Socio-ecosystem Based Adaptation (SEBA) Planning Nepal

Focus: Adaptation Planning Opportunities and Methods

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Outline

- Purpose of SEBA Planning

- Adaptation opportunities

- Vulnerability Concept & VIA process

- Field Work & Methodology

- Preliminary Findings

- Discussion Points

CC Adaptation Opportunities

- Climate change adaptation is the national agenda and priority of Nepal,

- Ecosystem and community based approaches to CC vulnerability and CBDM are the proven methods to adaptation and DRR.

- It is called Socio-ecosystem based Adaptation (SEBA)

- **"Building Adaptive and Resilient Community and Ecosystem to Climate Change"** is the common thread of both approaches

The purpose of doing SEBA planning in Nepal

- To assess impacts of CC on both ecosystems and the broad society and the links between the two,

- To define the objectives and focus of A@S using ecosystem services and community participation (human and social capital) in the centre.

- To develop a knowledge and practice base for developing human centred adaptation (SEBA) plan for ensuring ecosystem service flow

- to develop integrated holistic adaptation strategies to reduce climate risks and enhance resilience of community & ecosystem

Learning from others (ICIMOD):
1. Ecosystem-based Adaptation: KSLCI

Need to:
• Include sustainable NR management, conservation of biodiversity and development of socio-economy,
• Take into account the multiple social, economic and cultural co-benefits for local communities
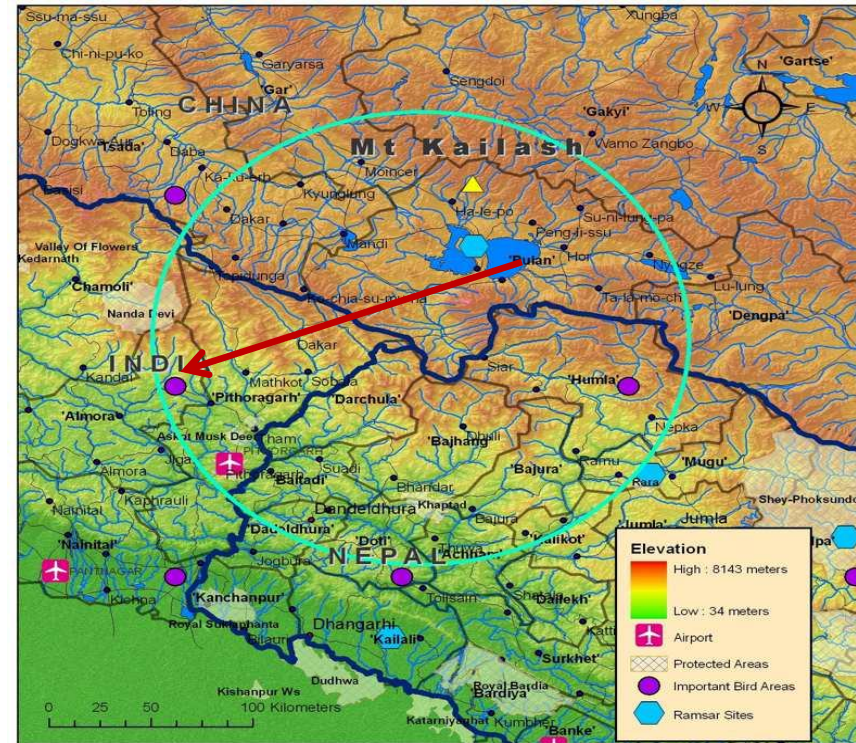
2. Next generation of integrated forest and watershed management

- The long-term aim of the CCA is : "Resilience"
- Integration of community-based forest management with agro-forestry and watershed management builds resilience
- Requires 4 things:

1. *Enabling regulatory framework*
2. *Secure tenure or property rights*
3. *Good Governance*
4. *Technical & institutional capacity building*

need broadening the scale and achieving impacts

- Conserving biodiversity and sustaining livelihoods are critical if REDD+ is going to work

- Improve understanding of relationships between Biodiversity, Carbon, Forests and People

- Do not focus on payments for carbon but payment for biodiversity conservation & Sustainable Development

4. Value-chain development

Broadening the scope and achieving impact at scale

- economic growth in the agricultural sector is twice as effective in reducing poverty as growth in other sectors (World Bank)

- strengthening agricultural value chains may be among the most effective ways to address poverty,

- Livelihood diversification emerges as a central adaptation strategy,

- VCD should promote Sustainable Growth as a Means for SD

5.Integrated River/Sub-River Basin Management:

- Improve water governance (IWRM at basin level) within the broader good environment governance framework

- Improve management of land, water, vegetation resources for food, livelihoods and environment security,

- More equitable resource allocations

- Stronger incentives (livelihood) for using resource-efficient technologies and conservation-based practices and policies.

6. SD: Foundation for Fast Tracking Sustainable Development

- Climate adaptation (SEBA), biodiversity conservation, and poverty reduction must converse to promote sustainable development;

- Green economy and good environmental governance;

- promote green economy with low cost, high pay off – both nationally and globally

7. Capacity Building is Key for Addressing Climate Change

Individual, technical and institutional capacity building

8. Role of scientific investigation and systematic research

Helps science to inform policies which need to be converted into good practices to achieve impacts – both in climate change & SD

9. Peer learning and doing

1. Learning by doing is the best
   learning and adapting
Techniques;

2. Local Resources Persons (LRPs)
should be created to
Act as ToTs and technical
facilitators ;

3. Women and dalit LRPs and
facilitators are good peers

10. **Knowledge Management and Communication**

- People are desperately waiting to know why the changes are happening?
- General unawareness about the govt., NGO/INGO and donor programs and initiatives
- Effective communication and dissemination between researchers and community is needed
- Climate risk information should put climate change in the perspective of national development priorities
- Information needs and communications needs to be tailored made

Adaptation design and formulation

- Too many – often duplicating - activities scattered across 4 districts and more than 40 locations thus lacking focus and progress toward outcome;

- Scaling-out in terms of horizontal expansion of activities is ongoing; scaling-up in terms of vertical expansion of ideas, knowledge, change in attitude, practice and behavior and institutional governance is few and far between;

- Coordination mechanism is top-heavy and bottom-thin - not having the coordination where most needed i.e. among the DIPs

Assumptions and risks should be manageable

- Realistic assumptions and high probability risk management plan (essential part of RF) missing although flexibility and adaptive management practiced;

- Landscape management is more than adaptation; Incentive payment should be tied up with delivery of results (physical or behavioral or demonstrative);

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Findings (integration with Govt. projects)

- SLMCRN identified as the WWF project; DIPs treated it as `development or WWF project' and poorly mainstreamed and reported it as their built-in program;

- GEF funding is `topping-up', `incentive' and `critical gap filling' and should be made part of the GON ministry's annual program and budget which is inadequate,

- Many of the PCCP funded and DSCO's regular programs are similar; SLMCRN is doing more of the same; should be `adding value'

Stakeholder participation

- Enabling regular and active participation of Center and District level stakeholders is one of the key achievements of the project;

- Engagement is lacking at the center and districts but is qualitatively and quantitatively very good at the VDC level;

- PMU's efforts to mobilize and engage the community is impressive and somewhat outcome oriented;

- Beneficiary engagement is commendable

Replicability and up Scalability

- Demand based, mainstreamed, integrated activities are generating `best practices' (comprehensive and integrated LD programs of the DLSO); these are both replicable and up-scalable;

- Activities that have high DIP ownership (e.g. DSCO led gabion box embankments; river training, degraded land restoration/rehabilitation and water source protection work) are scalable

- Programs aligned with ministry's popular policy (e.g. MoFSC's SFM and CF) can scale-out and scale-up

Linkages with GoN initiatives: Alignment with A@S

- High Linkages with NAPA, LAPA, NAP; Chure Conservation Strategy, 2012; Forest Policy, 2015 and Watershed Policy, 2016;

- NO duplication and overlaps;

- Synergy and complementarity should be enhanced;

- Good alignment with GoN policies and plans'

Sustainability

- A@S project should be sustainable, scalable and replicable by creating community ownership ;

- Demand-based; high-local ownership, integrated and technically and socially sound activities have high sustainability;

- Top-down, poor ownership and technically and socio-economically unsound practices have low sustainability

Env. & Social Safeguards

- Social and environmental safeguard issues are important; Awareness should be raised and managed;

- Overall, the A@S activities are `do no harm' `no/low regret' and win-win solutions;

- The traditional rights of the pastoralists, forest users and grazing community needs should be addressed.

Gender mainstreaming

- Use engendered project design, planning, monitoring, evaluation and vulnerability impact assessment tools and technologies used;

- Baseline and progress data collected should be systematically disaggregated and gender, caste/ethnicity, poverty specific;

- Specific GESI indicators in project Log frame matrix need to be developed.