

A scenic view of a Bhutanese mountain valley. In the foreground, there are lush green trees and bushes. In the middle ground, a small village with white walls and red roofs is nestled in a valley. The background features steep, forested mountains under a dramatic sky with large, dark clouds and a bright light source, possibly the sun, breaking through the clouds and casting rays of light across the scene.

Bhutan – Trade and poverty reduction, environment and gender

National Implementation Unit

Bhutan

09 November 2016



Outline

- Policy Protocol
- Mainstreaming of Trade and Poverty, Gender, Environment

Policy Protocol Format/Report - Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues

(i) Gender:

- *Specific gender inequalities existing;*
- *Causes of such inequalities and opportunities to address them; Are there any targeted specific initiatives proposed?*
- *Challenges & constraints for attaining gender equality?*

(ii) Poverty:

- *Initiatives to address income gaps & inequalities.*

(iii) Environment:

- *Identification of key sustainability issues linked with this policy and mainstreaming of these issues;*
- *Opportunities for sustainable use of natural resources; and*
- *Contribution to national goals, principles, and international commitments, eg. Carbon neutrality*

(iv) Vulnerability and resilience (adaptation) of communities and eco-systems

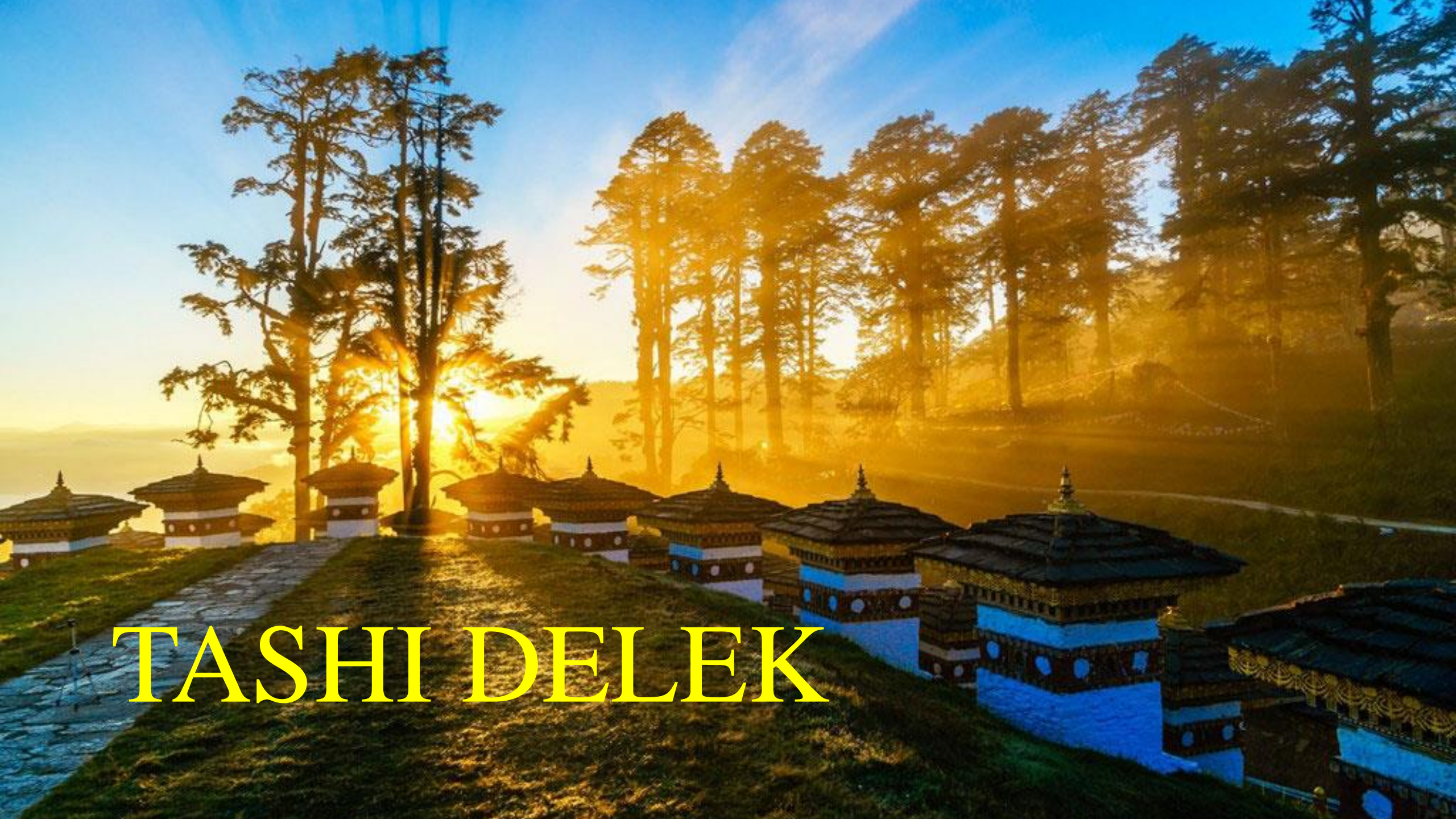
- *Climate change*
- *Disaster*
- *Environmental degradation*

Mainstreaming of Trade and Poverty, Gender, Environment

- Bhutan government continues to strategically focus its development efforts towards improving the lives and the well-being of its people and eradicating poverty in all its dimensions in Bhutan.
- Poverty reduction was identified as the core development theme in the 10th Five Year Plan (2008-2013) for all the sector and local government plans
- In the current FYP(2013-2018) Poverty, Gender, Environment has been mainstreamed into all development initiatives (sector plans or even at the local government plans)
- The stakeholders through donor supports and government funds support the rural enterprise such as agricultural and diary cooperatives, agriculture farming projects (fisheries, mushroom cultivation) etc.
- Created and enabling environment for women –such as easy access to finance and in doing business.
- Women holds a substantial proportion of licenses for activities in trade, particularly at the microenterprise level - more than half the licenses owned by the women entrepreneurs.

Mainstreaming of Trade and Poverty, Gender, Environment

- Increased participation of women in the leadership position in public and private sector.
- Focused capacity building existing and potential women entrepreneurs.
- 54 women has been trained through Tier 1 funding
- Fiscal Incentives within the Economic Development Plan to promote Greener Eco Efficient Industries.
- Draft Minerals Development Policy revised to include sections on revision of royalties, contributions to community welfare, health, education, gender, and Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- Sections inserted within the Renewable Energy Policy to incentivize communities to operate renewable energy schemes and also encourage supply and use of energy efficient appliance
- NCWC(National Commission for Women and Children) NGO such as RENEW(Respect Educated Nature and Empower Women) in Bhutan plays an important role in the empowerment of women and pushing forward the gender related agenda



TASHI DELEK