



Centre for Social Change

सामाजिक परिवर्तन केन्द्र

WAR'S LONG SHADOW

Who bears the burden?

The collapse of socio-economic systems of a country during war might lead to poor resource management, directly impacting the already vulnerable and marginalized people.



Economically Poor

at the frontlines of the climate crisis, most vulnerable due to inflation

Women

are disproportionately affected, facing heavier workloads, food insecurity, and increased gender-based violence

Children

face the highest risk of malnutrition, displacement, and safety threats



Small-scale farmers and Indigenous Peoples

impacted due to reliance on fragile, rain-dependent agriculture; destruction of livelihoods, since they rely on lands for food and shelter



Refugees and Internally Displaced People

face increased threats by climate change in refugee camps such as access to clean water, extreme heat and cold ; also, war displacement drives people to resource-scarce areas

What happens after the war?

- Weak state control during peace transitions leads to the absence of strong institutions, which leads to weak environmental governance.
- Hazardous materials and waste during war have devastating long-term effects on human health and the environment.
- War emissions remain in the atmosphere for more than a century causing long-term climate damage.
- Resource-heavy construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure lead to high emissions after the war.
- Restoration of destroyed environments and ecosystems will take many years. The ecosystems destroyed are often irreplaceable.
- Post-war environmental impacts include deforestation, pollution of water and air, and soil degradation.

What about the future?



All of this shifts environmental and social burdens onto future generations, especially those already vulnerable



Rising defense spending will further weaken climate ambition



Future generations lose ecosystems, resilience, and natural heritage



Future mitigation will be harder and more costly



War and displacement cause poverty, environmental pressure, and further marginalization



The world is losing a battle against climate change and ecological collapse.

FUTURE NEPALI GENERATIONS

- 1 Will bear disproportionate climate impacts caused elsewhere
- 2 Will inherit climate risks intensified by global inaction and conflict dynamics

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