Dept. of STEAM Education, School of Education, Kathmandu University)	Dhan Bahadur Reshmi
4.	10:10–10:20	Emotional intelligence and investment decision making among generation Y - Kamana Pandey (M.Phil. Scholar, Tribhuvan University, Nepal)	Kamana Pandey
-	10:20–10:40	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:40–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Mr. Madhu Raman Acharya, President, Public Administration Association of Nepal (PAAN)

Discussant: Ms. Nisha Onta, Founder and Executive Director at Governance Lab

Moderator: Ms. Saroja Shakya, Training and Research Officer, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Theme 5: Climate & Disaster Risk – Room A

Venue: Lumbini Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30–09:40	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:40–09:50	Policy coherence in climate governance: Analyzing national policy frameworks for disaster risk reduction in South Asia - Alaska Poudyal (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Rose Dhungana (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Alaska Poudyal
2.	09:50–10:00	Climate change, COP, and contradictions: What next? - Dr. Mitra Bandhu Poudel (Principal, Little Angels' College of Management; Visiting Faculty, KU School of Management)	Dr. Mitra Bandhu Poudel
3.	10:00–10:10	Climate change and the challenge of resilience: Governance and community responses in Nepal and beyond - Meen B. Poudyal Chhetri, Ph.D. (Executive Director, Nepal Centre for Disaster Management; Adjunct Professor, Queensland University of Technology, Australia)	Meen B. Poudyal Chhetri
4.	10:10–10:20	Internationally vocal and domestically mute: How just is climate finance in Nepal? - Sindhu Prasad Dhungana (Retired Joint Secretary, GoN)	Sindhu Prasad Dhungana
5.	10:20–10:30	Monasteries as agents of resilience: Cultural identity and climate adaptation in Mustang - Sushan Bhattarai	Sushan Bhattarai
-	10:30–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Dr. Pooja Mehta, Associate Professor, Chitkara University, Punjab, India

Discussant: Dr. Bharat Singh Thapa, Lecturer, Tribhuvan University

Moderator: Ms. Anita Poudel, Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 5: Climate & Disaster Risk – Room B

Venue: Rara Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30– 09:40	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:40– 09:50	Socio-economic determinants of flood vulnerability: A case study of Banke and dang districts, Lumbini province, Nepal - Adarsha Neupane (SIAS)	Adarsha Neupane
2.	09:50– 10:00	Forest fire management challenges and response strategies for resilient adaptation under changing climate in Nepal - Dr. Meena Adhikari (Nepal Water Conservation Foundation)	Dr. Meena Adhikari
3.	10:00– 10:10	Localising climate finance in Nepal - Rhetoric, rationality and responsibility - Dilli P. Poudel (SIAS) - Gyanu Maskey (SIAS) - Kunja Shrestha (SIAS) - Rojani Manandhar (SIAS) - Mani R. Banjade (SIAS) - Dil Khatri (SIAS) - Meeta S. Pradhan (SIAS) - Ananda R. Devkota (SIAS)	Kunja Shrestha
4.	10:10– 10:20	Beyond relief: Rethinking disaster response through loss and damage in Melamchi valley, Nepal - Sneha Rai (Prakriti Resources Centre)	Sneha Rai
5.	10:20– 10:30	Responding to climate and disaster risk for a sustainable future - Supriya Gupta (NHRC)	Supriya Gupta
-	10:30– 10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50– 11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Dr. Dilli Prasad Poudel, Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS)

Discussant: Mr. Ashutosh Kumar Shukla, Adjunct Professor, Nepal Engineering College

Moderator: Ms. Pratibha Dhungana, Deputy Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Theme 6: Youth Leadership for Adaptive Governance

Venue: Pathivara Hall, Diksha Sadan

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30–09:40	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:40–09:50	सामुदायिक वनको नयाँ गन्तव्य : युवा सहभागिता र उद्यममुखी रुपान्तरण - Bhola Khatiwada (SIAS) - Gobinda Poudel (SIAS)	Bhola Khatiwada
2.	09:50–10:00	Greenfluencer credibility and ethical consumerism: The mediating role of environmental concern in social transformation - Harish Saini (Chitkara University)	Harish Saini
3.	10:00–10:10	Empowering youth leadership to strengthen the governance system of Nepal - Mamata Joshi (KUSOM, MPPM Program) - Nitesh Kumar Shah (KUSOM, MPPM Program)	Mamata Joshi
4.	10:10–10:20	Transformative knowledge for planetary sustainability: Bridging science, indigenous wisdom, and policy - Prof. Medani P. Bhandari, Ph.D. (UNEP MGFC Regional Facilitator; Senior VP, Akamai University, USA; Principal, Kathmandu Forestry College, Nepal)	Prof. Medani P. Bhandari
5.	10:20–10:30	From ancient skills to modern resilience: Nepal's indigenous enterprises - Surendra Prasad Joshi (MPhil Scholar) - Sugam Subedi - Yogita Silwal	Surendra Prasad Joshi
-	10:30–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Certificates and Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Dr. Lal Bahadur Pun, Assistant Professor, Kathmandu University School of Management

Discussant: Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary, Government of Nepal

Moderator: Mr. Tara Prasad Kharel, Deputy Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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Schedule: Parallel Technical Sessions

Friday, 10 April 2026

Theme 4: Culture, Identity, and Social Transformation

Theme 5: Climate & Disaster Risk

Venue: Prithvi Hall, Sampada Sadan

Time: 09:20 – 11:00

SN	Time	Activity / Title of the Paper & Authors	Paper Presenter
-	09:30–09:50	<i>Introduction of Session Chair and Discussant</i>	
1.	09:50–10:00	Local governments' budgeting process in Nepal: Do women influence budget decisions? - Anil Kumar Gupta (NASC)	Anil Kumar Gupta
2.	10:00–10:10	Climate-responsive budgeting in South Asia: Governance and implementation challenges at the sub-national level - Khushi Johari (Founder, Sustainable Finance with Khushi; Alumna, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal)	Khushi Johari
3.	10:10–10:20	Digital governance and climate disaster response effectiveness in South Asia: A comparative analysis of youth demographics, social media penetration, and disaster outcomes - Mrs. Alka Sharma (Dept. of Commerce & Management, University of Kota, Rajasthan) - Mrs. Shailu Singh	Mrs. Alka Sharma
4.	10:20–10:30	Re-envisioning governance in South Asia: Youth engagement and digital transformation as pillars of democratic resilience - Prof. Janak Singh Meena (Dept. of Gandhian Thought & Peace Studies, Central University of Gujarat, India) - Meenakshi (Research Scholar, Central University of Gujarat, India)	Prof. Janak Singh Meena
-	10:20–10:50	<i>Thematic Discussions</i>	
-	10:50–11:00	<i>Distribution of Token of Love</i>	

Session Chair: Mr. Tulasi Sharan Sigdel, Senior Director of Studies, Nepal Administrative Staff College

Discussant: Dr. Hari Dhungana, Associate Professor - Development Management and Administration, Nepal Open University

Moderator: Ms. Shashi Shekhar Acharya, Training and Research Officer, Nepal Administrative Staff College

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