

# CLIMATE CHANGE AND POLICY MEASURES IN NEPAL

## PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS SURVEY

The purpose of this survey is to identify the key factors of climate change risk perception in Nepal and their relationship to support for policy choices. Survey results will be used in a thesis to be submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Philosophy in Risk Psychology, Environment, and Safety (RIPENSA) at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

Participation in the survey is voluntary, all who participate are anonymous. You will not be asked to give any personally identifying information. The results will be presented so that no individual respondents may be recognized.

All questions are answered by marking the reply option most appropriate for you. Except for a few knowledge questions, there are no “correct” or “incorrect” answers to the questions in this survey. For methodological reasons some questions may look similar. Still, it is important for the quality of the results that all questions are answered. However, if you feel uncomfortable answering a question, just skip to the next one. Answering the questions takes about 10 to 15 minutes.

Thank you for being willing to participate in the survey,

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Department of Psychology

<b>READ THIS BEFORE YOU START.</b>	This form will be automatically read. Please follow these instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use a black or blue ball point pen. Write clearly. Mark boxes like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Errors may be cancelled by filling the box completely.</li><li>• Mark one box only per question unless otherwise instructed.</li></ul>
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1. Your sex:                          2. In what region is your *permanent* residence?
- Female.....  <sub>1</sub>    Male...  <sub>2</sub>                      Tarai region....  <sub>1</sub>    Mountain region...  <sub>2</sub>    Himalaya region ..  <sub>3</sub>

*Please write CAPITALS ONLY, one character per field.*

3. What is your field of study? ⇒

4. On a scale from 1 to 7, how concerned are you *in general* about climate change (or global warming)? ⇒
- |                             |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                            |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Not at all concerned</i> | 1                        | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        | 6                        | <i>Very much concerned</i> |
|                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |                            |

5. How likely do you think it is that each of the following will occur during the next 50 years *due to global warming*?

<i>Not at all likely</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<i>Very likely</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/>						

1. Worldwide, most people's standard of living will decrease .....
2. Worldwide water shortages will occur .....
3. Increased rates of serious disease worldwide .....
4. Your own standard of living will decrease .....
5. Water shortages will occur where you live .....

- |   | Strongly<br>disagree     | 1                        | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        | 6                        | 7                        | Strongly<br>agree |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 6. Your own risk of getting a serious disease will increase.....                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 7. How serious a threat do you believe global warming is to <i>non-human nature</i> ? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 8. How serious are the current impacts of global warming around the world?.....             | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |

6. To the best of your knowledge, are each of the following a major or primary cause of global warming, a minor or secondary cause, or no cause at all?

- |   | Major or<br>primary<br>cause<br>1 | Minor or<br>secondary<br>cause<br>2 | No cause<br>at all<br>3  |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Use of chemicals to destroy insect pests.....                | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. People driving their cars .....                              | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Depletion of ozone in the upper atmosphere.....              | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. People heating and cooling their homes.....                  | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Nuclear power generation.....                                | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Use of aerosol spray cans .....                              | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Pollution/emissions from business and industry .....         | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Use of coal and oil by utilities and electric companies..... | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Destruction of tropical forests .....                        | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

7. Everyone holds numerous values in our lives with varying degrees of importance.

Please rate the importance of each of the following values as life-guiding principles for yourself:

- |  | Not at all<br>important<br>1 | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        | 6                        | 7                        | Very<br>important |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <i>Power</i> : Attainment of social status and prestige, control or dominance over people and resources; authority, wealth, social power .....                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 2. <i>Achievement</i> : Competence, ambitiousness, being successful, capable, influential....  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 3. <i>Hedonism</i> : Pleasure or sensuous gratification for oneself, enjoying life .....   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 4. <i>Stimulation</i> : Excitement, novelty, challenges in life; a varied life, an exciting life .....   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 5. <i>Self-direction</i> : Creativity, freedom, choosing one's own goals, curiousness, being independent.....  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 6. <i>Universalism</i> : Understanding, appreciation, tolerance, protection of welfare of all people and nature, unity with nature, protecting the environment .....               | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 7. <i>Benevolence</i> : Need of affiliation, helpfulness, loyalty; being forgiving, honest, responsible; true friendship, mature love .....  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 8. <i>Tradition</i> : Respect, commitment, acceptance of customs and ideas of one's culture or religion, humbleness, devoutness, accepting one's portion in life, moderation ..... | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 9. <i>Conformity</i> : Obedience, self-direction, politeness, honouring parents and elders .....   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |
| 10. <i>Security</i> : Safety, harmony, social order, family security, national security, sense of belonging, healthiness .....   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |

8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about environmental issues?

Not at all likely  
Very likely

- |   | 1                        | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        | 6                        | 7                        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. When humans interfere with nature, it often produces disastrous consequences .....                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The balance of nature is very delicate and easily upset .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The balance of nature is strong enough to cope with the impacts of modern industrial nations.....        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Humans are severely abusing the environment.....   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The so-called "ecological crisis" facing humankind has been greatly exaggerated ....                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The earth is like a spaceship with very limited room and resources .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. We are approaching the limit of the number of people the earth can support .....                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Humans will eventually learn enough about how nature works to be able to control it ..                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. If things continue on their present course, we will soon experience a major ecological catastrophe ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Human ingenuity will insure that we do not make the earth uninhabitable.....                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Despite our abilities, humans are still subject to the laws of nature.....                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. The earth has plenty of natural resources if we just learn how to develop them .....                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Plants and animals have as much right as humans to exist .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Humans have the right to modify the natural environment to suit their needs .....                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Humans were meant to rule over the rest of nature.....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

9. Have you personally experienced the natural disasters of flooding and/or landslides in your neighbourhood? ⇒

Only flooding .....  1 Flooding and landslides.....  3  
Only landslides .....  2 None, or don't know .....  4

10. Please rate the following questions with respect to the possibility that flooding may occur in your neighbourhood during *the next 20 years*.

Not at all  
Very much

- |   | 1                        | 2                        | 3                        | 4                        | 5                        | 6                        | 7                        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. How likely do you think it is that flooding will occur?.....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. How well do you know how to prepare in order to mitigate flooding? .....                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. How much control do you feel that you have over the severe outcomes of flooding? ...         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. How likely do you think it is that your life will be in danger due to flooding? .....        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. How likely do you think that your "quality of life" will decrease due to flooding? .....     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. How likely do you think it is that flooding will cause substantial financial loss for you?.. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. In general, how afraid are you of flooding?.....   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

11. Please rate the following questions with respect to the possibility that landslides may occur in your neighbourhood during *the next 20 years*.

Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	Very much
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1. How likely do you think it is that landslides will occur? .....
2. How well do you know how to prepare in order to mitigate landslides? .....
3. How much control do you feel that you have over the severe outcomes of landslides? ...
4. How likely do you think it is that your life will be in danger due to landslides? .....
5. How likely do you think that your "quality of life" will decrease due to landslides? ....
6. How likely do you think it is that landslides will cause substantial financial loss for you? ..
7. In general, how afraid are you of landslides? .....

12. How well do you trust the leadership of the following institutions or individuals with respect to initiatives taken to mitigate the effects of climate change?

Don't trust at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	Strongly trust
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1. Scientists .....
2. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs).....
3. International non-governmental organizations (NGOs) .....
4. Central government .....
5. Local government .....
6. Educational institutions (academic research programs) .....
7. Environmental groups.....

13. Different types of climate change policies are adopted around the globe.

How much do you support or oppose the following mitigation policies to minimize the adverse impact of climate change?

Strongly oppose	1	2	3	4	5	6	Strongly support
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1. Requiring cars and trucks to have higher fuel efficiency.....
2. Increasing taxes on all fossil fuels (e.g. gasoline, oil, coal, kerosene).....
3. Creating an international market to trade permissions to emit carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) .
4. Largely replacing fossil fuel with nuclear energy .....
5. Funding research to make renewable energy technologies cheaper and more efficient ..
6. Fertilizing the ocean to increase algae growth.....
7. Changing life styles to reduce consumption (e.g., using public transportation instead of private cars, buying environmental-friendly products only) .....
8. Planting trees.....
9. Putting more dust in the atmosphere .....
10. Limiting population growth .....
11. Reducing air pollution from toxic chemicals.....