

### Current Positions

- 2021–Date : **Associate Professor**, Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.  
(a) **Teaching**: Mathematical Methods (I Sem MA); Statistical Methods (II Sem MA); Econometrics (III Sem MA and II Sem MPhil/PhD); and Nepalese Economics (IV Sem MA) (b) **Supervising**: 6 MA, 4 MPhil & 2 PhD theses and (c) **Leading**: Two research projects as the PI.  
**Member(2023 to Date)**, Research Committee: Departmental committee responsible for research management (External calls, thesis proposals and other research activities).  
**Member(2020 to Date)**, The Economics Subject Committee: Apex body responsible for planning and developing curriculum throughout the university for all levels; currently working on new MSc Economics and MPhil leading to PhD related curriculum..
- 2018–Date : **Research Fellow**, Global Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, Kathmandu, Nepal.

### Current Research Projects

- June 2024– **PI: “An Evaluation of Fiscal Capacity, Institutional Quality, and Leadership Effectiveness of Local Governments in Nepal.”**  
Research Grant: Competitive Research Grant (UGC-CRIG-80/81-XXX-XX; ~ \$60K); Collaborative Research and Innovation Grant, University Grant Commission, Nepal  
**Summary**, The study aims to critically assess fiscal federalism in Nepal, a contentious issue in political and public discourse. Critics argue it is costly, funded by migrant workers and taxpayers. The shift from decentralized to devolved power since 2016 under the constitution transfers significant governance power to local governments. Our research examines whether fiscal federalism incurs excessive costs by analyzing the financial records of all government levels. We will investigate revenue sources, expenditure patterns, and local perceptions to align findings with current political trends. This evidence-based approach seeks to inform policy and clarify the debate surrounding fiscal federalism’s efficacy and criticism in Nepal..
- Feb 2023– **PI: “Fiscal indiscipline, resource curse & elite capture in sub-national governments”**.  
Research Grant: Competitive Research Grant (TU-NPRP-79/80-ERG-06; ~ \$40K); National Priority Research Project, Research Coordination and Development Council, Tribhuvan University  
**Summary**, This research investigates the effectiveness of fiscal federalism in Nepal by analyzing the fiscal allocation of all (753+7=760) local governments over the past five years. The study assesses whether this system has become financially unsustainable and if resource-rich local governments are prone to financial mismanagement. It also explores the impact of local leaders’ biases on public goods decision-making. The findings aim to provide evidence-based insights into the pros and cons of fiscal federalism, aiding policymakers and contributing to the ongoing debate.
- 2022–2024 **PI: “Do conservation areas matter?”**.  
Research Grant/Ongoing: South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) at International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development(ICIMOD); Grant Reference No.: PNREQ000705.(~ \$30K)

**Summary**, *Despite the widespread positive perception of conservation areas(CA) of Nepal, more is needed to know about their effects on poverty reduction, empowerment, and forest quality. Using a quasi-experimental design, we test whether CAs reduced poverty, promoted women empowerment, and improved forest restoration in Nepal. We use three rounds of national censuses and remote sensing data over two decades to examine the effectiveness of CAs. Further, we explore the significance of the degree of protection based on the IUCN's classification.*

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## Education

- 2014–2019 : **PhD in Economics**, *The University of Hull, UK.*  
Thesis Topic: Liberalization, Growth and Distribution as a Process of Economic Development  
**Essay 1**, *Liberalization, Growth & Distribution: Panel Regression & CGE Analysis.*  
**Essay 2**, *Financial Globalization, Institutional Quality and Economic Growth: OLG Analysis.*  
**Essay 3**, *Welfare Gain from International Trade: AIDS Analysis.*
- 2014–2015 : **PGCert in Economics Research**, *The University of Hull, UK.*  
Research Report: Liberalization, Growth and Distribution in Nepal: a CGE Modelling Exercise.
- 2006–2007 : **Course in Applied Econometrics**, *Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal.*  
Nature of the Course: A taught MBA course in Econometric Analysis using STATA.
- 2002–2004 : **MA in Economics**, *Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.*  
Thesis: Money Supply Analysis of Nepal: A Money Multiplier Approach.
- 1998–2001 : **BA in Mathematics & Economics**, *Prithvi Narayan College, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.*  
Functional Paper: Mechanics

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## Professional Courses and Degrees

- 2022 : **ITC Certified Training of Trainers**, *TOT on Trade Map and Market Access Map training offered by International Trade Center, Held in Kathmandu, Nepal.*  
Coverage: Trade Map Analysis, Market Access Map analysis, and other ITC tools for international trade analysis(November 28 to December 2, 2022)
- 2022 : **LMIS**, *Lanour Market Information System, International Training Centre of the ILO, Italy.*  
Coverage: Data collection, Interpretation, Analysis and Report writing on Labour Market statistics(26 Sept-11 Nov, 2022)
- 2021 : **BIMSTEC/CBIC**, *"Bay of Bengal Regional Trade and Connectivity Capacity Building Program" organised by South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), in collaboration with the USAID and U.S. Department of State-funded Cross-Border Infrastructure and Connectivity project (CBIC), An Online course from October 2021 to October 2022 .*  
Coverage: .
- 2021 : **ITC Certified Trade Analyst**, *Trade Analysis and Export Market Research using ITC Tools .*  
Nature and Coverage of the course: International Trade Centre
- 2018 : **CQRM**, *Certified in Quantitative Risk Management, Accredited by IIPER, AACSB,& PMI, UK.*  
Coverage: Risk Analysis; Risk Simulation; Optimization; Forecasting; Real Options Analysis; Applied Statistics; and Other.
- 2015 : **PGRITT**, *Postgraduate Researchers Introduction to Teaching Course, UK.*  
Coverage and Workshops: Student Learning, Small Group Learning, Assessment & Feedback, Critical Reflection & Professional Development, Technology Enhanced Learning, and Managing Large Size Classes

- 2015 : **The Challenges of Global Poverty**, MITx: 14.73x; 12 weeks long edX online course.  
Nature and Coverage of the Course: An online Micro Masters course in Data, Economics, and Development Policy (DEDP) developed and taught by Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo which covers Introduction to Poverty Traps and Experiments on Food, Health, Education, Family, Risk and Insurance, Credit, Savings, Entrepreneurship, and Institutions & Conclusion.
- 2014 : **Course on Evaluating Social Programs**, MITx: 101xs; four weeks long edX JPAL online course.  
Nature and Coverage of the Course: Introduction to randomized control trial (RCT) techniques on social program evaluation developed and taught by Rachel Glennerster and Esther Duflo which covers design, measure outcomes, manage data, determine the appropriate sample size, and techniques for analyzing and interpreting results.

## Recent Research and Consultancy

- Feb 2023– **Principal Investigator: "An economic inquiry into fiscal management practices in sub-national governments of Nepal"**.  
Research Grant/Ongoing: Excellence Research Grant (TU-NPRP-79/80-ERG-06); National Priority Research Project, Research Coordination and Development Council, Tribhuvan University
- Jan 2023– **Principal Investigator: "HDI Estimation for all 85 Palikas of Gandaki Province, Nepal"**.  
Gandaki Province Policy and Planning Commission (GPPPC), Gandaki Provincial Government, Nepal. Status: Completed
- June 2022– **Principal Investigator: "Do conservation areas matter?"**.  
Research Grant/Ongoing: South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) at International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development(ICIMOD); Grant Reference No.: PNREQ000705.
- June 2022– **Team Member: "Mid-Term Review of National Periodic Plan"**.  
Government of Nepal Grant: National Planning Commission (NPC), Government of Nepal and National Study Center/ Completed.
- March 2022– **PI: "Impact of COVID-19 on Achieving SDGs and Required Strategy"**.  
UNDP Grant: National Planning Commission (NPC), Government of Nepal and National Study Center/ Completed.
- Jan. 2022– **Co-PI: "Assessing Revenue Potential in Gandaki Province, Nepal"**.  
Province Level Governance Support Program (PLGSP) and Gandaki Province Policy and Planning Commission (GPPPC), Gandaki Provincial Government, Nepal/ Completed.
- Oct. 2021– **Team Member: "Social Accounting Matrix Development task and COVID-19 Impact Assessment on Nepalese Economy"**.  
Development Strategy and Governance Division, and Theme Leader, IFPRI, Washington, DC/ Completed
- Sept. 2021– **Co-PI: "Analysis of Vulnerability and Marginalization Risks in Nepal"**.  
A Global Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies (GIIS) and USAID Grant/ Completed
- June 2021– **PI: "Analysis of Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Nepal"**.  
Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University & Policy Research Institute, Government of Nepal/ Completed.
- Jan. 2020– **PI: "An analysis of forward and backward linkages and value chain for goods and services in Nepal"**.  
Tribhuvan University & Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Government of Nepal/ Completed

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## Policy Formulation Experience

2011–2013 **Member, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council** .

Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Government of Nepal, Simhadarbar, Kathmandu.

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## Selected Publications

### Journal Articles

- 2022 Tika Ram Poudel, Prakash Chandra Aryal, **Resham, Thapa-Parajuli**, Arjun Thapa, Shailendra Kumar Yadav, and Manab Prakash. Depredation loss drives human–wildlife conflict perception in the trans-himalayas. *Journal of Environmental Management*, volume 311. Elsevier, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2022.114763>, 2022.
- 2021 **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, Saurav Aryal, Majed Alharthi, and Ramesh Paudel. Energy consumption, export performance and economic growth in a landlocked developing country: The case of Nepal. *AIMS:Energy*, volume 9(3), pages 516–533. AIMS Press, 2021.
- 2020 Ramesh Paudel, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, and Majed Alharthi. Electricity consumption and export performance: Evidence from Nepal. *International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy*, volume 10(6), pages 1–7. Lifescience Global, <https://doi.org/10.32479/ijeep.10524>, 2020.
- 2020 Ramesh Paudel, Chakrapani Acharya, and **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**. The role of cooperatives, remittances, and infrastructure in export performance of Nepal: Ardl approach of cointegration. *Sumerianz Journal of Economics and Finance*, volume 3, pages 151–159. Sumerianz, <https://doi.org/10.47752/sjef.310.151.159>, 2020.
- 2020 Mohamed Elheddad, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, and Majed Alharthi. Foreign direct investment (FDI) and natural resources: Blessing or curse? empirical evidence from the gulf cooperation council (GCC). *Journal of Reviews on Global Economics*, pages 232–241. Lifescience Global, <https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-7092.2020.09.22>, 2020.
- 2020 Shital Bhandary, Srijan Lal Shrestha, Ram Prasad Khatiwada, Deep Narayan Shah, Nabin Narayan Munankarmi, Megha Raj Banjara, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, Krishna Das Manandhar, Rameshwar Adhikari, and Reshma Tuladhar. Trend analysis, modelling and impact assessment of covid-19 in Nepal. *medRxiv (Pre-Print)*. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2020.
- 2019 Bharat Babu Shrestha, Uttam Babu Shrestha, Krishna Prasad Sharma, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, Anjana Devkota, and Mohan Siwakoti. Community perception and prioritization of invasive alien plants in Chitwan-Annapurna Landscape, Nepal. *Journal of environmental management*, volume 229, pages 38–47. Elsevier, 2019.
- 2018 Keith Wiebe, Monika Zurek, Steven Lord, Natalia Brzezina, Gnel Gabrielyan, Jessica Libertini, Adam Loch, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, Joost Vervoort, and Henk Westhoek. Scenario development and foresight analysis: exploring options to inform choices. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*, volume 43, pages 545–570. Annual Reviews, 2018.
- 2018 **Resham Thapa-Parajuli** and Ramesh Paudel. Tourism sector employment elasticity in Nepal: An analysis. *Economic Journal of Nepal*, volume 41(150), pages 1–11. CEDECON, TU, 2018.
- 2018 **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, Rohini Devkota, Utsab Bhattarai, and Tek Maraseni. A preference-based analysis of community level flood early warning techniques in the West Rapti River Basin, Nepal. *J Geogr Nat Disast*, volume 8, pages 2167–0587, 2018.

- 2018 Ramesh Paudel and **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**. Gulliver effect in macroeconomic policies in landlocked developing countries: A comparative study. *Economic Journal of Nepal*, volume 41(149), pages 18–34. CEDECON, TU, 2018.
- 2018 Umesh Khatri, **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**, and Uttam Paudel. Willingness to pay for water hyacinth control in Nepal. *American Journal of Environmental Sciences*, volume 14, pages 226–233, 2018.
- 2016 **Resham Thapa-Parajuli** and Niranjan Devkota. Impact of climate change on wheat production in Nepal. *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology*, volume 9(2), pages 1–14, 2016.
- 2015 Anup KC and **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**. Climate change and its impact on tourism in the Manaslu conservation area, Nepal. *Tourism Planning & Development*, volume 12, pages 225–237. Taylor & Francis, 2015.
- 2014 **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**. Determinants of informal employment and wage differential in Nepal. *Journal of Development and Administrative Studies*, volume 22, pages 37–50, 2014.
- 2014 Anup KC and **Resham Thapa-Parajuli**. Tourism and its impact on livelihood in Manaslu conservation area, Nepal. *Environment, development and sustainability*, volume 16, pages 1053–1063. Springer, 2014.

## Working Papers and Manuscripts

- 2023 **“Structural divergence in gender wage gap distribution Nepal”**.  
**Summary**, We study the evolution of selection corrected gender wage gap over two decades (1998-2018) using Arellano and Bonhomme (ECTA, 2017)'s quantile-Copula approach. After decomposing the gap distribution with Chernozhukov et. al. (ECTA, 2013), we find that by 2018 almost all of the gap becomes structural. Further, we explore household dynamics, differences in spousal-earning potential and time allocation, through gendered perspective to understand the previous result, (with: Manab Prakash, Tilak Kshetri & Sanjeet Singh Thapa).
- 2023 **“Migration destination and household endowments: A case of Nepalese rural households”**.  
**Summary**, The paper examines the factors affecting individual's decision of selecting a migration destination using a panel dataset of Nepalese rural households. We find that available household assets remains the strongest key determinant of destination choice, with the existence of destination ladder. Specifically, households with higher asset endowment exhibit an increased likelihood of choosing OECD countries followed by Gulf, Asia, and India, (with: Manab Prakash, Tilak Kshetri & Sanjeet Singh Thapa).
- 2023 **“Informality and children's school performance in Nepal”**.  
**Summary**, We examine that the informality might push individuals into further vulnerable situations via fewer earnings, more workload, and no access to social security. We found that the parents working in informal jobs who are already paid less than their formal counterparts are less confident about the future school performance of their kids. Thus, informality could have been a vicious circle of vulnerability that less-educated parents are underpaid and less optimistic in household human capital formation through child education, (with: Maya Timsina and Anju Tamrakar).

## Database and Analysis Skills

Database : GTAP, WITS, WIOT, NLSS, NLFS

Packages : STATA, GAMS, R, SPSS, E-Views, LaTeX

## Professional Membership

2014–Date : **General Member**, *Royal Economic Society (RES)*, UK.

2014–Date : **General Member**, *American Economic Association (AEA)*, US.

2016–Date : **General Member**, *The Econometrics Society (TES)*, US.

## Visiting Faculty

2014–Date : **MPhil/PhD Program**, *Central Department of Economics*, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.  
Module: Macroeconomics (ECON 615) and Public Policy Implementation (ECON 618A)

2020– 2022 : **Master's in International Cooperation & Development**, Mid-West University, Nepal.  
Module: Economic Analyses (MICD 514): Microeconomics and Macroeconomics

2020– Date : **MSc: Environmental Health in Disaster(EHD) Program**, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.  
Module: Impacts of Disasters on Public Health, Economy and Development (EHD 513)

2022– Date : **Masters in Public Policy Analysis (MPPA), Program**, Kathmandu University, Nepal.  
Module: Economics for Public Policy