

Letter from the **TEAM LEADER**

Dear Colleagues,

The A@SPP is in its 15th month. We in Nepal consortium comprising IDS, CGED and SIAS colleagues have been doing group thinking, team working and collective learning together and I personally feel the experience so far has been one of most enjoying, rewarding and reflective professional endeavours I have undertaken in my 40 year plus professional life.

Among the activities and events, we the A@S Nepal team have conducted to date, the last learning and sharing visit has indeed been a truly learning, enjoying and satisfactory events.

Learning in that, I personally felt that our partners working without any dedicated fund and human resources have demonstrated that the ideas that we motivated them to come up with if translated with motivation, persuasion and hard work can indeed lead to impact. Solutions have been found to exist in the midst of problems such as drought, excessive chemicalisation of our agriculture and products not finding their markets. Similarly, although climate change hazards and risks exist everywhere but our fatalistic rural citizens show unawareness and do not know whom to assign the cause for but worry about the consequences. In such a situation few of our partners are doing what they know best – a kind of no-regret solution – i.e. planting trees, storing water by conserving wetlands and rainwater. In other places, partners have raised their climate action ambition and are attempting to create resilient mountain village – graduating the original idea from climate smart village or agriculture.

In the meantime IMC World Wide colleagues and our other UK partners have been promoting the A@S globally. Just recently colleagues from IMC's Communication and Knowledge Management unit, created a podcast of my talk on the Ideas to Impact; Adaptation at Scale (I2I,A@S) Prize. You can access it on Sound Cloud: <https://goo.gl/42Xgco>. It is also available at the Ideas to Impact website (<https://goo.gl/bwWKsh>) and Twitter account (<https://goo.gl/ERfiQG>) and the IMC Worldwide LinkedIn account: <https://goo.gl/YpnnTJ>.

A small group of colleagues from UK and Nepal team have been working for the last two months to take the message of the A@S Prize project in Nepal to the upcoming UNFCCC COP24 Side Event being held at Katowice, Poland; December 3-14, 2018. The proposed topic of the Side event is: Stimulating Scaled up Adaptation Actions through Innovative Ideas and Financial Solutions: Way forward for least developing countries to implement NDC. This side event if approved will be jointly organized by the Ministry of Forest and Environment, Govt. of Nepal (MoFE/GoN); IMC Worldwide, CGED-Nepal/IDS-Nepal. The Side-event is focused on providing inputs to the COP24 theme on enhanced climate action in the frame of Talanoa Dialogue – the agreed framework to provide inputs to the COP24 that aims at enhancing the party's commitment to scale-up their climate actions toward full achievement of Paris Agreement.

The A@S team is currently busy revising the Progress Reporting template. The main aim in revising it to a) simplify the reporting job it for the A@S partners to make the template easily understandable and requiring minimum information, b) focus on the A@S project only and not on other activities the partners might be doing as a part of their other activities; c) to allow any new staff that might have taken over the project to fully comprehend the From; and d) to get the information that the Prize Management team can relate to the partners' individual Prize project Log frame. We have also recently shared the feedback the team has collected during the learning and encouraging visit to all the partners. We hope due to our visit and feedback, the next progress report will be of high quality and useful.

Madhav Karki

Madhav Karki, Ph.D.; Team Leader, A@S Nepal Team

Background of ADAPTATION AT SCALE

Scaled-up and scaled-out adaptation – in short adaptation at scale or A@S - starts from sharing of good practice and innovative ideas, skills and experiences of adaptation partners at all levels from conceptualisation to the implementation stages. For least developed and developing countries such as Nepal, there is a real possibility of achieving inclusive, integrated and scaled-up adaptation outcomes through innovative and scaled-up solutions that can fill in the existing adaptation gaps in different sectors. A@S needs to demonstrate that by creating appropriate institutional, financial and practical incentive mechanisms both scaled-up and scaled-out adaptation outputs and outcomes are possible to be achieved. However, this will require providing enhanced capacity building, knowledge sharing, empowerment and constant encouragement and financial incentives to local and national innovators and adaptation practitioners. Through this blog, I share the experienced learning of the Ideas to Impact (I2I), Adaptation at Scale (A@S) Prize Project.

In the A@S Prize Project, we shared the concept and practice of the Adaptation at Scale Prize Project (A@SPP) to all partners. We emphasised that the A@SPP uses financial incentives, in the form of cash awards, to stimulate, started and sustain transformational change in a vulnerable society. Most of the A@S project activities involve working with competitively selected development and adaptation practitioners in rural Nepal. Working with and through these willing, interested and competing organizations, the project aims to maximize the benefit to the poor, vulnerable and deprived population by improving their adaptation capacity, skills, and knowledge in Nepal. The emphasis is to achieve scale both vertically (scale-up) and horizontally (scale-out) by all. The approach taken by the A@S team and the results observed so far on the ground show a number of innovative pathways in which the locally driven up-scaling process promises to help Nepal and other developing countries achieve scaled-up climate actions thus expediting sustainable transitions to climate resilient societies. This is especially relevant to highly vulnerable countries such as Nepal.



Scaled-up Adaptation Needs Local Innovation

In Nepal, growing climate induced vulnerability and impacts are making livelihoods of households and communities more vulnerable. However these are the people with the least capacity to adapt. Although, a number of autonomous and planned adaptation initiatives are being implemented by development partners to alleviate the risk exposure of these people through activities under National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA); Local Adaptation Plan of Actions (LAPA), Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience (PPCR), Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA), Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP), Hariyo Ban and others. However, they are able to cover only limited numbers of people and areas thus leaving a huge deficit in adaptation service in Nepal.

Role of Incentives

Through the A@S instituted cash prize incentive, it is believed that new and innovative ways of financing solutions will emerge. Sizeable cash prize amount and transparent process has given the adaptation practitioners both an opportunity and encouragement to demonstrate that given enabling institutional conditions they can mobilise both human and financial resources to expand their work benefitting more people. There are several examples from our current partners wherein local government funds are being utilised to scale out and scale up adaptation.



This has been made possible through enhanced collaboration, capacity development, knowledge sharing and improved project management and other innovative and transformational solutions. In our recent visit to our partners, I observed that the incentive prize winning organization has innovatively planned and conceptualised community driven adaptation activities that have boosted the work qualitatively and quantitatively demonstrating that adaptation at higher scale and positive results with larger beneficiary community, districts and sectors is possible. What the partner needs is a clear vision, goal and plausible pathways of the target people and area. Working together with more partners, the human resources

deficiency has also been addressed. Many of these ideas and action plans are new and innovative generated through dialogue and discussion among stakeholders. Selected partners are already demonstrating results that demonstrate that they have been successful to change the situation in favour of poor and vulnerable people.

Common Characteristics of



Scaled-Up Adaptation

During the learning and monitoring visit I could gather at least 4 common traits of scaled-up/out adaptation:

1. These are innovative, multi-scale, multi-sector and multi-stakeholder collaboration model especially, between CBS, NGOs, GOs and Private sectors.
2. Some of them are creating transformative adaptation opportunities by addressing major adaptation barriers and informing stakeholders about the actions needed;
3. Successful partners have been found to have used knowledge and information shared by the experts for awareness building, knowledge synthesis and technical capacity building; and

4. Organisations that have worked in climate change and good natural resource governance related issues and understand vulnerability, impact and adaptation in multiple sectors tend to up-scaling better.

Based on my learning visit, I find that the innovative and better targeted adaptation up scaling projects can act as strong lever and evidence to influence and impact local, state and national government policies and programmes related to climate change and sustainable development in



Nepal. For example, Govt. of Nepal has recently changed its governance system into a 3-tier federal structure. The roles and responsibilities for planning and implementing climate change adaptation projects and programmes are now distributed among 3 levels of government with largest responsibility vested in local Govts. But the rural and town/city municipalities have poor knowledge and weak capacity in planning and implementing CCA work which has provided a very clear opportunity and space to many A@S partners. They have reached out to the local and provincial government authorities in their areas and presented their innovative ideas, actions and outputs that are acting as levers and strong learning ground attracting the participation of other stakeholders such as private sectors and NGOs to support the policy development process. This can be a win-win situation as these local and provincial government authorities can use the evidence base created by the A@S partners to frame new climate change and local development policies and programmes. This kind of outcomes will be further enhanced as the partners move toward completion of their A@S projects.

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ACTIONS ON THE GROUND

Application of Indigenous Knowledge for Adaptation to Climate Change

- Dr. Lokendra Paudyal, M&E Expert

Introduction: The direct effect of climate change is fluctuating temperature and variability in the rainfall patterns. They are increasing both in frequency and magnitude. These increases have led to flood, drought, crop failure, animal death and natural disasters. They add profound challenge to sustainable livelihood of the vulnerable households. Some household members even displace from their residential area due to inconvenience caused by the natural disasters and the difficulties of earning their livelihood locally. In order to overcome such situation, incorporating the climate change adaptation agenda in the development plans has become necessary. It needs harmonious application of indigenous and scientific adaptation knowledge as available.

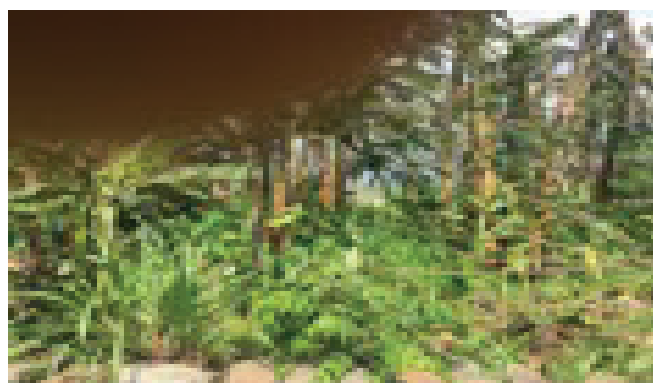
Indigenous knowledge as a social capital: It is

often said that the solutions to the problem of a community encompass difficulties if indigenous knowledge of people in the community is ignored by simply treating them as victims for whom someone else should find the solutions. We



should not forget that they are the ones who know what challenges they have been encountering as a result of climate change and where their shoes pinch. Their tradition-long and cumulatively refined indigenous knowledge plays critical role in identifying the problems but making use of the best adaptation practices. They often know what measures to apply to survive the chemistry of coping with their livelihood system against the changing environment and build resilience. They know how best they should manage their land, water and forest resources to prevent the risk of natural hazards and ensure sustainable livelihoods.

Indeed, the indigenous knowledge forms social capital for adaptation in the community. It is the knowledge accumulated by the community members with their direct engagement in the effective management of natural resources. It contributes them to understand when early warning messages are necessary, what preventive methods need to be taken to cope with adversities and what post recovery measures to apply in case there is a damage. It seeks harmony between the changing environment and livelihood system. The Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC has emphasized application of indigenous knowledge in the decisions to be made for adaptation to climate variability effects. Similarly, the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, organized by the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC), has highlighted importance of integra-



tion of indigenous and scientific knowledge for coordinated actions related to adaptation.

Application of indigenous knowledge by the A@S partners: The A@S partners know that their

efforts for sustainable development cannot be divorced from adaptation to climate change. Therefore, they emphasize building capacity of the local community members for preparedness against the disasters, sustainable management of natural resources and prevention of the climate change threats. It requires adequate understanding of vulnerability dimension of the people living in the affected areas. Appropriate adaptation measures can be applied only upon such understanding.

One of the priorities of the A@S partners is to maintain symbiotic relationship between effective management of the natural resources and sustainable livelihood. They make conscious effort in controlling possible adverse effects of climate change. They recognize that over exploitation of the natural resources hinders the sustainable development goal. To prevent the environment from causing damage they select various adaptation options. Some examples of such options are: cultivation of climate smart crops, raising of eco-friendly animal breeds, adoption of bio-engineering techniques for land, water and forest resource conservation, revival of underutilized crops which are eco-friendly, and adjustment of the crop calendars responding to climate change.

Minimizing depletion of natural resources is a priority for all A@S partners. They identify and apply suitable innovative approaches for adaptation in their best possible way. They discuss the seasonal weather and rainfall forecasts prior to the design of their farm plans. The planning for most of these activities are largely based on indigenous knowledge held by the community since long. Most of the A@S partners are applying scientific knowledge as a supplement to indigenous knowledge in following the adaptation practices.

Conclusion: Climate change is only one factor among many other variables that directly or indirectly affect sustainable livelihood. Therefore, the effort of cushioning the adverse effects of climate change and building resilience should focus on the adaptation of various interrelated options in an integrated manner. In this context, the indigenous knowledge and experience of the community people can add significant value for transformation.

BRIEF ACCOUNT OF ACTIVITIES AND PLANS OF A@S PRIZE PROJECT IN 2018

A. Major activities accomplished in 2018

1. Learning resource manual on adaptation: The experts members of the project finalized a manual on adaptation learning which is ready to be printed soon. The manual is divided into seven modules with easy hands on sessions.
2. Video documentary production and dissemination: A video documentary on climate change, global warming and adaptation related issues has been produced and made public through the project website. It is quite informative and useful for adaptation practitioners.
3. Acquisition of six monthly progress-monitoring reports: As advised during the learning and sharing workshop last September, the prize participants had submitted their status monitoring report by March 2018. Thus received reports were analyzed and synthesized to get a better picture of the activities implemented by different partners. Tabulating important information provided by the participants created a cross-reference matrix.
4. Learning and encouraging visits. This exercise has been instrumental to gather firsthand information and understand the processes and practices followed by each prize partner. This visit was preceded by extraction of information, compilation, synthesis and analysis of the six monthly reports submitted by the partners. The analysis of the submitted information provided inputs for designing and implementing the learning and encouraging visits. The summary versions of the reports were shared with all the prize as well as the UK project partners.
5. First issue of E-newsletter: The first issue of the electronic newsletter of the project was released in the beginning of the year 2018.
6. Regular monitoring and reporting: Two quarterly progress reports and six monthly financial reports along with annexes were prepared and submitted to IMC.

b. Tentative major plans for the next quarters in 2018

1. Acquisition of next status monitoring reports of prize partners, compilation, synthesis and analysis: The prize partners are scheduled to submit the second status monitoring report by coming September. Once these reports will be received, they will be analysed and synthesized in order to prepare a comprehensive report by the project.
2. Organisation of PAC meeting: The project has a plan to organise 3rd PAC meeting within 2018 where the members will be apprised with the progress and issues so far as well as the highlights of the planned activities. Also suggestions will be solicited from the PAC members to continue implementing the project on a fair mode.
3. Preparing for judging process: Since the judging process will commence within 2018, necessary support including compilation of information for this will be provided as and when needed.
4. Recording and reporting: As usual, the project office in Nepal will continue gathering, compiling and reporting on activities and expenses in a periodic basis.

'INTERGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT'

- a strategic element for climate change adaptation initiatives at community level: field reflectoin from rural Nepal
- Ngamindra Dahal and Pawan Paudel

Introduction: Based on a learning and sharing visit we did recently as a part of visiting some of our partners , we peeped through a couple of projects in Inner Tarai and Chure districts where community-led climate change adaptation initiatives are being scaled up and scaled out. Key insights of these initiatives are outlined in the subsequent sections

1.Focus on water management: Nearly all the initiatives on climate change adaptation have identified water management as the core element. This looks natural as 'too much or too little water' has been the prime concern of the households and communities irrespective of their ecological diversity and nature of the problems. Please refer to the table 1 for further details (due to the need of the Adaptation at Scale project we are not allowed to identify the partners and therefore they are named A, B, C and D in the table).

Theme of the A@S project	Water Management Related Component	Rationale
Livelihood, CCA & DDR	Built irrigation system to bring a transformative change on socio-economic status of the highly vulnerable ethnic community in the village.	Already struggling with a long crisis of water scarcity most of the year, the single intervention solved irrigation and drinking water needs of the local.
CCA & Livelihood	Scaled out ramp-pump, an innovative water pump technology that effectively lifts water from low-lying sources without use of any fuels or electricity to meet irrigation and drinking water needs of neighborhood communities in the rural municipality.	With a nominal cost for operation and maintenance, the technology have been successfully used in different parts of the country. Local Government agencies are working on a policy to promote this technology for meeting water needs of other local communities as well.
Climate Smart Agriculture	Built ponds to harvest rainwater and storm water to meet the irrigation needs of the squatter communities who are promoting organic agro farming in the sensitive zone of Chure region.	The highly porous nature of soils along the Chure foothills make the region highly vulnerable to water crisis. Learning from the success of initially built water ponds, ANSAB and locals are scaling up the same.
CCA & Livelihood	Aquatic ponds for fisheries and watershed conservation for sustainability of local spring sources are the key interventions to reduce CC vulnerability of the vulnerable Chepang communities	Traditionally, the Chepangs live in the remote and isolated mountain sides and fall in the bottom of poverty ranking. Naturally, they are highly exposed to the climate change hazards, particularly, water management related crisis, which is critical for making them a resilient community.

2. Mainstreaming of Adaptation

- a. Compared to the past years, issues on climate change adaptation increasingly discussed in meetings in community groups and development planning. These topics are being mainstreamed mainly through DRR and development streams.
- b. Unlike in the past when CC adaptation used to be the agenda of NGO initiatives, nowadays, government funded community development initiatives also put emphasis on cc adaptive path of development.

3. Innovations through

- a. Application of technology to reduce cc vulnerability and enhance resiliency at community level
- b. Scaling up and scaling out of good practices employing a set of blended approaches to address livelihoods, water, food and disaster management issues
- c. Market linkage and value chain services to provide maximum economic benefits to the communities

Conclusion:

Locally conceptualized and practiced initiatives are getting greater recognition as innovative works, and, gathering supports of local government agencies to scale up and scale out of the same. Interestingly, all the initiatives are linked to water management directly or indirectly. Livelihood enhancement, disaster risk reductions, poverty reductions, and value additions to the local products to gain better access to the market are the major themes under the adaptation initiatives for reductions of climate change vulnerability.

ACTION ON THE GROUND

MEET THE CLIMATE CHAMPIONS

Unprecedented climate change processes that are aggravating global warming have been the major concerns for all the communities and people around the globe. But the direct impacts of global warming due to climate change is being faced most by the small and medium farm families, pastoralists and fisher folks living in areas of vulnerable low to medium income countries of the world. It is because they lack necessary capacities and resources to cope with the negative impacts and subsequent consequences of the climate change and global warming processes. However, they are building, developing and practicing adaptive systems since long. Most of these adaptive systems are neither requiring huge amount of financial resources nor sophisticated technological inputs, but are of indigenous nature. These are operating on low input and potentially sustainable initiatives. There are several of them working in an organized way in the direction of championing in climate change adaptation, but we could meet a small section of them whose major initiatives are briefed in this section, clustering different initiatives into two major categories. The adaptation activities and efforts are mainly focused in communities where vulnerabilities are highest and hence the adaptation needs are greatest.

1. Actions addressing climate vulnerability

Diverse actions on adaptation are in implementation to cope with different types of climate change related vulnerability and shocks. These adaptation actions may be categorized into the following groups:

- a. Promotion of sustainable livelihoods opportunities, food security and reducing poverty and hunger
- b. Ecosystem based adaptation, disaster mitigation and risk reduction (e.g., watershed management, river training, check dams)

2. Actions related to build response capacity

It is important to scale out and scale out adaptation initiatives for building climate resilience. To strengthen the climate response capacity of the people either individually or in a group, different actions are taking place in the field. These actions may be broadly categorised into two groups as follows.

- a. Empowerment and capacity building (e.g., CCA field schools), women as the main actors
- b. Knowledge management, coordination and network building

Thus, the adaptation activities being implemented in the local situation are of various types, scale and coverage. Some actions undertaken by local climate champions are presented in graphics.

1a. Promotion of sustainable livelihoods opportunities

The adaptation at scale prize partners are engaged in promoting livelihoods of climate vulnerable people through conservation of genetic resources, promotion of organic agriculture, mitigating water scarcity in drought hit areas, cultivating year round fresh vegetables, promoting of markets and marketing channels for local products, etc.



1b. Ecosystem based adaptation



2a. Empowerment and capacity building



2b. Knowledge management and networking



BLOG

Socio-ecosystem -based Adaptation at Scale: Reflections from field

Madhav Karki



Growing threat of climate induced hazards and risks in a naturally disaster prone fragile mountain slopes of Nepal has increased vulnerability and fragility threatening the resilience and sustainability of large parts of the country. The frequency and intensity of extreme events are causing increasing loss of lives and livelihoods as is being witnessed in this year's monsoon season. Climate change is affecting critical water, food, energy and biodiversity nexus affecting households dependent on ecosystem goods and services for their basic needs. Managing both the natural disaster such as recent earth quake devastation and increasing climatic and other human induced risks and hazards effectively needs integrated socio-ecosystem-based mitigation and adaptation strategies and approaches to achieve the goal resiliency, sustainability and prosperity. For example, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) operating at ecosystem and/or landscape level and disaster risk reduction (DRR) operating at community level if combined judiciously, it can increase economic resilience and decrease vulnerability of both ecosystems and dependent population. This would be possible because. It can directly intervene in strengthening ecosystem resources through community based biodiversity conservation and community forestry.

In a number of the A@S prize projects, partners have been integrating adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) goals demonstrating multiple co-benefits by strengthening the capacity and resilience of both ecosystems and human systems. The framework is implemented at landscape level using livelihood diversification and community development tools to enhance capacity of social, ecological and development services and local institutional agencies. This helps to maintain production of ecosystem goods and services in a sustainable manner.

By integrating EbA, CBA, and DRR, information, knowledge, and good practices from multiple sources and disciplines are constantly generated and used in designing and implementing resilient and situation specific local solutions that provide cost-effective strategies, approaches, and options to managers ensuring good stakeholder participation and integrated natural and development resources management actions. Resilient construction, development and management of both physical and natural infrastructure utilizing local resources effectively can yield multiple dividends in terms of adaptive development, hazards mitigation, and poverty reduction through risk reduction, natural capital development, and income enhancement. Resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation in fragile socio-ecological systems at landscape scale involving all system components can not only integrate development



and environment but also enhances social harmony and gender equity. This is also what some of the adaptation at scale (A@S) partners are striving to do to create impact at scale.

Benefits to the vulnerable communities:

The integrated A@S approaches promote local situation specific, tailored and dynamic adaptation solutions using local ecosystems and natural resources and capitalize on opportunities offered by natural infrastructure to build resilient communities and settlements. Adaptation practitioners can plan socio-ecological system-based adaptation interventions in the context of the changing nature of Nepal's mosaic landscapes. The practitioners here proactively develop and enhance cross-sectoral partnerships and shared learning to promote integrated approaches to adaptation. However, the key challenge is how to address inequity weak governance issues to ensure climate justice, access and benefit sharing rights to natural resources and inclusive development.

Expert BLOG

Reflections from the field

Reaching the unreached: Extending Adaptation measures to the most vulnerable for facilitating sustainable development goals achievement

Prabha Pokhrel, Gender expert A@PP

Background

The Adaptation at Scale Prize Project (A@SPP) is designed to take a different modality that promotes local adaptation initiatives. It differs as it select recipients not using traditional procedure of pre-selecting a supplier, tendering or grant but the financial incentive in the form of cash prize is provided to innovations when self-predefined results have been achieved and these achievements are transferred on or expanded up, i.e. scaled-out and scaled up. Nepal's A@SPP is one of the example of the Ideas to Impact (I2I) programme where focus is on local initiatives promoting adaptation to climate change are promoted. These initiatives also aim to increase access of the most vulnerable, deprived and disadvantaged groups within target area to maximize project benefits through targeted interventions, capacity/-knowledge/skills/collaboration enhancement in the process of increasing their resiliency towards climate change impacts.

Nepal is a one of the most climatically vulnerable and ecologically, socially diversified country. It is not only well known for its diverse topography and ecosystem but also for socio-cultural diversity. In terms of bio-diversity its very rich due to its unique geographical position and altitude variation within a distance of 150km radius, resulting in climatic conditions from sub-tropical to arctic and mostly difficult geography. Recognized as one of the most diversified socio-ethnic composition of south asia this 147,181 square kilometers country is inhabited by 28.98 million (2016) people belonging to 125 caste/ethnic groups speaking 123 languages. As in other communities in Nepal too those who are most vulnerable and marginalized experience the greatest impacts as well as gender and social differentials remain major barriers to successful adaptation. Achieving integrated and inclusive solutions to local vulnerabilities and risks has been one of the objectives of this competition which can only be achieved by minimizing the social differentials, equitable benefit sharing and enhancing coping capacity of disadvantaged groups of people in each community. This blog tries to present how differentiated impacts, needs and coping mechanisms of most vulnerable groups of society are being addressed by the competing organizations in their reports and discussions during field visits.



Acknowledging differentiated Needs

Most of the communities in Nepal are heterogeneous inhabited by different groups of people. Each household and every people living in it will be differently impacted by Climate change and its actions as CC affects communities/peoples differently according to their respective vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities – therefore adaptation is location and context specific. The initiatives needs to understand how people are differently impacted and what will ensure CCA's are equitable. The partners were already sensitive for developing socially inclusive and gender sensitive adaptation actions addressing increasing adaptation needs of the climate change vulnerable communities. A@SP imparted knowledge and skills enabling participants to define procedures and criteria to measure if gender considerations have been taken into account in CC adaptation initiatives ensuring that proper GESI mainstreaming be achieved and documented in scaling

up and scaling out.

All partners have claimed and have targeted increase outreach to women, poor, disadvantaged and climate vulnerable groups either by identifying a specific group and designing targeted benefitting activities or by bundling all least disadvantaged groups residing in the area and treating them as one of the beneficiary. Participation of most disadvantaged groups and women have been ensured as observed in each partner's initiatives field visits and reports. While many have considered them as specific beneficiaries some have undertaken them as change agents too.

Conceptualizing targeted solutions

The current adaptation practices of participating institutions have intended to consider GESI mainstreaming measures during designing and executing the next phase or out-scaling the initiative. Accepting that adaptation activities have a human/social dimension and its effectiveness will be sustained if decision making process involves all affected stakeholders say in most partners have taken special measures to ensure participation of women, socially excluded, most vulnerable groups in formed users groups, key positions, and involvement in other benefits.

- The initiatives are inbuilt with social aspect within which mainstreaming activities exists but very few have predefined GESI objectives.
- In some women, indigenous are promoted not only as beneficiaries but as change agents accepting and using of unique local knowledge and ability of women and indigenous people some have built programs in their leadership.
- Some have identified specific groups with documented risks and have designed, implemented and reported minimization of adaptation barriers and improved access and use of project induced benefits
- Few are women led and organizations with strong leadership where specific local addressing mechanisms are ensured

Clarifying the results

The results and approaches undertaken by the competing initiatives exhibits many interesting and locally driven up mainstreaming pathways, positive discrimination practices. However despite high mainstreaming practices observed the reports have mostly failed to establish the ground reality. The following recommendations could be helpful in exhibiting the unique and local practices of mainstreaming and benefit sharing;

- Clarity in selecting a specific vulnerable group as many partners have claimed that they have identified and targeted all types (women, marginalized, disadvantaged, poor, specific caste /ethnic groups, socially excluded, disable, elderly, child) of vulnerable groups
- The claimed differentiated targeted benefits and its use to specific groups needs to be supported with disaggregated data and tracking as most had no baseline status recorded to track and report changes
- The practices were mostly targeted in ensuring participation and less on equitable benefit sharing very rarely on utilization of those acquired benefits for empowerment,
- Lack of well-defined GESI mainstreaming monitoring indicators in built in reporting formats, if exist are very ambitious, many, vague and are not supported with targeted allocation of resources, inclusion in activities and ensured direct, indirect benefits to the vulnerable groups
- Outcomes are blurred, some are outputs, ambitious and are not targeted and GESI mainstreaming progress is very rarely reported

The Multipurpose canal



On every onset of monsoon, the villagers of Ghodesim used to hike up to the irrigation canal carrying their handy tools situated above their settlement just to be sure their fragile home will be safe from falling heavy rocks

These 85 HHs settled at very sloppy hill were at high risk due to seepage of water from irrigation canal into their houses. But today villagers shares a bright story, Kali Bahadur Rokaya "The old and destroyed irrigation canal is no more risk to us, we have re-constructed a cemented canal but instead it is irrigating our 25 Ha of agricultural land and also generating electricity". According to villagers they had approached to too many agencies for the support but all went vain. But they say in the end Caritas with the PACE Nepal as implementing partner had supported them to build this multipurpose irrigation canal of 65m.

Mr. Kishor Neupane
PACE Nepal

PARTNERS' BITE

कालिकोटमा पहाडी किसानका लागि अनुकूलन आयोजना अन्तर्गत अनुकूलनका प्रयास हरु सुरु स्थानिय अनुकूलन योजनाको माध्यम बाट समुदायमा अनुकूलन का प्रयास हरु सुरु भएका छन यस लाई स्केल अप गर्नका लागि स्थानिय सरकार पनि तयार भएको छ । अशोक नाथ योगी कार्यकारी निर्देशक सादा नेपाल । छोटो समयको पहल निकै प्रभावकारी छ ।

Ashok Nath Yogi
ED, SAADA Nepal

'Ithaka Nepal CCA activities include forest gardening to value creation (eco-tourism, essential oil distillation & carbon payment), water source conservation practices, soil organic-matter field lab and knowledge hub-center and technology development (solar fruit-dryer & biochar) and transfer, and local governments' involvement in forest gardening and nursery development works.'

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कार्यक्रम संचालनका लागि अधिकतम स्थानीय स्रोत र साधनको प्रयोग हुने हुदा खर्चका हिसाबले न्युन लागत लाग्ने, समुदायका मानिसहरुको व्यावहारिक भोगाइ र सिकाइका आधारमा गरिआएका अभ्यासहरुले निरन्तरता पाउने, क्षेत्रगत प्रकोपका आधारमा जोखिम बहन योजना निर्माण गरिने/स्थानीय तहबाट अनुमोदन हुने र समुदायबाटै कार्यान्वयन गरिने, विगत देखि अभ्यास गरिदै आएका अनुकूलनका अभ्यासहरुलाई स्थानीय समुदायद्वारा निरन्तरता र विस्तार गर्नुका साथै अपनत्व हुनुका साथै नीतिगत तह सम्म स्थानीय समुदायको अधिकारको सुनिश्चितता हुने र पहुँच समेत बढ्ने हुँदा अनुकूलनका अभ्यास माफत समुदायका महिला दलित, आदिवासी जनजाती र गरीवहरुको जीविकोपार्जनमा सुधार भइ प्रकोप जोखिम बहनक्षमता वृद्धि हुने भएकाले ।

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