



LDC5  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES



**Asia-Pacific Regional Review Meeting on the  
Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action  
in Preparation for the Fifth United Nations Conference  
on the Least Developed Countries (UNLDC-5)**

**30 August - 2 September 2021  
UNHQ, Geneva, Switzerland, and virtual via Webex**

**Session 4: Building trade capacity and effective  
market access for LDCs with enhanced regional  
integration for graduating and graduated countries**

### **Biography of Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce**



Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh joined the Ministry of Commerce on June 2, 2021. Prior to this he worked as Secretary of the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs since July 7, 2020. He was promoted to the rank of Secretary to the Government on 5 December 2019. He also served as the Chairman of the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission. Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh was born in Haridhali village of Paikgacha upazila of Khulna district. His father's name is Srinibash Chandra Ghosh and mother's name Radha Rani Ghosh. He passed the Secondary School Certificate examination in 1979 from Haridhali Union Secondary School and the Higher Secondary School Certificate examination in 1981 from the government Brajalal University College, Khulna. He obtained both bachelor and master's degrees from Economics department of Dhaka University. In 1989, he entered the civil service as a member of the administration cadre. During his career, Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh served in various districts as Assistant Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner (Land), First Class Magistrate, Upazila Executive Officer and Additional Deputy Commissioner. He also served as the Project Director of the "Integrated Community Development Project" under the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board for more than three years. From 2011 to 2016, he served as the Commercial Counselor and Minister (Commerce) at the Bangladesh Embassy in Brussels, Belgium. In addition to working for improving bilateral trade and economic relations with Belgium and Luxemburg, he also looked after the issues pertaining to the economic interest of Bangladesh with the European Commission and the European Parliament. In the aftermath of Rana Plaza tragedy, he worked closely with the European Commission and the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade (INTA) to ensure Bangladesh's preferential market access in the EU. He played an important role in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the "Sustainability Compact" which was launched in collaboration with European Union, Bangladesh, the United States and the ILO. He served as Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary in the Export Wing of the Ministry of Commerce from 2016 to 2019. He attended various meetings and conferences organized by the European Union, OECD and ILO. As member of trade delegations, he has traveled to various countries in Europe, Asia and the Americas. Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh is married and blessed with one son and one daughter.





**Ambassador Monique T.G. van Daalen**

H.E. Monique T.G. van Daalen is the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva and Vice President of the Human Rights Council. She chairs the LDC sub-committee at the WTO. Ambassador Monique van Daalen is a member of the International Gender Champions network. Before taking on her current position, she served as the Ambassador of the Netherlands to Germany, as Director-General for Consular Affairs and Operational Management and as Deputy Secretary-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague. Prior to that, Ambassador Van Daalen served as the Consul-General of the Netherlands in Miami and as the First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations in New York. She holds a Master's degree in Modern Asian history from the University of Amsterdam.

# Biswo Nath Poudel

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## WORK EXPERIENCE:

Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal (July 2021~)

Chief Economic Advisor, Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI), September 2020~ July 2021)

Visiting Associate Professor of Economics, Kathmandu University, School of Management (Assistant Professor 2012~ August 2015, visiting associate professor after that )

Senior Economic Advisor, International Labor Organization (ILO), Kathmandu Office, 2017 February~ 2020, March

Advisor to Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission (September 2017~February 2018), Government of Nepal

Economist, Office of Millennium Challenge Nepal, a joint initiative of Millennium Challenge Corporation(USA) and Ministry of Finance(Nepal) (August, 2015~ September, 2017)

Columnist, Kantipur Daily (Nepal's top daily newspaper; biweekly column on economic issues), 2019 Oct~

Visiting International Scholar, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Berkeley (2011-12, 2013 August-August 2014)

Member, High Level Commission for Promotion of Pharmaceutical Firms in Nepal, Ministry of Health, Nepal (2017)

Senior Structural Transformation Economist, Asian Development Bank(ADB) (2015 Jan~ 2015 August )

Consultant Economist, Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Kathmandu, Nepal (2013 Jan-June)

Member of the Board of Directors, Sanima Bank Ltd, Kathmandu (July, 2012-June, 2013)

Member of Board of Directors, Sanima Middle Tamor Hydropower Company (73 MW capacity) (2018~ July 2021)

Member of Board of Trustees, Ullens Education Foundation, Lalitpur, Nepal (2019 August~July 2021)

Chairman, Innovative Investment Consulting Group, Durbarmarg, Kathmandu (2020 Oct~July 2021)

Chairman, Nepal Economics Olympiad, Board of Trustees (2020 ~July 2021)

Coordinator, MBA program, KUSOM (November, 2012-August, 2013)

## DEGREES RECEIVED:

PhD (2010) Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Berkeley

## PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

1. **Poudel, B.N.**, “*Impact of Microfinance lending on Agricultural Outputs: Evidence from Nepal*” , Center for Microfinance, Kathmandu (2021)
2. **Poudel, B.N.**, “*Impact of Microfinance Institutions on Social Violence*” , Center for Microfinance (CMF), Kathmandu (2020)
3. **Poudel, B.N.**, “*Geoeconomic Implication of Covid19 Pandemic and Prospect for Sustainable Economic Development for Nepal*” , Submitted to Friedrich Ebert Stichtung (FES), (2020)
4. **Poudel, B.N.**, “ *Gender Responsive Trade Policies in Nepal*” book chapter in Gender Dimension on Trade Facilitation, Cuts International, Jaipur, India, (2020)
5. **Poudel, B.N.** and Krishna Paudel, “Transboundary Extraction of Groundwater in the Presence of Hydraulic Fracturing”, *Natural Resources Modeling*(2019).
6. **Poudel, B.N.**, “Analysis of Labor Market in Nepal”, Submitted to International Labor Organization (Kathmandu Office) (2018)
7. **Poudel, B.N.**, “Mapping of Union Activities in Informal Sector in Asia” , Submitted to International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Singapore, 2018)
8. **Poudel, B. N., Yang Xie** and David Zilberman (2018) , Dams and Water Supply in Agriculture, (Book Chapter in the *Routledge Handbook of Agricultural Economics*, edited by. Andy Schmitz et al.)
9. **Poudel, B.N.** and Krishna Paudel, (2018), An Integrated Approach to Analyzing Risk in Bioeconomic Models, *Natural Resources Modeling* (2018)



10. **Poudel, B.N.** and Amisha Rauniyar, “How Does Group Lending Affect the Principal? Evidence from Nepal “(Presented at annual meeting of EAERE and World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economics, Gothenberg, Sweden (2018))
11. **Poudel, B.N. (2017)**, Leveraging Nepal’s Hydropower for Regional Prosperity, book chapter in Selected Essays on Nepalese Economy (ed. By Pant,B.D. et al.). Institute of Integrated Development Studies, Kathmandu, Nepal.
12. **Poudel, B.N.** (2017), One and One Half Bid Method With Partial Market Signal (2017), (Accepted for presentation in the Southern Economic Association annual meeting, Florida, Nov 2017)
13. Effect of Market Structure on Pest Resistance Build Up,(2016), With Jennifer Alix Garcia, Brian Gross and David Zilberman
14. **Poudel, B.N.** and Krishna Paudel (2016), The Relationship between Literacy Rate and Poaching: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis, (presented at AAEA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 2016)
15. **Poudel, B.N.** (2015), Structure of Nepal’s Trucking Industry: Results from Nationwide Survey, Research report prepared for DFID
16. Paudel, K. P., & **Poudel, B. N.** (2013). Functional form of Water Pollutants-Income Relationship under the Environmental Kuznets Curve Framework. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 95 (2): 261-267.
17. **Poudel, B. N.**, Paudel, K. P., Timilsina, G., & Zilberman, D. (2012). Providing Numbers for a Food versus Fuel Debate: An Analysis of a Future Biofuel Production Scenario. *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 34(4), 637-668.
18. **Poudel, B. N.**, & Zilberman, D. (2011). Agricultural Productivity Convergence: Myth or Reality?. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*,43(1), 143.
19. **Poudel, B.**, & Paudel, K. P. (2012). Trust, institutions and development. *Applied Economics Letters*, 19(2), 145-147.
20. **Poudel, B. N.**, Paudel, K. P., & Bhattarai, K. (2009). Searching for an Environmental Kuznets Curve in Carbon Dioxide Pollutant in Latin American Countries. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 41(1), 13-27.
21. **Poudel, B. N.** and Krishna Paudel, Robustness of the Precautionary Principle(2017), (Presented at the World Congress of Natural Resources Modeling, Barcelona, Spain (2017))
22. **Poudel, B.N.** and David Zilberman, Economics of Sedimentation Management in Large Reservoir,(2011), UC Berkeley

#### KEY NOTE SPEECH

1. Key note speaker at prestigious Nepal Literature Festival, Pokhara, Nepal (2020 December)

#### POPULAR MEDIA

- Columnist “Artha-poorna” , every second Monday, Kantipur Daily. (2020-2021)
- Publications of op-ed in Nagarik, Nayapatrika Dailies on economic issues
- Full page interviews in Republica Daily, Karobar, Nagarik, Nayapatrika etc.
- Interviews in other news outlets such as BBC, [Channel News Asia](#)(Singapore based), Asian Productivity Organization’s [Productivity Talk](#), The Himalayan Times, Setopati, Onlinekhabar.com and Kantipur TV on economic issues.

#### OTHER INFORMATION:

Languages: English, Chinese, Hindi(all very fluent), Nepali (native).  
 Citizenship: Nepal

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## SUMBUE ANTAS

### Personal Particulars

**NAME:** Mr Sumbue Antas

**ADDRESS:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade  
Private Mail Bag 9051  
Independence Garden  
Churchill Avenue  
Port Vila  
Republic of Vanuatu

**Nationality:** Ni-Vanuatu

**Date of Birth:** 17 February 1963

**Status:** Married

### Education and Training:

1981 – Malapoa College, Vanuatu

1981 – 1983 University of Papua New Guinea

1986 – Kingston University London, UK

1987 – Certificate in Customs Management

2007 - TAFE Certificates on Management

Have extensive training on Customs, Public Finance, Trade, Economics, Strategic Planning, Risk Management, strategic defence studies, business re-engineering and diplomacy.

### CAREER HISTORY

From	To	Organisation	Position
2018	present	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Vanuatu to the UN and other International Organisations in Geneva	Permanent Representative
2011	2018	Vanuatu Government	- Director, Department of External Trade
2010	2011	Vanuatu Government	- Secretary, Vanuatu Public Service Commission
2009	2010	Customs & Trade Consultant	
2002	2009	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat	- Trade Facilitation Officer, Fiji
2001	2002	Vanuatu Broadcasting & Television Corporation	- Interim General Manager of the VBTC
1999	1999	Vanuatu Government	- Acting Director General, Vanuatu Ministry of Finance and Economic Management - Managing Director General for Vanuatu Public Financial Institutional Reforms
1998	2002	Vanuatu Government	- Director of Vanuatu Customs and Inland Revenue

28 August 2019