Input-Output Analysis in the Policy-Making Process: An Analysis of the Systems Theory

Rudra Bahadur Pulami Magar ⓘ

MPhil-PhD Scholar, Central Department of Political Science, Tribhuvan University

Abstract

This study examines the policy-making process through the theoretical lenses of systems theory and input-output analysis. Systems theory conceptualizes the state as an open, dynamic system that responds to environmental demands by producing policies, decisions, laws, or programs, and continuously revises them based on feedback. Employing qualitative analysis of secondary sources including books, academic articles, and policy documents from international organizations this research highlights that policy-making in transitional democracies and developing societies like Nepal extends beyond formal institutions to include social movements, citizen activism, interest groups, and international factors. The systems theory framework elucidates these complex interrelationships, while the input-output model identifies challenges related to policy efficiency, accountability, and legitimacy. The findings underscore the importance of a feedback-based approach to reform Nepal's policy system, aiming to enhance policy stability, accountability, and public trust.

Keywords: systems theory, input-output analysis, policy-making process, feedback mechanism, governance, legitimacy

Corresponding Author
Rudra Bahadur Pulami Magar

Email
rudrajung43@gmail.com

Introduction

The policy-making process is the core focus of any state and political system, which builds an accountable structure based on the needs of citizens rather than limiting the governance system to administrative implementation. "A system and cycle are needed in making a public policy", (Kenuwiarja, 2025). Various theoretical approaches have been developed in political science to understand policy-making, in which systems theory is used as a very influential and analytical tool. This theory understands the state as an open system, which continuously interacts with the environment and produces outputs by receiving various inputs. In this sense, policy-making is not just a one-sided process within the state structure, but is based on the interrelationship between complex factors such as the environment, public will, social pressure, interest groups and international structures. This provides an important basis for political science students, people interested in politics and researchers to understand the dynamics of policy-making in a multidimensional way.

"A political system performs two types of functions viz., input functions and output functions", (Mahajan, 2016, p. 163). "Political

parties serve as the motive force in crystallizing public opinion, and as the unifying agency which makes democracy workable", (Kapur, 2016, p. 599). The input-output model of systems theory, proposed by David Easton, has introduced a new dimension in the analysis of the policy-making process. According to this model, the demands and supports coming from the social environment are actually the inputs to the political system. "Some pressure groups work to bring state decisions to the public and to convey the people's demands to the government", (Bhandari, 2071, p. 410). Such inputs enter the government or policy-making institution and are transformed into a process of discussion, competition, and prioritization. Ultimately, these processes produce policy decisions or public policies as outputs. However, the system does not simply produce outputs and remain inactive, but also receives feedback processes, which in turn influence the subsequent policy-making process. Thus, input-output analysis understands policy-making as a continuous cycle rather than a static process.

"Nepal is in transition from conflict to peace and from authoritarian rule to democracy, and has the chance to redefine both the nation and the State", (Kaur, 2018). The use of input-output analysis is more relevant in transitional democracies and developing societies like Nepal. Here, policy-making does not depend solely on the will of the ruler or state institutions, but develops under the influence of various social movements, public pressure, civil society and international bodies. "There is a lack of rigorous analysis on how such systems would function amid Nepal's ethnic, linguistic, and regional diversity," (Magar, 2025). For example, the inputs coming from the people have been very decisive in making issues of federalism, inclusion or social justice a policy agenda. However, in this same process, challenges such as governance inefficiency, corruption or policy inequality further weaken the output, which in turn leads to dissatisfaction and distrust towards policies. Thus, input-output analysis provides a strong basis for studying the shortcomings and possibilities of improvement in policy-making from an academic perspective.

Problem Statement

Critically exploring systems theory and input-output analysis to understand Nepal's policy-making process holds significant relevance in today's rapidly changing context. The digital transformation and post-COVID-19 recovery demand agile (Chaudhary & Mishra, 2023), feedback-driven policies that can adapt to emerging challenges. In a VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous) world (Mishra, 2022), these frameworks help navigate unpredictability by emphasizing continuous interaction between society and the state. Nepal's transition from conflict to peace and authoritarianism to democracy introduces unique complexities in accommodating diverse social demands, while recent natural disasters such as earthquakes further complicate governance needs. Additionally, the rise of Gen Z movements underscores the growing influence of youth activism in shaping public policies (Karn et al., 2025), making it essential to use systems theory and input-output models to capture these dynamic inputs and enhance responsive, inclusive policy-making.

Under this, the central question is how the interrelationship between the state and society is analyzed through the input-output model, and how social demands and support are transformed into policy decisions. In addition, the important role of the feedback process will also be studied, which forms the basis for maintaining stability, legitimacy, and accountability in policy-making. Thus, an in-depth study of systems theory and input-output analysis is expected to provide political science scholars with not only theoretical knowledge but also guidance for appropriate improvements in practical governance.

Although there have been numerous studies on systems theory and input-output analysis, most of them have focused more on Western democracies and stable systems. In developing or transitional societies where governance structures

are still being institutionalized, the use of this model is relatively lacking. In Nepal, research that is capable of systematically applying the input-output model when analyzing the policy-making process is still incomplete. Therefore, this research will attempt to fill the gap in the existing literature. It has both scientific and practical significance. On the one hand, it will re-refer to systems theory in political science and enrich the theory through the experience of societies like Nepal, and on the other hand, it will suggest how to systematically incorporate public demands and support into the policy-making process in a practical way. Thus, the study is expected to make a useful contribution to the academic world as well as to the policy-makers in the political and administrative sectors of the country.

This research will first explain the theoretical basis of systems theory and input-output analysis. Then, the major inputs seen in the policy-making process of Nepal (public pressure, movements, interest groups, international bodies, etc.) will be studied, and finally, special emphasis will be placed on how the system modifies itself based on the feedback process. Thus, the study has attempted to substantiate the use of systems theory in the policy-making process not only theoretically but also practically.

Research Objective

This research aims to examine in depth the theoretical framework of systems theory and the application of input-output analysis in the policy-making process.

Literature Review

Systems Theory and Basis of Input-output Analysis

Systems theory is a concept that originally entered political science from sociology and biology, which always views the political system as a living organism or open system. "The term political system is a new way of looking at political phenomena", (Agarwal, 2004, p. 413). In this view, it is believed that the political system is not just a static and isolated structure, but a dynamic process that constantly interacts with the environment. Applying this theory to political analysis, David Easton, in "*A Framework for Political Analysis*" (1965), has stated that political systems can be understood through the dimensions of input, output and feedback. "Without inputs the system can do no work; without outputs we cannot identify the work done by the system", (Easton, 1957).

Demands and support coming from citizens, interest groups, political parties or other institutional bodies are called inputs, which act as a flow of energy in the policy-making process. "These institutional supports for policy thinking both reflected and reinforced the presentation of government as a coherent process of solving known problems", (Colebatch, 2005). Decisions, policies, laws and programs by the state or government to address such demands and support are called outputs. If these outputs are implemented, the reaction, support or opposition seen in society is understood as feedback, which in turn strengthens the process of creating new inputs. Thus, input-output analysis serves to show that the policy-making process is not linear, but rather cyclical and interconnected.

In this regard, Easton's contribution has been further expanded by other scholars. Gabriel Almond has combined the systems approach with functionalism in comparative political studies, stating that political systems of different countries can be compared on the basis of inputs and outputs. Thomas Dye, using this model in the analysis of public policy, has interpreted policy decisions as a result of social demands and support, not just the final outcome. Similarly, Parsons (1995) has tried to connect systems theory with modern policy studies, considering policy-making as a complex social process. All these theoretical debates have made input-output analysis not only a theoretical framework, but also a useful analytical tool for studying the policy-making process in practice. From this perspective, systems theory shows that

politics and policy are deeply related not only to their internal structure but also to the social, economic and international environment, which makes it easier to understand the complexities and challenges seen in the policy-making process.

Easton's Input-output Model

"Input-output analysis is one of the various models developed for political analysis from systems theory", (Pokhrel K., 2074, p. 257). The input-output model proposed by David Easton is considered a fundamental analytical framework in modern political science. According to him, to understand any political system, it must be viewed as a kind of open system, which constantly interacts with the social environment. In this model, the demands and support generated by citizens, parties, interest groups or social movements are called inputs, which provide the necessary energy to the political system. The "processing" of these inputs is carried out by the government and policy-making bodies, and is ultimately transformed into various policies, laws, decisions or programs, which are called outputs. "It processes the input presented to it through a transformation process and sends it to the environment as output", (Pokhrel K., 2074, p. 45).

However, this process is not only linear but also cyclical because the "feedback" that comes after policy-making generates new demands and support, which keeps the system constantly dynamic. For example, when the demand for education reform reaches the government as an input, the government formulates an education policy, which is an output, but after the implementation of this policy, there is a response in society, both satisfaction and dissatisfaction, which generates new inputs and reactivates the system. Thus, Easton's input-output model clarifies the policy-making process as a continuous "interactive cycle" rather than a single outcome. Its uniqueness lies in the fact that it develops a framework for viewing political systems not only from a structural perspective but also from a procedural and interrelated perspective,

which simplifies policy studies to a comparative and analytical claim level.

Comparative Politics and Systems Theory

Systems theory has opened up a new perspective to the study of policy in comparative politics. "Systems theory aims to explicate dynamic relationships and interdependence between components of the system and the organization–environment relationships", (Chih-Hui Lai, 2017, p. 2). In democratic systems, formal channels of citizen participation, such as elections, interest groups, and independent media, are seen as input mechanisms that control or suppress the system, resulting in a weakening of the legitimacy of the output. The cybernetic model proposed by Karl Deutsch (1963) considers feedback and information flow as the main basis for the existence of the system, while Lucian Pai et al. (1966) emphasized that cultural values and political culture are determinants of input-output dynamics. Recent comparative studies (Arend Lijphart, 1999) have also clarified how different institutional structures facilitate demand and support in the process. Current challenges, such as climate change, reproduction, digital governance, etc., make input appear not only nationally but also internationally. This has made systems theory even more multi-dimensional and useful. "This means that citizens' preferences for representation might also be more complex and multidimensional than we assume", (Jack Blumenau, 2024).

View of the Input-output Model

Although the input-output model has made important contributions to understanding the policy-making process, it has also been criticized by various scholars. The first major criticism is that this model oversimplifies the political system. The real political process is multidimensional, complex, and full of uncertainty, but input-output analysis portrays it as a mechanical or linear process. Second, there is criticism that this model does not pay enough attention to important elements such as the balance of power, ideology, social class, and international influence. Marxist scholars have

accused this model of showing the state as a class-neutral institution and ignoring the dominance of the ruling class and the influence of the economic structure in the policy-making process. Similarly, critics have stated that this model is unable to capture the realities of structural inequality, party interests, ethnic and regional identities, and international pressures in developing countries.

Since the model proposed by Easton is based on Western liberal democracy, there are some limitations when using it as is in a multicultural and transitional democratic society like Nepal. In addition, although the model theoretically mentions the feedback process, the question of how effectively it can be incorporated into reactions such as discontent, protests, rebellions or political crises in practice remains unanswered. Therefore, the input-output model should not be considered as an absolute truth or a universal theoretical tool, but as a useful but limited analytical framework for understanding policy-making.

Contemporary usage and relevance

In today's context, input-output analysis remains important in policy research. Especially in multi-ethnic, federal, and transitional states where institutional weaknesses and legitimacy crises exist, this model helps identify where the system is breaking down, i.e. where the malfunction lies, either in the input mechanism, in the policy processing process, or in the output implementation. Studies conducted in South Asian or African states have made this approach more practical. In developed democracies, it is used to study government accountability, sensitivity to public opinion, lobbying, and the influence of international institutions. "We consider technology, in its broadest sense, extending beyond machines or software to include a variety of processes aimed at simplifying or automating tasks, functions or processes", (Romic, 2025). With the rise of digital governance, inputs have begun to include social media, online campaigns, and algorithmic feedback, while outputs are being evaluated through criteria of transparency, accountability, and citizen participation. "Online activism and virtual protests become increasingly prevalent, changing the landscape of modern advocacy", (Farooq Chishti, 2023). Thus, contemporary studies have reaffirmed systems theory and input-output analysis as indispensable tools for understanding the complexity of the policy-making process.

Methodology

The methodology of this research is completely based on secondary data. Since the main objective of the study is to clarify the theoretical relationship between systems theory and input-output analysis in the policy-making process, no primary data has been collected. The research has adopted a method of drawing conclusions through a systematic analysis of existing knowledge, theoretical concepts and previously published literature. For this, books, academic articles, government policy documents, official reports of international organizations and research dissertations of various university levels have been used as the main sources here. The study has selected the main theoretical texts related to systems theory and the role of input-output in the policy-making process. In particular, the theoretical contribution of David Easton Salagayata has been analyzed in an interpretive manner. The secondary data has been selected according to the context, compared and interpreted qualitatively, from which a deep theoretical understanding of the structure, working relationships and reactive nature of the policy system can be gained.

The approach of the analysis is "theoretical-analytical", which theoretically synthesizes ideas and concepts obtained from secondary sources. The study has explained the structure of the input-output model, the main components of the systems theory, such as inputs, outputs, feedback and environmental impact, based on existing literature. After collecting the material, a qualitative thematic analysis technique has been used, in which conceptual similarities, differences and conclusions presented in various articles and reports have been combined. Thus, the research has attempted

to understand the systemic nature of the policy-making process through an in-depth analysis of secondary sources, without conducting any field, survey or statistical research. This methodology has helped to highlight the practical importance of input-output analysis in the policy-making system, making the study theoretically sound and logical.

Results and Discussion

This study, interpreting input-output analysis through systems theory related to the policy-making process, has revealed some important results. "Although the use of policy-making principles is widely used in international politics, administration, and all policy-making bodies, differences of opinion persist on this issue", (Siwakoti, 2076, p. 371). First, it has been reaffirmed that policy-making is not a discrete, linear and static exercise but a cyclical process that flows continuously. Citizen demands, support and expectations are the main inputs entering the system, but these inputs are not always processed purely by the institutional framework. Second, the quality of the output is found to be directly related to the quality of the input, institutional capacity, network structure and feedback mechanisms. Third, in democratic systems, the input flow is relatively open and multi-dimensional, so the legitimacy of the output seems to be strong, whereas in authoritarian or transitional states, the distortion or obstruction of the input seems to be unstable and controversial.

Fourth, in the contemporary digital age, the forms of input, such as, are increasingly influenced not only by traditional channels (elections, interest groups, media) but also by social networks, digital campaigns and online participatory processes. These results show that the input-output paradigm based on systems theory is still relevant and practical in today's era. However, the main conclusion of this study is that understanding it only in mechanical and technical terms is not enough, but also needs to include power, ideology, culture and international context.

The Role of Input in the Policy-making Process

Input is considered by systems theory as the most fundamental element in the policy-making process. "There has been an ongoing debate within political science on whether policy-making is a rational, linear process or a more chaotic procedure, dominated by political, practical and socio-cultural forces", (Sutton, 1999, p. 10). Input should be understood as the expression of demands and support from citizens, groups, or institutional structures, which determine the direction and agenda of the entire policy process. Various demands presented by civil society, professional groups, political parties, labor organizations, student movements, or ethnic and regional groups become the main basis for policy-making for the state. Such demands are manifested in issues such as expanding access to education, improving health services, creating jobs, protecting the rights of women or minorities. Similarly, support is the act of paying taxes, obeying the law, participating in elections, or legitimizing state institutions. "Legitimation only rises to the third level where an institutional sector like law is legitimated solely within its differentiated sphere of knowledge – legality", (Modak-Truran, 2015, p. 3). When input is presented through clear, organized, and institutional channels, public representatives and the executive can easily address it in the policy process. However, when input is fragmented or appears in an unorganized manner, the policy process is unable to absorb it, which can result in dissatisfaction, instability, and sometimes even rebellion. In the context of Nepal, we have historical evidence that various social or ethnic movements have brought new agendas to the policy process and also brought about significant changes in the governance structure, all of which are examples of this.

On the other hand, the role of input is not only demand, but also support, which is important in stabilizing the system. If citizens do not provide a minimum level of support to the government, no policy can be sustainable in the long term. Support strengthens the legitimacy of the state and

facilitates policy implementation. For example, the effectiveness of the tax system is linked to the support of citizens; if citizens refuse to pay taxes, the government cannot raise the necessary resources for any policy program. Similarly, participation in elections also provides legitimacy to the state, which is the main basis of democratic input. "We live in a dynamic world, which is continuously and rapidly changing", (Ilya Levin, 2021). In today's digital age, new forms of input are also emerging, such as online campaigns, hashtag movements, and citizen-driven digital petitions, which create immediate pressure on the government and force it to change its policy agenda. In this way, the role of input in the policy-making process is multifaceted, shaping policy-making through demands, stabilizing the system through support, and guiding future policy revisions through feedback. For this reason, input can be seen as a "fuel" that drives the policy process.

Table 1

Types of Input and Their Effects

Types of Input	Examples	Impact on Policy
Demands	Demands related to education, health and employment	Direct influence on policy and agenda-making
Supports	Agreeing to pay taxes, obeying the law, participating in elections	Strengthening the legitimacy of the system
Cultural/psychological input	Values, identity and tradition	Long-term impact for the policy-making
Digital/Innovative Age	Social-medias and the online campaign	Create immediate pressure on policymaking

Note. Author's development

The Nature of Output in the Policy-making Process

Output in the policy-making process is that in which the concrete policy products presented by the government or decision-making process need to be understood. These products are reflected in various forms of decisions, laws, regulations, implementation programs, public service delivery, budget allocation and long-term plans, etc. According to the system theory, when the inputs received in the initial stage of policy-making, such as demands, support, pressure, ideas or needs, are processed and enter the policy-making mechanism, their concrete results ultimately come out as outputs. For example, if there is a demand to increase access to health services, the result may come in the form of a health act, an increase in the budget or the expansion of primary health centers at the rural level. In this way, the output is not only the actual result of the policy decision but also a direct response to social expectations and political pressures. In a multi-ethnic, multicultural and federally structured state like Nepal, the form of output is more diverse and complex because different forms of policy decisions come out from different levels of government, such as federal, provincial and local.

Similarly, the form of output also determines the effectiveness of policy and trust in the government. If the output matches the real demands of society, citizens will increase their trust in the policy-making process, otherwise, dissatisfaction, distrust and opposition will arise. Output always brings not only direct results but also indirect effects. For example, changes in labor policy not only create immediate employment opportunities, but also affect the long-term socio-economic

structure. In addition, the quality of output, timely implementation and ability to reach the people continuously test the vitality and stability of the policy system. Systems theory scholar David Easton has called output "the reactive response of the system", which provides an indication of the health of the political system. Therefore, the form of output in the policy-making process plays an important role in balancing the interaction between society and the state.

Table 2

Results and Types of Policy Outputs

Types	Appearance	Possible consequences
Policy Outputs	Budget, Law, Program	Increasing the sensitivity to citizen expectations
Administrative	Service-delivery, and the rule enforcement	Increasing to the institutional efficiency
Political Outputs	Leadership accountability, rebuilding legitimacy	Stability and crisis of the system
Symbolic	National symbols, speeches, declarations	Direct impact on public sentiment

Note. Author's development

Feedback Mechanism and System Stability

The feedback mechanism is a very important step in the policy-making process, which helps to make the entire system continuously balanced and sustainable. The policy cycle, which starts from input and turns into output, does not end with just producing results, but rather the process of re-evaluating the results and feedback it generates is constantly active. Based on this evaluation or social feedback, the policy is improved, revised or replaced. For example, if the government implements a new curriculum in the education policy, the positive or negative feedback from students, teachers, parents, society and education experts provides feedback on how effective such a policy is. Such feedback is not just criticism or suggestions, but also a necessary basis for policy-makers to improve future decisions. In this way, the feedback mechanism is like the "blood flow" to maintain the vitality of the political system, which continuously connects the policy-making process with society.

From the perspective of system stability, feedback mechanisms are even more important.

For any political system to be sustainable, it must be able to adapt to the changing needs of society and the expectations of the people. If the feedback mechanism is not active or the government is not sensitive to the dissatisfaction of the citizens, it can destabilize the system. In a democratic and multi-ideological system like Nepal, citizen participation, media, civil society and political parties are the main pillars of the feedback mechanism. If the government does not accept the message given by the citizens through elections, movements, surveys or social dialogue and does not make the necessary improvements in the policy, long-term dissatisfaction arises, which can threaten the stability of the system. For this reason, the practice of operating the feedback mechanism in a systematic manner becomes the main foundation of any democratic system. On the one hand, it alerts the government in time, and on the other hand, it also inspires the society to maintain continuous trust in the government. Therefore, only the proper implementation of the feedback mechanism in the policy-making process can ensure long-term stability, legitimacy and continuity of the system.

Table 3

Feedback Mechanisms and Their Effects

Types	Examples	Impact on the system
Positive feedback	The policy will improve health and create jobs.	Increasing legitimacy and trust in the system
Negative Feedback	Policy failure, corruption, injustice-tyranny	Dis-satisfaction, the protests, movement arise
Indicative feedback	Opinion polls, media reports	Assist in policy re-adjustment
Digital Feedback	Online reaction, hashtag campaign	Immediate pressure but long-term stability uncertain

Note. Author's development

Relevance and Limitations of Systems Theory

The relevance of systems theory is particularly important in the policy-making process because it understands the state as a living organism, where inputs, outputs, and feedback are in constant flux. It views the political process not as a mere series of events, but rather as a complex structure of interconnected and interdependent elements. In a society like Nepal with a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, and multi-level governance structure, systems theory provides an opportunity to clarify the role of demand, advocacy, pressure groups, interest groups, and citizen participation. This theory depicts policy-making as a continuously moving cycle, in which inputs translate needs into a policy agenda, outputs present concrete results, and feedback mechanisms guide policy reform. "These shortcomings underscore the need for a more iterative, flexible, and stakeholder-centric approach to policymaking that can accommodate continuous learning and responsiveness", (Igwe, 2025). Therefore, applying systems theory to the policy process makes it easier to analyze the interaction between government and society. More importantly, this theory helps to understand the causes of failed policies or political instability because it provides a clear view of how problems or imbalances that arise at any stage can affect the entire system.

But systems theory also has some limitations that cannot be ignored. First, it fails to pay sufficient attention to questions of power relations, class contradictions, ideological struggles, or inequality when it attempts to understand the political process in a highly structural framework. For example, why a policy decision favors a specific class or community cannot be explained solely through input-output analysis, but rather the question of power structure and balance of power is also seriously involved. Second, since systems theory often emphasizes stability, it is difficult to encompass changing and revolutionary situations. From the perspective of Nepal, systems theory understands the policy changes brought about by the 2062/63 people's movement and various social movements only as imbalances and rebalancing, but it seems incapable of deeply embracing the ideological conflicts and redistribution of power within it. "The inclusion policy (2059BS) ensured representation of various social groups, further depended by the popular movement of 2062/63, which reaffirmed citizens' demand for equitable governance", (Thakuri, 2025). Therefore, although systems theory is useful in policy-making, it is only possible to conduct a comprehensive and balanced analysis by combining it with Marxism, power theory, or a critical perspective. Thus, although the relevance of systems theory is clear, only by understanding and using its limitations can further effectiveness in policy studies be ensured.

Finally, the results and discussion of this study have shown that input-output analysis

through systems theory is still a powerful approach to policy-making. It provides a strong basis for evaluating not only policy outcomes but also the relationship between citizens and the state, its legitimacy, and its stability. "In the current digital era, leaders who are skilled in utilizing information technology, communication, computers, and the internet are highly needed", (Carrubbo et al., 2025). Although its form has become complex in the digital age, its basic structure remains important. This analysis is applicable to both democratic and authoritarian structures, but the results are different. Therefore, in the future, this model can also be enriched by connecting it to power, culture, ideology, and international structures.

Conclusion

The use of input-output analysis and systems theory in the policy-making process provides an important perspective for understanding the political system closely. It presents the state not only as a mechanism for exercising power, but also as a living system that is in constant interaction with society. Citizens' demands, needs, support, pressure, and suggestions enter the system through inputs, which are processed by policy mechanisms and ultimately transformed into concrete decisions, laws, regulations, programs, or services as outputs. Then, society's reactions and experiences to these outputs return to the system through feedback mechanisms, thereby paving the way for new inputs and policy reforms. In this way, "input-output analysis" is not only a theoretical framework for explaining the process, but also a scientific basis for measuring the stability, effectiveness, and legitimacy of policies.

However, systems theory also has some limitations that need to be understood. Because it emphasizes stability and balance, it often ignores deeper aspects such as power relations, class conflict, ideological struggle, and social inequality. However, this theory is extremely relevant in a federal and multi-ethnic society like Nepal because it clearly presents the interrelationship between citizen demands and government responses. It serves as a useful analytical tool to identify the causes of failure or imbalance in the policy-making process, to systematize the feedback mechanism, and to maintain long-term stability. Ultimately, only when input-output analysis and systems theory are adopted with a critical perspective will overall reform in the policy-making process and the creation of an effective governance system be possible.

Acknowledgment

Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

References

Agarwal, R. C. (2004). *Political theory*. S. Chand and Company Ltd.

Arend Lijphart. (1999). *Patterns of democracy: Government forms and performance in thirty-six countries*. Yale University Press.

Bhandari, B. P. (2071). *Major Political Systems: Parliamentary and Non-Parliamentary*. Pairavi Prakashan.

Carrubbo, L., Cosimato, S., & Gagliardi, A. R. (2025). Towards dynamic decision-making in government as service organization: Insights from systems thinking. *Transforming Government*: *People, Process and Policy, 19*(1), 108–129. https://doi.org/10.1108/TG-05-2024-0113

Chaudhary, A. K., & Mishra, A. K. (2023). Impact assessment of COVID-19 on remittance inflow: A systematic review in the case of Nepal. *Journal of Advanced Research in Quality Control & Management*, *8*(1), 1–10.

Chih-Hui Lai, S. H. (2017). Systems theory. In L. L. Putnam & D. K. Mumby (Eds.), *The International Encyclopedia of Organizational Communication*. Wiley.

Colebatch, H. K. (2005). Policy analysis, policy practice and political science. *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, *64*(3), 14–23. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-8500.2005.00448.x

Easton, D. (1957). An approach to the analysis of political systems. *World Politics*, *9*(3), 383–400. https://doi.org/10.2307/2008920

Farooq Chishti, A. F. (2023). Understanding social media's influence on political polarization and public discourse. *Research Journal of Human and Social Aspects*, *1*(1), 20–28.

Igwe, C. E. (2025). Change management in policy making: Integrating Agile methodologies into the policy development life cycle. *EGFA International Journal of Economics, Financial Research and Markets*, 4(1), 1–14.

Ilya Levin, A. D. (2021). Culture and society in the digital age. *Information*, *12*(68), 1–13. https://doi.org/10.3390/info12020068

Jack Blumenau, F. W. (2024). Citizens' preferences for multidimensional representation. *Perspectives on Politics*, *23*(2), 588–610. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592724001373

Kapur, A. C. (2016). *Principles of political science*. S. Chand & Company Ltd.

Karl W. Deutsch. (1963). *The nerves of government: Models of political communication and control*. Free Press.

Karn, D. K., Mishra, A. K. & Aithal, P. S. (2025). Maslow's need hierarchy theory with reference to socio-cultural dynamics in Nepal. *Poornaprajna International Journal ofManagement, Education & Social Science* (*PIJMESS*), *2*(2), 148–157. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17259352

Kaur, H. (2018). Transition of Nepal from monarchy to democracy. *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Sciences* (*IOSR-JHSS*), *23*(2), 22–27. https://doi.org/10.9790/0837-23022122227

Kenuwiarja, H. (2025). Public policy system and cycle in environmental law changes according to government regulation in Lieu of law No. 2 of 2022. *Journal Social dan Sains* (*SOSAINS*), *5*(5), 1149–1158. https://doi.org/10.59188/jurnalsosains.v5i5.32207

Lucian W. Pye & Sidney Verba (Eds.). (1965). *Political culture and political development* (*Studies in Political Development*). Princeton University Press

Magar, R. B. (2025). Prospects of the presidential and the semi-presidential systemas in the context of Nepal. *A Bi-annual South Asian Research and Innovation*, *12*(1), 148–158. https://doi.org/10.3126/jori.v12i1.84839

Mahajan, V. D. (2016). *Political theory* (*Principles of Political Science*). S. Chand and Company Ltd.

Mishra, A. K. (2022). *Teaching and research operation at Pokhara university*. Pokhara University. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7045640

Modak-Truran, M. C. (2015). Legitimation. In *The encyclopaedia of political yhought* (pp. 2090–2098). John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118474396.wbept0596

Parsons, W. (1995). *Public policy: An introduction to the theory and practice of policy analysis*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Pokhrel, K. (2074). *Modern political theory*. (R. B. Magar, Trans.). MK Publishers and Distributors.

Romic, S. W. (2025). Chat GPT and the entangled evolution of society, education, and technology: A systems theory perspective. *European Educational Research Journal*, *24*(2), 205-224. https://doi.org/10.1177/14749041231221266

Siwakoti, G. (2076). *Political thought and analysis*. (R. B. Magar, Trans.). Pairavi Prakashan.

Sutton, R. (1999). *The policy process: An overview*. Overseas Development Institute.

Thakuri, T. B., & Koirala, S. P. (2025). Local government and welfare state: Study on welfare policy practices of Kirtipur Municipality. *Shahid Kirti Multidisciplinary Journal*, *3*(1), 159–170. https://doi.org/10.3126/skmj.v3i01.79316