



Reducing vulnerability and increasing adaptive capacity to respond to impacts of climate change and variability for sustainable livelihoods in agriculture sector in Nepal is supported by GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) under THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUNDING (LDCF) WINDOW. The project, developed and implemented in line with the Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Reduction Management Priority framework 2011-2020 approved by the Govt of Nepal, was commenced in September 2015 and will be completed in August 2019

The project fits into FAO-Adapt, an organization-wide framework programme that provides general guidance and introduces principles as well as priority themes, actions and implementation support to FAO's multi-disciplinary activities for climate change adaptation.

Brief socio-economic background: the problems, issues, demands

Nepal is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change impacts. Climate and its variability is already affecting Nepal's agriculture sector. The climate related hazards like floods, drought, hailstorms, heat and cold waves; and pests and diseases, soil erosion, deforestation, desertification are recurring and posing severe threats to the sector. The poor and marginalized rural people are usually hit hardest by the consequences of climate change and increasing frequency of natural hazards. Increasing trends of extreme climate events and natural disasters due to climate change could undermine future food security. Although the Government of Nepal has constantly responded to climate risks, a renewed focus on reducing vulnerability and increasing adaptive capacity to respond to impacts of climate change and variability is crucially needed to save agricultural livelihoods.

Planned technical and financial inputs

This project was developed by FAO in response to the request from the Government of Nepal. The project aims at strengthening institutional and technical



capacities for reducing vulnerability and promoting climate-resilient practices, strategies and plans for effectively responding to the impacts of climate change and variability in agriculture sector.

The project is to employ a participatory learning and doing approach through farmer field schools in Argakhanchi, Kapilbastu, Siraha and Udayapur districts to reduce the vulnerability and promote adaptive capacity to effectively respond to the impacts of climate change. The direct beneficiaries of the project are 120 farmer groups (~3000 farmers-more than 60% women) of 24 selected

Expected results

Village Development Committees (VDC) in the four districts. The project VDCs in Argakhanchi are Argha, Bhagawati, Jaluke, Narapani, Patauti and Simalpani. Similarly, the VDCs in Kapilbastu are Bhagwanpur, Chanai, Gugauli, Hathihawa, Mahendrakot, and Sihokhore. The project VDCs in Siraha are Bastipur, Chatari, Gadha, Harakatti, Kushalaxminiya and Ramnagar-Mirchaiya and those in Udaypur are Aptar, Hardeni, Katari, Rauta, Sundarpur and Tapeswori. Though, seven of the VDCs are already declared as municipalities. One Farmers Field School will be established in each of the 120 farmers groups in 24 VDCs. Other beneficiaries include national level staffs of MOAD, MOLD, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Department of Livestock Services (DLS), and district staff from DOA, DLS.

The project contributes to national priorities under National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), Country Programming Framework (2013-2017), Priority Framework of Action on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (2011–2020), and Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS) 2015. The project will be implemented for a period of 48 months with USD 2,689,498 with GEF LDCF resources.

With technical supports of FAO, the project supports the Nepal agriculture sector to become climate resilient by promoting urgent and immediate adaptation measures and integration of adaptation priorities outlined in the NAPA into agriculture sectorial policies, plans, programmes and local actions. This will strengthen institutional and technical capacities for reducing vulnerability and promoting climate-resilient practices, strategies and plans for effectively responding to the impacts of climate change and variability in agriculture sector. FAO international experts will assess, monitor and provide advance early warning information on vulnerabilities, risks of climate change and agrometeorological forecasts to assist better adaptation planning.

Likewise, FAO in collaboration with the government agencies will put its efforts in improving awareness, knowledge and communication on climate impacts and adaptation. It will also prioritize and implement local investment by promoting Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to strengthen livelihood strategies and transfer of adaptation technology in targeted areas of the four districts. By the end of the four year project, agriculture in Nepal will have basic technology, approach, policies and strategies for adaptation to climate change and improving livelihood of the vulnerable communities.

