

Vijay Prasad Kesari

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Profile Statement

My career has led me to specialize increasingly in the management and oversight of climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable energy and energy efficiency, environment, biodiversity, disaster risk management projects. I have experience in strategic planning, designing new project and providing assurance to operate complex multicultural projects. I have managed multi-donor, multi-partner and multi-country projects and have administered project teams to achieve targets before deadlines. I apply modern leadership methods through staff motivation while managing portfolio, project and team. Decision-making at critical situation, clarity in communication, apply innovative ideas and easy personal interrelations are my additional strength.

Competencies

- High quality analytical skill of the political context and their relevancy for the donor and partners,
- Familiarity with culture of government and donors and international treaty and regulations related to climate management, environment, biodiversity, and disaster management,
- Strong understanding on development programming approaches, including strengths and weaknesses of different aid modalities and environmental and social safeguard,
- Proven leadership and human resource management skills,
- Time-efficient, systematic working methodology and rapid adaptability to new situation,
- Effective coordination and collaboration skill with government institutions and stakeholders,
- Takes critical look at own performance and reflect on it with colleagues for improvement,
- Creates environment for professional development geared to improve quality of result,
- Good communication and articulation and program development and resource mobilization skills,

Involvement in Study, evaluation, and knowledge products

- Developed the concept and ToR, hire expert, provide critical suggestion, and finalized the knowledge products on Best Practices of EbA and NCCSP projects.
- Developed ToR, guided the study, provided comment, and finalized the Mid Terminal Evaluation of GEF /UNDP Micronesia Public Sector Energy Efficiency (MPSBEE) Project and Supporting Mainstreamed Achievement of Roadmap Targets on Energy in Nauru (SMARTEN) Project.
- Developed ToR, guided the study, provided comment, and finalized the Terminal evaluation of Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Wetlands of Nepal (CSUWN), Ecosystem based Adaptation (EBA), Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP) projects.
- Guided study on Financial Assessment of Proposed REDD+ Policies and Measures in Nepal, Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)/Safeguard Plan for Emission Reduction Program in the Terai Landscape Area, Strategic environmental and social assessment of anticipated emission reduction programs in the Terai Arc Landscape of Nepal under the Carbon Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Experiences

1. Gender and Climate Action Specialist

Organisation: UN Women MCO, Fiji

Duration: January-December 2025

Responsibilities and achievements:

- Oversaw the development of programmes on gender -responsive climate action and environmental sustainability within the Pacific region
- Provided technical and capacity building support to the UN Women Fiji MCO's teams and partners
- Established and strengthened strategic partnerships with stakeholders, regional/ international actors and development partners
- Built and maintained close liaisons with relevant donors and other actors supporting efforts towards gender-responsive climate action and environmental sustainability
- Managed the resource mobilization strategy for gender-responsive climate action and environmental sustainability programmes in the region
- Oversaw knowledge building and sharing for gender-responsive climate action and environmental sustainability

2. Regional Climate and Energy Specialist

Organisation: UNDP RBAS, Jordan

Duration: March 2023-December 2024

Responsibilities and achievements:

- Supported UNDP's new regional programming on climate change and energy, considering the expected outcomes of climate and the emerging dialogues on the road to COP;
- Provided strategic advice to UNDP on strategic issues on COP agenda such as advancing an energy transition, opportunities around initiation of new carbon market mechanisms and other strategic issues;
- Contributed to the ideation of new regional programming and partnerships in areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation, water and energy to achieve results set in UNDPs Regional Programme Document;
- Supported regional side events on climate and energy to be convened at MENA Climate Week and COP;
- Led and provide strategic guidance on water-energy-food nexus to CO based on portfolio approach.
- Conducted analysis of relevant lessons from past and ongoing regional projects by UNDP and partners on climate change, water, sand and dust to inform new programme formulation;
- Generated new partnerships with partner UN agencies, regional multilateral entities and private sector as a base for new regional programming;
- Provided support and guidance on agriculture, food security, and ecosystem-based planning and implementation
- Developed Regional Programme on Climate Adaptation focused on transboundary water management and water governance; loss and damage, risk informed development and climate and food security nexus
- Developed strategy for International Affairs Department of National Center for Vegetation Cover and Combating Desertification (NCVC), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

3. Portfolio Management Specialist (Climate and Energy)

Organisation: UNDP Fiji Multi Country office

Duration: May 2020 to March 2023

Responsibilities and achievements:

- Provided oversight and ensured implementation of Multi Country Office Programme strategies focused on climate and energy.
- Performed role of Focal Point for UNDP Climate Promise (CP) initiative and energy portfolio and provided transformative projects and programmes support in Nauru, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga, Vanuatu, Tuvalu.
- Facilitated implementation annual work-plans, including contracting responsible parties, assist with drafting ToR, Letter of Agreement, and MoU.
- Ensured effective management projects focusing on quality control, social and environmental safeguarding.
- Facilitated strategic partnerships and implementation of the resource mobilization strategy.
- Conducted financial and substantive monitoring and evaluation of the projects, identification of operational and financial risk, developed solutions, evaluation of the programme impact, audit management and response.
- Built relationships with government counterparts, other UN agencies and stakeholder for synergic impact.
- Ensured provision of top quality policy advice services to the Government and facilitation of knowledge building and management.
- Supported at policy level to enhance the NDC of Vanuatu, Nauru, Tonga, Kiribati, and Palau and technical support to revise the NDCs of Cook Island, Niue, and Samoa.
- Successfully implemented five vertical fund climate mitigation projects and completed Stand-Alone Solar System project in Funafuti, Tuvalu project financed by UN India Partnership
- Mobilized USD 4.6 million Resource by developing proposal on Green Energy Transformation-Vanuatu from Japan Supplementary Budget

4. Environment Programme Analyst

Organisation: UNDP Nepal

Duration: May 2013 to May 2020

Responsibilities and achievements:

- Supported in conceptualizing, implementation and monitoring of SDGs localization model projects.
- Managed UNDP Country Office programme related to environment, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster management.
- Implemented UNDP programme strategies, managed multi donors project (Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme) and multi partners project (Ecosystem based Management)
- Coordinated and organised strategic planning, programme monitoring and evaluation.
- Provided assurance/oversight to Environment, Biodiversity, Climate change and Disaster Risk management related projects funded by GEF, Trust Fund and donors.
- Assured environmental and social safeguards followed in project implementation.
- Supported political, social, and economic situation and trends analysis in the country and provided inputs to key corporate programme management tools.
- Performed functions of manager, led recruitment, procurement, and financial management processes.
- Contributed to knowledge networks, knowledge development and capturing communities' practices.
- Lead the preparation of 6th National Report on Biological Diversity and successfully published the report.
- Mobilized 3 million resources for Nepal Climate Change Support Programme.
- Successfully implemented and closed Nepal Climate Change Support programme, Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme and Ecosystem based Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal project of UNDP.

5. Environment and Natural Resource Management Specialist

Organisation: UNDP Livelihood recovery for Peace (LRP) Project

Duration: May 2010 – April 2013

Responsibilities and Achievements

- Designed and implemented program on short-term and long-term employment of youth through mobilisation of Natural and Local Resources.
- Worked as focal point of youth mobilisation for conflict reduction and establishing peace and social cohesion.
- Coordinated with Government and Non-government organisation and mobilised resources for conservation of natural resource and peace building activities.
- Conducted contextual and stakeholder analysis for effective design and implementation of program.
- Implemented income generating and forest product based micro-enterprise development activities for youth based on sustainable use of natural resources.
- Built linkages with academic institutions, training institutions, NGOs, and other government and nongovernment organizations for effective implementation of environment conservation activities.
- Organised training/orientation to communities and households on sustainable natural resource management, alternative energy promotion, and disaster risk reduction.

6. Value Chain Development Advisor**Organisation:** SNV Nepal **Working area:** Central Terai**Duration:** May 2007 to April 2010**Responsibilities and Achievements**

- Delivered advisory services with quality standards of SNV to strengthen the value chains of Forest and Agriculture products.
- Analysed Non-timber Forest Products and agriculture sub sector and developed strategies.
- Capacitated value chain actors on product management, input supply mechanism including post-harvest technologies and market linkages to increase Production, Income and Employment
- Coordinated and linked lead farmers networks with chamber of commerce and Business Development Services and capacitated meso-level institutions
- Developed mechanism to attract private sector investment in Agriculture and Forest product-based enterprise development,
- Coordinated and managed preparation of Forest sector strategy for SNV East Asia Region

7. Program Manager**Organisation:** Resource and Environment Conservation Society**Duration:** January 2004 to April 2007**Responsibilities and Achievements**

- Coordinated and managed installation of green/alternative energy service projects.
- Resource mobilization and implementation of diversified projects based on organisational expertise.
- Built functional and professional linkage with government, donor agencies and stakeholders.
- Successfully implemented "Livelihood Program for *Dhanga*" supported by Embassy of Australia.
- Worked as a team member for the Resource Assessment / Initial Environment Examination of *Taxus bacata* in Mustang district of Nepal.
- Implemented Bamboo Eco-housing Project" being responsible as Program Manager. A bamboo based integrated project for freed bonded Labour (*Tharu* ethnic community) funded by GEF/UNDP
- Implemented "Gender and Good Governance for Sustainable Livelihood Project" as Team Leader, supported by British Embassy, Nepal

Trainings**Received**

- Strategic thinking, LinkedIn online training, 16, July 2023
- Leadership and communication, UNDP MCO, Fiji, Aug 2022
- Biodiversity Financing, UNDP online course April to May 2019
- Leadership Development Management, UNDP online course September 2017 to Oct 2018
- Climate Change and Green Low-Carbon Development. 6-26 Sep 2016, National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) /Academy of Microeconomics Research (AMR), Beijing, People's Republic of China
- Team Building Training, 19-21 December 2008; Ministry of Forest/BISEP-ST Program
- Value Chain Program Design Promoting Market Based Solutions for MSMEs, 10-14 Dec 2007, SNV Nepal
- "Advisory Learning Program", 30 Sep- 5 Oct 2007, SNV Regional Office, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Gender and Development Training, 2003, organised by DidiBahini, Kathmandu, Nepal

Training - workshop Conducted/Organised

- Validation workshop, Arab Climate Adaptation Partnership, a regional program on
- Orientation workshop, Climate Resilient Development Plan, Nepal Climate Change Support Programme
- Facilitated training on "Youth for Good Governance and Peace
- Facilitated training on "Youth for Social Cohesion and Peace
- Value Chain Development Training for officials of Forest Development Project, Nepal,
- National workshop on "Value Chain Analysis of selected Herbs" supported by ICIMOD, IUCN, GTZ-PSP
- Workshop on " Value Chain Analysis for Bamboo", supported by GTZ-PSP Nepal
- Organised "Philippine style Bamboo Furniture Manufacturing Training" supported by LFP, SDC, GTZ

- Role of women in environmental conservation and home garden management

Academic Qualification

MA. Sociology

M.Sc. and B.Sc. Forestry

B. Commerce

Language

- Well versed in written and spoken English, Nepali and Hindi as well as in local dialect- Bhojpuri.

Computer Literacy

Proficient in

- Windows operating system and MS Word, MS Excel, MS ACCESS, Power Point packages

Workshop /Conference/Seminar

- Pacific Regional Workshop on Gender and Climate Finance, 25-27 November 2025, Nadi, Fiji
- Pacific Regional Workshop on Holistic Approaches to NDC Implementation, 20-22 August 2025, Nadi, Fiji
- 6th Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific, 25-27 August 2025 Nadi, Fiji
- Regional Cross-Learning Workshop on Delivering Solutions: Accelerating Gender-Responsive Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 3-5 March, 2025
- Arab Water Week, Cairo, Egypt, 13-17 October 2024
- Stakeholder consultation meeting to formulate Regional Climate Adaptation Program, Egypt, 26-29 Dec 2023
- Strategic Planning Workshop, National Center for Vegetation Cover, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 1-3 Oct 2023
- Planning Workshop, Micronesia Public Sector Building Energy Efficiency Project, Federated States of Micronesia, 25 Nov to 7 Dec 2022
- 4th BIOFIN Regional Workshop for Europe, Asia and the Pacific, Cebu City, the Philippines, 11-13 Sep 2018
- Payment for Ecosystem Services as a tool of BIOFIN, 29-31 May 2018 Sri Lanka
- 3rd Global BIOFIN Conference: The Biodiversity Financing Initiative, 6-9 March 2018, **Chennai, India**
- The Protected Area Financing Regional Forum: Innovation, Inclusiveness, and Impact Strengthening and Diversifying Financing for Protected Areas, 10-12 October 2017, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
- Seminar on Earthquake Emergency Search and Rescue 16th-21st April 2017, Beijing, China
- 10th Community Based Adaptation Workshop, April 24 -28, 2016, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Promoting resilience of ecosystems and societies, Tbilisi, Georgia, 18-20 April 2016
- Community Based Disaster Risk Management Workshop, November 2014, Kunming, China
- Ecosystem Based Adaptation Technical Workshop, Feb 2014, Slovakia
- Regional Meeting of Forest Products Network 18-20 November 2008, Vientiane, Laos
- Portal training, 18-19 February, 2008 Hanoi, Vietnam,
- Advisory Learning Course, 30 September to 5 October 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam
- International conference to promote development of non-timber forest products and services, 16-21 September 2007 INBAR, Beijing, China
- International workshop on development of Bamboo, Nanping, China, Paper presented on " Experience of Bamboo eco-housing program in western Nepal" 2006
- Bamboo weaving, processing and furniture technology training, 10-31 October 2005, Sichuan Province, China
- Implementation Conference: Stakeholder Action for Our Common Future, 24-26 August 2002 Johannesburg "Side event of World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD), 2002".
- Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor, Indonesia, 15 Oct- 21 Dec 2001

International visit

Indonesia, India, China, Vietnam, Laos, Slovakia, Austria, Georgia, Qatar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, UAE, Bangladesh, South Africa, Thailand, Shri Lanka, Fiji, Australia, Vanuatu, Nauru, USA, Federated State of Micronesia, Tuvalu, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, Kiribati and Tonga

Papers, Blogs & Publication

“UNDP Climate Promise supports Kiribati’s nationally determined contribution submission at COP27”

<https://www.undp.org/pacific/blog/undp-climate-promise-supports-kiribatis-nationally-determined-contribution-submission-cop27>

“Climate Action builds momentum in the Pacific amidst COVID-19” <https://www.undp.org/pacific/blog/climate-action-builds-momentum-pacific-amidst-covid-19>

“Transformative Power of Innovative Street Light in Vanuatu”

<https://www.climateinvestmentplatform.net/post/transformative-power-of-innovative-street-lighting-in-vanuatu>

“Bio-Finance and Biodiversity in Nepal”. 25 years of achievements on Biodiversity conservation in Nepal, Ministry of Forest and environment, 2018

“Political ecology of Collaborative Forest Management”. Sungabha, Year-5 no. 1, 2012, Publication of Institute of Forestry, Hetauda, Nepal

“Productive Forest Management Modality: Experience and Challenges in Ownership and Benefit Sharing”.

Paper presented in National Conference on Forest People interaction, Pokhara, 7-8 June 2010

“Collaboration for Impact: The Lemon grass Value Chain development in Central Terai of Nepal”, SNV Forest Products Asia Regional Newsletter, Year 2 No. 4, 2010 February

“Promotion of Non-timber Forest Products through Community Forestry: Improving livelihoods in Central Terai by applying innovative value chain approach”. Paper presented in Community Forestry International Workshop, Pokhara, 15-18 September 2009 (co-author)

“Value Chain Analysis and Intervention design for NTFP based small and Micro enterprise development”, Sungabha, Year- 2 no. 2, 2008, Publication of Institute of Forestry, Hetauda, Nepal

“Promotion and Trade of Tropical NTFPs in Central Terai of Nepal”, International conference to promote the development of non-timber forest products and services, 16-21 September 2007 INBAR, Beijing, China

“Bamboo Eco-Houses: An Ecological and Economic Solution to Housing Problem”. Bamboo Update, Quarterly Newsletter of RES-Nepal Vol 1 No. (III).

“Bamboo: From Poor Man’s Timber to Green Gold” *Hamro Kalpbrikcha*, publication of Department of Forest, Nepal. Issue 164:10-14, Jan-Feb 2005

Personal Profile

Date of Birth:	23-07-1971	Nationality:	Nepali
Sex:	Male	Marital status:	Married

Permanent Address: Gaur Municipality ward no. 5, Rautahat District, Nepal

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe me, my qualifications, and my experience I agree to provide upon request all necessary documents, transcripts, and letter to substantiate the information.



Vijay Prasad Kesari

Reference:

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