



FORWARD Nepal

Annual Report **2018**

2017/18 (2074/75)



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(FORWARD Nepal)

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Photos: FORWARD Nepal's Photo Bank

Citation: FORWARD Nepal (2018). Annual Report 2017-18. Chitwan, Nepal.



Vision

FORWARD Nepal aims a society where all women and men at all levels, the economically poor, vulnerable and marginalized have prosperous and dignified lives.

Mission

FORWARD Nepal reaches and empowers vulnerable and marginalized communities for their improved livelihoods through value chain approach, technology generation and adoption, advocacy and social transformation.

Objectives

FORWARD Nepal has the following objectives, and its programmes/projects contribute to meet these objectives.

- Enhanced food and nutrition security, and increased income of disadvantaged people.
- Improved technical and managerial capability and resilience of vulnerable communities in biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk management.
- Developed and validated agricultural technologies and innovations using participatory research and development approaches.
- Developed physical infrastructure and strengthened local institutions.
- Advocating and conducting capacity building programmes to ensure the rights of people with different ability, elders, indigenous/ethnic groups, Dalits, women, and children.

Foreword

We are delighted to present annual report of FORWARD Nepal, which outlines our major programmes and achievements over the period July 16, 2017 to July 15, 2018. During our 22 years of existence, we were able to contribute to the development of poor and vulnerable communities in the social, humanitarian and livelihood spheres. Our organization has made contribution and notable achievements, and it has served the rural communities through 98 projects in 57 districts involving 0.402 million direct beneficiaries. In the reporting year, we implemented 11 projects, employing 58 regular staff. Besides, some consultants and research assistants/enumerators also contributed to the projects mainly on research activities and trainings.

FORWARD Nepal has contributed to promote several technologies for increased agricultural productivity and maintain/enhance the quality in the agricultural production systems. Our projects had contributed to increase the resilience of communities to cope with the climate change impacts and the disasters. Interventions regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) include the construction of the emergency shelter houses (evacuation centers) to protect communities from floods, construction of culverts and drainage canals, floods rescue and response training, check dam construction at the riverbanks, promotion of the climate-resilient technologies, climate-smart agriculture, emergency response training and many others. In the reporting year, among the 11 projects, we succeeded to accomplish four projects with remarkable results, in the partnership with multiple actors having common visions. Similarly, we embarked on four new projects of diverse funding agencies and continuing with three projects from the previous years, which are progressing very acceptably.

The annual report documents our advancement and gives a portrait of FORWARD Nepal- nearly 22 years after its establishment. This report showcases the several ways the organization launched its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through integrated and

sustainable interventions, inbuilt under diverse projects. Besides, it also gives an overview of the financial health of the organization.

This fiscal year has been a productive one with the launch of new concepts and interventions, addressing the issues of rural communities in every possible way. We successfully contributed to the increased income and improved household food and nutrition security of the small-holders through the value chain development of selected subsectors under Building Community Enterprises of Small holders in Bangladesh and Nepal (BCES) and Enhancing Livelihoods of Smallholder Farmers in Central Terai Districts of Nepal (ELIVES) projects. Similarly, we effectively introduced climate-smart safe school programme to strengthen the communities and schools for disaster risk management as well as built the resilience of a community against the adverse effects of climate change through various programmes in partnership with Plan International. We also addressed gender issues through various gender-responsive projects as Girls Act, Girls and Boys Start Live Equally, Advocacy Campaign for Women Empowerment & Gender Equality, Youth Empowerment, and Gender Transformative - Community Resilient projects, which empowered and capacitated girls and young women for lobby advocacy on their issues of economic empowerment and stopping gender-based violence. Likewise, we have boarded on few new leading projects namely Agricultural Entrepreneurship among Female-headed Remittance Receiving Households in Nepal, Sustainable Economic Development in Rural Areas (SEDRA) and Dairy for Development in Nepal, in collaboration with Hiroshima University, Business and Finance Consulting and Jersey Overseas Aid respectively.

From the institutional standpoint, we prospered in terms of building, intensifying and fostering associations with a wide range of partner agencies. We succeeded to enter in a new partnership with BFC and Jersey Overseas Aid. We also created a history by providing a platform for the Journalist to come together for an agriculture training to enhance their capacity for better reporting of the technical issues of

an agriculture sector, in collaboration with Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ), Chitwan. Besides, we updated FORWARD's brochure in English and Nepali as well and also developed a FORWARD's documentary video. This year, we withdrew our investment of NPR 14,720,000 from the Global Agri-tech Nepal Pvt. Ltd, Banke due to change in government policy to invest such fund in private company by NGOs. To reinforce our organization in more deliberate way, we came up with three year's strategic plan of FORWARD Nepal and also amended its Constitution. As regards to the infrastructural development of the organization, it has laid foundation for the building construction on its own land in Bharatpur Metropolitan City-4, Kalyanpur, Chitwan.

We put our generous efforts for the new programme partnership, collaboration and, networking, and we need to keep up this work as it's a continuous process. We spent lots of time and efforts for the global grant projects in consortium with International and National consulting firms and institutions but could not succeed as expected this year. However, it has enhanced our skills and knowledge on proposal development and partnership capabilities. In the

coming years, we will strive and keep up our pace to become even more inventive and accountable organization. Our organization does not exist on its own, rather it's an integrated institution. So, we would like to acknowledge those who are part of it and without whom the organization would not have meaning to its existence. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to our funding agencies, government line agencies and development partners at all levels for their effective cooperation and support, and look forward to the same in the future. We would also like to express gratitude to the Board of Directors, Advisors, Professional Affiliated Members, Auditors, General Members, Staff Members, and Former Staff Members for their determined work towards the betterment of the community and organization as well. Our special thanks goes to the communities whom we work with.

Together with partners, we will continue to serve the poor and disadvantaged rural communities even better with the assimilated knowledge, remaining committed to our mission.

Let's work together to set an exemplary work and



Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha
Chairperson, FORWARD Nepal



Netra Pratap Sen
Executive Director

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency	DFID	Department for International Development
AFE	Action for Enterprises	DLS	Department of Livestock Service
AFU	Agriculture and Forestry University	DLSO	District Livestock Service Office
AI	Artificial insemination	DOA	Department of Agriculture
AT	Agricultural Technology	DPAC	District Project Advisory Committee
BCES	Building Community Enterprises of Smallholders in Bangladesh and Nepal	DRM	Disaster Risk Management
BFC	Business and Finance Consulting	DRMP	Disaster Risk Management Plan
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
		DVPL	Development Voyage Pvt Ltd.
CBDCRP	Community Based Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan	DWIDP	Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention
CBF	Community Business Facilitator	ELIVES	Enhancing Livelihoods of Smallholder Farmers in Central Terai Districts of Nepal
CBSP	Community Based Seed Production Group		
CC	Collection Center	FORWARD	Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation	FRM	Flood Resilient Measurement
CD	Cluster Demonstration	FS	Foundation Seed
CDAFN	Community Development and Advocacy Forum Nepal	FY	Fiscal Year
CDMC	Community disaster management committee	GAPs	Good Agricultural Practices
CDP	Community Development Programme	GBV	Gender based Violence
CE	Community Enterprise	GDP	Gross Domestic Product
CEAPRED	Center for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development	GET-CR	Gender Transformative - Community Resilient
CIMMYT	Center for International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center	GOs	Government Organizations
CoRD	Centre of Resilient Development	Ha	Hectare
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergency	HHs	Households
CR	Community Resilience	HRBA	Human Right Based Advocacy
CRP	Community Resource Person	I/NGOs	International/Non-governmental Organizations
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office	ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
DAP	Di-ammonium Phosphate	iDE	International Development Enterprises
DDC	District Development Committee	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
DDIN	Dairy for Development in Nepal	IPNI	International Plant Nutrition Institute
DDMC	District Disaster Management Committee	ISER	Institute for Social and Environmental Research
		JJYC	Jan Jagaran Yuba Club

JOA	Jersey Overseas Aid	PCVA	Participatory Capacity Vulnerability Assessment
JSPS	Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and Technology	PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
Kg	Kilogram	PLA	Participatory Learning and Action
Km	Kilometer	PMAMP	Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project
LANN	Linking Agriculture Nutrition and Natural Resource Management	PMCA	Participatory Market Chain Analysis
LDCRP	Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan	PUC	Purdue University Cowpea Bag
LDMC	Local Disaster Management Committee	RbF	Riverbed Farming
LRC	Local Resource Center	RDC	Rural Development Center
LRP	Local Resource Person	RF	Resource Farmer
LSAR	Light Search and Rescue	RGP	Resilient Girl Project
LSARM	Light Search and Rescue Materials	SDRMP	School Disaster Risk Management Plan
Ltd.	Limited	SEDRA	Sustainable Economic Development in Rural Areas of Nepal
M&V	Monitoring and Verification	SIFS	Sustainable Integrated Farming System
MCC	Milk Chilling Center	SIP	School Implementation Plan
MDFN	Market Development Forum Nepal	SMC	School Management Committee
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning	TBS	Tole Bikas Sanstha
MOAD	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development	TL	Truthfully labelled
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	ToT	Training of Trainers
MPC	Market Planning Committee	VAHW	Village Animal Health Worker
MSD	Market System Development	VBSE	Village-based Seed Enterprise
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	VCA	Vulnerability Capacity Assessment
Mt	Metric Ton	VCPC	Village Child Protection Committee
MUS	Multi-Use Water System	VDC	Village Development Committee
NARC	Nepal Agriculture Research Council	WFG	Women Farmers' Group
NPR	Nepali Rupees	WHH	Welthungerhilfe
NTFPs	Non-Timber Forest Products	YWG	Young Women Groups
		YWO	Young Women Organizations

Introduction to FORWARD Nepal

FORWARD Nepal is a non-profit making, service-oriented non-governmental organization established in 1997 in Chitwan, Nepal. The organization has its head office in Bharatpur, Chitwan, and a Liaison Office at Pulchowk, Lalitpur and project offices in various working districts in Nepal. FORWARD Nepal is committed to contribute to the socioeconomic development of the disadvantaged groups and rural poor through integrated and sustainable development interventions. The organization provides a forum for researchers, development professionals, rural artisans, private sectors, academia, grass root level organizations and funding agencies committed to change the quality of lives of underprivileged people in Nepal. The organization emphasizes collaboration and partnership with government organizations (GOs), international/non-governmental organization (I/NGOs), research institutions, academia, private sector, public media, and community-based organizations for greater impacts of its programmes, resource generation/sharing, and sharing of work experience and learning. The organization has MOU with several institutions as GOs, universities, I/NGOs and private sectors at national and international levels for project collaboration and partnership. Over the past 22 years, FORWARD Nepal has implemented 98 projects in 57 districts involving a total of 0.402 million direct beneficiaries.

FORWARD Nepal has contributed to the promotion of the several innovative technologies to increase agricultural productivity and improve the livelihoods of the disadvantaged communities, including rural farmers. One of the major achievements of FORWARD is the facilitation in the establishment of a Private Seed Company “Global Agri-tech Private Limited” in Banke, which is running independently. In collaboration with the national and international research institutions and farmer groups, FORWARD Nepal has released some crop varieties. It is a pioneer organization for the promotion of riverbed farming technology in Nepal. The organization has more than 16 years

of experience in validating and disseminating the riverbed farming technologies. It has considerable experience in the construction of the productive infrastructure such as community resource centers, cooperative buildings, seed storage, potato rustic stores, emergency shelter houses, improved livestock sheds, irrigation channels, access roads, rainwater harvesting ponds, fish ponds, school buildings, dam construction at the riverbanks and many others. FORWARD Nepal has contributed to the development and inclusion of climate change adaptation course/chapter in some of the School Curriculums in Banke and Sunsari districts. Likewise, leasehold farming is practiced for the last 20 years for landless and ultra-poor communities and has positive results for their household income. The organization has also implemented several interventions on climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR), and has developed various training packages and conducted training on this at the district and community levels in different parts of the country. The organization has developed and implemented several interventions on the market system development (MSD) and promotion of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Programme Thematic Areas

FORWARD Nepal's programme development and implementation are multi-pronged, integrating key interventions both in horizontal and vertical dimensions to enhance sustainable livelihoods and ensure positive socio-economic impacts on the communities. The organization has five Program Thematic Areas with the following interventions.

1. **Food and Nutrition Security**
 - Food crops and seed supply system
 - High-value commodities
 - Farm forestry and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)
 - Productive infrastructure

2. Business Promotion and Market Development

- Enterprise development
- Value chain development
- Market promotion and networking

3. Adaptive Research and Development

- Participatory innovation, technology development and verification
- Development studies and technology dissemination

4. Natural Resource Management

- Biodiversity conservation, promotion and optimum utilization
- Promotion of renewable energy
- Nutrient use efficiency and recycling

5. Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

- Awareness raising and capacity building
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Disaster preparedness, emergency response and recovery

6. Cross-cutting themes

- Gender and social inclusion
- Participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Rights-based approaches to development

- Facilitate employment opportunities through vocational training and income generation activities for targeted groups.
- Develop and institutionalize local resource persons, local resource centers, and community-based organizations for sustainable community development.
- Seek and promote collaboration with various stakeholders, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, academia, corporate, and funding agencies at local, national and international levels as appropriate for institutional networking, sharing knowledge, skills, experiences, and resources.
- Promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) considering sustainable and judicious use of natural resources.

Overview of the FORWARD Nepal's work in the FY 2017-18

Major Achievements

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18, FORWARD Nepal implemented 11 projects, employing 58 regular staff. Some consultants and research assistants/enumerators also contributed to the projects, mainly on research activities and training as per the needs of the projects and the organization.

Strategies/Approaches

FORWARD Nepal continues to be known as a respected, committed and dynamic organization in alleviating poverty through these strategies/ Approaches:

- Devise a value chain approach for selected sub-sectors within agriculture, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, and forestry.
- Actively engage target communities in research, institutional strengthening and development interventions to ensure the realization of their stakes and ownership.
- Utilize and promote local knowledge and skills in devising resource management solutions through participatory action research and development approach.
- Address gender and social inclusion issues by ensuring participation of disadvantaged members of the community at every step of the development programmes.

FORWARD Nepal has contributed to promote several technologies for increased agricultural productivity and maintain/enhance the quality in the agricultural production systems. Several projects had contributed to increase the resilience of communities to cope with the climate change impacts and the disasters. Interventions regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR) include the construction of the emergency shelter houses (evacuation centers) to protect communities from floods, construction of culverts and drainage canals, floods rescue and response training, check dam construction at the riverbanks, promotion of the climate-resilient technologies, climate-smart agriculture, emergency response training, etc. Similarly, the organization also implemented several projects focused on the social and economic empowerment of women, adolescent, and girls.

The notable achievements/outcomes of the FORWARD's implemented projects in the FY 2017-18 include construction of three community enterprises, 10 irrigation schemes in Chitwan; construction of two emergency shelter houses, evacuation centers, and shallow tube

wells, piloting of human digital platform based agricultural extension and marketing/selling programme in collaboration with Development Voyage Private Limited (DVPL), and piloting of artificial insemination (AI) and insurance scheme in goats.

FORWARD Nepal's implemented projects in the FY 2017/18

SN	Name of project	Project districts	Development partners	Collaboration	Direct HH Coverage
1	Facilitation of riverbed farming initiative in Banke, Siraha, Saptari, Morang and Jhapa districts	Morang, Jhapa, Saptari, Siraha Banke	Helvetas Nepal	Communities	200
2	Enhancing food and nutritional security and improved livelihoods through intensification of rice-fallow system with pulse crop in South Asia (Bangladesh, India and Nepal)	Siraha	IFAD/ ICARDA	NARC	459
3	Advocacy campaign for women's empowerment and gender equality	Sindhuli, Rautahat & Sarlahi	UNWOMEN	Women groups	-
4	Dairy for development in Nepal: Boosting rural livelihoods by enhancing production techniques, strengthening value chains and improving the genetics of dairy cows in Nepal	Chitwan, Nawalpur, Makwanpur	Practical Action/ Jersey Overseas Aid	Dairy Cooperatives	5,000
5	Sustainable Economic Development of Rural Areas (SEDRA) in Nepal	Selected district of Province No 5, 6 & 7	BFC	Global IME Bank, Mega Bank, and MSMEs	-
6	Enhancing livelihoods for poor farming households in four Central Terai districts of Nepal	Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi & Mahottari	UKaid & ADRA-UK	JJYC, RDA, CDAFN, Chetana	31,000
7	Exploratory research : Agricultural entrepreneurship among female-headed remittance receiving households in Nepal	Chitwan	Hiroshima University	-	-
8	Girls' Act Project (BALIKA SHAKTI) in Morang	Morang	Plan International	Community and School	3,740
9	Gender Transformative - Community Resilient (GET-CR) in Morang and Sunsari	Morang and Sunsari	Plan International	Community, YWG and YWO	19,490-
10	Building Community Enterprises of Smallholders in Bangladesh and Nepal	Chitwan	WHH/BMZ, Germany	Groups, Cooperatives	2,338
11	Monitoring & Verification of Community Development Programme (CDP) with DAI Europe	Western Hills and Terai districts (18)	DFID	DFID	-

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECTS



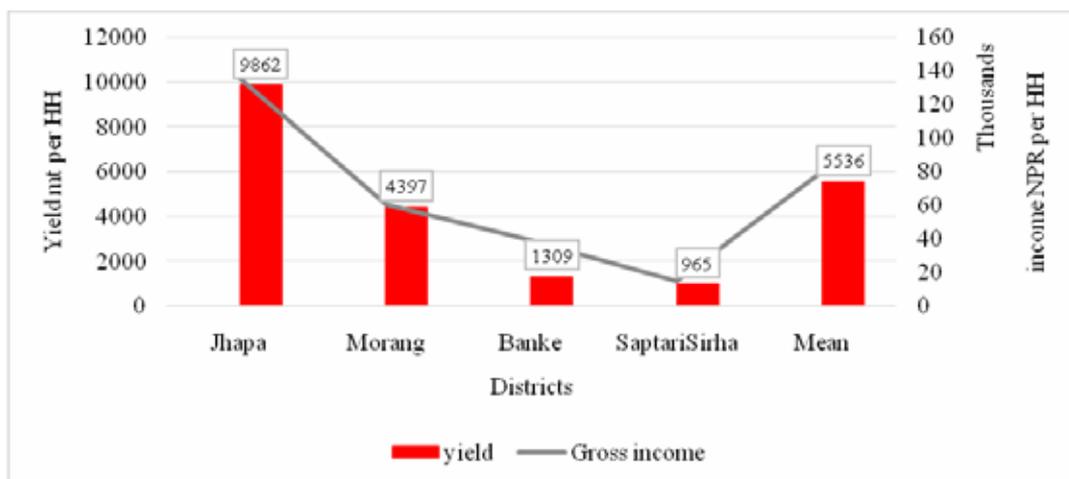
FACILITATION OF RIVERBED FARMING INITIATIVE IN BANKE, SIRAHA, SAPTARI, MORANG AND JHAPA DISTRICTS

Collection of fresh watermelons for marketing

The project has been implemented with support from Helvetas Intercooperation to enhance food security and livelihoods of the landless and poor people living in the vicinity of riverbeds/riverbanks in Banke, Siraha, Saptari, Morang, and Jhapa districts. In this project, 2,158 households belonging to 107 groups are engaged in riverbed farming in about 212 ha. FORWARD Nepal played the facilitating role for the implementation of riverbed farming practices amongst previously formed groups and linking the groups to local service providers, municipalities, DADOs, and other value chain actors. Other activities included joint monitoring of project activities at the district level along with Helvetas intercooperation.

Due to the facilitation for linkage and collaboration with local government and line agencies, riverbed

farming groups were successful in getting co-funding of NPR 580,000 from DADO Jhapa for the purchase of 14 diesel pump and fungicides, NPR 100,000 from Kankai Municipality, Jhapa from Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization project (PMAMP) to purchase diesel pumps and seeds inputs; NPR 300,000 from Jhapa Rural Municipality for diesel pumps, seeds, fertilizer inputs; and NPR 2,500 from Ratuwamai Municipality, Morang for the purchase of cucurbitaceous vegetable seeds. Apart from riverbed farming technology, the project introduced an innovative hand tool for digging pits for sowing seeds of riverbed crops. Farmers have achieved mean production of 5536 MT (n=200) riverbed crops and earned gross income of an average NPR 80,708 per household. Farmers from Jhapa realized the highest while those from Saptari and Siraha the least income from riverbed farming.



District-wise production and income per household from riverbed farming

Challenges

In spite of the benefits from RbF, it faced several challenges such as rivers changing its courses leading to yearly variation in the nature of bagarland; crop damage due to cold & hot waves and sudden winter floods; poor investment in RbF by landless and land-poor households; theft, stray animals, wild animals and heavy winds; Jackal attack, etc. The other problems faced by RbF farmers include non-availability of seeds of RbF crop varieties; group members often changing posing difficulty in group organization; and price reduction of riverbed crops due to open border.

Learnings

- Planting drumstick (Sajiwan) variety All-season on riverbanks is found to be a sustainable source of income to the RbF farmers.
- Loss of unripe watermelon fruits due to hailstone damage can be reduced by 70 percent through the application of fungicides followed by micronutrient spray on the crop just after the occurrence of a hailstorm.
- Watermelon at flowering and during drought periods are prone to heavy mite infestation
- Water melon varieties Augusta, Periposa, and SN 34 are preferred by the traders.

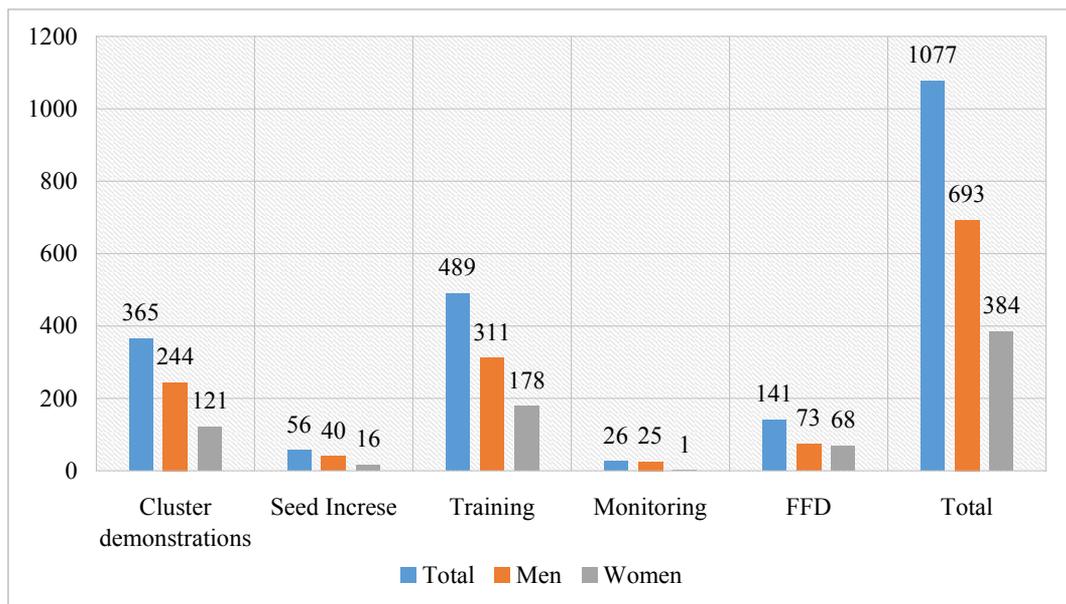


ENHANCING FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS THROUGH INTENSIFICATION OF RICE-FALLOW SYSTEM WITH PULSE CROPS IN SOUTH ASIA

Lentil Field monitoring by Mayor and vice mayor of Lahan Municipality

FORWARD Nepal has been implementing the project with support from IFAD/ICARDA since October 2016 in 12 wards of Lahan Municipality of Siraha district. The project aims to enhance the food and nutritional security and improve the livelihood of poor farmers through intensification of rice fallows with pulse crops. The project has promoted an additional crop of lentil in winter, which otherwise used to be left fallow by farmers due to a number of reasons such as non-availability of seeds, lack of irrigation, delayed paddy harvesting, too dry soils, stray animals and socioeconomic constraints like absentee landlords and uneconomic winter

crops. To address the problem, the project intervened through demonstration with a technology package consisting of improved lentil variety, seed priming, DAP fertilizer application and need-based application of fungicide to manage stephyllium blight disease. Accordingly, 430 cluster demonstrations (CDs) on improved production technology of lentil were conducted in 12 clusters/villages in Siraha district. To facilitate the activity implementation and service delivery, the beneficiaries were organized into 12 groups. A total of 75 hectares including five hectares promoted by farmers on their own was brought under CDs.



Gender disaggregated beneficiary numbers by interventions

To address the scarcity of quality seeds, 8.6 mt Truthfully labelled (TL) and 1.9 mt Foundation Seed (FS) of lentil varieties produced, which is adequate to cover an area of 332 ha in the current season. Village Based Seed Enterprise (VBSE) was implemented in 10.8 hectares area involving 30 farmers affiliated to Community Based Seed Production Group (CBSP), Padharia and Jandibya Farmers' Cooperative, Gadha of Siraha district. The varieties used were: Shisir, Simal, Khajura 2, Simrik, and Maheshwor Bharati. The participation of women was encouraging in all activities except project monitoring due to social barrier.

Lessons Learnt

- Lentil technology package proved better than farmers existing practice of lentil farming. The average yield from CD was 41 percent higher (n=365) than the baseline yield.
- Local capacity building in crop management is key to the success of technology interventions.
- Involvement of local government, elected personnel from the municipality in FFDs, monitoring and meeting is effective for good collaboration/supports.

- Demonstrations are key to convince farmers on the superiority of technology in enhancing yields and their incomes.
- Local FMs/national newspapers, participation in agriculture fairs and exhibitions: effective means of dissemination
- Village-based seed enterprise was effective for providing access to quality seeds to the farming community in the project area and beyond.

Impacts

- Landless and land-poor farmers have initiated leasing-in fallow lands for lentil farming.
- Lentil farmers were convinced of the need for application of DAP, Rhizobium inoculation, and plant protection.
- Farmers have initiated increasing area under lentil.
- Beneficiaries were successful in capturing co-funding from Government for the purchase of power tillers, and hermetically sealed bags (IRRI bags, PUC bags for seed/grain storage).
- Success of VBSEs and or CBSP in generating income through seeds transaction motivated the beneficiary farmers for establishing Lotus Seed Company Pvt. Ltd, at Lahan.



Seed bin supports to Sahlesh Fulbari Seed producer group, Lahan

Cluster Demonstration motivated for lentil farming

Mr. Bhagilal Saday (35), a resident of Lahan Municipality-12, Betha lives with his family of 12 including six children. He used to face difficulty in meeting the family expenses from wage earning as he possesses only 0.05 ha land in which he used to grow wheat. He was very much impressed by good lentil crop and its profits realized by his neighbor in the previous season. He contacted IFAD/ICARDA project staff at Lahan and expressed his interest to engage in the CDs. He narrates that after meeting IFAD staff, he got technical knowledge and input supports for conducting CDs in his land. He used to be in regular touch with the project staff and got the opportunity to participate in on-the-spot training. He conducted a lentil demonstration in 0.05 ha with technology/ advice from IFAD project staff. He was very happy to harvest 50 kg lentil from his land. Previously, he used to get NPR 1,650 from the sale of 90 kg wheat. Now from the same area, he got NPR 4,000 from the sale of 50 kg lentil. Mr. Saday plans to grow lentil in one hectare leased-in land next year to support the education of his children.



Mr. Saday with his produced lentil



UN WOMEN ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY

Kachahari Drama under 'Sahi-ho! Campaign, Rautahat



FORWARD Nepal implemented Women Empowerment and Gender Equality Project as 'Sahi ho!' campaign during the period of 1 November 2017 to 28 February 2018 in RWEE programme districts, namely Sarlahi, Sindhuli, and Rautahat in financial support of Equal Access International. The objectives of the project were to: a) raise awareness on gender-based discrimination and structural barriers hindering women's leadership roles in economic activities in households, communities, and labour markets in the local context (urban/semi-urban/rural), b) bring about policy changes that are sensitive to the needs of women by advocating strongly for gender-sensitive plans and policies, and c) promote increased participation and representation of rural women farmers in local-level decision-making process through community-level awareness raising and policy advocacy.

The project facilitated on advocacy events at the district level. FORWARD Nepal organized field level events like project kick-off meetings, multi-format community forums, Kachahari Theatre show, and a mobile-based video recording coaching session under Sahi ho! Campaign. Representatives of Women Farmers' Group (WFG- the beneficiary women groups of RWEE programme), local level elected government authority, line agencies, NGOs, media and other people participated in the campaign. The campaign was highlighted by print and audio media at the local level. Sahi ho! Campaign also distributed promotional materials to the concerned stakeholders.

The project kick-off meetings introduced the programme and the implementation approach/modality to the district level stakeholders in respective project districts. There were 106 participants including 50 women. Multi-format community forums, which included 'Kachahari theatre show and community dialogue', was

organized at district Head Quarter of each project district. The issues and the problems of the women farmers were focused by the theatre whereas the problem-solving programmes and policies were presented by the public authorities. Susheli Kala Samuha, Bardaghat, Nawalparasi presented the Kachahari theatre among the stakeholders. Community dialogue was organized immediately after the Kachahari theatre, among representatives of WFG with local bodies and government officials, for interaction with the issues too. Altogether 221 participants observed the Kachahari theatre, from three districts, including 99 women. Mobile video recording training was the third activity of the campaign where twelve WFG leaders, four from each district, participated in the training in Rautahat. Sahi ho! Campaign also distributed promotional materials like posters, cap, T-shirts, pen, and wrist band to the campaign participants.

The campaign initiated community dialogue with the rural women and the government authorities. Public representative realized the issues of the WFGs and expressed their commitment to address the issues by formulating gender friendly programme and policies. The result of 'response survey' and 'intercept interview' illustrated that WFG members were sensitized on women empowerment and gender equality for the economic empowerment.

Challenges

Emergence of a cold wave during the period in Rautahat caused trouble to invite people in district head quarter during programme implementation. Similarly, limited human resources for response survey and intercept interview, resources for the programme broadcasting by media, non-availability of SMART mobile among rural women for mobile-based video record training, and dysfunctional district level line agencies after the federal structure of the country were the other problems felt by the project.

Scope for improvement

The project may have additional scope of working by intermittent and longitudinal follow up to governmental commitments among the public for the fulfillment of WFGs problems. The project can be further improved in the future with the involvement of both women and men member of the targeted household in the programme; timely script preparation for Kachahari Theatre; similar events organization in rural areas, and acceleration of media mobilization in the campaign.

In conclusion, 'Sahi-ho!' campaign was an initiative that brought local level stakeholders, public representatives, government officers, mass media, different networks and citizens at sub-national level into sensitization, dialogue and seeking solutions for rural women's economic empowerment and gender equality. The government authorities and stakeholders realized the capacity of rural women on agricultural development and committed to support them by targeted programme and policies. Local level and regional print, digital and audio media extended the issues raised by the campaign in a broad spectrum.



Champa Chaudhary, president from Gujara Municipality-2, Simra Bhawanipur expressing her experience of prior project (RWEE) during project kick off meeting



DAIRY FOR DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL: BOOSTING RURAL LIVELIHOODS BY ENHANCING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES, STRENGTHENING VALUE CHAINS AND IMPROVING THE GENETICS OF DAIRY COWS IN NEPAL

Farmers selling milk to a dairy cooperative

Dairy sector contributes about 8 percent to the national GDP of Nepal. Over 130,000 people have been employed within the dairy value-chain, in addition to more than 500,000 smallholder farmers currently engaged in the formal dairy channel as producers and suppliers. Annual production of milk is about 1.45 million metric tons, and there is a deficit of around 400,000 liters of milk per day during the lean season due to low productivity resulting from poor animal husbandry, high cost of production, poor extension & market linkage, lack of knowledge on value addition, etc. Demand for dairy products in Nepal has been growing over the last few decades and has doubled since 1995, which

is estimated to grow at more than 10 percent annually, mainly due to changes in the food habit along with population growth. Such a situation offers the good future potential for livelihoods and rural development for smallholder dairy producers who are supplying more than three-quarters of the domestic consumption of milk and milk products.

Dairy for Development in Nepal (DDIN) project, funded by Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA-a UK based charity), has been implemented by FORWARD Nepal, in collaboration with Practical Action Nepal Since April 2018 and will terminate in March 2021. The project is being executed in

Binayi Triveni Rural Municipality & Madhyabindu Municipality of Nawalpur, Kalika & Rapti Municipalities of Chitwan, and Manhari & Bakaiya Rural Municipalities of Makwanpur district. The project intends to reach 5,000 smallholder dairy farmers through dairy cooperatives to improve their production practices resulting in 50 percent increased milk production due to higher productivity and increased number of cows. The project, therefore, aims to increase the income level of beneficiaries by 50 percent against the baseline income level from dairy business, due to higher productivity and decreased cost of production resulting into 150,000 liters of extra milk into the formal market, thus reducing the deficiency by approximately 25 percent in its working areas.

A baseline survey of the farmers as well as dairy cooperatives was done in all the working sites of the project districts. The study revealed that an average of seven liters of milk is produced per day by a household in project areas, which is very low, and it is due to poor management practices, use of traditional technologies, lack of quality and timely veterinary services, lack of superior breed cattle, and many others. Similarly, it was found that 91.56 percent of the farmers do not have any knowledge of maintaining the milk

quality. The survey further showed that majority of the farmers (i.e. 99 percent) do not know about the balance feed preparation for cattle. All the respondent farmers mentioned that feed used by the farmers is not of good quality and 93.75 percent of them mentioned about the high cost of feed which ultimately affects their net profit.

Before the initiation of the project, a project pre-consensus was inked between the concerned offices of the rural/urban municipal executive and FORWARD Nepal. Project orientation workshops were conducted in all the concerned Rural/Urban Municipalities to inform the dairy value chain actors about the project objectives, activities, and allocated budget. Similarly, interaction meetings between concerned livestock service sections, local technology suppliers, dairy cooperatives, and smallholder farmers were organized and cluster mapping of the dairy pocket areas was also performed simultaneously.

Problems faced by dairy farmers

The major problems identified were the high cost of cattle feed, low price of milk, high-interest rates against the loan, lack of sufficient animal health technicians, and lack of genetically superior cattle.



Project orientation workshop at municipality level



SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS (SEDRA)

SEDRA team at FORWARD Nepal

Sustainable Economic Development of Rural Areas (SEDRA) project is funded from KfW Development Bank Germany through Business and Finance Consulting (BFC) Company. The project aims to support and develop micro, small, and medium enterprises in the rural areas of Nepal through agri value chain financing. The project has Global IME, Om Development bank, FORWARD Nepal and Samridha Pahad as implementing partners in Nepal, and the role of FORWARD Nepal is to prepare the Agriculture Tech Cards for 57 crop species and 9 animal types and capacity building of partner banks and selected private enterprises on good agricultural practices (GAP) and agricultural technology (AT). Agriculture tech cards have been designed for automatic computation of production costs, returns and profitability, and cash flow on monthly basis to facilitate lending through the banks. Similarly, the development of a banking software on loan lending process is underway.

FORWARD Nepal participated in the brainstorming session at SEDRA/Samridha Pahad and the assessment of a private company Shreenagar Butwal, mainly on main production assets and key premises, understanding the production process of chicks and its relationship with farmers, and also visited some business / agro-industries in Narayangarh Chitwan. Similarly, other accomplished activities include participation of Experts of FORWARD Nepal in project kick-off meeting and Agri-Tech Card preparation of five crops namely mango, lentil, rice, tomato, and winter maize and two animal types: poultry and dairy cattle. Future programmes consist of Agri Tech Card preparation for 47 crops and 7 animal types and capacity building of partner banks on GAPs and ATs.



ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN THE CENTRAL TERAI DISTRICTS OF NEPAL (ELIVES)

Vegetable Farming, Rautahat

Enhancing Livelihoods of Smallholder Farmers in Central Terai Districts of Nepal (ELIVES) project had been implemented since April 2015 in Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari districts with financial support from The UKAid and ADRA UK. FORWARD Nepal implemented the project in coordination with ADRA Nepal and iDE, and with providing technical support to district-based NGOs: Jan Jagaran Yuba Club (JJYC) in Bara, Rural Development Center (RDC) in Rautahat, Chetana in Sarlahi, and Community Development and Advocacy Forum Nepal (CDAFN) in Mahottari. The project aimed to enhance the livelihoods and income of poor and marginalized smallholder farmers with a focus on women and socially excluded groups through the development of pro-poor value chains in the goat and vegetable sub-sectors. The project has capacitated the district-based NGOs, farmer groups and cooperatives, entrepreneurs and other major market actors in the development of the value chains of goat and vegetable sub-sectors.

The major interventions of the ELIVES project included the development of the managerial and entrepreneurial capabilities of farmers, especially women, and cooperative management committees through series of technical and vocational trainings, demonstrations, and campaigns - management and saving-credit training to increase the effectiveness of farmer groups in the enterprise and marketing of the produce; market management training; business literacy classes for semi-literate women farmers and service providers; goat breeding, animal health, animal shed management, and feed and forage management to goat rearing groups to improve goat farming practices; Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) training; nursery management training to nursery operators; off-season vegetable production training; training to landless and land-poor households on riverbed vegetable farming and vegetable farming in leased-in lands, and so on, demonstration of various innovative technologies: improved goat sheds and plantation of fodder/forage plantation (demo on common land), IPM demonstration in

vegetable development, campaign on castration, dipping, drenching, and PPR to increase the goat productivity. The project also constructed collection centers, promoted local resource centers (LRCs) and local resource persons (LRPs), and facilitated in the establishment of linkage among vegetable value chain actors.

The notable achievements and outputs of the ELIVES projects in the FY 2017-18 include registration of all farmer groups (600 groups) in the DLSO/DADO, establishment of seven new farmer cooperatives, artificial insemination in 264 goats, 265 breeding bucks support to farmer groups, PPR vaccination in 67,645 goats, campaign for internal and external parasites control, construction of more than 3,500 improved goat sheds, insurance of 13,383 goats, establishment of six goat resource centers, one mineral block manufacturing scheme, training to 31 Community Business Facilitators (CBFs), development of two units of multi-use water system (MUS), and establishment of 11 collection centers and 41 small irrigation schemes. The piloting of artificial insemination (AI) in goat initiated by the project has been successful and a total of 226 local goats were inseminated with Jamunapari cross buck semen or Boer buck semen. Other accomplishments include exposure visits, animal health management training to 106 persons, goat management refresher training to 219 persons, organization of four castration, dipping and drenching campaigns, 35 goat shed management trainings, and demonstrations of 15 improved goat sheds in the third year.

The business literacy classes have a positive impact on reading and writing ability of participants and enabled them to keep the record of income and expenditure. The impact of

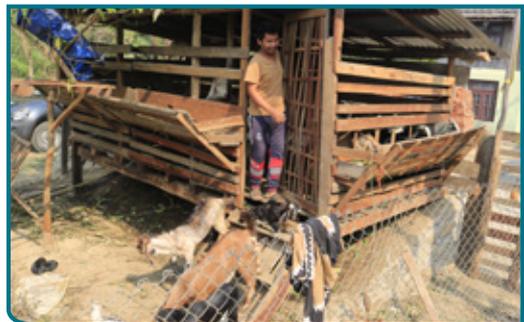
technical capacity building activities on goat can be noticed in the initiatives taken by goat farmers in the construction and repair of goat sheds in the project sites, as well as improvement in the goat production systems. The VAHWs have been providing their services- now farmers can have the opportunity to protect animals from diseases

Lessons/ Learning

- Goat breeding intervention was highly successful as a large number of crossbreeds has been produced by cross-breeding with Jamunapari bucks.
- There is a need to carry out follow up programme to avoid inbreeding depression through the exchange of breeding bucks and encouragement of stall-feeding, and also need to strengthen the existing goat resource centers for quality buck production.
- Coordination and collaboration with line agencies is necessary for the smooth implementation of project activities and achieving good results.
- Participatory Market Chain Analysis (PMCA) workshop is effective in the market network development.
- Private sector involvement for the sustainability of enterprises.
- Motivation of riverbed farmers (providing incentives and result demonstration) can aware/empower farmers for the adoption of RbF farming.
- Huge number of trainings hamper the regular follow up of the activities, and farmers can lose interest to participate in the trainings.
- Follow up project interventions is necessary to monitor the project activities and additional support to the Market Planning Committees (MPCs) and cooperatives.



Vegetable Farming, Rautahat



Improved goat shed, Rautahat

AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG FEMALE-HEADED REMITTANCE RECEIVING HOUSEHOLDS IN NEPAL

The research project 'Agricultural Entrepreneurship among Female-headed Remittance Receiving Households in Nepal' is funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and Technology (JSPS) and lead by Hiroshima University, Japan. This is a 4-year project running from April 2017 to March 2021. This project aims to assess the factors determining entrepreneurship behavior, focusing on female-headed remittance receiving households. The major roles of FORWARD Nepal as a research collaborator in this project are to provide expertise inputs on the research design and pre-testing-finalization of data collection instruments; support the principal investigator in field activities including data collection and logistics; lead the process of hiring/training research assistants; monitoring the data cleaning and entry processes; and contribute as a co-author in the publication of research findings.

The research site has been identified in Chitwan district, Bharatpur Municipality-25, Shukranagar after the thorough consultation with several agencies like District Development Committee, Bharatpur Municipality, district level officials of the Election Commission, and Institute for Social and Environmental Research (ISER)- Nepal. A reconnaissance survey of the potential research sites was conducted along with a meeting with the Ward Chairpersons and focused group discussion with the key informants.

Based on the insights gained from the reconnaissance survey, a sampling framework was prepared. Eight clusters were selected through systematic-random sampling, with an aim to cover at least 20% of the total clusters i.e. 41 Tole Bikas Sanstha (TBS)– functions as a cluster, ensuring the evenly distribution of sampled clusters throughout the study area such that they sufficiently represent the geographical and socio-cultural diversity within

the research area. The clusters included in the final sample were Chhahari TBS, Namuna TBS, Jeetwaahan TBS, Suryamukhi TBS, Namuna TBS, Sagarmatha TBS, Devasthan TBS, and Bayarghaari TBS.

A survey questionnaire was finalized after its pre-testing in the adjoining settlements falling under the Bharatpur Municipality-24. Finally, a household survey was administered by eight research assistants, which were selected based on the competitive scores. A one-day training was provided to them before the household survey.

A total of 346 households were interviewed from the selected eight clusters through face-to-face interviews. The principal investigators and research collaborators were actively involved in day to day monitoring of the data collection. During the process, the research assistants revisited the households to confirm, correct or supplement the information, as required. The data entry has been completed and the data analysis and write-up activities are ongoing. In parallel, second phase of the fieldwork has also been planned for the next fiscal year.



GIRLS' ACT PROJECT (BALIKA SHAKTI)

*Celebration of International
Women Day (8th March 2018)*

Girls Act Project (GAP) was implemented jointly by Plan International Nepal and FORWARD Nepal to empower children and adolescent girl's Agency in humanitarian and development settings. To achieve the goal, project focused on three objectives i) Promoting economic security, self-employment and entrepreneurship development for young women/girls of landless, very poor and marginalized families through their access to on-farm and off-farm intervention (Learn), ii) Promote participation and capacitate participants and the members of Young Women Organizations (YWOs) to carry out lobby advocacy on issues of children, adolescent girls, young women, and women with disability (Lead), and iii) Raise awareness about sexual and reproductive health and rights, education and control over their body for adolescent girls, young women and women with disability (Decide).

The project provided capacity building training to the members of YWGs and YWOs for the organization and their better life opportunity. The project facilitated in affiliation of 2,453 adolescent

girls and young women with YWG and 377 adolescent girls and young women with YWO. Young women were capacitated in different skills through vocational training (sewing/cutting, advanced computer course, Acharaco boutique, beauty parlor, mobile repairing etc.) and received start-up support for the economic empowerment of all adolescent girls and young women. Altogether, 379 adolescent girls and young women received different capacity building training and events like, anchoring and public speaking, institutional development and networking/alliance, leadership development, Gender Based Violence (GBV), human rights-based advocacy (HRBA), proposal writing, sexual and reproductive health right, orientation on reproductive health right, workshop on advocacy for the availability of health services and early child marriage, etc. As a result of these interventions, positive changes were observed in their knowledge, attitude, and practices. Four Municipalities and five Rural Municipalities of Morang along with 908 Plan-sponsored families were directly benefited from the project interventions.

Furthermore, the project organized different community based activities such as street drama, speech competition, adolescent girls' football tournament, quiz competition, and cultural dance to stop gender-based violence, child marriage, child love marriage. These interventions enabled YMOs of both Morang and Sunsari district to submit a provincial level memorandum to Social Development Minister at Biratnagar to address rights and welfare of adolescent girls and women in the upcoming provincial constitution. YWO's members also succeeded to stop child marriage at Sorabhad, Nocha, Thalaha, Babiyabirta, Teatariya, Motipur and Kaseni through advocacy. Similarly, YWO at Siswanijahada succeeded to punish a man involved in child harassment and child love marriage.

Additionally, the project provided a good opportunity for networking/cooperation and sharing of lessons with DADO and local government. YMOs were able to attract co-funding based on their proposals. In this context, Letang Municipality provided NPR 10,000.00 to Pragati Young Women Organization to organize one-day workshop on early child marriage. Similarly, YWO members of Jahada Rural Municipality-06, Pokhariya, succeeded in receiving a grant of NPR 300,000.00 for commercial mushroom farming from Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project (PMAMP).

Nothing can stop a determined mind for achieving a goal

"I went through the worst phases in my life, which used to break me down," says Malati Kumari Chaudhary, a resident of Gramthan Rural Municipality-4, Motipur- around 2 km towards North-East of Morang District. Currently, she is living with five family members. She was born with an abnormality as her both hands are shorter than normal, and her parents used to worry about her future. The community members used to have different attitude and perception towards her due to the unusual appearance. She used to have hard times facing the society and living her life. But after she got involved in Plan family, she finds a new way for her life. Now, she is a treasurer of Parikalpana Youth Women Organization, formed under Girls Act project, implemented by FORWARD Nepal with financial support from plan international. The project provided NRs. 20,000 as a start-up support for a cosmetic business. She, thereafter, rented a room and set-up a cosmetic shop.

Ms. Chaudhary says," It has been eight months since I started a cosmetic business, and I am able to make NRs. 15,000 to 18,000 income per month." She adds, "I have a plan

to extend my business by taking a loan of NRs. 10,000 from cooperative. She has developed herself as an independent and hardworking women entrepreneur. Those who used to find her useless are now praising her. She has been contributing to sustain the livelihood of her family through cosmetic business. She expressed her thanks to FORWARD and Plan International Nepal for all kinds of support, and she hopes to make more income in the coming days.



Ms. Chaudhary in her cosmetic shop



GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE - COMMUNITY RESILIENT (GET-CR) PROJECT

Rescue Shelter at Kirtiman, Morang

Gender Transformative - Community Resilient Project (GET-CR) was implemented in partnership with Plan International Nepal in two Municipalities of Sunsari and three Municipalities of Morang districts. The project aimed to strengthen the capacity of community and school for disaster risk management (DRM) through capacity building training on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and awareness raising activities in selected Rural Municipalities of the project districts. The specific objectives of the project included: i) Build capacity of children and communities on life-saving skills, and prepare them for effective disaster response along with support of equipment, ii) Raise awareness of disaster to children and communities through mobilization of child clubs and adolescent girls, iii) Prepare Community Based Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan (CBDCRP), Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan (LDCRP) and School Disaster Risk Management Plan (SDRMP) through the assessment of the community and schools, iv) Develop local human resources to respond disaster-affected people in community

and school through providing first aid training and supporting Light Search and Rescue (LSAR) materials. The project successfully implemented the programmes in close collaboration with District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC), District Coordination Committee, Local Disaster Management Committee (LDMC), and Rural/Municipalities of Morang and Sunsari Districts.

The project worked as an innovative approach to DRR, and it fostered the empowerment of children and youth in groups and as individuals to work towards making their lives safer and their communities more resilient to disasters. It facilitated children's active participation in efforts to prevent, prepare for, cope with, and adapt to climate change and extreme events. The initiatives included curriculum development in schools, teacher training, and knowledge-transfer through a range of media, which has increasingly enabled child participation through rights-based approaches, children's engagement in related policy spaces, and child-centered risk communication.

Various activities were designed and implemented to bring the project outcomes through supporting the children, community people and schools in different aspects, and help them to become more resilient towards disaster in the sites. The project directly supported four new and six old schools from Morang and four new and six old schools from Sunsari. The key stakeholders of the project were school students, child club/network members, school head and school DRM focal teachers and school management committee. The project sensitized 4,822 people in Sunsari and 4,691 in Morang districts about DRM through different awareness programmes and DRM activities. Community disaster management committees (CDMCs) were formed aiming to develop community task force by providing various training and supporting some necessary LSAR materials to the community.

School Disaster Management Committees (SDMC) were formed in four schools of Morang and three of Sunsari district to prepare SDRMP and conduct activities according to the plan. Similarly, Participatory Capacity Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA) of communities and the school was also conducted in order to identify the vulnerable situation regarding structural and nonstructural commodities of communities and schools. Participants of the community prepared hazard map including capacities of the community and prioritized list of hazards through pair comparison. Hazards that were listed out in highly risk for school were cross verified through the historical time line of hazards and its affect.

The project provided various capacity development trainings such as DRM planning (VCA and Planning), behavior change and DRR knowledge transfer (peer facilitator training), light search & rescue, and Child Protection in Emergency (CPIE) training to children and Village Child Protection Committee (VCPC) to about 250 youth, community people, local authorities, School Management Committee (SMC) members, and school teachers. About 4,699 children, youth, school teachers, and community members were sensitized through day's/events celebration and campaigns such as child events on DRR/ CCA, street drama on disaster safety and peer classes on DRR/CCA.

To increase the resilience of community and students, small structural supports were provided

to the community and schools. The supports included construction of five culverts, one school compound fencing and two drinking water schemes, one hume pipe installation and school railing supports in the project areas. Such small-scale structure supports the community people or school students to increase their resilience capacity. Besides, the project facilitated for the formation of 48 local First-Aid task forces in the project catchment area involving eight communities, development of 47 community members as local taskforce for Search and Rescue in emergency, development of family safety preparation and response plan amongst 236 families, awareness creation among plus 10,000 children on different kinds of hazards, and practice of safe evacuation camps.

Major learnings

- Programme activities should be in line with Municipality/Rural municipality and approved by municipal council meeting and school activities in line with School Implementation Plan (SIP)/ SDRMP.
- Programme as a model approach, with intensive support activities in a certain area would have better outcome rather than covering larger area.
- Project activities should be readjusted according to time and staff numbers.



Earthquake mock drill practice sessions in schools



BUILDING COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES OF SMALL-HOLDERS IN BANGLADESH AND NEPAL

Poly-tunnel farming in Ichhakamana-1

Three-year project entitled “Building Community Enterprises of Small-holders in Bangladesh and Nepal”, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)/Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Germany has been initiated since October 2015. It is being executed by four partners in two South Asian countries, i.e. Nepal and Bangladesh. In Nepal, CEAPRED has been implementing the project in Salyan district and FORWARD Nepal in Kalika municipality-8, 9, 10 & 11 (former Shaktikhor and Siddhi) and Ichhakamana Municipality-1 & 2 of Chitwan district. The direct beneficiaries of the project include 2,338 households, representing 2.8% Dalit, 61.4% Chepang, 24.5% Janajati and 11.3% Brahmin/Chhetri. The project covered most of the households belonging to Chepang and socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. The overall objective of the project is to combat poverty and food insecurity of the most vulnerable sections of the society. The project aims to increase the income of smallholders and improve the household food

security through extension services for quality control of farm input and production, value addition and marketing support through the Community Enterprises (CE). This project has been developed to further fine-tune and up-scale the concept of an earlier project (SIFS). The project has continuously put its effort to remain in close proximity to the line agencies and other actors for the smooth implementation of project activities.

During the fiscal year 2017-18, as a part of the productive infrastructures, the project has accomplished 10 irrigation schemes, which has benefited 88 farm-households, resulting in an increased area under vegetable cultivation. Similarly, the project has contributed to the construction of one collection center in Ichhakamana ward no. 2 for the collective and ease marketing. Community enterprises have been established in convenient locations for collectivized marketing and value addition of the farm produce. It is functioning as a formally registered entity for backward and forward

linkage to small-scale farmers for the supply of technical and farm inputs at one hand and work as a major stakeholder of a fresh vegetable and spices (cash crops) supply chain on the next. Those CEs have been equipped with trained human resources - CRPs and management committees and equipment/materials like digital weighing balance, packaging tools, processing mills, furniture etc. and is owned and managed by farmers' group representatives/volunteers. In addition to this, project has supported 75 poly-tunnels along with the drip irrigation sets to the farmers in Ichhakamana-1 & 2 and nine poly-tunnels in Kalika-8&9 on cash sharing basis. Based on the interest, demand and cash contribution capacity of the farmers, three clusters involving 71 farmers in three sites were supported with the cement bags according to the animal herd size, and the rest materials were managed by themselves. Similarly, the project has developed two mushroom entrepreneurs through technical and input support, based on developed business plan.

The project has been capacitating the farmers through series of trainings and visits and providing services and inputs through various approaches. The project has capacitated the management committees of the Collection

Centers (CC) and Community Resource Persons (CRP) on the business development plan, account keeping, financial management, and market management training and facilitated to develop business plans of two CCs in participatory manner. Moreover, four training modules have been developed for the capacity building of CRPs. Four events of training, each of two days were organized for the selected CRPs and interested management committee members of CCs and CEs on operation of collection center, disease and pest management, leadership development, and post-harvest management of major vegetable crops. Likewise, to strengthen the resource farm as a demonstration plot, Resource Farmers (RF) were supported with some farm inputs, based on their need and also according to the sessions conducted under Farmer Field School. Farm inputs were supported by developing 18 Resource Centers (RC) - an individual farmer owns/run business unit (multipurpose nursery) that supplies seed/seedlings to the nearby 3-4 group members on a seasonal basis and on reasonable price. Besides, as a start-up support, a revolving fund of NPR. 50,000 has been provided to two CEs, each in Kalika-8 and Kalika-10 for the purchase of commodities and its marketing.



The project organized series of review workshops/meetings – internal project review and planning meetings and two multi-country project review and planning workshops, which were held each in Chitwan, Nepal and Sylhet, Bangladesh. Different studies and survey were also conducted as value chain analysis, baseline and end-line evaluation survey, during this fiscal year. A three-day training was conducted to enumerators and project team on Akvo flow software based data collection. In addition, the project has been piloting application-based agricultural extension and marketing/selling model in collaboration with Development Voyage and facilitating THE BAZAAR team for the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) promotion. Similarly, different visitors as fund coordination group from WHH, RTL trainee for video documentation and a monitoring visit from social welfare council visited the project sites. The BCES team from FORWARD Nepal made visit to BCES project sites, implemented by CEAPRED in Salyan District to exchange the field learnings and get insights into the working modality of CEs, CCs and RFs. Besides, staff meetings and monitoring and field visits were also performed periodically.

Lessons

- Community interest-based activity/support makes the work praiseworthy e.g., Shed floor improvement, plastic tunnel, mushroom cultivation, irrigation support.
- Shareholders based membership increase the ownership towards an organization/institution
- Micro-irrigation support always brings positive impact in terms of farmer's attitude or crop production
- Linking producer groups to collection center (input supply through CC) foster the better business relation
- Resource Center (multipurpose nursery) is successful only in feasible areas.
- The resource farmer or leader farmer should be motivated enough to lead the group in a proper way
- CRP model is less effective due to low-interest in community works, and the expectation of more project facilities
- Input support alone is not enough to bring the change, follow-up is needed



Production and marketing of the vegetable crops

Smart step lead to a success

Mr. Mitra Bahadur Chepang (27), a young entrepreneur, residing in Ichhakamana-2, Chhapdanda is feeling very determined nowadays. It was not easy for him to satisfy the needs of eight family members with just labor work, and his family used to have hard times sustaining life. Though labor work was his main source of income, he also used to do small-scale farming. Anyhow, he was trying to make his life easier. With the launch of BCES project, he gave a new way to his life. He was selected by other groups and community members to serve as a Resource Farmer of a farmers group, due to his hard work and smart nature. He received a series of training on SIFS_LANN PLA manual and other input support to establish demonstration farm. With the progression of the project, he also got partial support for the multipurpose nursery on cash contribution basis. The multipurpose nursery was established with the purpose of providing ease availability of seedlings to the nearby farmers as well as making a profit out of it – a business model. He took the risk, and it was really difficult for him to sell those seedlings initially, as the community members were seeking for the free seedlings. When the performance of multipurpose nursery didn't go as expected in the first try, he planted all the seedlings on his own land. Currently, he is growing vegetables in 0.25 acre and nursery in 0.02-acre land. The purpose of nursery didn't work out, but he at least expanded the farming land and started commercial vegetable farming. He received a good return by selling fresh vegetables last year- around NRs. 70,000 from cauliflower only, which has further encouraged him for vegetable farming.

Mitra didn't lose his hope from the multipurpose nursery. He raised seedlings in the next season, but this time, he reduced the number of seedlings in the nursery. Later on, slowly the farmers realized the service and the benefit they would reap from nursery or in-short they realized it's a win-win business model for both, and they started buying the

seedlings. Initially, it was difficult to sell the seedlings and now it's difficult to fulfill their demand. He made a profit of NRs. 15,000 from a nursery in the second try. Now based on farmers' demand and their preference he is growing the seedlings of different vegetable crops. Some farmers demanded the vegetable seeds also. Then a business idea flickered in his mind, and he planned to supply seeds to his community members. He has now started a small shop of a wooden structure and sells vegetable seeds like cauliflower, cabbage, tomato etc. along with grocery items.

"I had never thought that I would be able to start a business, but the profit from nursery and vegetable farming was like a start-up fuel to lit a fire, for my business," says Mr. Chepang. He made the structure with available wood and purchased seeds and groceries from a nearby market on the installment basis. He had also borrowed certain money from his neighbor for a business. He is making a good income from the shop, due to which, he became able to pay back the money and complete the installment payment within three months' period. He is planning to expand his business as well as vegetable growing area. He wants his family to engage in a vegetable farming. "I am really surprised; a small start can bring a big difference in one's life. I want to thank FORWARD for the continuous motivation and encouragement", says Mitra.



Mr. Mitra Bahadur Chepang weeding his cauliflower field



MONITORING & VERIFICATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CDP)

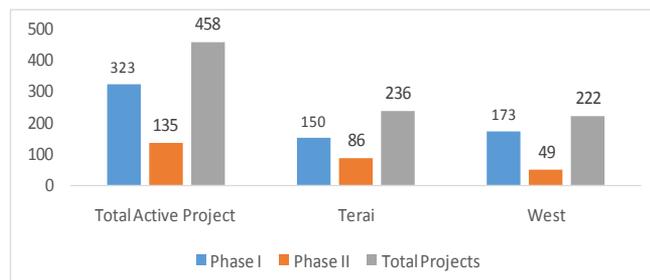
Nursing Birthing Center, Sunsari

DFID had awarded a contract to DAI Consortium for the "Monitoring and verification of the Community Development Programme (CDP) Phase 2" and as one of the project-implementing partners of DAI, FORWARD Nepal had deployed its four staff (Field Engineers) to the CDP project districts for the monitoring and verification of infrastructural works. This report succinctly highlights the progress of the Monitoring and Verification (M&V) works.

The construction works of CDP were undertaken by Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN) with a direct contract from DFID and implemented in 18 districts namely; Parsa, Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Saptari and Sunsari in Terai of East and Achham, Bajhang, Bajura, Dolpa, Humla, Jajarkot, Jumla, Mugu and Kalikot in the Hill districts of West Nepal.

In the second phase, CDP worked on fewer projects than the first phase i.e. 42% of first

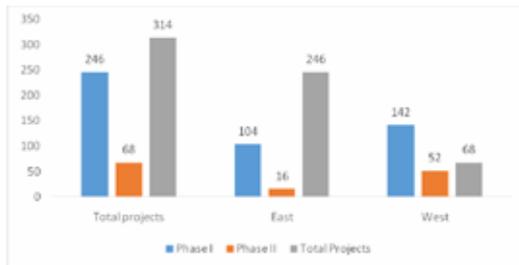
phase, but this was within the shorter timeframe - around nine months of active work unlike the first phase, which had covered over 16 months. The project monitored and verified the same geographical area across 18 districts as in first phase. During first phase, 54% of the total active projects were in the West and 46% in Terai. In the second phase, 36% of the total active projects were in the West and 64% in the Terai.



Total number of active CDP projects during Phase I and II

M&V process

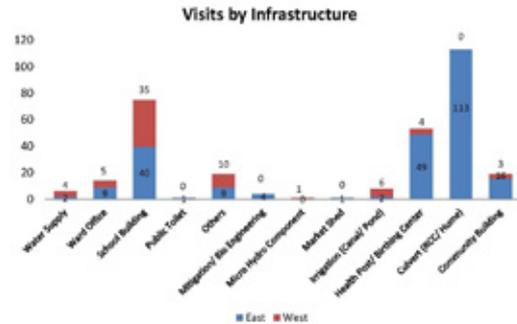
The second phase of CDP was for January to October 2018. During this period, M&V Officers (Field Engineers) continued to monitor the progress of CDP infrastructural works against its technical standards and reported to DAI on monthly basis. The M&V team were reduced from four to three field engineers, retaining one engineer designated for the Terai and two for the West. Due to the greater complexity and strategic importance of the project investment, the M&V team allocated more for site assessments of those buildings constructed to track progress over time.



Number of projects visited & monitored during phase two (phase one and phase two sites)

Site assessments by type of infrastructure project

The assessment of CDP sites by infrastructures such as ward building, school building, covers /hume pipe, health posts, irrigation ponds, water supply, community buildings, market sheds, micro-hydro component, mitigation ad bio-engineering, public toilets, and others is presented below.



Total projects undertaken by infrastructure type in the Terai and West



Ward office building at Baragadhi Rural Municipality -3, Khopaya, Bara



RCC Slab Culvert at Laxmipur, Dhanusha

COLLABORATION AND LINKAGE WITH DONORS AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS IN FY 2017-18

FORWARD Nepal emphasizes programme implementation in collaboration and partnership with GOs, I/NGOs, research institutions, academia, private sectors, and community-based organizations as appropriate for greater impacts of its programmes, resource generation/sharing, and sharing of knowledge and learning. The organization also has MOUs signed with

some institutions. In the FY 2017-18, FORWARD Nepal worked in collaboration and coordination with several government institutions/bodies (i.e. Municipalities, DADO, DLSO, DDC, DOA, NARC), academic institutions (Agriculture and Forestry University, Hiroshima University, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science), and with several donor and development partners.

Donors and development partners in the FY 2017/18



List of publications

- Neupane RK and Tek Prasad Gotame (2018). Crop Groups based on Use Values of Agronomic Crop Species: Food Crops, Commercial, Industrial, Plantation, Beverage Crops, Fiber Crops, Manuring Plants, Pesticidal Plants and Trap Crops. Proceedings of National Workshop on Plant Genetic Resources.
- Neupane RK, A Sharma and S Bist (2018). Lentil Promotion and Marketing: FORWARD Nepal's Experiences. Proceedings of National Workshop & Expert Elicitation on Lentil Productivity & Profitability in Nepal, 21-22 Feb 2018. CIMMYT-NARC.
- Neupane RK, S Bist, DB Basnet, and J Timsina (2017). Enhancing Rice, Maize, and Wheat Yields in Nepal Using the Nutrient Expert Fertilizer Decision Support Tool. Proceedings of International Conference on Advances in Potassium Research for Efficient Soil and Crop Management. 28-29 August 2017. International Plant Nutrition Institute, New Delhi, India.
- Darai R, Sarker A, Agrawal SK, Poudel P, Aryal L, Dhakal KH, Neupane RK and I Pokhrel (2018). Present status and future prospect of lentil improvement in Nepal. Jour of Agric sci and Tech (JAST). Paper accepted for publication.
- Tiwari, U. and Paudel, K.P. (2018). Behavioral Practices of Supply Chain Actors on Quality Maintenance of Raw Milk in Nepal. Journal of Agriculture and Forestry University, Vol. 2, pp. 79-89.
- Four quarterly bulletins of FORWARD

Training, Workshops, Conferences, Meetings, and Visits

Training, Workshops, Conferences, and Meetings participated by FORWARD Nepal's staff and project stakeholders

Title of Trainings /workshop / conference/meeting	Organizer	Place	Date	Participant/s
Preparedness for Emergency Response Training	Centre of Resilient Development (CoRD)	Sauraha, Chitwan	June 19-21, 2018	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Bhandari
Sharing the Approach of Sustainable Economic Development in Rural Areas	BFC	Sambridha Pahad	June 18, 2018	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane & Dr. Ujjal Tiwari
NGOs Work Planning and budget to be implemented in Metropolitan City	Bharatpur Metropolitan City	Bharatpur	June 15, 2018	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen
Staff Induction and Planning Workshop	Practical Action Nepal	Sauraha, Chitwan	June 13-14, 2018	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane, Mr. Ramesh Jung Shahi, Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu
Major Changes in Tax and Tax Management Skills	Management Association Nepal	Thamel, Kathmandu	June 13-14, 2018	Mr. Suraj Sharma
Rural Entrepreneurship Training	Innovative Learning Centre /Kwame Nukrum University of Science & Technology	Kumasi, Ghana	June 11-22, 2018	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal
Challenges and opportunities for controlling invasive plants: Learning from Community Forests of Western Chitwan Valley	ISER Nepal	Institute for Social and Environmental Research-Nepal (ISER-N)	May 05, 2018	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen
Central Advisory Committee Meeting	Welthungerhilfe	Social Welfare Council Complex	April 19, 2018	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal
Learning Sharing and Capacity Building on Financial Management	Practical Action	Sauraha, Chitwan	March 21-24, 2018	Mr. Ramesh Jung Shahi
Strengthening National Agricultural Research System (NARS) in Nepal	NARC	NARC	March 21-22, 2018	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Ensuring Sustainability of I/NGO in Changed Context of Federalism with Best Practices	Biz Hub Consultancy	Hotel Himalayan	Mar 08, 2018	Mr. Suraj Sharma
Front Desk Handling Skills	HR Development Center	HR Development Center Hall	March 3-4, 2018	Ms. Sakchha Timilsina Subedi
National Workshop & Expert Elicitation on Lentil Productivity & Profitability in Nepal	CIMMYT & NARC	Nepalgunj	February 20-21, 2018	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Sahi-ho! Campaign	FORWARD Nepal/EQUAL Access	Sarlahi, Sindhu-li, Rautahat	February 12-14, 2018	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal & Mr. Pramesh Bade
Translating Science into Policy & Practice	Agriculture for Food Security 2030	Bangkok, Thailand	January 22-27, 2018	Dr. Ujjal Tiwari
Asia Programme Design	Civil Society Academy	New Delhi, India	January 15-19, 2018	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal
Exploring the Possibility of Collaboration in Writing Project Proposal for Post Recovery Project	Swiss Contact	Swiss Contact	January 05, 2018	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Multi-country Annual Review & Planning Workshop	Welthungerhilfe	Bangladesh	January 01-06, 2018	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Ms. Ashmita Pandey, Mr. Suraj Sharma
State Restructuring and Innovations in Market System Development	Market Development Forum Nepal	Lalitpur	Dec 19, 2017	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane

Title of Trainings /workshop / conference/meeting	Organizer	Place	Date	Participant/s
Central Coordination Committee Meeting of ELIVES project	ADRA	ADRA	December 13, 2017	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Consultation Meeting	ADB Skills Development Project	Kathmandu	November 27, 2017	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Workshop on Climate-Smart Agriculture	MOAD/LI-BIRD	Kathmandu	Nov 09, 2017	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane & Mr. Purna Bahadur Chemjong
Programme Design Training	WHH India	Cambodia	October 2-9, 2017	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal
Land-use & Land-cover Management with respect to Ecosystem Services	University of Agriculture & Forestry	Vietnam	September 23-October 2, 2017	Dr. Ujjal Tiwari
Training for Journalists on Agriculture	FORWARD Nepal	Chitwan	August 30-31, 2017	17 Journalists from National and Local Media
Building Better Response	Harvard Humanitarian Initiative	Kathmandu	August 30, 2017	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal
International Conference on Advance in Potassium Research for Efficient Soil and Crop Management	New Delhi	New Delhi	August 28-29, 2017	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane
Participatory Learning and Action- Improving Nutrition Outcomes (Linking Agriculture, Natural Resource Management and Nutrition- LANN Plus)	Civil Society Academy (CSA) and Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Germany	Gaundakot	August 21-25, 2017	Ms. Bimala Shrestha, Ms. Anjana Rai, Ms. Renuka Neupane, Mr. Chhon Bdr, Praja, Mr. Sudarshan Bista, Mr. Durga Bdr. Basnet & Mr. Suraj Khanal
Parliamentarian-CSO Dialogue	Human Right Alliance	Kathmandu	August 08, 2017	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen
Collaboration with Action for Enterprises	Action for Enterprises (AFE), USA	Kathmandu	July 27, 2017	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane & Mr. Pustak Raj Ojha
Right Based Approach in the Context of Nepal	WHH	Kathmandu	July 17-21, 2017	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal & Ms. Ashmita Pandey
Joint Emergency Preparedness and Planning	WHH and Concern Worldwide	Kathmandu	July 11, 2017	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal

Visitors at FORWARD Nepal

Visitor/s	Date of Visit	Place of Visit	Objective/Activity
Ms. Asja Hanano (Country Director), Mr. Surendra Gautam (Programme Manager) Maheshwor Rijal (MEAL Office) from WHH & Mr. Nawal Yadav (AASAMAN Nepal),	July 03, 2018	Head Office	BCES project learning and experience sharing
Mr. Eugen Birca & Mr. Dmytro Bobyrev (Business and Finance Consulting Team)	April 26, 2018	Head Office	To share the approach of the Sustainable Economic Development in Rural Areas project, as well as to allocate the task to the project team in the inception phase
Prof. Kaneko Shinji, Hiroshima University, Japan	March 14, 2018	Head Office	Supervision of the internship by Ms. Yan Chan,
Juliana Schatzschneider, RTL Trainee	February 21, 2018	Head Office & Kaule	Visited the BCES Project Site
Ms. Friederike Group (Thomas Cook), Ms. Patricia Niewels, Mr. Surendra Gautam (Programme Manager, WHH)	February 8-9, 2018	Kalika-10 & Icchakamana-2, Chitwan	BCES project monitoring visit

Visitor/s	Date of Visit	Place of Visit	Objective/Activity
Mr. Salil Bhattarai (Team Leader, ELIVES Project), Mr. Lalit Chaudhary (Finance Officer), Mr. Ganesh Gurung (PC) from ADRA & Dr. R. P. Thakur (PC, FORWARD)	January 14-17, 2018	To ELIVES Project implemented Districts	Joint Monitoring of the Project Implementation area of ELIVES Project
Mr. Kapil Pokharel (Team Leader), Mr. Shashidhar Sharma (SWC), Mr. Jyoti Prakash Pandey (Finance Expert), Mr. Ram Babu Adhikari (Ministry of Agricultural Development & Mr. Sushil Ghimire (WHH)	January 10, 2018	Garibari, Kalika-8, Chitwan	Mid-term evaluation of BCES Project Site and review of financial system and vouchers of the BCES Project
DWIDP, DCC, DADO & Municipality	September 17-18, 2017	Kritiman (Morang), Pulthegauda Jabdi Community (Sunsari)	Monitoring and evaluation of CR project

Members – Board, Honorary, Founder, Advisory, Professional, and Auditors

Executive Board Members of FORWARD Nepal (2016-2019)

S.N.	Name	Position
1	Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha	Chairperson
2	Prof. Dr. Durga Devkota	Vice-Chairperson
3	Mr. Dharma Prasad Pandey	Secretary
4	Ms. Sunita Shrestha	Treasurer
5	Mr. Purna Bahadur Chemjong	Member
6	Mr. Krishna Bahadur B.K.	Member (Farmer's representative)
7	Mr. Dinesh Babu Thapa Magar	Member
8	Ms. Madhu Shah	Member
9	Ms. Sabita Chepang	Member
10	Dr. Narayan Prasad Khanal	Member
11	Ms. Maiya Giri	Member

FORWARD Nepal's Honorary Members

S.N.	Name	Address	Email
1	Prof. Dr. John R. Witcombe	Bangor University, UK	j.r.witcombe@bangor.ac.uk / ukjrjwitcombe@yahoo.com
2	Dr. Dave Harris	Bangor University, UK	daveh548@gmail.com
3	Dr. Krishna Dev Joshi	Country Representative, International Rice Research Institute, Nepal Office	k.d.joshi@irri.org

Founder Members of FORWARD Nepal

S.N.	Name	Current Address	Expertise
1	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen	FORWARD Nepal	Management/Rural Development
2	Mr. Gam Bahadur Gurung	Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RNN)	Soil Science
3	Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa	FORWARD Nepal (part-time)	Natural Resource Management
4	Dr. Ramesh Raj Pokharel	Currently in the USA	Plant Science
5	Mr. Dinesh Neupane	Currently in Denmark	Livestock
6	Mr. Ram Mani Poudel	Himali Project, Kathmandu	Livestock & Dairy Production and Management
7	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Bhandari	FORWARD Nepal	Management

FORWARD Nepal's Advisory Board

S.N.	Name	Current Address	Expertise
1	Prof. Dr. Naba Raj Devkota	Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan (AFU), Nepal	Director, Directorate of Agriculture Research and Extension, Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur
2	Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa	Bharatpur-12, Chitwan	Natural Resource Management
3	Mr. Jagannath Bhandari	Bharatpur-10, Chitwan	Advocate/Notary Public Pairabi Legal Office, Bharatpur, Chitwan
4	Dr. Bimala Rai Paudyal	Lalitpur-14, Nakhipot	Member of Upper house and former NPC member
5	Dr. Bajra Kishore P. Shah	AFSP Office, Ramkrishna Marga, Sridhar-4, Kathmandu	Former Secretary, Nepal Government, Currently at ASFP Office, Ramkrishna Marg
6	Dr. Dil Bahadur Gurung	Gaindakot Municipality-1, Milan-chowk, Nawalparasi	Member of National Planning Commission and former, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research Council (NARC)
7	Dr. Shyam Prakash Chand	Department for Communities and Local Government, London, UK	ERDF and RGF Fund Manager, Department for Communities and Local Government, (DCLG), UK

FORWARD Affiliated Professionals

S.N.	Name	Current Address	Expertise
1	Mr. Tejendra Chapagain, PhD	Currently at Department of Plant Agriculture University of Guelph, Canada	Plant Science
2	Mr. Toya Gautam	Freelancer	Publication/Media
3	Ms. Luni Piya, PhD	Associate Professor, Hiroshima University	Rural Economics
4	Mr. Niraj Prakash Joshi, PhD	Hiroshima University, Japan	Agri. Economics
5	Mr. Krishna Prasad Paudel, PhD	Bagdol, Lalitpur-44	Animal Science
6	Prof. Sunila Rai, PhD	Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan	Aquaculture & Fisheries

FORWARD's Statutory Auditor (2017/18)

S.N.	Name	Engagement Partner	Address	Contact Phone & Email
1	C.A. Anil Joshi	Kuber & Company	Kathmandu P.O. Box 890	01-4416547, anil@kuber.com.np

Interns at FORWARD Nepal

S.N.	Name	University	Country	Duration
1	Ms. Yan Chen	Hiroshima University	Japan	February 22 to March 21, 2018
2	Ms. Rachana Khanal	Millennium Model College	Nepal	February 01 to March 31, 2018
3	Ms. Ashmita Shrestha	Millennium Model College	Nepal	February 01 to March 31, 2018

FORWARD Nepal Staff in the FY 2017-18 (July 16, 2017 – July, 2018)

A list of regular staff who worked for FORWARD Nepal in 2017/18.

S.N	Name	Position	S.N	Name	Position
1	Mr. Netra Pratap Sen	Executive Director	8	Mr. Kirti Sasmit Joshi	Admin & Procurement Officer
2	Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane	Programme Director	9	Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu	Admin & Procurement Officer
3	Dr. Ujjal Tiwari, PhD	Planning Director	10	Mr. Suraj Sharma, ACCA	Account Officer
4	Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal	Programme Manager	11	Dr. Subhash Chandra Chaudhary	Project Coordinator
5	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Bhandari	Project Monitoring & Internal Audit Officer	12	Dr. Nirmal Katuwal	Project Coordinator
6	Ms. Ashmita Pandey	Senior Programme Officer	13	Dr. Ram Pukar Thakur	Project Coordinator
7	Mr. Ramesh Shahi	Finance Officer			

S.N	Name	Position
14	Ms. Pratistha Thapa	Project Coordinator
15	Mr. Pramesh Bade	Facilitation, Reporting & Monitoring Officer
16	Mr. Suraj Khanal	Project Officer
17	Mr. Mahesh Lal Vaidya	Field Officer
18	Dr. Aashish Dhakal	Project Officer
19	Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya	Agriculture Officer
20	Mr. Jay Prakash Chaudhary	Project Officer
21	Mr. Shova Ram Devkota	Field Officer
22	Mr. Prakash Pulami	Field Officer
23	Ms. Ashmita Baral	Field Officer
24	Mr. Manoj Singh Dhami	Monitoring & Verification Officer
25	Ms. Heman Paneru	Monitoring & Verification Officer
26	Mr. Niranjan Goit	Monitoring & Verification Officer
27	Mr. Krishna Bhatta	Monitoring & Verification Officer
28	Mr. Bhaskar Bhatta	Monitoring & Verification Officer
29	Mr. Sudarshan Bista	Farm Facilitator
30	Mr. Pankaj Kumar Chaudhary	Project Accountant
31	Ms. Saharsha Ojha	Project Account Officer
32	Ms. Geeta Gurung	Admin Associate
33	Ms. Anupama Katuwal	Admin/Logistic Associate
34	Ms. Sakchha Timilsina Subedi	Admin Assistant

S.N	Name	Position
35	Mr. Shree Ram Chaudhary	Admin Assistant
36	Ms. Rashu Thakali	Admin Assistant
37	Ms. Renuka Neupane	Field Facilitator
38	Ms. Bimala Shrestha	Field Facilitator
39	Mr. Mohan Kumar Basnet	Field Facilitator
40	Ms. Anjana Rai	Field Facilitator
41	Mr. Durga Bahadur Basnet	Field Facilitator
42	Mr. Chhon Bahadur Praja	Field Facilitator
43	Mr. Omkar Raj Kafle	Field Facilitator
44	Mr. Rana Bahadur Ranabhat	Field Facilitator
45	Mr. Damber Prasad Mandal	Field Technician
46	Ms. Sabita Biswas	Social Mobilizer
47	Mr. Deepak Paswan	Social Mobilizer
48	Mr. Shyam Charan Mochi	Social Mobilizer
49	Mr. Dronacharya Poudel	Social Mobilizer
50	Ms. Man Maya Tamang	Social Mobilizer
51	Mr. Raj Kumar Lama	Driver
52	Mr. Bharat Lal Shrestha	Office Boy
53	Mr. Dharma Raj Mahato	Cook
54	Ms. Laxmi Singh Thakuri	Cook
55	Mr. Dipendra Tharu	Security Guard
56	Mr. Raju Shrestha	Programme Helper
57	Mr. Chandra Bahadur Chepang	Office Messenger
58	Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa	NRM Specialist (Part-time)

Financial Report 2017-18 (2074/75 B.S.)

During the reporting year, FORWARD Nepal mobilized NPR 89,667,253.00 for the implementation of 11 projects. This was 52.35% lesser than last year fund mobilization NPR 188,188,428.00. This was due to our lesser amount of involvement in infrastructure project works and continuing with small sizes of projects in monetary term. However, those projects we implemented were very much valuable

and important to support the poor and rural communities through our agriculture, DRR, climate change, youth and women empowerment and development initiatives.

In the year 2017/18 (2074/75) the following chartered audit firms and institutions were involved in auditing of FORWARD Nepal's account.

Period of audit	Project audited	Audit Firm or institution
April 23 & 24, 2018	ELIVES Project – External Audit from Donor	Sanjay Chaudhary & Associate
January 22 & 31, 2018	BCES Project – Annual Donor Audit	Raj MS
January 9 & 10, 2018	ELIVES Project – Internal Audit from Donor	Kuber and Co.
January 11, 2018	BCES Project- Mid-Term Evaluation of Project 2017	Social Welfare Council team
July 24-25, 2017	ELIVES Project – Mid-Term Evaluation of Project	Social Welfare Council – CA – Gopal Kumar Shrestha
September 17 & 26, 2017	FORWARD Nepal annual audit FY 2016/17	Kuber & Co.

Annual Audit Report (2074/75 (2017/18))

KUBER & Co.
Chartered Accountants

Thirbun Marg, Gyaneshwor
Kathmandu, Nepal, P O Box No.: 890
Phone: 00977 1 4436372, 4416547
Fax No.: 00977 1 4416547
Email: info@kuber.com.np
URL: www.kuber.com.np

Independent Auditor's Report
Forum for Rural Welfare & Agricultural Reform for Development
(FORWARD Nepal)
Financial Year 2074-75 (2017-18)

To the Members,

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of "Forum for Rural Welfare & Agricultural Reform for Development (FORWARD Nepal)" which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 32 Ashad 2075 (16th July 2018), Statement of Income & Expenditure, Statement of Changes in Fund Balance, Fund Accountability Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements for the year then ended.

Management's Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with applicable generally accepted accounting principles. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on the information and explanation provided to us and our audit, the financial statements give true and fair view, in all material respects the financial position of **Forum for Rural Welfare & Agricultural Reform for Development (FORWARD Nepal)** as at 32 Ashad 2075 (16th July 2018), its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and local legal requirements.


CA. Anil Joshi,
Partner



Place: Kathmandu
Date: 05 October 2018

**Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development
(FORWARD Nepal)**

Bharatpur-2 Chitwan

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31st Asadh, 2075 (16 July 2018)

In NRs.

Particulars	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
Assets			
Non Current Assets			
Non Expendable Assets	1	8,939,955.80	9,885,653.03
Investments		-	12,197,681.96
Current Assets			
Cash and Bank	2	6,612,885.63	10,802,096.91
Advances	3	15,016,977.85	7,874,265.20
Total		30,569,818.54	40,759,697.10
Funds and Liabilities			
Funds			
Restricted Fund		1,808,558.75	3,244.77
Capital Assets Fund		660,555.87	857,731.33
Unrestricted Fund			
Unrestricted Fund		23,548,400.34	29,122,759.07
Gratuity Fund		3,508,178.00	3,720,707.00
Current Liabilities			
Payables	4	1,044,125.58	7,055,254.93
Total		30,569,818.54	40,759,697.10

As per our report of even date



Ramesh Jung Shahi
Finance Officer



Netra Pratap Sen
Executive Director




CA. Anil Joshi
Partner

Kuber & Co.,
Chartered Accountants
Date: 05 October 2018
Place: Kathmandu

Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha
Chairperson




**Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development
(FORWARD Nepal)**

Bharatpur-2 Chitwan

Statement of Income & Expenditure

For the period 01 Shrawan 2074 to 32 Ashadh 2075 (16 July 2017 to 16 July 2018)

In NRs.

Particulars	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
Income			
From Unrestricted Funds		15,636,460.74	18,290,516.84
From Restricted Funds		74,030,792.94	169,897,911.65
Total		89,667,253.68	188,188,428.49
Expenditure			
From Unrestricted Funds	5		
FORWARD Nepal-Core Fund		15,636,460.74	18,290,516.84
From Restricted Funds	6		
BCES (WHH)		9,711,102.00	8,711,115.61
DAI Phase I		1,408,019.30	-
Equal Access International		1,999,318.00	-
DAI Phase II		1,474,717.11	-
Heroshima University Japan		812,980.50	-
Practical Action		234,421.00	-
Elives ADRA		20,119,568.36	-
Elives IDE		14,618,699.63	-
Bces Supplementary (WHH)		181,000.00	-
RbF 2017/2018		586,321.70	-
IFAD Phase I		227,272.50	-
Morang Project		21,592,146.84	-
IFAD Phase II		1,065,226.00	-
SAMATHA Seed/ Grain Storage		-	675,657.00
DAI		-	2,483,473.00
ELIVES ADRA		-	39,627,060.84
ELIVES IDE		-	33,000,822.58
COPILA Y2		-	313,488.00
RbF 2016		-	2,207,986.00
RbF 2017		-	312,474.75
LSC		-	9,941,301.84
GMP		-	27,103,606.61
SEED		-	9,313,886.35
BCES Supplementary		-	185,500.00
RWEE		-	8,780,212.34
IFAD		-	1,747,450.50
MORANG		-	25,493,876.23
Total		89,667,253.68	188,188,428.49



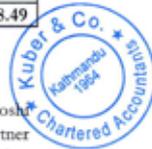
Ramesh Jung Shahi
Finance Officer



Netra Pratap Sen
Executive Director



CA. Anil Joshi
Partner



Kuber & Co.,
Chartered Accountants
Date: 05 October 2018
Place: Kathmandu


Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha
Chairperson



Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development (FORWARD Nepal)

Bharatpur-2 Chitwan

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

For the period 01 Shrawan 2074 to 32 Ashadh 2075 (16 July 2017 to 16 July 2018)

In NRs.

Particulars	Opening Balance	Transfers	Adjustments	Fund After Adjustment	Funds Received During the Year	Funds transferred to Income	Closing Balance
Restricted Fund Balances							
BCES (WHH)	892,177.19	-	-	892,177.19	8,872,241.31	9,711,102.00	53,316.50
DAI Phase I	13,115.45	-	-	13,115.45	1,394,903.85	1,408,019.30	-
Equal Access International	-	-	-	-	1,999,318.00	1,999,318.00	-
DAI Phase II	-	-	-	-	1,474,717.11	1,474,717.11	-
Heroshima University Japan	-	-	-	-	812,980.50	812,980.50	-
Practical Action	-	-	-	-	638,900.00	234,421.00	404,479.00
Elives ADRA	1,085,545.71	-	-	1,085,545.71	19,041,789.26	20,119,568.36	7,766.61
Elives IDE	485,054.06	-	-	485,054.06	14,046,467.00	14,618,699.63	(87,178.57)
Bees Supplementary (WHH)	235,561.00	-	-	235,561.00	-	181,000.00	54,561.00
RSF 2017/2018	(175,344.75)	-	-	(175,344.75)	736,098.60	586,321.70	(25,567.85)
IFAD Phase I	227,272.50	-	-	227,272.50	-	227,272.50	-
Morang Project	1,006,810.09	-	-	1,006,810.09	20,585,336.75	21,592,146.84	-
IFAD Phase II	-	-	-	-	2,466,408.06	1,065,226.00	1,401,182.06
SAMARTHA Seed/ Grain Storage	(3,761,406.37)	-	-	(3,761,406.37)	3,761,406.37	-	-
COPILA Y2	(117,217.00)	-	-	(117,217.00)	117,217.00	-	-
Total Restricted Fund - Current Year	(108,432.12)	-	-	(108,432.12)	75,947,783.81	74,030,792.94	1,808,558.75
Unrestricted Fund Balances							
Core Fund Balance	29,122,759.07	-	-	29,122,759.07	8,670,380.52	15,636,450.74	22,156,688.85
Social welfare Fund	-	-	34,336.09	34,336.09	1,199,343.29	-	1,233,679.38
Community Welfare Fund FORWARD	111,676.89	-	-	111,676.89	46,365.97	10.00	158,032.86
Total Unrestricted Fund - Current Year	29,234,435.96	-	34,336.09	29,268,772.05	9,916,089.78	15,636,460.74	23,548,400.34
Total Fund - Current Year	29,126,003.84	-	34,336.09	29,160,339.93	85,863,873.59	89,667,253.68	25,356,959.09

As per our report of even date

[Signature]
C.A. Anil Joshi
Partner

Kuber & Co.,
Chartered Accountants
Date: 05 October 2018
Place: Kathmandu



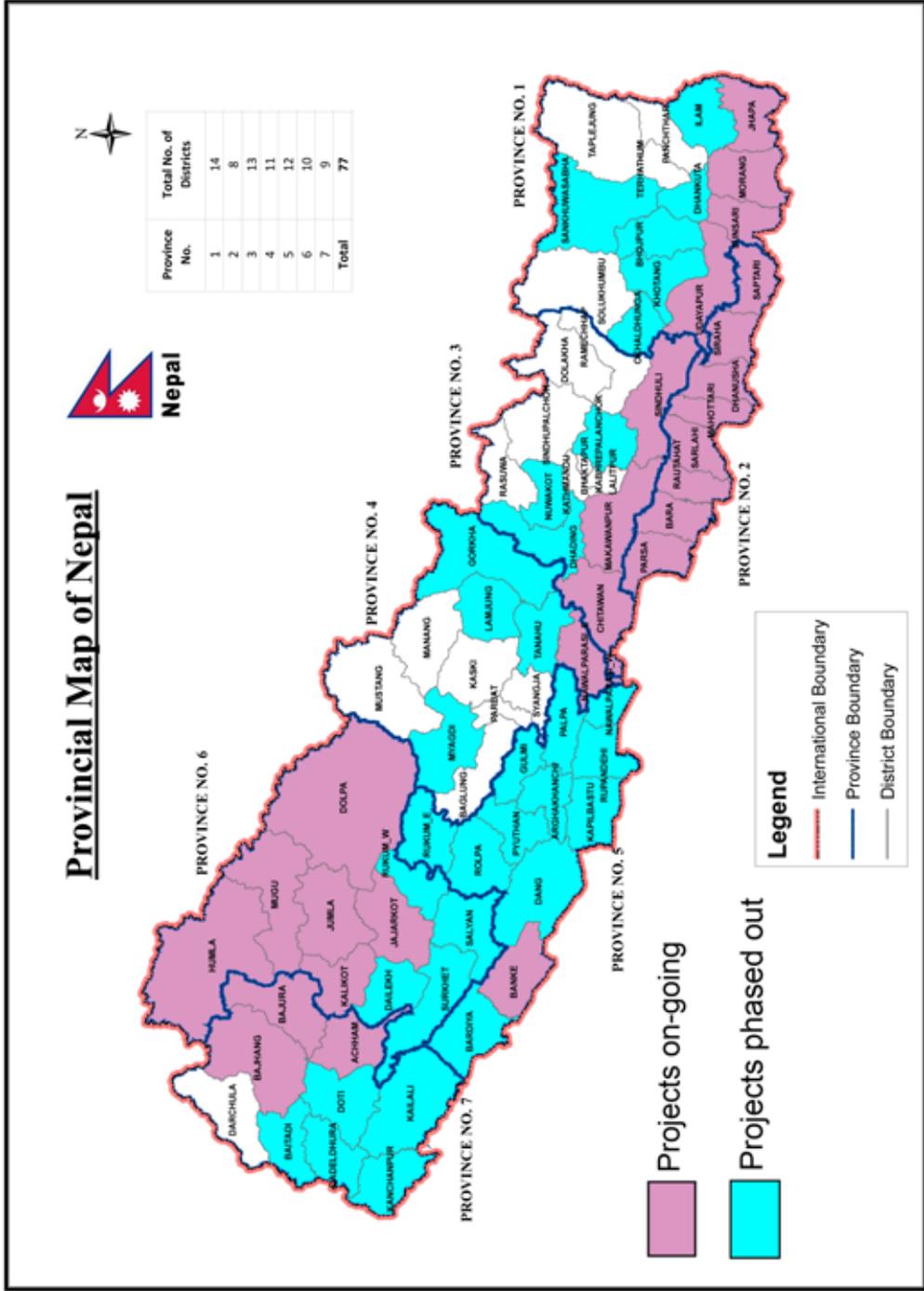
[Signature]
Netra Jangra Sen
Executive Director



[Signature]
Ramesh Jung Shah
Finance Officer

[Signature]
Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha
Chairman

Geographical Coverage





Training on Agriculture Reporting to Journalists at Narayangarh, Chitwan



FORWARD Nepal



Annual General Meeting (AGM) of FORWARD Nepal 2018