

# Reproducing Vulnerability Through Climate Change Adaptation? Policy Processes, Local Power Relations and Food Insecurity in northwestern Nepal

Sigrid.nagoda@nmbu.no

Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

# The multi-dimensional aspects of vulnerability





## Research area: the Humla district in Northwestern Nepal





Main Findings:

**1. Social structures and power relations are key drivers of local vulnerability.**





## 2. Humanitarian aid influences on preexisting social and power relations that shape vulnerability patterns





### 3. Mechanisms by which most vulnerable are marginalised in policy processes are sustained by apolitical approaches.



**Discussion:** What are the spaces for adaptation policies to truly address the power structures and inequities that drive vulnerability?

- First, all interventions take place in a complicated political space.
- Second, the concepts of “Local Participation” and “Community Participation” disguise the strong intra-community forces of discrimination and inequality that determine vulnerability.
- Third, Being neutral does not mean being a-political. We need to identify – and create - a real space for the transformation of the social structures that make people vulnerable.





**Thank you**