

Community engagement in climate action

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The 'Learning for Change' project is currently underway in three government secondary schools in a rural hilly area east of Kathmandu. The aim of the 'Learning of Change' project is to enhance the quality and relevance of education by increasing the use of inquiry-based and participatory teaching methods. The project aims to assist young people in developing the skill sets necessary to become more self-reliant and to develop and adapt to quickly changing situations for themselves, their families, and their community. With an emphasis on regional climate change, the programme primarily provides Class IX teachers with teacher training in education for sustainable development. It entails promoting research into past climatic variations and their effects on the extinction of biodiversity and the degradation of people's means of subsistence. To improve their circumstances and save the environment to develop climate resilience, the programme encourages young people to share their discoveries with the community, come up with solutions, and work together. The programme evaluates young people's skill development as well; some stay in their communities to promote change. The most effective ways to share their discoveries are through theatre, exhibitions, and music. Educators and parents discovered that theatre provided youngsters with the self-assurance to express their ideas. Students even organised themselves to perform in their communities, bringing their drama performances to neighbouring schools. Parents felt the students were raising important concerns with their voices. The performances made the audience more aware of local climate change issues and demonstrated how effective theatre is in evoking strong emotional reactions. Project-based learning can have a significant impact on climate change in and around communities by helping to develop more climate resilience, biodiversity protection, and alternative farming methods. The cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains that can have long-lasting and profound effects on people's lives are addressed in this strategy for enhancing climate resilience.