



Nepal Policy Institute
NRNA Academy, Non-Resident Nepali Association

1. Introduction

Nepal Policy Institute (NPI) has been conceived as a global initiative of Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) to unleash the potential of Nepali diaspora to build a prosperous Nepal as guided by ‘NRNA Vision 2020 and Beyond’. The 60th NRNA International Coordination Council (ICC) meeting held on the 8th December 2017 officially appointed the Chair of the institute with the mandate to develop its Terms of Reference (ToR) and its governance structure. According to the mandate of NRNA, NPI will be the only policy wing within NRNA and will deal with all policy issues including social, economic, environmental, science and technology policy to enhance sustainable development of Nepal. NPI aims to make a substantial contribution towards shaping the national agenda of Government of Nepal (GoN) focusing on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by engaging in research, policy analysis, and information disseminations through partnerships. NPI will be a common forum for Nepali, Non-Resident Nepali and foreign scholars to have critical research, debate and discussions on various policy issues affecting Nepal.

2. Goals and Objectives

2.1 Goal

The overall goal of the NPI will be to develop policies and advise the Government of Nepal (GoN) for sustainable development of Nepal.

2.2 The specific objectives will be to:

- a) formulate policies for Nepal’s economic development with special emphasis on investment, trade, tourism and the use of remittance
- b) develop policies for social development with special emphasis on education, health and migration

- c) develop policies for environmental sustainability,
- d) develop policies for science, technology and innovations, and
- e) provide a learning and sharing platform for good policies and practices (skill, knowledge and technology) from around the world.

3. Scope of work

The NPI will:

- a) provide support to policy formulation in sector specific areas as relevant by working closely with the GoN at Central and Provincial level.
- b) engage non-resident, resident and foreign scholars, academicians, professionals and researchers globally
- c) represent in policy discourse of the GoN, Nepali missions and organizations within and outside Nepal as an active participant
- d) work towards developing collaborative partnership with relevant national as well as international organizations
- e) develop strong functional linkages with national as well as international organizations
- f) form committees and subcommittees by thematic areas of policy research
- g) create a mechanism to connect NPI with all chapters of NRNA
- h) conduct quarterly meeting and submit report to NRNA Academy and NRNA

4. Strategies and Implementation:

The NPI will adopt following strategies to achieve its goal:

- a) Carry out critical discussions, studies and research on social, economic and environmental issues affecting Nepal's development
- b) Conduct workshops/seminars/symposiums/conferences to influence the policy formulation and implementation in Nepal
- c) Strengthen and collaborate with various national/international think tanks, academic institutions and policy making bodies of the GoN.
- d) Collaborate with Nepali diplomatic missions and concerned agencies of the GoN to promote Nepal's economic diplomacy

- e) Appoint representative of NPI with the recommendation from NRNA National Coordination Councils (NCC) to identify and study the good practices of other countries for possible adaptation in Nepal's context
- f) Set up an open access Nepal Policy Knowledge Platform (NPKP) to share policy related information
- g) Create an operational fund for NPI activities by mobilizing sponsors, donations, membership and support from NRNA ICC and NCCs

The detailed course of actions for the aforesaid strategies will be developed after the discussion in the meeting of NPI Executive Committee.

5. Governance of NPI:

NRNA ICC appoints the Chair of NPI EC and mandates the Chair to nominate the members and secretary in consultation with NRNA leadership. The Chair requires to submit the NPI ToR, the NPI EC members and coordinators of Thematic Research Committees to NRNA ICC. The submitted ToR and nominations become effective immediately after the endorsement by NRNA ICC.

5.1 Structure of NPI Executive Committee (EC)

NPI EC will be main executive body of NPI. EC will be responsible for developing strategies, action plan and implementing them. The structure of the EC will be as follows:

- Chair-1
- Members-9 (Maximum)
- Secretary-1

5.1.1 Role and Responsibilities

NPI Chair:

- Formulate NPI strategic policy, plan, program guidelines
- Work closely with NPI Committees, NRNA Academy Chair, NRN ICC and NRNA Secretariat and submit quarterly report
- Participate and represent NPI in NRN Academy, ICC meeting and NRNA Executive body meeting as needed
- Liaise and work closely with NPI Research Committees and provide strategic support

- Form an advisory team for the sustainable development of the institute
- Represent NRNA ICC to GoN, public/private institutions and donor forums

NPI Secretary:

- Convene NPI EC meeting quarterly
- Prepare meeting minutes and submit to NPI EC
- Work closely with the NPI Chair and NRNA secretariat on administrative matters
- Conduct annual auditing and submit the report to the Chair
- Develop and maintain NPI communication tools
- Compile the quarterly progress report and submit to NPI chair and the EC
- Offer to take on special assignments of NPI
- Provide assistance to the Chair to oversee day to day activities of NPI

NPI EC Member:

- Attend all EC and research committee meetings and functions
- Serve on thematic research committees/subcommittees actively
- Stay informed about the NPI's goals, services, policies and programs
- Review and advise the Chair on agenda and supporting documents prior to EC and other subcommittee meetings
- Offer to take on special assignments
- Keep up-to-date on developments in the institute's activities
- Follow conflict of interest and confidentiality policies of NRNA
- Take full responsibility to the duties as assigned by the Chair and the EC
- Assist the Chair and EC constructively to achieve its goals

5.2 NPI Research Committees

Research committees are the backbone of the NPI. Each research committee has to conduct analysis, study and research on pertaining policy issues affecting Nepal in their respective areas and report to the the NPI EC on the progress of their work regularly. NPI Chair identify the major thematic areas of research and nominate the coordinators for research committees and mandates to form a committee/subcommittee along with detailed ToR.

5.2.1 Committees on policy research and recommendations:

- a) Economic Policy Research Committee
Coordinator—1
Members –Maximum 4 Persons
- b) Social Policy Research Committee
Coordinator—1
Members –Maximum 4 Persons
- c) Environmental and Sustainability Policy Research Committee
Coordinator—1
Members –Maximum 4 Persons
- d) Science and Technology Policy Research Committee
Coordinator—1
Members –Maximum 4 Persons
- e) Policy Knowledge Management Committee
Coordinator—1
Members –Maximum 4 Persons

All these research committees can form sub research committees within their scope as feasible in consultation with NPI EC. The respective research committees will create opportunities to involve more resident and non-resident Nepali scholars who are willing to contribute to NPI through research projects.

5.2.2 Role and Responsibilities of Research Committees Coordinator:

- Form the research committee in consultation with NPI EC with ToR
 - Convene research committees bimonthly meeting
 - Take lead and develop project plan, proposal and its implementation and provide support to the committee members for successful completion of the project undertaken
 - Liaise with EC and other NPI research committees and provide strategic support
 - Submit the progress report, research output and recommendations to NPI Chair
 - Participate in the relevant NRNA activities and meetings at NCC and regional levels
 - Propose research subcommittees in its scope as realized feasible
- ### 5.3 NPI Country Representative
- NPI will appoint NPI Country Representatives globally

5.3.1 Role and Responsibilities of Country Representative

- To coordinate with NRNA National Coordinate Council of the represented countries to achieve NPI goals
- To assist NPI activities in and from the represented country
- To identify the good practices in the representing country and recommend to NPI for potential research projects
- To represent NPI in relevant forums in the representing country with the prior information to NPI EC
- Submit progress report quarterly a week prior to NPI EC meeting

6. Timeframe:

Current EC of NPI will be valid until the next General Assembly of NRNA in 2019. -----

Nepal Policy Institute (2017-19)

Executive Committee

1. **Chair:** Mr. Khagendra Dhakal (Bangkok)
2. **Member:** Dr. Chandra Laksamba (Oxford, UK)
3. **Member:** Prof. Rajendra Shrestha (Bangkok)
4. **Member:** Dr. Rudra Aryal (New Hampshire, USA)
5. **Member:** Mr. Sharad Neupane (Bangkok)
6. **Member:** Dr. Sita Ram Ghimire (Canberra, Australia)
7. **Member:** Ms. Sharu Joshi Shrestha (Kathmandu)
8. **Member:** Mr. Bijaya Rajbhandari (Kathmandu)
9. **Secretary:** Dr. Anil Sigdel (Washington DC)

Research Committees

1. Economic Policy Research Committee: Prof. Dr. Bishwa Nath Tiwari (Bangkok), **Coordinator**
2. Social Policy Research Committee: **TBC**
3. Environmental and Sustainability Policy Research Committee: **TBC**
4. Science and Technology Policy Research Committee: **TBC**
5. Policy Knowledge Management Committee: Mr. Jagan Karki (London), **Coordinator**

Country Representative: **TBC**

75 Representatives (One representative from each NRNA NCC)