

Interactive comment on “Brief communication “Loss and Damage from a catastrophic landslide in Nepal”” by Kees van der Geest and Markus Schindler

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General Comments: This paper is well written and found it extremely interesting as the pragmatic application of loss and damage concept is limited (at least in Nepal). In a climate vulnerable country like Nepal where landslides are very common, this paper is a big resource. The paper has tried to capture the essence of loss and damage by developing a tool to assess it. The brief communication has looked into a specific disaster with aspects covering the demographic situations, the preventive measures and impacts with some coping mechanisms.

Given the weight of the paper and loss and damage concept, the length seems to be short leaving several questions unanswered due to limited explanation provided for the

readers. There surely is scope to add some additional information. For instance, the geography and climatic condition of Sindhupalchok (Nepal) could have been explained a bit.

The methodology of the paper seemed to have only covered the perception based study. Giving some science based input with climatic trends, geophysical study and landslide context in the hills of Nepal would have added more value to the paper. I acknowledge that the paper only being a brief communication could have resulted this. There is sufficient scope for the authors to capture these aspects in some form of longer publication.

Specific Comments: Like all good papers this has some limitations that I have identified and will mention the important ones below

1. Under 1.1, - Providing some general information about Sindhupalchok's geography and general landslide conditions of the district would help the readers understand the context better. For instance, is this the only landslide or is the district prone to such events historically (trend). The local respondents may have given the information. - The concept of loss and damage is mostly associated with the extreme events attributed to climate change so having some climate information of the district would be beneficial too. - There is the mention of a tool to assess the loss and damage but what does it contain? Can this be shown in a figure or box?

2. Under 1.2, - The paper mentions of landslides being attributed to climate change while giving some room for doubt. But, since the paper has also developed a tool to assess it, it would be good to give bit more explanations on the linkage between landslide and climate change, which would immensely help the readers to understand better especially from the affected areas and the authorities responding to it. - The information as it is under this paragraph seems to be bit isolated in the context of this paper if not linked to the problem (loss and damage) that the paper tries to address.

3. Under 2.1 and 2.2, - Can any reference be made to the level of climate change

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knowledge of local people under the heading Household Profile? - I raise this because under 2.2 the paper mentions of people taking preventive measures to landslides and extreme events. Was this due to understanding of climate change impacts or just to respond to the potential risks that they face? - How frequent were the extreme events in the district?

4. Under 2.3 - Was there chance to disintegrate the impacts on women and children? Given such a massive disaster not only the poorest of the poor suffer heavily but there is equal chance that women and children were disproportionately affected too.

5. Under 2.4, - The on going coping contexts have been explained but did the respondents and local people have any alternative demand/solutions? Having this could add more value to the paper. - Could there be any suggestions provided by the authors as alternative measures and policy guidance for future?

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