

Experts stress need for better policies

POST REPORT

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THERE is a need to formulate appropriate policies and strategies to cope with the impacts of rising global temperatures on agriculture and food production, experts from the South Asian countries concluded on Friday.

Around 50 experts from the countries, who participated a two regional consultation on "Trade, Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia" organised from Thursday in the Capital, discussed various issues, including outcomes of the Doha conference on climate change and global genetic resources for food and agriculture. Another speaker, Keshab Bhattarai, secretary of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, said the government was on the process of implementing programmes for climate change adaptation at grass-roots level from 2013.

climate negotiations and SAARC Food Bank and Seed Bank.

The programme organised by South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) and Oxfam Novib also called for simplifying operational modalities of the SAARC Food Bank and making them more pragmatic for the countries in the region to benefit from it in times of need.

Abdur Rahim Mikrani, member at the National Planning Commission, Nepal, stressed the need to work out guidelines for the effective operation of the SAARC Food Bank.

The discussion on SAARC Seed Bank was concluded stating that this can be used as a vehicle for achieving regional cooperation for conservation and use of plant