



# CLIMATE CHANGE GENDER ACTION PLAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL

(ccGAP:NEPAL)  
February 2012



# CLIMATE CHANGE AND GENDER ACTION PLAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL

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*“(...) Nepal is not without some significant assets. The evidence is compelling that the strength behind development in Nepal is highly concentrated at the community level.*

*Success stories abound, from forestry user-groups and women’s groups, to community-based programs in rural drinking water, rural roads, micro-hydropower generation, community management of schools and the Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF). Many of the truly community-owned efforts demonstrated great viability even during the height of the conflict.*

*Where a supportive framework has been created for communities to undertake such activities, there have been impressive development successes.”*

Nepal Country Overview 2011  
The World Bank<sup>1</sup>

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Produced through a multi-stakeholder process funded by the Government of Finland and developed on behalf of the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) and the Ministry of Environment (MoEnv), Government of Nepal.

The Global Gender Office, International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN

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*February 2012*

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# SA: SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Climate Change Gender Action Plan (ccGAP) for Nepal was prepared based on the desk review of key reports, publications and websites, surveys and interviews, in-country meetings, stakeholder consultation and research, among others. We would like to express our sincerest appreciation to all participants for their advice, involvement and commitment to the process, and to their institutions for supporting their participation.

A national workshop with representatives from several ministries/government departments, civil society, academia, research institutions, foundations and international organizations, was convened from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February in the capital Katmandu.

In particular, we would like to also express our gratitude to Mr. Krishna Gyawali, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment; Ms. Meena Khanal and Mr. Batu Krishna Uprety, Joint Secretaries of the Ministry of Environment, Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba,

Member of Parliament and IUCN Regional Councilor and Dr. Yam Malla, IUCN Country Representative, who have been instrumental in promoting the development of this ccGAP – and making it happen successfully.

We also wish to extend further acknowledgements to a number of other key individuals who collaborated and commented on various sectors to finalize the ccGAP: Anu Adhikari, Indira Shakya, Shanti Karanjit, Dibya Gurung, Anupa Rimal Lamichhane, Parbat Dhungana, Kanti Risal, Poonam Bhatta, Mohan Bahadur Thapa and Sanjeevani Yonzon Shrestha.

The development of this document was made possible largely due to the generous financial support received from the Government of Finland. Their visionary leadership has built the necessary momentum for a global paradigm shift in our understanding of the importance of gender in climate change negotiations and initiatives throughout the world.

# Ac: ACRONYMS

<b>ADB</b>	Asian Development Bank	<b>CARE</b>	Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere
<b>ADBL</b>	Agricultural Development Bank Limited	<b>CBD</b>	Convention of Biological Diversity
<b>AEC</b>	Agro Enterprise Centre	<b>CBOs</b>	Community-Based Organisations
<b>AEPC</b>	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre	<b>CBS</b>	Central Bureau of Statistics
<b>AET</b>	Alternative Energy Technologies	<b>ccGAP</b>	Climate Change Gender Action Plan
<b>AFEC</b>	Agriculture Forestry Environment Committee	<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>AICL</b>	Agriculture Input Company Limited	<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention for Elimination of Discrimination of Women
<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	<b>CF</b>	Community Forestry
<b>APP</b>	Agricultural Perspective Plan	<b>CFUGs</b>	Community Forest User Groups
<b>ARI</b>	Acute Respiratory Infections	<b>CIF</b>	Climate Investment Fund
<b>BCPR</b>	Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery	<b>CIUD</b>	Centre for Integrated Urban Development
<b>CA</b>	Constitution Assembly	<b>COFSUN</b>	Community Based Forestry Supporters' Networks
<b>CADP</b>	Commercial Agriculture Development Project	<b>COP</b>	Conference of Parties
<b>CADP-N</b>	Climate Adaptation Design and Piloting-Nepal Project	<b>COPD</b>	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
		<b>CPA</b>	Comprehensive Peace Agreement

<b>CRT</b>	Center for Rural Technology	<b>DRRMC</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committees
<b>CTEVT</b>	Council for Technical and Vocational Training	<b>DSCWM</b>	Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management
<b>DADO</b>	District Agriculture Development Office	<b>DWSS</b>	Department of Water Sanitation and Sewage
<b>DALYs</b>	Disability Adjusted Life Years	<b>EC</b>	Executive Committee
<b>DANIDA</b>	Danish International Development Agency	<b>EHCS</b>	Essential Health Care Services
<b>DDC</b>	District Development Committee	<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>DFCC</b>	District Forest Coordination Committee	<b>ET</b>	Energy Technologies
<b>DFID</b>	Department for International Development	<b>FACD</b>	Foreign Aid Coordination Division
<b>DFO</b>	District Forest Office	<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization
<b>DLSO</b>	District Livestock Services Office	<b>FCPF</b>	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
<b>DoA</b>	Department of Agriculture	<b>FECOFUN</b>	Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal
<b>DoF</b>	Department of Forests	<b>FP</b>	Focal Point
<b>DoH</b>	Department of Health	<b>FUGs</b>	Forest User Groups
<b>DoI</b>	Department of Irrigation	<b>FY</b>	Fiscal Year
<b>DoLIDAR</b>	Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads	<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>DoLS</b>	Department of Livestock Services	<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>DPR</b>	Department of Plant Resources	<b>GESI</b>	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
<b>DRR</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction	<b>GEWG</b>	Gender Equity Working Group
		<b>GEWnet</b>	Gender, Energy and Water Network

<b>GGCA</b>	Global Gender and Climate Alliance	<b>INC</b>	Initial National Communication
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas	<b>INGO</b>	International Non Government Organisation
<b>GII</b>	Gender Inequality Index	<b>IPs</b>	Indigenous Populations
<b>GLoF</b>	Glaciers Lake Outburst Flood	<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>GoN</b>	Government of Nepal	<b>IRC</b>	International Water and Sanitation Centre
<b>GPSE</b>	Gender, Poverty and Social Equity	<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>GRB</b>	Gender-Responsive Budget	<b>LAPA</b>	Local Adaptation Plan of Action
<b>GSI</b>	Gender and Social Inclusion	<b>LDCs</b>	Least Developed Countries
<b>HDI</b>	Human Development Index	<b>LEG</b>	Least Developed Countries' Expert Group
<b>HDR</b>	Human Development Report	<b>LFLP</b>	Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Programme
<b>HIMAWANTI</b>	Himalayan Grassroots Women's Resource Management Association	<b>LFP</b>	Livelihood Forestry Programme
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	<b>LFUGs</b>	Leasehold Forests Users Groups
<b>HR</b>	Human Resources	<b>LIP</b>	Livelihoods Improvement Programme
<b>IAP</b>	Indoor Air Pollution	<b>LPG</b>	Liquid Petroleum Gas
<b>ICIMOD</b>	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	<b>LRMP</b>	Land Resources Mapping Project
<b>ICS</b>	Improved Cook Stoves	<b>LSGA</b>	Local Self-Governance Act
<b>IEC</b>	Information, Education and Communication	<b>LSI</b>	Livelihoods and Social Inclusion
<b>IGA</b>	Income Generating Activities	<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organisation		
<b>IMR</b>	Infant Mortality Rate		

<b>MCCICC</b>	Multi-stakeholder Climate Change Initiatives Coordination Committee	<b>MoPPW</b>	Ministry of Physical Planning and Works
<b>MDGs</b>	Millennium Development Goals	<b>MoST</b>	Ministry of Science and Technology
<b>MIS</b>	Management Information System	<b>MoWCSW</b>	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
<b>MLD</b>	Million Litres Per Day	<b>MPFS</b>	Master Plan for Forestry Sectors
<b>MMR</b>	Maternal Mortality Ratio	<b>MTEF</b>	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
<b>MMRV</b>	Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccine	<b>MW</b>	Megawatts
<b>MoAC</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	<b>MWR</b>	Mid Western Regions
<b>MoEn</b>	Ministry of Energy	<b>NAPA</b>	National Adaptation Program of Action
<b>MoEnv</b>	Ministry of Environment	<b>NARC</b>	Nepal Agriculture Research Council
<b>MoEs</b>	Ministry of Education and Sports	<b>NAST</b>	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
<b>MoF</b>	Ministry of Finance	<b>NCVST</b>	Nepal Climate Vulnerability Study Team
<b>MoFSC</b>	Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation	<b>NDHS</b>	National Demographic Health Survey
<b>MoHA</b>	Ministry of Home Affairs	<b>NEA</b>	Nepal Electricity Authority
<b>MoHP</b>	Ministry of Health and Population	<b>NEFIN</b>	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
<b>MoI</b>	Ministry of Irrigation	<b>NESOG</b>	Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
<b>MoIC</b>	Ministry of Information and Communication	<b>NFA</b>	Nepal Foresters' Association
<b>MoLD</b>	Ministry of Local Development		
<b>MoLRM</b>	Ministry of Land Reform and Management		



<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental Organizations	<b>PWMLGP</b>	Participatory Watershed Management and Local Governance Project
<b>NHEICC</b>	National Health, Education, Information, Communication Center	<b>QA</b>	Quality Assurance
<b>NHRC</b>	National Health Research Council	<b>RAN</b>	Rangers Association of Nepal
<b>NHSP-IP</b>	Nepal Health Sector Programme–Implementation Plan	<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>NMCP</b>	Northern Mountain Conservation Program	<b>REDD</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>NMES</b>	Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj	<b>REDD-RPP</b>	REDD Readiness Preparedness Proposal
<b>NPC</b>	National Planning Commission	<b>RET</b>	Renewable Energy Technologies
<b>NRM</b>	Natural Resource Management	<b>RPP</b>	Readiness Preparedness Proposal
<b>NSCFP</b>	Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project	<b>SDC</b>	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
<b>NSET</b>	National Society for Earthquake Technology	<b>SES</b>	Social Environment Standard
<b>NUP</b>	National Urban Policy	<b>SHLP</b>	Sacred Himalayan Landscape Programme
<b>P&amp;E</b>	Poor and Excluded	<b>SIA</b>	Social Impact Assessment
<b>PACT</b>	Project for Agriculture Commercialization and Trade	<b>SNV</b>	Netherland Development Organisation
<b>PAF</b>	Poverty Alleviation Fund	<b>TA</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>PPCR</b>	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience	<b>ToR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>PPP</b>	Purchasing Power Parity	<b>TV</b>	Television
<b>PPSI</b>	Pro-Poor and Social Inclusion	<b>TYIP</b>	Three-Year Interim Plan
<b>PRSP</b>	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper		

<b>UN</b>	United Nations	<b>WB</b>	The World Bank
<b>UNCED</b>	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development	<b>WDO</b>	Women Development Office
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund	<b>WIDPTC</b>	Water Induced Disaster Prevention Technical Center
<b>UN Habitat</b>	United Nations Human Settlements Programme	<b>WOCAN</b>	Women Organization for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund	<b>WSS</b>	Water Supply and Sanitation
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development	<b>WSSD</b>	World Summit on Sustainable Development
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	<b>WSUCs</b>	Water and Sanitation Users Committees
<b>VDC</b>	Village Development Committee	<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene		

Maplecroft's Climate Change Risk Atlas 2010 ranked Nepal as the fourth most vulnerable country to climate change in the world.

Although Nepal has achieved remarkable improvements over the past few decades, it remains one of the poorest countries in the world, with an estimated 55 percent of Nepalese falling below the international poverty line of \$1.25 per day. Classified as a Least Developed Country (LDC) by the United Nations and ranking 115<sup>th</sup> in terms (2008) of Gross Domestic Production (GDP), Nepal's GDP remains the lowest amongst all South Asian countries.

Political instability has been the defining feature of the Nepali state during the last two decades. Nepal has had 20 governments since the introduction of democracy in 1990 and the country is still emerging from a violent 10-year conflict, ended through a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and an interim constitution being put in place.

The country's leading political parties are currently faced with the challenge of following through on the CPA by drafting a new constitution. Adding to this complexity, Nepal's local government officials elected in 1999 were dismissed in 2002. This lack of elected local officials increases the challenge

of making the state downwardly accountable to its citizens.

Nepal has a historical ingrained hierarchy of gender and caste. At the time of developing this ccGAP, the most recent World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2011<sup>2</sup>, scored Nepal 126<sup>th</sup> out of 135 countries. The Government of Nepal has, however, acknowledged gender equality and social inclusion as critical to development.

Nepal signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. Nepal ratified the Convention on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 1994, and the Convention came into force in Nepal on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 1994.

Since then, the Government of Nepal has developed and released a number of significant policy documents in relation to climate change, including its Initial National Report to the UNFCCC (INC – 2004), the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA - 2007), the Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA - 2010), REDD Readiness Preparedness Proposal (REDD RPP – 2010), and the Nepal Climate Change Policy (2011).

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<sup>2</sup> World Economic Forum (WEF). 2011. Global Gender Gap Report. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-2011/>

The National Planning Commission also released the Three-Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13) in 2010.

On 28 July 2012, the IUCN Gender Office received an official request from the Ministry of Environment of the Government of Nepal to be engaged in the preparation of a national action plan on gender and climate change. The Government of Nepal furthermore requested the development of the said action plan within the broader framework of (i) Nepal's NAPA and (ii) the country's Climate Change Policy (2011) to "address adverse impacts of climate change on the vulnerable and marginalized communities with focus on climate adaptation and impact mitigation."

The IUCN Gender Office embarked on a multi-stakeholder process to develop a Climate Change Gender Action Plan (ccGAP) from 5 – 28 February 2011. The main objectives of the workshops to develop the ccGAP were to (i) identify and understand the importance of gender and climate change, and (ii) identify possible areas of actions/ interventions for an action plan on gender and climate change in Nepal.

In consultation with participants and the Government of Nepal, six (6) priority sectors were identified that would form the basis of the ccGAP: (i) Agriculture and Food Security; (ii) Forests and REDD; (iii) Water, (iv) Energy, (v) Health and (vi) Urbanization. In addition section C includes a set of elements that are relevant for the implementation of the present ccGAP dealing with institutional arrangements. Communication and outreach, financial mechanisms and disaster risk reduction were dealt with as cross-cutting issues.

The ccGAP has been developed not as an end in itself, but rather as catalyst for further action to be taken through the inclusion of gender in national climate change processes, policy development, decision-making and project development and – implementation. It is therefore not a stand-alone document, but rather an integral and synergistic complement to existing and future policies in Nepal, both concerning climate change and strategic national planning going forward.

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*February 2012*

## 1. OVERVIEW<sup>3</sup>

1. Nepal is a landlocked country strategically located in the central part of the Himalayas of Southern Asia, between China and India. It is the 94<sup>th</sup> largest country in the world.
2. Nepal covers a total surface area of 147,181 sq km out of which 20.7 percent is arable, made up of five physiographic regions: High Himal, High Mountain, Middle Mountain, Siwalik (the Churia Range), and the Terai<sup>4</sup>.
3. Each of the physiographic regions have a distinct altitude and climatic characteristic that vary from sub-tropical to alpine conditions within a lateral span of less than 200 km<sup>5</sup>. Tarai or flat river plains of the Ganges may be found in the south, followed by a central hill region in the middle, and rugged Himalayas in north.
4. The country boasts eight of world's 10 highest peaks, including Mount Everest and Kanchenjunga - the world's tallest and third tallest respectively - on the borders with China and India. The lowest point of the country is known as Kanchan Kalan at 70 m above sea level and the highest point, Mount Everest, at an altitude of 8,848 m above sea level.
5. Of the country's total surface area (147,181 sq km), 143,181 sq km comprises land and 4000 sq km comprises water. More than 6,000 rivers drain largely from the north to the south with the four main systems being the Karnali, Narayani /Gandaki, Saptakosi and Mahakali. The hydro electric potential in Nepal is estimated to be about 45000 kw.
6. It is estimated that forest occupies 39.6 percent of total land area in Nepal. Out of this, 29.6 percent is dense forests and rest 10.6 percent is shrub land<sup>6</sup>. A change in forest cover (between 1990 and 2010) occurred with Nepal losing an average of 59,050 ha or 1.23 percent per year. In total, between 1990 and 2010, Nepal lost 24.5 percent of its forest cover, or around 1,181,000 ha.
7. Over 85 percent of the population relies on traditional biomass (fuelwood) for their energy supplies and less than a third of

<sup>3</sup> Central Intelligence Agency. 2012. The World Fact Book. United States Government. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/np.html>

<sup>4</sup> LRMP. 1986. Land Utilization Report. Land Resources Mapping Project (LRMP). Kenting Earth Sciences Limited. His Majesty's Government of Nepal and Government of Canada.

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Environment. 2010. National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) to Climate Change. Government of Nepal.

<sup>6</sup> Government of Nepal. 2010. Three Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11-1012/13). National Planning Commission. Nepal.

the population has access to electricity, mainly derived from hydropower<sup>7</sup>.

followed by Jhapa, Marang, Rupandehi and Kailali.

### Population<sup>8</sup>

8. According to the preliminary result of the National Population Census 2011 released by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), the population of Nepal reached 26,620,809 in the year 2011. This indicates an increase of population at a rate of 1.4 percent per annum. According to the National Population Census 2001, the population growth rate of Nepal was 2.25 percent per annum.
9. The census also indicated that there are 5,659,984 households living in 4,767,196 dwellings/houses throughout the country (the ratio of houses to households being 1:1.19) and that the size of the household in Nepal has decreased from 5.44 (2001) to 4.7 (2011).
10. Kathmandu district has the lowest household size of 3.71, whereas in some Terai districts such as Rautahat, Bara, Kapilbastu, the household size remains still more than 6.
11. The preliminary results released by CBS suggest that the absentee population in Nepal more than doubled since 2001 to 1,917,903 (2011), mostly males and comprising 87 percent. The percentage of male and female absentee population in the year 2001 was 89 and 11 percent respectively. The highest proportion of absentee population is from Kathmandu
12. The preliminary results also reveal that the male and female population of Nepal is 12,927,431 and 13,693,378, respectively. Accordingly, the result shows that the sex ratio of Nepal has decreased from 99.8 in 2001 to 94.41 in 2011 which supports the scenario revealed in the proportion of absentee population (more males are leaving the country than females).
13. The Terai belt constitutes the highest proportion of the population (with more than half of the population, i.e. 50.2 percent, living there), followed by the Hill (43 percent) and Mountain (7 percent) belts.
14. The 2011 result also reveals a considerable increase in the urban population. The urban population of Nepal constituted around 17 percent of the total population in 2011, compared to 14 percent urban population in 2001. Likewise, the rural population of Nepal decreased from 86 percent in 2001 to 83 percent in 2011. The sex ratio in the rural areas is higher (104) than in the urban areas (92).
15. The Kathmandu Metropolitan City constitutes the largest urban population (1,006,656) followed by Pokhara, Lalitpur and Biratnagar Municipality. Kathmandu District also has the largest population of 1,740,977 followed by Morang,

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Environment. 2010. National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) to Climate Change. Government of Nepal.

<sup>8</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). 2011. National Population and Housing Census. Government of Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://census.gov.np/>

Rupandehi, Jhapa and Kailali which has the population of 964,709; 886,706; 810,636 and 770,279 respectively.

## Climate

16. Nepal's climate is influenced by the Himalayan mountain range and the South Asian monsoon<sup>9</sup> and varies from cool summers and severe winters in north to subtropical summers and mild winters in south.
17. The climate, predominantly influenced by the monsoons and westerly disturbance, is characterized by four distinct seasons: pre-monsoon (March to May), monsoon (June to September), post-monsoon (October to November) and winter (December to February). The winter is the coldest, with the highest temperatures during the pre-monsoon season.
18. The average annual rainfall in the country is approximately 1800 mm, but there are marked spatial and temporal variations both north-south and east-west. The monsoon rain is the most abundant in the east and declines westwards, while winter rains are higher in the northwest and decline south-eastwards<sup>10</sup>.
19. Depending on the timing, intensity, and duration of the summer monsoons, Nepal is also prone to a number of natural hazards including severe

thunderstorms, flooding, landslides, drought and famine.

## Socio-Political Context

20. Political instability has been the defining feature of the Nepali state during the last two decades. Nepal has had 20 governments since the introduction of democracy in 1990 and the country is still emerging from a violent 10-year conflict with some aftershocks<sup>11</sup>.
21. Nepal's decade-long insurgency ended in 2006. Since then, Nepal have witnessed the signing of a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the former Maoist rebels and the state, a new Interim Constitution, the election of a Constituent Assembly, the abolition of monarchy and declaration of a federal republic, five governments, and the rise of strong ethnic identity movements.
22. The country's leading political parties are now faced with the challenge of following through on the CPA by drafting a new constitution. While there is progress on political reform and in addressing critical development challenges, advances are slowed by ongoing changes in government leadership and by interest groups jostling for power through nationwide general strikes and by blocking government functions<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Nepal Climate Vulnerability Study Team (NCVST). 2009. Vulnerability Through the Eyes of Vulnerable: Climate Change Induced Uncertainties and Nepal's Development Predicaments. Institute for Social and Environmental Transition – Nepal (ISET-N). Kathmandu. Nepal.

<sup>10</sup> Practical Action. 2009. Temporal and Spatial Variability of Climate Change over Nepal (1976 – 2005). Kathmandu Office. Nepal.

<sup>11</sup> World Bank. 2012. Nepal Country Overview 2011. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.worldbank.org.np/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/SOUTHASIAEXT/NEPALEXTN/0,,contentMDK:22147453~pagePK:141137~piPK:141127~theSitePK:223555,00.html>

<sup>12</sup> USAID. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia/countries/nepal/>

- 23.** The political compact around a new Constitution that endorses the devolution of power, social and political inclusion, democratic elections, and political accountability represents an opportunity in this transition. However, major milestones of the peace process are yet to be met and progress in constitution writing has been slow. The new constitution is supposed to lead to a major restructuring of the state as Nepal will adopt federalism as a fundamental principle of governance. Elections both at national and local levels are planned after the constitution is promulgated.
- 24.** The conflict and the prolonged transition to peace and stability have also contributed to a progressive erosion of the effectiveness of some state institutions. For instance, law and order is a growing concern, particularly in certain geographic areas. The conflict raised awareness that the Nepali state had been associated with exclusionary political, social, and economic institutions that did not reflect the country's diversity. This has led to the rise of identity politics with an increasing demand for state recognition and greater accommodation of diverse social, cultural, and ethnic identities. The CA provides an inclusive forum to negotiate these issues, but its potential has not yet been fully utilized.
- 25.** Informal political forums and 'street actions' are popular as approaches to resolving politically contested issues. Nepal's local government officials elected in 1999 were dismissed in 2002. This lack of elected local officials increases the challenge of making the state downwardly accountable to its citizens.
- 26.** Nepal has a historical ingrained hierarchy of gender and caste. Despite formal laws to guarantee equal treatment to men and women as well as to Dalits, Tharus and Brahmins, to Madhesis and Paharis and to Hindus, Muslims and Christians many of the old habits of thoughts and daily behavior endure. The understanding of the dense systems of exclusion that often prevail in communities represent a challenge to any type of development initiatives.
- 27.** In recent years, and according to the World Bank, Nepal has made significant progress on several social indicators, though:
- a. The proportion of poor people has declined from 42 percent (1995/96) to 3 percent in 2003/4. Furthermore recent estimates show that since 2004, the national poverty rate may have declined further;
  - b. Net Primary Enrollment in schools has increased from 81 percent in 2002 to 94.5 percent in 2010. Gender and social parity have been achieved in primary education. The Gender Parity Index for secondary school net enrollment has also increased from 0.87 (2007) to 0.98 (2010);
  - c. The Maternal Mortality Rate declined from 538 in 1996 to 380 per 100,000 live births, earning Nepal the MDG Millennium Award in 2010. The Infant Mortality Rate dropped from 79 in 1996 to 39 in 2010. At least one-



- third of deliveries are now in the presence of trained health workers. Full immunization coverage rose from 43 percent in 1996 to 83 percent in 2006; and
- d. Gender disparities in political participation are decreasing both in elected and administrative government. Women now make up over 30 percent of the representatives in parliament. Implementation of an inclusion policy of women in the civil service shows positive trends.
- 28.** Nepal's economic growth continues to be adversely affected by the political uncertainty. Real GDP growth was 4.6 percent in the 2010 Financial Year (FY10), following 4.4 percent in FY09. Sources of growth include agriculture, construction, financial and other services, and consumption fueled by remittances. Inflation has been in the low double digits, but has recently come down to below 10 percent. Price movements in Nepal have largely mirrored India's because of the open border between the two countries.
- 29.** However, although Nepal has achieved remarkable improvements over the past few decades, it remains one of the poorest countries in the world, with an estimated 55 percent of Nepalese falling below the international poverty line of USD1.25 per day<sup>13</sup>.
- Disasters Risk in Nepal<sup>14</sup>**
- 30.** Nepal is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, due to its steep terrain, a rugged and fragile geomorphic condition, high peaks and slopes, variable climatic condition, increasing population, poor economic condition, unplanned settlement, low literacy rate and very rural topography. The country is ranked 30<sup>th</sup> from the risk of floods according to the global report on disaster risk from UNDP/ BCPR<sup>15</sup>.
- 31.** Disasters triggered by floods, landslides, lightning, Glaciers Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), avalanche and epidemics often occur time to time causing enormous physical damage and human life losses. According to the DesInventar<sup>16</sup> database in Nepal, there were more than 27,000 deaths due to disasters during the period 1971-2007. During the 37 years, around 5 million people were affected by various disasters. The database reveals that of the total affected population a major portion (68 percent) is affected by floods followed by landslides and epidemics.
- 32.** The database also shows that the total direct loss (not including indirect losses) due to disasters in the last 37 years is more than USD 177 million. It should be noted that the country's total annual budget is around USD 1.8 billion.

<sup>13</sup> USAID. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia/countries/nepal/>

<sup>14</sup> This section is based on Sujit Mohanty, S. and Kan, F.M. 2009. The Landscape of Disaster Risk Reduction Nepal. UNISDR Secretariat. Nepal.

<sup>15</sup> United Nations Development Programme and Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. 2004. A Global Report Reducing Disaster Risk a Challenge for Development. New York. USA.

<sup>16</sup> DesInventar is a tool for the construction of databases of loss, damage, or effects caused by disasters, developed Network of Social Studies in the Prevention of Disasters in Latin America (Red de Estudios Sociales en Prevención de Desastres en América Latina - LA RED). The Nepal disaster database is prepared by NSET with support from UNDP/BCPR

## Climate Change in Nepal

33. The NAPA submitted to the UNFCCC in 2010, tried to assess the overall vulnerability of Nepal through a series of climate change vulnerability assessments conducted at the district level<sup>17</sup>.
34. Whilst certain constraints were identified in the assessment, it is clear that Nepal's low level of development and complex topography renders it highly vulnerable to climate change.
35. Whilst the impacts on some sectors are likely to be more severe than on others, sectors that are particularly sensitive to climate change include agriculture, forestry, water and energy, health, urban and infrastructure, tourism, industry, and overall livelihoods and economy.
36. The assessment furthermore indicates that more than 1.9 million people are highly climate vulnerable and 10 million are increasingly at risk, with climate change likely to increase this number significantly in future.
37. The World Bank Country Report for Nepal identifies several current challenges either directly linked to, or exacerbated by, climate change and increased climate variability<sup>18</sup>:
  - a. Poor reliability and access to power are the most serious infrastructure bottlenecks to growth. Increasing access to electricity in a timely and cost-effective manner is one of the most significant development challenges facing Nepal today. Efforts to reduce the 16-hour load shedding gap during the dry season have been unsuccessful. Ironically, Nepal has one of the largest untapped hydropower resources in the world – an estimated 83,000 MW of hydropower potential and is surrounded by two of the fastest growing, energy-hungry countries in the world.
  - b. Poor physical connectivity has been another major challenge to Nepal's development efforts. Its road density is one of the lowest in South Asia. Over one-third of the people in the hills are more than four hours away from an all-weather road. In addition, 15 out of 75 district headquarters are yet to be connected by a road. The quality of the road network is also poor – 60 percent of the road network, including most rural roads, cannot provide all-weather connectivity. Maintenance is seriously neglected.
  - c. Given that productive agriculture is a crucial element of inclusive growth, enhancing the efficiency of irrigation systems will continue to be critical to increase agricultural productivity, incomes, and rural livelihoods.
  - d. The nutritional status of women and children has not shown much improvement with chronic malnutrition affecting about half of the nation's children.

<sup>17</sup> Ministry of Environment. 2010. National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) to Climate Change. Government of Nepal.

<sup>18</sup> World Bank. 2012. Nepal Country Overview 2011. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/np/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/SOUTHASIAEXT/NEPALEXTN/0,,contentMDK:22147453~pagePK:141137~piPK:141127~theSitePK:223555,00.html#challenges>

- e. Three and a half million people are considered moderately to severely food insecure in Nepal.
  - f. Nepal is highly susceptible to climate change risks and ranks 11th in the world in terms of vulnerability to earthquakes. Climate change is expected to intensify Nepal's already pronounced climate variability and increase the frequency of climate extremes such as droughts and floods.
- 38.** Food prices in Nepal have risen rapidly and affecting the poor, especially in food-insecure areas. Food inflation remains at about 15-17 percent nationally.
- 39.** The country has also experienced a series of droughts and erratic monsoons in food-insecure areas that have reduced food availability and raised prices. The overall effect of rising or high food prices on the poor is therefore a function of location as well as prices. The urban poor are most affected by high prices for staples and vegetables in urban markets, while the rural poor – especially in remote, chronically food-insecure districts – are doubly impacted by high transport costs and grain prices.

## 2. MANDATES AND POLICY

- 40.** The country, along with over 150 other nations, signed the UNFCCC at the UNCED in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992.

Nepal ratified the Convention on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 1994, and the Convention came into force in Nepal on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 1994<sup>19</sup>.

- 41.** In accordance with Parties' obligations to the UNFCCC, Nepal published its Initial National Communication Report in July 2004 and submitted it to the UNFCCC in September of the same year<sup>20</sup>.
- 42.** The Government of Nepal has developed and released four significant policy documents in relation to climate change from 2010 to 2012:
- a. National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA);
  - b. Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA);
  - c. REDD Readiness Preparedness Proposal (REDD RPP), and
  - d. The Nepal Climate Change Policy 2011.

### National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) 2010

- 43.** The NAPA for Nepal was prepared through a consultative process and submitted to the UNFCCC in November 2010<sup>21</sup>.
- 44.** The Plan is a strategic tool to assess climate vulnerability and systematically respond to climate change adaptation issues by developing appropriate measures<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> Ministry of Population and Environment. 2004. Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC. Government of Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/nepnc1.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Retrieved from the UNFCCC Official Website:

[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_support/least\\_developed\\_countries\\_portal/submitted\\_napas/items/4585.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_support/least_developed_countries_portal/submitted_napas/items/4585.php)

<sup>22</sup> Ministry of Environment. 2010. National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) to Climate Change. Government of Nepal.

45. The document is structured according to UNFCCC decision 29/CP.7 and the guidance and annotated guidelines developed by the Least Developed Countries' Expert Group (LEG). It sets out the national adaptation framework for Nepal, NAPA preparation processes and the methods and criteria used in prioritizing the proposed interventions, identification of key adaptation needs, priority adaptation actions and conclusions.

46. The document is a summary of work concluded by six Thematic Working Groups (led by Government line-Ministry) that proposed 250 adaptation options out of which nine integrated projects were identified as urgent and immediate national adaptation priorities as well as from two cross-cutting reports.

47. Nepal's NAPA aims to enable the country to respond strategically to the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. The main objectives are to:

- a. Assess and prioritize climate change vulnerabilities and identify adaptation measures;
- b. Develop proposals for priority activities;
- c. Prepare, review and finalize the NAPA document;
- d. Develop and maintain a knowledge management and learning platform; and
- e. Develop a multi-stakeholder framework for action on climate change.

48. The NAPA considers gender as a cross-cutting aspect. It also mentions that gender-related issues need to be taken into account in the process of developing adaptation strategies to climate change. Unfortunately, from the nine project priority profiles that have been proposed, gender issues are not integrated.

### **Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA)**

49. The LAPA is expected to be more specific and effective in terms of design and implementation of local level adaptation activities. Unlike many other policy documents, the LAPA is being prepared in direct response to the needs identified by participants on NAPA Inception Workshop. The LAPA was designed and piloted in 9 districts across Nepal during 2010 by the Climate Adaptation Design and Piloting-Nepal Project (CADP-N). The existing draft LAPA framework promises to be more inclusive, comprehensive and, more importantly, community centric – both in the process and content and makes major contributions to the gaps left by the NAPA<sup>23</sup>. There is no gender component to the LAPA.

### **REDD Readiness Preparedness Proposal (REDD RPP)**

50. The RPP seems to have recognized the role and contribution of local communities in the planning and design phase, as well as during the implementation phase. The main components of the document

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<sup>23</sup> Helvetas. 2011. Nepal's Climate Change Policies and Plans: Local Communities' Perspectives. Environment and climate change series 2011/1. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

are capacity building, awareness and consultation.

51. The RPP also attempts to strike a balance between the political definition of communities by proposing socially inclusive process and resources justice through a right-based approach<sup>24</sup>.
52. The RPP incorporates a three-dimensional institutional mechanism for implementation, including: a REDD multi-sectoral and -stakeholder coordinating and monitoring committee as the apex body; a REDD working group at the operational level; and the REDD-Forestry and the Climate Change Cell as the coordinating unit.
53. The RPP makes 57 references to women, and states as a principle the “mainstreaming gender and equity concerns at all levels”. In this regard, “special attention will be paid to ensure the full and effective participation of women and other marginalized groups in the REDD readiness process and to make their voices heard. For this, women and representatives of different marginalized groups like indigenous peoples, Dalit, Sukhumbasi (landless), and poor forest-dependent communities will be invited to participate in all decision-making forums during the REDD readiness preparation process”<sup>25</sup>.

## Nepal Climate Change Policy 2011

54. The formulation of a new climate change policy for Nepal was urgently required and therefore developed in order to (i) face the challenges (ii) solve the problems related to climate change in Nepal, (iii) succeed in current efforts and (iv) maximize the benefits from the UNFCCC to ultimately reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development.
55. The Policy therefore “envisions a country spared from the adverse impacts of climate change, by considering climate justice, through the pursuit of environmental conservation, human development, and sustainable development - all contributing toward a prosperous society.”
56. It recognizes that “the impacts of climate change are vivid in least developed, landlocked, and mountainous countries. Nepal is also highly affected by climate change. It has been an urgent necessity to address the issue of climate change by formulating a policy and implementing relevant programs to minimize the existing effects and likely impacts in different ecological regions - from the Southern plains to the middle hills and to the high Himalayan mountains in the north, and their peoples, livelihoods, and ecosystems”<sup>26</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> Helvetas. 2011. Nepal's Climate Change Policies and Plans: Local Communities' Perspectives. Environment and climate change series 2011/1. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>25</sup> Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. 2010. Nepal's Readiness Preparation Proposal REDD.2010-2013. Government of Nepal. Nepal.

<sup>26</sup> Ministry of Environment. 2011. Climate Change Policy, 2011. Government of Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.climatenepal.org.np/main/?p=research&sp=onlinelibrary&opt=detail&id=419>

57. The main goal of the policy is thus to improve livelihoods by mitigating and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change, adopting a low-carbon emissions socio-economic development path and supporting and collaborating in the spirits of country's commitments to national and international agreements related to climate change.

58. The National Planning Commission of the Government of Nepal released its Three Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13) in August 2010. The Paper was formulated on the basis of the long-term vision of transforming the country from least developed country to developing country. It also seeks to create employment opportunities and ensure a higher economic growth by reducing the number of people living below the poverty line - envisioning a society free of legal, social, cultural, lingual, religious, economic, gender, racial or any other kind of discrimination.

59. To this end, particular focus has been given to build economic strength through job creation for Nepali people, along with the rehabilitation and development of the infrastructure needed for modern development, reduce poverty in a sustainable manner, raise the standard of living of common people, provide relief to those affected by conflict, rehabilitation, social integration and adaptation, and inclusion of deprived communities, regions, and gender in all structures, sectors and processes of development.

60. The TYIP outlines the Government's approach to Environment and Climate Change, as well as Gender Equality and Empowerment for Women in separate sections under that of its Infrastructure Development Policy.

### Environment and Climate Change

61. The TYIP has as objectives on environment and climate change:

- i. To adapt and minimize the negative impacts posed by climate change by making human activity and development activities environment friendly through encouraging the concept of green development; and
- ii. To control urban pollution and protect the natural beauty of rural areas.

### Gender Equality and Empowerment for Women

62. The TYIP also has as objectives on gender equality and empowerment of women:

- i. To strengthen the role of women in sustainable peace and development process by socially, economically and politically empowering the women of all classes and regions; and
- ii. To eliminate various forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women.

63. Amongst others, specific action will be taken to meet the following objectives:

- i. In order to make projects employment-oriented, a system of Gender Impact

assessment will be followed in the phase of project formulation (Working Policy 2.1, page 168);

- ii. (In order to enhance the employment capacity of women their participation in entrepreneurship and skills-oriented training will be increased. In addition, appropriate targeted program will be carried out for micro-credit and production, and market promotion (Working Policy 4.1, page 168); and
- iii. Special emphasis will be given in raising women's access and influence in resources and means (Working Policy 4.2, page 168).

- 64.** The link between gender and many of the cross-cutting sectors addressed in the document (most notably: 7. Macroeconomic Policy and Economic Development Policy; 7.16 Poverty Alleviation; 7.19 Agriculture and Food Security; 7.21 Forest and Soil Conservation; 8. Social Development Policy; 8.9 Education; 8.10 Health and Nutrition; 8.11 Drinking Water and Sanitation; 9. Infrastructure Development Policy; 9.2 Water Resource, and 9.3 Alternative Energy), however, is less prominent and, in fact, largely not directly addressed.
- 65.** Apart from policy documents prepared and promulgated by the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment, various allied departments and ministries have drafted and implemented policies, acts and

regulations associated with climate change issues - both mitigation and adaptation: Environment Protection Act 1997, Environment Protection Regulation 1999, Water Resources Act 1992, Water Resources Regulations 1993, Forest Act 1993, Forest Regulations 1995, Land Acquisition Act 1977, and Land Acquisition Regulations 1963, revised in 1969<sup>27</sup>.

### 3. THE CASE FOR GENDER

#### Gender as a Core Development Objective<sup>28</sup>

- 66.** Gender equality is a core development objective in its own right with very tangible economic benefits.
- 67.** Greater gender equality can enhance productivity, improve development outcomes for the next generation, and make institutions more representative.
- a. *Productivity gains.* Women now represent 40 percent of the global labor force, 43 percent of the world's agricultural labor force, and more than half the world's university students. Productivity will be raised if their skills and talents are used more fully. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), equalizing access to productive resources between female and male farmers could increase agricultural

<sup>27</sup> Helvetas. 2011. Nepal's Climate Change Policies and Plans: Local Communities' Perspectives. Environment and Climate Change Series 2011/1. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>28</sup> Based on: World Bank. 2012. Gender and Equality Report 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR2012/0,,contentMDK:23004468~pagePK:64167689~piPK:64167673~theSitePK:7778063,00.html>

output in developing countries by as much as 2.5 to 4 percent. Eliminating barriers that prevent women from working in certain occupations or sectors would have similar positive effects, reducing the productivity gap between male and female workers by one-third to one-half and increasing output per worker by 3 to 25 percent.

- b. *Improved outcomes for the next generation.* Greater control over household resources by women can enhance countries' growth prospects by changing spending patterns in ways that benefit children. And improvements in women's education and health have been linked to better outcomes for their children
- c. *More representative decision-making.* Empowering women as economic, political, and social actors can change policy choices and make institutions more representative of a range of voices. The 2011 Human Development Report (HDR)<sup>29</sup> finds that greater involvement of women in decision-making is of instrumental importance in addressing equity and environmental degradation. The findings are that women show more concern for the environment and support pro-environmental policies. Countries with higher female parliamentary representation are more likely to set aside protected land areas, as a study of 25 developed

and 65 developing countries reveals. Countries with higher female parliamentary representation are more likely to ratify international environmental treaties, according to a study of 130 countries with about 92 percent of the world's people.

68. According to the HDR, the greater equality between men and women and within populations may have transformative potential in advancing environmental sustainability. Analysis suggest that environmental challenges and gender inequalities are mutually reinforcing; seriously jeopardizing health, education, livelihoods and other aspects of human well-being<sup>30</sup>. The report presents empirical findings for the causal relationship between inequality (measured in terms of Human Development Index (HDI) and gender disparities) and environmental sustainability. Poor sustainability performance - measured by net forest depletion and air pollution - raised inequality in the HDI; on the other hand, higher levels of gender inequality (as measured by the Gender Inequality Index GII) led to lower levels of sustainability. The study also shows how promoting gender equality can advance environmental outcomes by improving access to clean water and sanitation, combating land degradation and reducing deaths due to disasters, indoor and outdoor air pollution.

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29 UNDP. 2011. Human Development Report: Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>

30 Ibid.



## Gender and Climate Change

69. Gender is a vital element to be taken into account when considering actions both to mitigate and to adapt to climate change. Climate change impacts are not only economic and physical, but also social. Because of gender differences in social-cultural and economic roles and responsibilities, the effects of climate change affect women and men in different ways, and often women more harshly.
70. The HDR cautions that gender inequalities intersect with climate risks and vulnerabilities, concluding that climate change is likely to amplify existing patterns of gender disadvantage. Women's historic disadvantages, their limited access and control over decision-making, environmental and economic resources, and restricted rights, make them more vulnerable to climate change.
71. The disproportionate burden of climate change on women can be countered by empowerment of women, recognizing them as the important actors of change that they are. Women have important roles as primary land, water, and natural resources managers, and are powerful agents of change in formulating responses to climate change. Women are part of the solution. Though their leadership, copying strategies on adaptation are developed. Women are also fundamental in mitigation, largely due to their critical role in energy efficiency, their receptiveness to greener sources of energy, as well as their power to change consumption patterns.
72. Incorporating a gender perspective successfully and effectively requires that men and women understand the process of climate change, and share information on counteracting its negative impacts on an equal basis to both women and men. It is important that women have equal access to knowledge, awareness, capacity building, resources and technology, which are prerequisites in influencing climate change. Likewise, it is fundamental that women participate more actively in decision-making and policy development at all levels.
73. Two complementary principles that are accepted globally underlie this ccGAP: (i) gender equality and (ii) the empowerment of women<sup>31</sup>.
74. Based on the above, Parties to the UNFCCC have acknowledged the need to mainstream gender into the climate change negotiations. The Cancun Agreement includes 8 gender references

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**31 Equality** between women and men is a principle that ensures human development while, at the same time, is a fundamental objective in the fight against poverty. Women and men play different roles and have different responsibilities in their families, in their community or in society. They participate in different ways in the social, cultural, economic and political life of their countries and communities. Understanding these differences allows a more focused intervention when developing policies, programs and projects meant to improve the condition of people. Above all, what is intended is that these differences do not generate or worsen conditions of inequality and exclusion.

**Empowerment** is a process for women to gain power and have more control over their lives and is an effective route leading to gender equality and also to reducing poverty. It involves consciousness raising, building self-confidence, improving health and wellbeing, and broadening options and opportunities. Empowerment is an important strategy to transform power structures in all spheres: legislation, education, institutions and in any entity, whether public or private, that predominates, in this case male, and is detrimental to women's social condition.

while the Durban Outcomes includes 19 gender references (see Annex 1).

- 75.** Building on the understanding as set out above, this ccGAP acknowledges gender mainstreaming as the primary methodology employed, seeking to recognize and bring to the fore the diverse roles, needs and contributions of both women and men in the sustainable development agenda. Rather than merely adding women's participation onto existing strategies and programs *post facto*, mainstreaming gender aims to transform unequal social and institutional structures by recognizing the promotion of gender equality as a central driving principle - reducing vulnerability - enhancing significantly the efficiency, effectiveness and overall implementation of programs and projects.

### Gender Equality in Nepal<sup>32</sup>

- 76.** At the time of developing this ccGAP, the most recent World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2011<sup>33</sup>, scored Nepal 126<sup>th</sup> out of 135 countries with a score of 0.589 (where 0.00 denotes inequality and 1.00 equality, respectively).
- 77.** The country's position on selected sub-indexes assessed in the same report also indicates:

- a. Economic Participation and Opportunity (121/135);
- b. Educational Attainment (128/135);
- c. Health and Survival (111/135); and
- d. Political Empowerment (43/135).

- 78.** Due to existing gender relations in Nepal, women experience unequal power relations, resulting in social exclusion. Although the depth gender of discrimination varies between social groups in Nepal, all women are excluded. However, women from excluded communities face caste, ethnicity and local-based constraints in addition to the constraints imposed by their gender<sup>34</sup>.
- 79.** Global Gender Gap Reports published in previous years since 2006 have indicated a slight upward trend towards gender equality in the country from 0.548 (2006) improving year-on-year to 2011.
- 80.** The Report also found significant gender-based differences in terms of income (PPP USD) with estimated earned income for women at 37 percent of that of their male counterparts (female 628 to male 1,689), female-to-male literacy ratio at 0.65, and enrolment in tertiary education at a female-to-male ratio of 0.40.
- 81.** Political empowerment for women, however, were assessed marginally

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<sup>32</sup> World Bank. 2012. Gender Equality and Development Report. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR2012/0,,contentMDK:23004468~pagePK:64167689~piPK:64167673~theSitePK:7778063,00.html>

<sup>33</sup> World Economic Forum (WEF). 2011. Global Gender Gap Report. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-2011/>

<sup>34</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

higher, with 33 women in Parliament as to 67 men and 8 ministerial positions held by women as to 92 by men. To date, no female has served as Head of State for Nepal.

### **Gender Equality Mandates and Political Framework in Nepal**

- 82.** The Government of Nepal recognizes gender equality and social inclusion as critical to development. Efforts have been made in transforming the country into an inclusive, just state, with an eye to restructuring existing power relations to ensure the rights of citizens, regardless of cast, ethnicity, religion, gender, age or class<sup>35</sup>.
- 83.** The Interim Constitution (2007) Part 3 article 13 states that “(2) No discrimination shall be made against any citizen in the application of general laws on grounds of religion, race, sex, caste, tribe or ideological conviction or any of these; (3) The State shall not discriminate citizens among citizens on grounds of religion, race, sex, caste, tribe or ideological conviction or any of these: Provided that special provisions may be made by law for the protection and advancement of the interests of women, children, the aged or those who are physically or mentally incapacitated or those who belong to a class which is economically, socially or educationally”.
- 84.** The Local Self-Governance Act (1999) directs local bodies to formulate their plans with the active involvement and participation of local people, focusing on the special needs of the poor and mandates 20 percent representation of women on village and war-level development committees.
- 85.** The Government of Nepal is furthermore also a signatory to, and member of, a number of key international agreements that already commit the country to gender mainstreaming. These include: Chapter 24 of Agenda 21 (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992); the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002); paragraph K of the Beijing Platform for Action (Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995); the World Conference on Human Rights (1993); the International Conference on Population and Development (1994); the World Summit for Social Development (1995); UN Security Council Resolution 1325; the Millennium Declaration (2000); and the requirements and agreements set out in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

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<sup>35</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

## CEDAW, Climate Change and Nepal

Nepal ratified CEDAW in 1991. In its preamble, CEDAW states that State Parties are bound to guarantee men and women equal opportunities in terms of economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights<sup>36</sup>.

- In a provision that has great relevance to the regulation of issues relating to climate change, CEDAW obliges State Parties to take “all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, **on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development**” and “participate in the elaboration and implementation of development planning at all levels”, and “in all community activities”<sup>37</sup>.
- CEDAW also recognizes that women should have equal rights to “obtain all types of training and education, formal and non-formal, including [...] the benefit of all community and extension services, in order to increase their technical proficiency”<sup>38</sup>.
- CEDAW furthermore requires State Parties “to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in other areas of economic and social life in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, **the same rights**”<sup>39</sup>.
- In particular, and in relation to financial mechanisms, there is a need to ensure that women have “access to **credit and loans, marketing facilities, and appropriate technology** [...]”<sup>40</sup>, as well as the “the right to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit”<sup>41</sup>.
- The **cumulative effect of these provisions is to place obligations on countries** to ensure that women are granted equal opportunity and that the necessary conditions exist to enable their:- (i) participation in decision making; (ii) negotiation on climate change agreements; and (iii) equitable participation in, and access to, financial mechanisms and technologies.
- These may also be interpreted as to require States to ensure the **fullest possible participation of women in law and policy making at international level**, where such laws and policies are deemed necessary to prevent discrimination.

<sup>36</sup> Article 2(a).

<sup>37</sup> Article 14.2.

<sup>38</sup> Article 14.2(d).

<sup>39</sup> Article 13.

<sup>40</sup> Article 14.2(g).

<sup>41</sup> Article 13(b).

86. Gender focal points have been appointed in all ministries and independent departments and are under the coordination of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW)<sup>42</sup>. Unfortunately, they have not been able to deliver effectively for multiple reasons: absence of clear terms of reference, lack of authority, and the absence of institutionalised linkage between their gender mandate and the core work at Ministries, as well as no specific programmes or resources for gender-related work.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

87. On 28 July 2011, the IUCN Global Gender Office received an official request from Mr. Bed Prakash Lekhak, Under Secretary and Chief, Climate Change Council Secretariat Section, Ministry of Environment of the Government of Nepal to be engaged in the preparation of a national action plan on gender and climate change.

88. The Government of Nepal furthermore requested the development of the said action plan within the broader framework of (i) Nepal's National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA), submitted to the UNFCCC in 2010, and (ii) the country's Climate Change Policy (2011) to "address adverse impacts

of climate change on the vulnerable and marginalized communities with focus on climate adaptation and impact mitigation."

89. Made possible with the generous financial support from the Government of Finland, this document is the result of a series of inputs: research, interviews with policy makers (see list of interviews annex 2), stakeholder consultation and peer review, amongst others. It has been drafted on the basis of an analysis of the current national priorities concerning climate change and by means of two multi-stakeholder workshops convened in Katmandu, Nepal from the 7 to 9<sup>th</sup> of February and from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February of 2012 (see Annex 3 list of participants).

90. The main objectives of the workshops were to:

- Identify and understand the importance of gender and climate change; and
- Identify possible areas of actions/ interventions for an Action Plan on gender and climate change in Nepal.

91. It defines the role that the Ministry of Environment will play in initiating and facilitating efforts internally, as well as with strategic partners at the national, regional and international levels. It seeks

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<sup>42</sup> The role of these gender focal points is:

- Facilitating planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the ministry's programs from the perspective of gender mainstreaming.
- Coordinating MWCSW and related ministries in the implementation of national action plans prepared by MWCSW; and participating in meetings discussions, trainings, seminars and workshops organized by the MWCSW and other related organizations.
- Providing gender training to ministry and department staff.
- Supporting a gender friendly atmosphere in the ministries.
- Facilitating gender audits and gender mainstreaming in the budgetary process and any policy, law, strategy, program or action plan of the ministry and advising in implementing the recommendations made.
- Supporting preparation of progress reports and providing related data and other information to MWCSW when requested.

to mainstream gender in climate change action as outlined in the Climate Change Policy of Nepal - and take advantage of - opportunities that promote gender equality and facilitate change.

- 92.** The ccGAP integrates gender considerations into each of six priority sectors as identified by participants, i.e. agriculture, water, health, energy, forests/REDD and urbanization. It establishes clear objectives, outlines substantive activities that are accompanied by reachable indicators within the ambit of the six priority sectors as identified and highlights the specific contribution women do and can make within each of these as well as the required interventions necessary

to incorporate the role of women effectively. For the crosscutting theme of Institutional Arrangements a separate action is identified (refer section C). The time frame of the ccGAP is of five year 2012-2017.

- 93.** Upon completion of the first draft of this document, the Ministry of Environment, with the support from IUCN, will engage stakeholders at the national and district level in a consultation process. To this end the document will be translated into Nepalese early on. Additionally a presentation of the ccGAP will be conducted with the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) as well as with the National Planning Commission (NPC).

## 1. OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE STRATEGY

To operationalize gender concerns in climate change efforts to enhance implementation and contribute to the promotion of gender equality in Nepal.

## 2. PRIORITY SECTOR 1: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

### Overview <sup>43</sup>

94. Agriculture - and the communities who depend on it for their livelihoods and food security - are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. At the same time agriculture, as a significant producer of greenhouse gases, contributes to global warming.
95. Business-as-usual scenarios of population growth and food consumption patterns indicate that agricultural production will need to increase by 70 percent by 2050 to meet global demand for food. The impacts of climate change will reduce productivity and lead to greater instability in production in the agricultural sector (crop and livestock production, fisheries and forestry) in communities that already have high levels of food insecurity and environmental degradation and limited options for coping with adverse weather conditions.
96. The agriculture sector is not only among the most vulnerable sectors to the impacts of climate change. It is also directly responsible for 14 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the sector is a key driver of deforestation and land degradation, which account for an additional 17 percent of emissions.
97. The agricultural sector can be an important part of the solution to climate change by capturing synergies that exist among activities to develop more productive food systems and improve natural resource management.
98. Sustainable utilization of natural resources will require management and governance practices based on

<sup>43</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization. 2012. Climate-Smart Agriculture: Managing Ecosystems for Sustainable Livelihoods. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/an177e/an177e00.pdf>

ecosystem approaches that involve multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral coordination and cooperation. This is a crucial element for the transformation to climate-smart agriculture.

- 99.** Climate-smart agriculture is rooted in sustainable agriculture and rural development objectives which, if reached, would contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of reducing hunger and improved environmental management.
- 100.** More productive and resilient agriculture is built on the sound management of natural resources, including land, water, soil and biodiversity. Conservation agriculture, agroforestry, improved livestock and water management, integrated pest management and ecosystem approaches to fisheries and aquaculture can all make important contributions in this area.
- 101.** To support food security and boost incomes, agricultural systems in developing countries will be under pressure to increase productivity sustainably and strengthen the resilience of agricultural landscapes. Improved agricultural systems can also potentially emit lower levels of greenhouse gases.
- 102.** Strategies exist to sequester carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emission reductions in the agricultural sector. Many of these strategies also improve food security, foster rural development and help communities adapt to climate

change. However, trade-offs may have to be made when seeking to reach different development goals, such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agricultural production and poverty reduction. The challenge is to capture potential synergies among these activities, while avoiding as much as possible trade-offs that may increase food security.

- 103.** Balancing these trade-offs requires that interventions be planned and implemented in a coordinated manner over different time frames and across different sectors and landscapes.
- 104.** Although climate-smart agriculture's central focus is on farming, pastoral, forestry and fishing systems, a broader perspective is needed to achieve its overall goals. The ecosystem approach provides a framework for the better management of ecosystem services, such as carbon storage, freshwater cycling, biodiversity protection and pollination that require larger interventions. Improved natural resource management will need to be supported by strengthening infrastructure, institutions, legal frameworks and policies.
- 105.** Drought, furthermore, also has multiple effects since it affects not only water resources but also agriculture and subsequently food security. The effect of climate change and drought on agriculture and food security will have serious implications for sustainable development. Trade, population growth,



human induced deforestation and desertification already threaten food security in developing countries<sup>44</sup>.

### Situational Analysis

- 106.** Agriculture is considered to be backbone of Nepalese economy and it is also the major source of livelihood for Nepalese people. A total of 74 percent of the total population still depends on agriculture for their subsistence, most of which are small and marginal farmers<sup>45</sup>.
- 107.** With such a high percentage of the Nepalese population depending on agriculture for a livelihood and follow traditional cultivation practices, relying on rainwater and the seasons, any changes in climatic conditions affecting rainfall patterns will undoubtedly also have an adverse impact on the livelihoods of most

of the Nepalese people, which means that there is always a high risk of food insecurity. A decline in food production would lead to more malnutrition and huge consequences - particularly for children<sup>46</sup>.

- 108.** In Nepal, limited land is available for agriculture<sup>47</sup>, and land ownership has an overwhelming influence on food security. Conversely, economic status and social identity have a large impact on who has access to and control of land. Land distribution remains highly unbalanced, with 7.5 percent of farmers owning nearly a third of farmland. Nearly half of all holdings (47.7 percent) are too small to enable households to meet subsistence requirements, less than 0.5 ha. Increasingly, land is being used for commercial production of food and cash crops, which is further adding to these challenges<sup>48</sup>.

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<sup>44</sup> United Nations Development Program. 2007. Human Development Report 2007/2008: Country Case Study – Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-8/papers/Regmi\\_Bimal%20and%20Adhikari\\_Anu\\_NEPAL.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-8/papers/Regmi_Bimal%20and%20Adhikari_Anu_NEPAL.pdf)

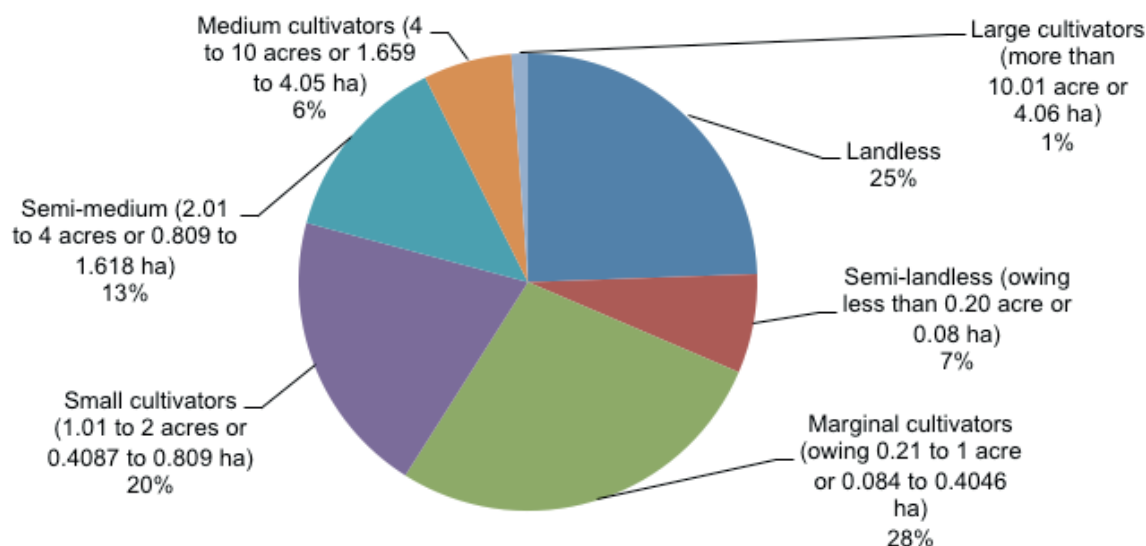
<sup>45</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three Year Plan Approach Paper 2010/2011 – 2012/2013. Government of Nepal.

<sup>46</sup> United Nations Development Program, 2007. Human Development Report 2007/2008: Country Case Study – Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-8/papers/Regmi\\_Bimal%20and%20Adhikari\\_Anu\\_NEPAL.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-8/papers/Regmi_Bimal%20and%20Adhikari_Anu_NEPAL.pdf)

<sup>47</sup> The total land area is 14.3 million hectares, of which 28.7 percent is suitable for agricultural production. Source: FAOSATS. 2007. Extracted from Shrestha, C.B. and Wulff, E. Overview of seed supply systems and seed health issues. Seed Sector Country Profile: Nepal, Vol I, Danish Seed Health Centre for Developing Countries.

<sup>48</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

**FIGURE 1: LAND DISTRIBUTION IN NEPAL WITH PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION**



Source: UNDP, 2004<sup>49</sup>

**109.** Nepal’s agriculture will increasingly face many challenges over the coming decades as soil become degraded and fluctuating water resources place enormous strains on achieving food security for the country’s population. These conditions will be worsened by climate change.

**110.** As one third of Nepal’s GDP is generated from the agricultural sector, it is clear that agriculture has an immense role to play in reducing poverty, ensuring food security and achieving balance of trade.

**111.** The impact of climate change on agriculture will therefore affect the economic well-being of Nepalese, having either a decreasing or increasing

effect on agricultural production, in turn affecting the economy of the country in a similarly manner.

**112.** The annual growth rate of the agricultural sector was 2.7 percent in the 1990s, whereas it rose to 2.8 percent per annum from 2001 to 2006. Though the growth rate was recorded at 4.7 percent in 2006/07, it stood to mere 2.1 percent in 2008/09 and crop production experienced a sharp decline in the subsequent year, mainly due to bad weather.

**113.** Against this backdrop, the major challenges the agricultural sector in Nepal faces are to increase the growth rate of agriculture produce and limit

49 United Nations Development Program. 2004. Human Development Report. Nepal.

soaring food prices. Pressure has increasingly been experienced on the availability and accessibility of food as well as the task of ensuring food security to ultra-poor and rural communities.

- 114.** In addition to low agricultural production and productivity, uncertainty in monsoon rainfall; climate change; inadequate irrigation facilities; growing pressure on marginal land for cultivation; minimal utilization of appropriate technology; less accessibility of farmers to markets; and frequent occurrence of livestock-related epidemics are some of the challenges the sector has to contend with<sup>50</sup>.

### Gender and the Agricultural Sector in Nepal

- 115.** Women comprise 65 percent of the workforce in agriculture and related tasks<sup>51</sup>.
- 116.** Despite this central role in agriculture, women face structural constraints in relation to land tenure rights. CEDAW<sup>52</sup> reports that women's access to land in Nepal is consequently limited. Women account for only 6 percent of total landowners and hold a combined share of only 4 percent of arable land.
- 117.** In addition, female-headed households average only 0.50 ha of farmland,

compared to 0.78 ha for male-headed households. Women's land ownership varies across the country: 21 percent of households in the Eastern Region, 25.5 percent in the Tarai's Mid-West Region, and over 30 percent in urban areas<sup>53</sup>. The recent Government strategy of granting a concession in registration fees when land is recorded in the name of a woman has increased the number of such transactions<sup>54</sup>.

- 118.** Recent amendments to the Country Code of Nepal have also improved women's access to property other than land. Unmarried daughters now have the right to ancestral property (other than land) irrespective of age, whereas previous conditions required that they be above the age of 35. However there are ongoing restrictions in relation to women's independent use of their property: women are often required to receive permission from a male relative before disposing of any immovable property<sup>55</sup>.
- 119.** Government agricultural services are provided only through groups. According to UNFPA<sup>56</sup> women participation in farmer groups had reached 30 percent by 2006 and 30-40 percent in its training programs; livestock training was even higher, at 57 percent.

<sup>50</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three Year Plan Approach Paper 2010/2011 – 2012/2013. Government of Nepal.

<sup>51</sup> MAFC. 2007. Gender Strategy. Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives. Nepal.

<sup>52</sup> CEDAW. 2003. Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Nepal, Combined Second and Third Periodic Reports of States Parties, CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3, CEDAW, New York, NY.

<sup>53</sup> Wiley et al. 2009. Land Reform in Nepal: Where is it coming from and where is it going? The Findings of a Scoping Study on Land Reform for DFID Nepal. Kathmandu. Nepal.

<sup>54</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. Agriculture. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

<sup>55</sup> Social Institutions and Gender Index. 2012. OECD. Retrieved from World Wide Web: <http://www.genderindex.org/country/Nepal>

<sup>56</sup> UNFPA. 2007. Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in Nepal. United Nations Population Fund. Kathmandu.

- 120.** This is an effect of policy directives for setting quotas that have ensured women's representation and participation in farmer groups, training opportunities and access to agricultural inputs. As a result of their engagement in groups, cooperatives and income-generating initiatives, they have increased skills, social status and decision-making power<sup>57</sup>.
- 121.** Despite the above, the benefits of agricultural extension and training have still largely accrued to men. For example, extension agents are more likely to contact men rather than women, and gendered norms make it difficult for women farmers to seek out male extension agents.
- 122.** There are a set of key policy mandates in the agriculture sector that address gender issues by improving access to agricultural resources and benefit women: Livestock Master Plan (1996-2015); Agricultural Perspective Plan (APP); National Fertilizer Policy (2002), National Agriculture Policy (2004); the Agricultural Extension Strategy (2005), Agribusiness Promotion Policy (2006), Agriculture Biodiversity Policy (2006) and the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy (2006).
- 123.** The National Agricultural Policy (2004) of the Government of Nepal (GoN) commits to increase women's participation in the agricultural sector. The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC) gender strategy is an effort to reduce gender inequalities and redress systematic patterns of disadvantage in the agriculture sector.
- 124.** However, many other policies in the agricultural sector are gender neutral: e.g. inadequate supply of fertilisers, despite a strong policy framework in the seed sector, supply is dominated by the informal seed system, which allows male, richer farmers to control seed transactions<sup>58</sup>.
- 125.** Women in Nepal have legal access to bank loans and other forms of financial credit. However, women's access to institutional credit from banks and financial institutions in 2004 was only 1.7 percent, and women's access remains marginal compared to men. Further, the lack of property titles for women and the rural poor often prevents them from meeting collateral requirements and accessing larger loans<sup>59</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. Agriculture. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

<sup>58</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2011. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

<sup>59</sup> Ibid.

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: AGRICULTURE

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To transform the agricultural sector in Nepal to be more inclusive, equitable and productive	Develop a government-wide balanced score card on agriculture and gender	Agricultural sector transformed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoAC (DADO, DLDO, DoA, NARC, PACT, CADP)</li> </ul>
	Review the existing policies and national documents concerning the agricultural sector to integrate gender and climate change concerns	No. of policies reviewed and amended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NGOs</li> <li>MoEnv</li> <li>Relevant stakeholders</li> <li>CBOs</li> </ul>
	<p>Agriculture sector policies and plans revisited from gender and climate change perspectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Agriculture Policy 2004</li> <li>Agriculture Development Strategy (under development)</li> <li>Agro-biodiversity Policy, 2007</li> <li>Climate change perspective incorporated in Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, 2006</li> </ul>	No. of gender and climate change references in policy text	
	Higher overall priority given and increased budget allocated within the agricultural sector for gender and climate change	Amount of funds allocated for gender and climate change	
	Make women's participation mandatory in the formulation of policies, plans and strategies, as well as	No. of women in decision-making positions	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: AGRICULTURE (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE	
	specific sectoral project design, implementation, and evaluation	No. of women meaningfully engaging in the project cycle		
To increase women's access to productive resources (land, seed, fertilizer, credit, equipment)	Develop a national campaign to incentivize and encourage the registration of land under both the names of husband and wife (joint land ownership)	Increase in joint land registration across Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoLRM</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoAC (NARC, DoA, DoLS, AICL)</li> <li>• ADBL</li> </ul>	
	Build community resilience on food security through the establishment of local climate-smart seed banks owned and managed by women	No. of women groups using and benefitting from seed banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AEC</li> <li>• Cooperatives and other financial institutions</li> </ul>	
	Revise the existing strategies that enable the flow of credit from public/commercial banks and financial institutions to support and increase women's access to credit	Amount of credit extended to women farmers	Rate of return on credit extended	
	Institutionalize alternative provisions to accommodate women, women's groups and cooperatives that are unable to provide the collateral needed for accessing agricultural credit	No. of new alternative collateral options made available to women, women's groups and cooperatives by banks other than land/housing/salary		
	Amend and monitor existing subsidy provisions by government on an ongoing basis to enable women to equitably benefit from them	Increase in food production based on access to productive resources		

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: AGRICULTURE (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To make available technology that enable women farmers to cope effectively with the impacts of climate change	<p>Conduct research and disseminate information on agricultural practices that enable farmers to adapt to climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and introduce drought, floods, disease and pest tolerant, resistant agricultural crop varieties</li> <li>• Introduce integrated pest management through farmers field schools</li> <li>• Give priority to traditional crop varieties that are suitable to changing local circumstances, provide higher yields and nutrition and require less water and pesticide</li> <li>• Promote agro-biodiversity gardens in urban, peri-urban and rural communities owned and managed by women</li> <li>• Promote bio-engineering techniques for soil conservation</li> <li>• Promote agri-based traditional knowledge and tools to meet increasing demand at the local level</li> </ul>	<p>Number of women farmers cultivating: drought resistant crop varieties and rice varieties tolerant to changing conditions</p> <p>Suitable crop/varieties identified and applied in new cropping pattern in changed climatic condition in hands of the women</p> <p>No. of women that are using integrated pest management</p> <p>Decrease in amount of food insecure families</p> <p>No. of women farmers practicing bio-engineering techniques to address soil erosion</p> <p>No. of women farmers seeking agri-services from concerned agencies and applied in agri-practices</p> <p>Improve in nutritional health</p> <p>Increase in income</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoAC (NARC, DoA, DoLS)</li> <li>• I/NGOS</li> </ul>
	Train women farmers in the establishment of fruit and vegetable nursery gardens		

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: AGRICULTURE (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Support the establishment of medical gardens and build the capacity of women to develop by-products	Increase in income related to the sell of by-products of women  Community health improved	
To increase women's access to agricultural information	Expand agricultural extension information at rural and peri-urban areas to women by providing access to communication technology (i.e. one radio per women farmer)	No. of women farmers with access to media technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoAC (NARC, AEC, AICC)</li> <li>• DHM</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>
	Meteorological network for women using mobiles	No. of women farmers using weather data for better agricultural planning	
Increase water-use efficiency through the introduction of alternative, environmentally friendly systems	Build the capacity of women farmers on alternative water systems  Support the introduction of these systems, e.g. sprinkler irrigation, rainwater harvesting systems, wastewater collection ponds, drip irrigation, etc.	No. of farms converting to new systems  Decrease in water wastage  Increase in water for the rehabilitation of eco-systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoI</li> <li>• DoA</li> </ul>



### 3. PRIORITY SECTOR 2: FORESTS AND REDD

#### Overview

- 126.** Climate change is a natural phenomenon, but it is fast being accelerated by anthropogenic drivers that increase the prevalence of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in Earth's atmosphere primarily from industrialization, increased use of fossil fuels for transport, land-use change - and deforestation.
- 127.** Globally, 80 percent of forests are owned and administered by States<sup>60</sup> and forest tenure is enjoying unprecedented attention as Parties to the UNFCCC negotiate and put in place the necessary mechanisms for countries to adapt to and mitigate the negative impacts of climate change<sup>61</sup>.
- 128.** A substantial part of the debate centers on the role of tenure in sustainable forest management, with implications on forest conservation and the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities, since most of these are poor and living in developing countries<sup>62</sup> and complex tenure arrangements are more the rule than the exception<sup>63</sup>.
- 129.** As the most populous region in the world, South Asia faces formidable problems relating to livelihood crises, environmental disasters, and endemic poverty. A lack of industrialization and a rural economy relying largely on subsistence agriculture is exponentially driving people to use and rely on natural resources beyond nature's capacity and limitations.
- 130.** Forests and forestland, on the one hand, being continuously exploited by governments for revenue generation and, on the other hand, serving as the last resort for livelihoods of the impoverished masses in the region, are bearing the disproportionate brunt.
- 131.** This development is giving rise to the critical reconsideration in the last few decades of the conventional models of forests and forestland management. An increasing body of evidence shows that forest governance and -tenure reforms are central to mitigating most of the problems related to forests, and which directly affect forest-dependent people<sup>64</sup>.
- 132.** Traditionally, people depending on forests in South Asia managed and used them in open access, as forests were abundant and the populations that relied on them were proportionally smaller. However, forest users' status in both governance and consumption of forests and their resources was reversed as colonial regimes usurped traditional forest-dwellers' rights, declaring the state as the sole owner of

<sup>60</sup> Helvetas. 2011. Nepal's Climate Change Policies and Plans: Local Communities' Perspectives. Environment and Climate Change Series 2011/1. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>61</sup> Unruh, J.D. 2008. Carbon sequestration in Africa: The land tenure problem. Global Environmental Change No. 18.

<sup>62</sup> Helvetas. 2011. Nepal's Climate Change Policies and Plans: Local Communities' Perspectives. Environment and Climate Change Series 2011/1. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>63</sup> Unruh, J.D. 2008. Carbon sequestration in Africa: The land tenure problem. Global Environmental Change No. 18.

<sup>64</sup> Dahal, G.R. and Adhikari, K. 2011. Forest Tenure Assessment. Environment and Climate Series 2011/3. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

all forests and forestland. The colonial legacies of State land lordship and exploitation of forest timber and other resources for augmenting State revenue still continues to be the basis of forest tenure regimes throughout the region.

- 133.** This conventional, technocratic model of forest management, based on industrial logging concessions and emphasizing protected areas and nature reserves in the region, contributes to the exacerbation of forest conflicts, decreased livelihood opportunities, and ecological degradation<sup>65</sup>.
- 134.** Deforestation and forest degradation, through agricultural expansion, conversion to pastureland, infrastructure development, destructive logging, fires etc., account for nearly 20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, more than the entire global transportation sector and second only to the energy sector<sup>66</sup>.
- 135.** It is now clear that in order to constrain the impacts of climate change within limits that society will reasonably be able to tolerate, the global average temperatures must be stabilized within two degrees Celsius. This will be practically impossible to achieve without reducing emissions from the forest sector, in addition to other mitigation actions.
- 136.** Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is an

effort to create a financial value for the carbon stored in forests, offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. REDD+ goes beyond deforestation and forest degradation, and includes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

- 137.** It is predicted that financial flows for greenhouse gas emission reductions from REDD+ could reach up to USD 30 billion a year. This significant North-South flow of funds could reward a meaningful reduction of carbon emissions and could also support new, pro-poor development, help conserve biodiversity and secure vital ecosystem services.
- 138.** Further, maintaining forest ecosystems can contribute to increased resilience to climate change. To achieve these multiple benefits<sup>67</sup>, REDD+ will require the full engagement and respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

### Situational Analysis

- 139.** Forests play an important role in the lives of nearly 80 percent of Nepalese rural households who derive some or all of their livelihoods from forest resources. For some, their livelihoods are totally dependent on access to

<sup>65</sup> Dahal, G.R. and Adhikari, K. 2011. Forest Tenure Assessment. Environment and Climate Series 2011/3. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>66</sup> United Nations REDD Program. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unredd.org/AboutREDD/tabid/582/Default.aspx>

<sup>67</sup> See also "What are the multiple benefits of REDD+." Official UN-REDD+ website ([http://www.un-redd.org/AboutUNREDDProgramme/GlobalActivities/New\\_Multiple\\_Benefits/tabid/1016/Default.aspx](http://www.un-redd.org/AboutUNREDDProgramme/GlobalActivities/New_Multiple_Benefits/tabid/1016/Default.aspx))

forest products, for others, forests provide important household products, inputs to agriculture, income and environmental services<sup>68</sup>.

**140.** The Government of Nepal (GoN) considers forests resources as consisting of water, forage, herbs, wildlife, other non-timber forests products, biodiversity and environmental services and that these are prerequisites for the development of agriculture, industry, water resources, environment and biodiversity in the country<sup>69</sup>.

**141.** Forests are instrumental in reducing the negative impacts of climate change and adaptation of human ecosystems to a changing environment and the sustainable management of forests resources (conservation, management and sustainable development of forests) in Nepal is likewise therefore also of the utmost importance as the sector is central to enhancing economic development and social upliftment.

**142.** It is estimated that forest occupies 39.6 percent of total land area in Nepal. Of this, 29.6 percent comprises dense forests and the balance (10.6 percent) comprises shrub land.

**143.** In its Climate Change Policy 2011, the GoN addresses the issue of forests and REDD+ under point 8.7 Climate-friendly natural resources management, amongst others, through: 8.7.2 Proper utilization, promotion, conservation

of forest resources as a means of alternative livelihoods; 8.7.3 Prioritizing and implementing programs on the sustainable management of forests, agro-forestry, pasture, rangeland, and soil conservation that can address the impacts of climate change; 8.7.6 Encouraging carbon sequestration and investing some of the benefits from the use of forest products for controlling forest fires and conserving forests; and 8.7.7 Developing a mechanism for optimal utilization of international, regional and local funding sources, including reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

**144.** According to the Three-Year Approach Plan by the National Planning Commission, the Nepalese Government is implementing various programs relating to the management of forests.

**145.** The Department of Forests states that 14,686 Community Forests Users Groups (CFUGs) have been formed and 1,252,543 ha. of forest area has been handed over to the communities – benefitting some 1,687,801 households.

**146.** Similarly, in order to improve the livelihood of the communities living below the poverty line and in support of forest conservation activities, 5,113 Leasehold Forests Users Groups (LFUGs) have been formed and 23,028 ha. forests area has been handed over to the communities managing these as leasehold forests – empowering

<sup>68</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. Forest. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal

<sup>69</sup> National Planning Commission 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13). Government of Nepal. Nepal.

communities and improving both the livelihoods of 43,183 households, as well as the quality of the forests handed over.

- 147.** In Nepal, the problems and challenges related to forests resources management are multi- pronged, complex and inter-connected with social, economic, physical, environmental, and policy dimensions and implications.
- 148.** These problems and challenges include: forests encroachment; illegal export of forest products; poaching and illegal trade of wildlife; river cutting; soil erosion; forest fires; uncontrolled grazing; illicit felling; uncontrolled collection and export of boulder, gravel and sand from riverbeds; illegal collection and export of non-timber forests products; conflict between people and wildlife; and the use of forest areas for development and other purposes.
- 149.** All of these problems and challenges are arising due to heavy population growth; poverty; migration; unemployment; illiteracy; political instability; grey areas/uncertainty in policy and poor implementation.
- 150.** Additionally, efforts to obtain buy-in for forests conservation from all sectors; balancing development and conservation; the provision of necessary resources for effective forest management; inclusive and equitable forest resource management; and getting constructive support from all stakeholders in a time of political transition nationally make the situation all the more challenging.
- 151.** Despite this situation, Nepal has, during the past two decades, been advancing tenure reforms by designating local communities' management rights over customary forestlands.
- 152.** This experience clearly indicates that tenure reform can result in an improvement in forest condition, and (to some extent) support livelihood benefits. However, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the country and the region's forest governance reforms have suffered setbacks due to the lack of tenure security.
- 153.** There are constant tensions between the drivers of tenure reforms and regressive policy moves, as evident in the Nepali government's attempts to roll back community rights. With contemporary shifts in the development and governance discourse, emphasizing the greater rights and participation of local people and civil society in natural resource management, several networks of forest users, civil society organizations and other community forest champions are persistently resisting reverse changes and advocating for expansion of community ownership.
- 154.** On the other hand, the evidence from the region's initiatives and recent tenure reforms in China giving ownership rights to forest collectives shows that tenure reform and security

can help not only improve forest conditions and livelihoods, but also in addressing other social, ecological and economic problems<sup>70</sup>.

- 155.** Objectives, strategies and working policies in the forests sector have been designed with the view of contributing in poverty alleviation of local communities by improving their livelihood through promotion of ecosystem services and mitigation and adaptation measures of negative impacts of climate change by sustainable, participatory and decentralized management of forests, plant resources, watersheds, protected area, and bio-diversity resources<sup>71</sup>.
- 156.** Nepal is rightly famous for the major progress it has made since the 1980s to increase forest access to many hill forest users through community forestry. In these areas forest management has moved from a command and control system where access to the forests were severely restricted to a community led and -managed approach involving nearly 15,000 forest user groups managing 25 percent of national forests, reaching to 1.6 million households i.e. 40 percent of total national population<sup>72</sup>.
- 157.** Forest sector policies supported by government, donors and NGOs have resulted in increasing access and rights of the rural population to forest products and services. Partnerships with local communities for resource management have reversed the loss of forests and biodiversity and have generated income locally for wider community and national development.
- 158.** Despite these successes, it is the remaining about 75 percent of state-managed forests where the highest degree of exclusion operates, where use is illegal and where punitive action is normal.
- 159.** Major advances in building more just management and allocation systems for forests and forest products are tempered by strong evidence of multiple forms of exclusion. Apart from economic factors, social factors such as gender, caste, ethnicity, location and age greatly influence who accesses forest resources and decision-making processes, and who receives benefits.
- 160.** The distance of forests (particularly in the Tarai), the forms of property regimes (common property, private, open access) and the enforcement of rules all dictate the extent households gain access or are prevented from access to forests. The amount individuals are affected by these dimensions depends to a large extent on their resource dependence and by implication the difficulty of accessing and using resources.
- 161.** For community forestry exclusion manifests itself at a number of levels. These are during user group formation, in decision-making structures and in access to resources and other benefits.

<sup>70</sup> Dahal, G.R. and Adhikari, K. 2011. Forest Tenure Assessment. Environment and Climate Series 2011/3. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation. Nepal.

<sup>71</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13). Government of Nepal. Nepal.

<sup>72</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. Forest. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal

- 162.** During group formation processes there are several factors leading to exclusion: the proximity criteria for membership particularly excludes distant users; the costs of entry in particular the time that needs to be invested in group formation excludes the time poor who tend to be the extreme poor; socio-cultural barriers particularly for the Dalits rendering them wary of exposing themselves to ridicule and rejection; occupational (as well as caste-based) exclusion particularly to blacksmiths who are reliant on reliable access to firewood for charcoal and gender-based exclusion because membership was only registered in the name of the household head (in most cases male).
- 163.** Decision-making exclusion and the consequent effects on access to resources and other benefits results from unequal power relations which all affect the degree to which excluded groups feel they are able to participate.
- 164.** There are multiple reasons governing why people are excluded or exclude themselves from group-based activities: 1) their own self-perceptions of having nothing to say that others are prepared to listen to; 2) experience of more powerful people disregarding them and not seeking their opinions; 3) their relations with more powerful people - not being prepared to speak out in front of them in case they say something that causes offence to their 'patron'; 4) their lack of education which means they cannot easily participate in events that require literacy or numeracy; 5) their lack of time to go to meetings and to build the confidence to speak; 6) simply not having access to information about what is happening so not having the opportunity to be part of an event – rendering them voiceless. These are all experienced to different degrees by Dalits and, importantly, also by women.
- 165.** Recent policies and revisions to the Community Forestry Guidelines do recognize some of these areas of exclusion and have attempted to address them. However, although there has been some mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion within some of the major donor-funded forest programs and in some parts of government forest sector work e.g. community forestry, this is limited mainly to community managed systems and is not incorporated across the whole sector.
- 166.** Change needs to occur within institutions and through the processes used to build inclusion. It is not just government organizations where systemic change is required but it also reaches into many of the civil society organizations in the sector. Behavior change is required to overcome deep-seated resistance to changing discriminatory practices both in the workplace as well as in community groups. Social mobilization and facilitation processes need to focus on empowerment and not welfare-based approaches to build an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals as citizens to have a voice, to access decisions and to share in benefits. Social and public audits have become accepted tools and processes

but need to be implemented more effectively with meaningful participation of women, the poor and excluded, with follow-up actions that demonstrate there is value in participation. Behavior change without systemic structural change in forest sector institutions will continue to reproduce the gap between fine policies and poor implementation.

- 167.** Despite the challenges still faced by the forest sector there have been a range of good practices generated. These occur in three key areas of change: building the voice and influence of excluded groups, improving their access to assets and services and finally changing the rules of the game to remove some of the barriers to their inclusion. Amongst these are the building of a strong civil society and the development of new partnerships between government and NGOs. This has begun to clarify and demarcate the roles of government staff as regulators, service providers and enablers and NGO/CBOs as the facilitators of poor and excluded people's voice, accountability mechanisms and governance structures. The focus on gender and social exclusion issues needs to be supported by adequate investment at the local level towards increasing the quality and rigorous training of staff. Currently, the human resources and the capacity at the local levels are lacking and poor.
- 168.** There has been an undeniable improvement in access to assets and services with further work developed to try to overcome some of the spatial

exclusion factors in the Terai. There have been changes in the rules of the game – most notably the success in enshrining community forestry in law and operational practice. This has continued to be refined and developed as lessons have been learnt.

- 169.** And whilst community forestry in Nepal serves as an example of a successful conservation model to the world, however, the exact forms and package of rewards to be derived in the country from forests being used to reduce emissions driving climate change through REDD are still unclear<sup>73</sup>.
- 170.** The initial thoughts of carbon-only financing have been tempered with the need to accommodate forest management co-benefits issues – including the rights of local people. In addition, there is also a growing appreciation of the complexity of deforestation and degradation, which require early actions to be funded.
- 171.** An analysis of the carbon bottom line of payment justifies actions towards getting ready for this payment. If co-benefits to livelihoods and biodiversity are also considered in REDD, then this creates opportunities for Nepal's community forestry which has been considered as a resilient socio-ecological systems not only to offset carbon by curbing deforestation, but also through providing local level institutional base to enable local communities and the poor to better adapt to growing climate risks.

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<sup>73</sup> Panthi, J. 2011. Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD): Opportunities and Challenges to Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://jeebanpanthi.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/report\\_jp.pdf](http://jeebanpanthi.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/report_jp.pdf)

Some voluntary market windows and standards have already begun initiatives that link carbon with such co-benefits.

**172.** But there is still a limited effort being made to explore this opportunity. At a time when UNFCCC negotiations are being intensified to get a final agreement, Nepal community forestry stakeholders urgently need to undertake serious homework on preparing their position as well as generating field data and experience.

**173.** Nepal's community forestry stakeholders also have an opportunity to lead a process to develop a common international REDD position of countries emphasizing community-based forest management. Organized and timely inputs have the potential to influence the negotiation process in favor of local communities and the poor dependent on forests.

### **Gender in the Forestry and REDD+ Sector**

**174.** The Gender and Social Inclusion Vision, GESI Strategy (2006) for the forestry sector and the GESI sensitive monitoring framework (2007) largely support people-centred management systems and have shown commitment towards gender equality and social inclusion.

**175.** Women are considered as primary users of forests in Nepal. They have a broad and differentiated knowledge in relation to the use of forests in terms of

burning, quality of woods, best fodder species, decomposition and quality of leaf litter, medicinal value of herbs, nutritional value of forest fruits and vegetables, amongst others.

**176.** In Nepal, rural women play a major role in the collection of various forest products. Supporting their families through the use of such products has become increasingly difficult in the present scenario of a rapidly degrading environment.

**177.** Nepal is one of the countries worldwide in which women's participation in community forest management has advanced. Compared to other management regimes, the membership and participation of women in community forestry is admirable. The Master Plan for the Forestry Sectors (MPFS) recognizes women as primary users of forest resources and has made policy recommendations for the representation of women in the executive committee. It recommended, "one third of executive committee members should be women". Similarly, Community Forest (CF) Guidelines 1996 and 2001 stipulate that 33 percent of the executive committee should be made up of women representatives. The revised CF Guidelines of 2009 even stipulate that at least 50 percent of the executive committee should be women. Despite this the representation of women's in Community Forest User Group (CFUG) executive committees at the national level stands at 26.9 percent,



which is quite low according to policy requirements<sup>74</sup>.

- 178.** However it is important to acknowledge that in some cases there is a rhetoric rather than substantive representation at the decision-making level due to the fact that the men usually make the selection of women positions.
- 179.** Despite this, socio-cultural norms and traditions (see below list)<sup>75</sup> still make it difficult for women to access and influence decision-making processes. Some factors that discourage women's participation at the community level are for example lack of recognition in public sphere, lack of clear tenure rights, lack of information.
- 180.** Hence, male membership dominates in Forest User Groups (FUGs) with a share of 80-85 percent<sup>76</sup>. This is due to the fact that the head of the household is usually registered as the member at the CFUG. Such a situation hinders women participation in decision-making, since often only registered members have the right to vote. This requirement of registering only the name of the head of the household as member has recently been changed with the introduction of the revised Community Forestry guidelines. The guideline

recognizes the importance of registering the names of both men and women. The implementation of this provision and its impact is yet to happen.

- 181.** About 768 CFs are managed by women (5.22 percent of the total), however, the community forests handed over to women are usually small in area and either degraded or plantation in nature.
- 182.** Although much of the labor contribution for protection and management of forests remain with women, the decision-making power over what and how benefits are distributed generally remain with men. For extremely poor women, the lack of voice and influence is even more profound, particularly when resource decisions are made that affect their access to forest products. For example, if a user-group decides to ban entry to the forest or restricted fuel wood collection over a period of time, women with some economic means can purchase fuel wood and fodder to fulfill their requirements, but poor women cannot. This results in their either putting in more hours of walking to gather fuel wood from distant places, replacing need of fuel wood with agriculture or increasing their vulnerability to punishment by collecting prohibited materials<sup>77</sup>.

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<sup>74</sup> Kalpana, G. and Uprety, D. 2011. What does research into use actually mean: a view from the reality of practice? Paper for SAEP workshop, Hyderabad. India from 7-9th Jan.

<sup>75</sup> The sex division of labour (time intensive) constraints women to attend public meetings and general assemblies. In general tasks such as attending meetings, village assemblies and involvement in political and decision making forums falls to men since this is the socially accepted norm. Even for the women who attend meetings it is often difficult for them to challenge ideas shared by men in public meetings. Intra-household relations are reflected in the levels of voice and influence women are able to exercise in community groups. Age and status within the household also affect influence in public decision-making processes.

<sup>76</sup> MFSC. 2010. Approach paper to 3-year interim plan (2011-2013) Forest and Soil Conservation Chapter, MFSC/NPC, Nepal.

<sup>77</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2011. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal

- 183.** Various studies indicate that many women believe they could participate better in forest management. If they were able to read and write, they could maintain record books or handle correspondence independently<sup>78</sup>. Other factors that encourage women's participation in CF as well as REDD mechanism are e.g. more women in executive committee, representation at key position, rigorous training/ capacity building, investments (frontline workers) and men's supporting women's leadership, amongst others.
- 184.** In Nepal there are strong membership networks related to forest management that has incorporated a solid gender component. The most significant example are: the Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN) a national network of users representing more than 14,000 user-groups; the Community-Based Forestry Supporters' Network (COFSUN), a national NGO of community forestry facilitators which has 557 individual members; and the Himalayan Grassroots Women's' Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI) a women's network dedicated to uplift rural women through natural resource management. The strong role played by women in some of these organizations is in itself an important reflection of some of the deeper structural changes occurring through the community forestry movement.
- 185.** A survey of 6,836 civil personnel in the forest sector reveals that:
- Women comprise only 3.25 percent, of the total staff;
  - 6 percent are at gazetted level out of 448 staff;
  - 3.6percent are at non-gazetted levels out of 2,679; and
  - 7 percent at third class non-gazetted levels.
- 186.** With regards to women as a major stakeholder in relation to REDD+, it is important to recognize that<sup>79</sup>:
- There are only three women in the entire RPP structure, however, they are not representing women as a major stakeholder group *per se*;
  - There are no women experts in the team;
  - Out of 57 key stakeholder consultations held, only 3 focused on women issues at the district level;
  - No studies/analysis from a gender perspective has been concluded;
  - No consultations were conducted with national gender experts; and
  - The RPP only mention including women as stakeholders, but neither the processes nor the structure addresses/recognizes women as forest stakeholders.
- 187.** This situation is a reflection that REDD is considered to be more of a technical mechanism. Social issues (and gender

<sup>78</sup> Lamichhane, D. 2004. Decision Making Role of Women in Community Forestry (A Case Study from Syangja District).Dissertation Submitted to Tribhuvan University, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tri-Chandra Multiple Campus. Department of Anthropology/Sociology for the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of Master's Degree of Arts in Sociology.

<sup>79</sup> Gurung, D. 2012.Presentation Why Gender Matters In REDD+. At the workshop: Linking Gender And Climate Change. Kathmandu, Nepal. February 7-9. Ministry of Environment-IUCN.

in particular) are considered as issues that need to be addresses at the beneficiary level.

**188.** Although all departments within the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation have appointed Gender Focal Points to oversee mainstreaming of gender into sectoral program design and strategies, this has not been successful. Despite policy mandates

provided in the GESI strategy and vision, the gender focal points have struggled to fulfill their mandate due to a lack of clarity about their roles and responsibilities, inadequate resources, their low positions in the hierarchy and limited authority, and an institutional failure to link the work of gender focal points to the routine work of the Ministry<sup>80</sup>, hence the changes at the implementation level are still poor.

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<sup>80</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2011. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE	
To enable a policy environment for mainstreaming gender in Forestry and Climate Change	Provide gender specific inputs on ongoing REDD+ national strategy	At least 50% percentage of key policies in the forestry sector are gender-responsive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoFSC (REDD+ cell, Training Centre)</li> <li>• Government led Ministerial Cluster:</li> </ul>	
	Review Forest Act 1993, Climate Change Policy 2011 from gender perspective	Representation of gender and climate change experts in REDD, MCCIC, Climate Change Council, NPC, PPCR Coordination Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FECOFUN</li> <li>• HIMAWANTI</li> <li>• NEFIN</li> <li>• National women's organizations</li> </ul>	
	Integrate gender considerations in forest sector strategy (ongoing)	Gender-sensitive Road Map developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WOCAN</li> </ul>	
	Lobby for institutionalized national road map for mainstreaming gender in REDD	Operational guidelines for national forestry sector strategy on gender and climate change in place		
	Support in the preparation of guidelines for implementation of the national forestry sector strategy on gender and climate change	Identify gaps in women's representation in key policy making bodies	50% of women including IPs, Dalit, youth, landless at community based forestry user groups and committees	
	Mandatory representation of the Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest member in key policy making bodies			

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+ (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To ensure that gender considerations are fully integrated in forest sector with specific attention to REDD+ and LAPA	Six monthly review of progress on women's representation and outcomes at national and local level	At least 33% women's representation ensured at DFCC and AFEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest</li> <li>• REDD+ and Adaptation Cells</li> <li>• ICIMOD</li> <li>• WB</li> <li>• NAST</li> <li>• MoFSC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• WWF</li> <li>• HIMAWANTI</li> <li>• FEFOCUN</li> <li>• WOCAN</li> <li>• NEFIN</li> </ul>
	Ensure minimum 33% representation of women in District Forest Coordination Committee Agriculture, Forestry and Environment Committee	District level knowledge and data management functional and linked with NAST	
	Conduct research, review and assessment of gender, climate change and forestry	Gender and climate change thematic based knowledge management resource center within NAST	
	Institutionalize gender-sensitive benefit sharing mechanism, MRV system	Functional gender responsive CC M&E mechanism within Ministry, DDC and DFO	
	Guarantee women's participation in REDD+ ongoing and future demonstration pilot projects	50% representation of women including – IPs, Dalit, youth; in key positions of pilot project implementation structure at national and local level (pilot project network)	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+ (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Organize Training of Trainees and create pool of resource persons	Representation of gender experts in the advisory group of the pilot projects	
	Identify and replicate good practices		
Enhance participation of women at decision-making level through formal & informal education in forestry sector	Establish funding mechanism and scholarship for women in forestry	At least 20% of women – IPs, Dalit in forest education enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher Education Division</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>
	Identify and create related courses and educational curriculum on gender and REDD+	At least 10% of women-IPs, Dalit, youth in key forestry decision-making positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoFSC</li> <li>• SDC</li> <li>• WWF</li> <li>• CARE</li> </ul>
	Encourage and motivate more women to join and stay in the forestry profession		
	Promote community learning centre and awareness raising program on climate change for women	At least 33% women are represented at community decision committee	
To strengthen institutional capacity on gender, forestry and REDD+ issues of implementing partner (GOs and I/NGOs) organizations with a focus on women and women's organization	Organize leadership, organizational development, technical training, exposure visit and knowledge sharing platforms	Increased interventions for incorporating issues of REDD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest</li> <li>• MoFSC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>
	Prepare documentary and book of stories on best practices of women leadership in forestry	Best practices linked with policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIMAWANTI</li> <li>• FECOFUN</li> <li>• Women's organization</li> <li>• NEFIN</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+ (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	<p>Organize orientation and training on women leadership, organizational change from gender perspective and technical training</p> <p>Strengthen institutional collaboration amongst gender, forest and REDD implementing partners women, IPs, Dalits and Youth</p>	<p>Increase representation and meaningful participation on REDD+ and LAPA</p> <p>Pool of resource persons on REDD</p> <p>Increased projects, programs focused on gender, forestry and climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WOCAN</li> <li>• MoFSC-training center</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• NFA</li> <li>• RAN</li> </ul>
<p>To avoid negative implications of REDD initiatives and disaster hazards on women rights and Social Environment Standard (SES)</p>	<p>Build capacity of the Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest on safeguard issues related to REDD and disaster hazard negative implications</p> <p>Identify potential risks of REDD implementation and disaster hazards on women livelihood</p> <p>Orientation and training on gender &amp; social violence, safe guard and conflict management</p>	<p>Safeguard mechanisms in place</p> <p>Reduced risks on women's rights</p> <p>Increased participation of women in forest related conflict management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest</li> <li>• MoFSC-training center</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• HIMAWANTI</li> <li>• FECOFUN</li> <li>• Women's organization</li> <li>• NEFIN</li> <li>• WOCAN</li> <li>• MoFSC-training center</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+ (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To promote equitable benefit and resource sharing mechanism	Create trust fund for women and climate change specific activities and initiatives	Trust fund for women specific activities and initiatives in MoFSC-REDD cell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest</li> <li>• HIMAWANTI</li> <li>• FECOFUN</li> <li>• Women's organization</li> <li>• NEFIN</li> <li>• WOCAN</li> <li>• MoFSC-training center</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>
	Identify and share best practices of equitable benefit and resource sharing	Gender responsive Incentive policies in place	
	Increase investment in terms of budget, HR and local resources for district level government officials, service providers and social mobilizers	Ensure 30% benefit from carbon trust fund supporting women development activities	
	Lobby and advocate for increased equitable benefit sharing		
To increase women's access to economic opportunities through green enterprises	Organize skill-based training and orientation	Alternative form of livelihood (green enterprises, value chain approach) practiced by 80% households/ and users groups registered in REDD+ and community-based forest groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoFSC REDD cell in coordination with Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest and MoLD</li> </ul>
	Enhance market opportunities		
	Promote micro finance linkages and opportunities focusing on agro-forestry		
	Create revolving fund for women's livelihood		
	Students from business schools working with women groups to develop their capacity		



## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: FOREST/REDD+ (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To operationalize gender and social inclusion strategy (2008) of MoFSC	Organize regional workshops on gender and social inclusion	Workshop conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoFSC – Gender focal point</li> <li>• FACD</li> <li>• REDD and adaptation cell</li> </ul>
	Develop detailed action plan with budget	GSI strategy is climate change responsive	
	Update GSI strategy from a climate change perspective	Implementation guideline prepared	
	Operationalize gender responsive budgeting mechanism in MoFSC	MoFSC practicing gender responsive budgeting	
To develop negotiating capacity of women, women’s organizations and key government officials to advocate gender issues in international negotiation processes (UNFCCC-COPs, International Forestry Conference, FCPF, CBD)	To conduct training and orientation programs to women, women’s organizations and key government officials	Gender and climate change positioning paper submitted to climate change negotiation team (COPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Forest</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoFSC</li> </ul>
	Prepare and provide negotiating team with gender positioning paper to be integrated in the negotiation process	Increased women’s participation at CoPs negotiation committee	
	Organize preparatory consultative workshops at various levels to extract the gender issues		
	Dissemination of outcomes to concerned stakeholders		

## 4. PRIORITY SECTOR 3: WATER

### Overview

- 189.** Water is fundamental to life. Around the world, only 3 percent of the earth's water is freshwater; about two-thirds of it is frozen in glaciers and polar ice caps and we have long over-stretched this precious resource<sup>81</sup> - under increased pressure to satisfy the needs of water users throughout the world.
- 190.** History shows a strong link between economic development and water resources development. There are abundant examples of how water has contributed to economic development and how development has demanded increased harnessing of water. Such benefits came at a cost and in some places led to increasing pressure on the environment and increasing competition among users. Our requirements for water to meet our fundamental needs and our collective pursuit of higher living standards, coupled with the need for water to sustain our planet's fragile ecosystems, make water unique among our planet's natural resources<sup>82</sup>.
- 191.** Water resources and how they are managed impact almost all aspects of society and the economy and, in particular, health, food production and food security, domestic water supply and sanitation, energy, industry, and the functioning of ecosystems<sup>83</sup>.
- 192.** Since 1800 the world's population has increased from 1 to over 6 billion. The amount of freshwater does not change, yet water use went up nine-fold in the 20th century<sup>84</sup>. By 2025, 18 million people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity, and two-thirds of the world population could be under stress conditions.
- 193.** The world faces considerable challenges in equitably managing the freshwater available to us for a growing population as we try and manage the impacts of climate change<sup>85</sup>. With industrialization and expanding irrigated agriculture, combined with climate change, water security is increasingly under threat.
- 194.** Competition fuels conflict and poor water quality causes serious disease. Over-allocation and degradation of water resources cause loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Ensuring management of water resources is sustainable, benefits both nature and people.
- 195.** Climate change adaptation is largely about water. Water is the primary medium through which climate change

<sup>81</sup> Water Program, International Union for Conservation of Nature. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.iucn.org/water/>

<sup>82</sup> UN Water. 2009. The United Nations World Water Development Report No. 3: Water in a Changing World . Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001819/181993e.pdf#page=20>

<sup>83</sup> UN Water. 2012. Climate change adaptation is mainly about water. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimatechange\\_EN.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimatechange_EN.pdf)

<sup>84</sup> McNeill, J. R. 2003. Something New Under the Sun: Environmental History of the Twentieth Century World. Georgetown University. Washington DC.

<sup>85</sup> Water Program, International Union for Conservation of Nature. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/water/wp\\_about\\_water\\_prog/](http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/water/wp_about_water_prog/)

influences the Earth's ecosystems and therefore people's livelihoods and wellbeing.

**196.** A review of recent changes in the global water cycle that analyzed more than 100 studies (based on observations) found rising global and regional trends in run-off, floods and droughts, and other climate related events and variables in the second half of the 20th century that together support the perception of an intensification of the hydrologic cycle<sup>86</sup>.

**197.** Already, water-related climate change impacts are being experienced in the form of more severe and more frequent droughts and floods. Higher average temperatures and changes in precipitation and temperature extremes are projected to affect the availability of water resources through changes in rainfall distribution, soil moisture, glacier and ice/snow melt, and river and groundwater flows; these factors are expected to lead to further deterioration of water quality as well. The poor, who are the most vulnerable, are also likely to be affected the most<sup>87</sup>.

**198.** Under present climate variability, water stress is already high, particularly in many developing countries, and climate change adds even more urgency for action. Without improved water resources management, the progress towards poverty reduction

targets, the MDGs, and sustainable development in all its economic, social and environmental dimensions, will be jeopardized.

**199.** Important decisions affecting water management are also made outside the water sector and are driven by external, largely unpredictable drivers – demography, climate change, the global economy, changing societal values and norms, technological innovation, laws and customs, and financial markets. Many of these external drivers are dynamic and changing at a faster pace. Developments outside the water domain influence water management strategies and policies. Decisions in other sectors and those related to development, growth and livelihoods need to incorporate water as an integral component, including responses to climate change, food and energy challenges and disaster management<sup>88</sup>.

### Situational Analysis

**200.** The Himalaya Mountain range is among the richest freshwater locations on Earth. The combined basins of nine major Asian rivers rise at this point and are home to some 1.3 billion people.

**201.** It is also among the most fragile ecosystems, due primarily to the mountain system's predisposition to masswasting (movement downslope of

<sup>86</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2009. World Water Assessment Program Facts and Figures. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/wwap/facts-and-figures/all-facts-wwdr3/fact-10-climate-change-hydro-cycle/>

<sup>87</sup> UN Water. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimatechange\\_EN.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimatechange_EN.pdf)

<sup>88</sup> UN Water. 2009. The United Nations World Water Development Report No. 3: Water in a Changing World. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001819/181993e.pdf#page=20>

soil and rock under the force of gravity), seasonal monsoon precipitation fraught with extreme events and increasing population pressure.

- 202.** Nepal, located in the middle of the Himalaya range, has been subject to the risks associated with masswasting and flooding, which account for more than half the disaster-related deaths in the country. The situation has worsened in recent decades, with more intense and frequent extreme climate events associated with global climate change, such as torrential rains<sup>89</sup>. Nepal's local population is therefore under constant threat of being washed away, and homes and crops are frequently damaged.
- 203.** Progress has been significant in the water and sanitation sector in recent decades in Nepal. The proportion of the population with access to an improved water source has nearly doubled in the last 15 years, from 46 percent in 1990 to 82 percent in 2006<sup>90</sup>. During the same period sanitation coverage has also increased, from 6 percent to 39<sup>91</sup>.
- 204.** Two major factors have contributed to this progress: national and international commitment to the provision of improved water-supply and sanitation facilities; and the increase of funding agencies and actors entering the Water-Supply and Sanitation (WSS) sector in Nepal.
- 205.** Nepal is committed to achieving the WSS-related target of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which is fundamental to attaining all other MDGs - including poverty alleviation and gender equality.
- 206.** Nepal has exceeded its target for drinking water, and is on track to achieving the sanitation target, though some argue this is not the case if water quality and functionality issues are taken into consideration<sup>92</sup>.
- 207.** Despite significant improvements, WSS-related disparities remain based on economic status, gender, caste, ethnicity and location. In addition to committed resources and improved coordination and planning among sector actors, reaching the remaining population without access to WSS requires better understanding of the social and power relations that limit access and participation. Both formal and informal institutional barriers cause these disparities with a definite impact on women and men of different social-identity groups<sup>93</sup>.
- 208.** Nepal's WSS sector has evolved from a supply-driven, top-down approach to a demand-led, community-based participatory approach that encourages ownership and aims to improve project efficiency and sustainability.

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<sup>89</sup> UN Water. 2009. The United Nations World Water Development Report No. 3: Water in a Changing World. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001819/181993e.pdf#page=20>

<sup>90</sup> National Planning Commission and UNDP. 2005. Nepal Millennium Development Goals: progress Report. NPC and UNDP. Nepal. and Population Division Ministry of Health and Population. 2006. Nepal Demographic And Health Survey 2006 Government of Nepal. New ERA Kathmandu. Nepal.

<sup>91</sup> Ibid.

<sup>92</sup> National Planning Commission and UNDP. 2005. Nepal Millennium Development Goals: Progress Report. NPC and UNDP. Nepal.

<sup>93</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Sectoral Perspectives on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion: Making It Happen. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

- 209.** Due to practices of untouchability, Dalits (in particular) experience structural barriers in accessing water. Sector figures indicate generally high coverage rates for all groups in accessing drinking water, but disparities in sanitation-service delivery exist, particularly between the rich and poor across social groups.
- 210.** Access to sanitation among the richest quintile is about 80 percent, while among the poorest quintile it is only 10 percent. Similarly, access to sanitation for Newars is 72 percent compared to only five percent for Madhesi, Dalits<sup>94</sup>. These figures also mask issues of water quality and functionality and, critically, the level of equitable opportunities that women, the poor and excluded groups have to access, utilise and manage WSS facilities.
- 211.** Access to improved drinking water is generally high, but disparities exist. While it is generally assumed that women and men have equal access to WSS facilities, there are gender disparities around other access issues regarding design, construction and maintenance. Income level and location are also strong determinants of access to water and sanitation facilities, though again considerable variation exists. The National Demographic Health Survey (NDHS) 2006 shows that the urban population has a slightly higher access to water, at 90 percent versus 80 for rural.
- 212.** However, across income quintiles, there has been significant improvement. There are also differences across development regions, with the Central (84 percent), Eastern (83) and Western (81) regions having the most access to safe water, whereas the Mid-Western (64) and Far-Western (67) regions have the lowest<sup>95</sup>.
- 213.** Like the coverage of access to water supply, great disparities also exist in access to sanitation between groups based on economic status, urban/rural residence and geographic regions. Access to improved sanitary facilities has increased over time, but 94 percent among the wealthiest use improved facilities while only 3 percent of the poorest do so<sup>96</sup>.
- 214.** Further, 17 percent of urban and 58 percent of rural populations continue to use no latrine facilities<sup>97</sup>. While access to water is higher for Tarai/Madhesi-origin groups than for groups of Hill/Mountain origin, the trend is reverse in access to sanitation, with the latter more than twice as likely to have access (47 percent) compared to the former (19 percent)<sup>98</sup>. There are also dramatic

<sup>94</sup> Bennett, L., Dilli, R. D. and Pav, G. 2008. Caste, Ethnic and Regional Identity in Nepal: Further Analysis of the 2006 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey. Macro International Inc. Calverton, Maryland, USA.

<sup>95</sup> UNDP. 2004. National Human Development Report. UNDP. Nepal.

<sup>96</sup> According to UNICEF 2006, access to improved sanitation among the richest quintile is about 79 percent, while access among the poorest quintile is nearly eight times lower, with only 10 percent of the poorest households having access to improved sanitation. UNICEF. 2006. The State of the World's Children.

<sup>97</sup> Population Division Ministry of Health and Population. 2006. Nepal Demographic And Health Survey 2006. Government of Nepal. New ERA Kathmandu. Nepal.

<sup>98</sup> Bennett, L., Dilli, R. D. and Pav, G. 2008. Caste, Ethnic and Regional Identity in Nepal: Further Analysis of the 2006 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey. Macro International Inc. Calverton, Maryland, USA.

differences by caste and ethnicity, often due to socio-economic status<sup>99</sup>.

- 215.** Nepal also has vast hydro resources. And while only about 27 percent of rural households are connected to a power grid (the urban share is 90 percent), off-grid power generated by micro-hydro plants provides many rural households with electricity for lighting, milling and other needs<sup>100</sup>.

### Gender in the Water Sector

- 216.** Nepal's WSS sector and development policies acknowledge the importance of addressing gender [The Water Resource Act (1992), National Water Plan (2005), Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (2004) and the Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Policy (2009)]. The GoN is planning to develop an umbrella Water Supply and Sanitation Act, which will consolidate all existing relevant legislation. Other legislation and policies relevant for mainstreaming gender considerations in the WSS sector include the Local Self-Governance Act (LSGA) 1999 and the Three Year Plan Approach (2010/11–2012/13).

- 217.** As per national policy mandates, efforts are being made to ensure gender equity in program planning and budgeting. Community water resource

management projects are requiring 30 percent participation of women in user groups and committees such as the Water and Sanitation User Committees (WSUCs).

- 218.** Although involving women in project-mandated resource transfers is now an integral part of most programs/ project documents, in practice active engagement remains limited, as evident from various field studies<sup>101</sup>. Because of inclusive quotas for women, Dalits and other excluded groups, such individuals have often been nominated to posts in WSUCs despite being absent from a meeting. In other cases, women who lack necessary skills are nonetheless selected for posts. But such members have little influence in decision-making processes, and their presence does little to empower them as individuals or to ensure that the interests of women are considered<sup>102</sup>.

- 219.** Key constraints for effective gender- and inclusion-responsive work in the sector include: the lack of diversity within the sector (currently, of 1,511 government employees in the DWSS, there are 94 percent men, six percent women, two percent Dalit, 61 percent Brahman/ Chetris), no staff or structure with dedicated responsibility for gender and inclusion, limited Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) and no GESI

<sup>99</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Sectoral Perspectives on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion: Making It Happen. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

<sup>100</sup> UN Water. 2009. The United Nations World Water Development Report No. 3: Water in a Changing World. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001819/181993e.pdf#page=20>

<sup>101</sup> UNFPA. 2007. Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in Nepal. UNFPA. Nepal.

<sup>102</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Sectoral Perspectives on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion: Making It Happen. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

budgeting practices to address barriers of women, the poor and excluded<sup>103</sup>.

**220.** A study by the International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC) of community water supply and sanitation projects in 88 communities in 15 countries found that projects designed and run with the full participation of women are more sustainable and effective than those that do not involve women as full partners<sup>104</sup>. Therefore, it is fundamental that in adaptation measures that would help reduce vulnerability associated with climate change women are fully engaged. Some of the possible measures are to:

- Develop the capacity of women to improve observation and forecasting;
- Develop gender-sensitive early warning systems;
- Conduct gender-sensitive map hazards and vulnerabilities;
- Promote water conservation and market-based water allocation with active participation of women; and
- Increase irrigation efficiency for women's needs.

**221.** Anticipated changes in the hydrological cycle and the depletion of water resources therefore are some of the top environmental challenges Nepal is going to face associated to climate change. Due to women's role as the collectors, users, and managers of water in the household and on the farm this situation is going to have differentiated impact in their workload. A study conducted by Asian Development Bank (ADB) revealed that each female water carrier must reserve 1.3 hours per day during the monsoon season and an average of 2-3 hours per day in the dry season to meet their daily household supply<sup>105</sup>.

**222.** Women are frequently deprived of opportunities to engage in income generating activities due to the amount of time invested in fetching water. A minimum of 30 percent of the total time saved could be used for other economically productive activities if there is an accessible water supply in the community<sup>106</sup>.

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**103** Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2012. Sectoral Perspectives on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion: Making It Happen. Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal.

**104** Wijk-Sijbesma, C.A. van, Mukherjee, N. and Gross, B. 2001. Linking sustainability with demand, gender, and poverty: A study in community-managed water supply projects in 15 countries. International Water and Sanitation Reference Centre, Washington, D.C. and Delft. The Netherlands.

**105** ADB. 2000. Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project: Gender and Development. Asian Development Bank. Loan 1755-Nep.

**106** Ibid.

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
<p>To develop infrastructure for water supply in urban, peri-urban and rural areas that recognize and address the needs of women</p>	<p>Introduce, promote and scale-up women friendly innovative water technologies (rain water harvesting and recharge, household water collection, recycling)</p>	<p>Increase of women having access to water at the household level or within 20 minutes proximity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoPPW/Dpt of water supply and sewerage</li> <li>• MWR</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• I/NGOs and Donor Partners</li> </ul>
	<p>Ensure active participation of women in design, construction, and implementation of the water infrastructure that can cope with the impacts of climate change</p>	<p>Increase in the number of women participating in the design, construction, and implementation of water infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local government bodies, line agencies, District level and village level WASH coordination committee</li> </ul>
	<p>Build the capacity of women in the technical and maintenance aspects of water infrastructure (plumbing, service providers, supervisors, machinery work)</p>	<p>No. of women as technicians, plumbers, and service providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Related Community Level User Groups (drinking water)</li> </ul>
	<p>Support women from local- and historically disadvantaged communities, in particular, to access scholarships at CTEVT (Council for Technical and Vocational Training)</p>	<p>Increase in income derived by women emanating from maintenance work on water infrastructure</p>	<p>No. of bursaries made available and taken up</p>
		<p>No. of women working as service providers within the sector</p>	



## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Develop the capacity of women to monitor and control the quality of water <sup>107</sup>	No. of mobile laboratories in the hands of women  Reduction of water-borne diseases	
To ensure women's participation as decision makers in all stages of water-related development initiatives	Policies and strategies related to water make proportionate, but no less than 33 percent, participation of women mandatory	At least 50 percent women active in decision-making at all (macro- and micro-level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mol</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> <li>• MWR</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> <li>• Donor partners</li> </ul>
	Enhance the capacity of the women decision-makers on water-related technical and -management issues for the sustainable use of water and water resources	No. of women that have enhanced their capacity to act as leaders in decision-making fora  No. of trainings conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic/ Training institutions</li> <li>• User Groups</li> </ul>
	Increase trainings undertaken by the government organizations, I/NGOs and academic institutions promoting the linkages between climate change, gender and water management issues	No. of women trained	
	Develop gender-sensitive indicators for monitoring and evaluating water initiatives	No. of initiatives using gender-sensitive indicators for M&E in water initiatives	

<sup>107</sup> Women can provide services through mobile laboratories in order to ensure appropriate water monitoring, -quality and appropriate response measures

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Design community participation M&E systems in the hands of women	No. of women and women's groups involved in M&E system	
To ensure gender mainstreaming in existing water-related policies and legislation (umbrella policy)	Revise and upgrade existing policies and legislation	All policies related to water are gender sensitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• CCGender Water</li> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender water</li> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• Physical Planning</li> <li>• MWR</li> </ul>
To develop a disaggregated data bank and assess vulnerability for water related disaster (GLOF, drought, flood, landslide)	Carry out nationwide survey	National survey conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoLD (DoLIDAR)</li> <li>• Centre Bureau of Statistics</li> </ul>
	Creation of a resource/ information centre at district level	Availability and access to the related data is improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DDC</li> <li>• VDC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• CBOs</li> </ul>
	Strengthen the procedures of EIA and SIA to include quality gender disaggregated data which contributes to the data bank at district level	Increase in the number of EIA and SIA including quality gender disaggregated data and fed into the district level data bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donor partners</li> <li>• Disaster Risk Management Committee (District)</li> </ul>
	Use existing resources at the VDC and DDC level to collect relevant data	Grassroots organizations and mobilizers are used to collect data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv: Dpt of Hydrology and Meteorology</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To promote research/ studies relating to gender and climate change dimensions in the water sector	Liaise with universities/ research institutions to promote academic research	No. of universities and research institutions involved in academic research on water issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• Education institutions</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>
	Create research grants for gender/water issues, ensuring that a proportional percentage of women researchers benefit from them	<p>Increase in the number of academic research and specialists</p> <p>Increase in number of scholars and women researchers engaged in water and gender related studies</p>	
	Documentation of indigenous knowledge practices and coping strategies of women and men in response to water issues	No. of documents, case studies and success stories available	
	Support inclusion of water and gender related topics in existing curricula (refer to the value based education developed by Ministry of Education and UN-Habitat)	Water and gender related topics incorporated into existing curricula	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
Breaking stereotypes related to water-use by sex and caste	Conduct outreach to sensitize women and men in communities	Declining disparity in access to water resources due to sex and caste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• MoIC</li> <li>• Local media</li> <li>• Local bodies</li> </ul>
	Provide technical and program-based support to local media and local methods of communication (Mother's groups, cultural groups) to disseminate information and create awareness for equitable access and use of water from GE/SI perspective		
	Use existing citizen forums at ward and VDC levels and awareness centers at settlement level to make and execute environmental plans and projects involving and benefiting women	Reflection of environmental activities in the plans and projects submitted to VDCs	No. of women involved and benefiting from these projects increase
	Mobilize community leaders to break stereotypes publically through public action	No. of public action by leaders breaking stereotypes	
To enhance gender responsive budgeting in water resource management	Allocate fund for gender responsive climate change activities and ensure disbursement and expenditure at all levels through proper monitoring	Amount of fund allocated and spent increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• Local bodies</li> <li>• MoLD</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: WATER (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To protect, conserve and manage water catchment and source areas involving and benefiting more women	Provision for water conservation tax to be channeled for protection of watershed area involving existing women groups	Amount collected from water conservation tax levied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• MoFSC</li> <li>• Local bodies</li> <li>• Local groups</li> <li>• NGOs/INGOs</li> </ul>
	Mobilize women groups for watershed management activities such as establishing nurseries and planting trees upstream to avoid soil erosion and improve water quality	No. of women groups involved in watershed management activities increases	
		Watershed area protected by local communities	
		No. of functional nurseries and plantation projects operated and managed by women	
		No. of water sources revived, improved and maintained	

## 5. PRIORITY SECTOR 4: ENERGY

### Overview

- 223.** Energy is closely linked with key contemporary global challenges the world faces – social development and poverty alleviation, environmental degradation and climate change and food security. It is therefore a defining issue of our time.
- 224.** Our global economy is built on a predominant growth model and industries need reliable and affordable energy. At the same time, there has to be an appropriate balance between growing demand for energy and the urgent need to protect environment and climate<sup>108</sup>.
- 225.** Whilst the Earth's climate has changed several times in history, it is today generally understood that the change in our climate we are currently experiencing – and that has been supported by evidence by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) – is caused by human activity and the burning of fossil fuels to meet our rising energy demands in our pursuit of development.
- 226.** Energy is therefore directly linked to climate change via the fossil fuels being burned as these produce greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, and driving the average global temperature to raise. Access to energy is also inextricably linked to improved welfare and human development, since energy services have a direct impact on productivity, health, education, and communication<sup>109</sup>.
- 227.** The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002 recommended that nations undertake a reform of their energy regimes as a matter of great urgency, since most national systems for generating electrical energy, or otherwise consuming fossil fuels, are the primary sources of greenhouse gases contributing to climate change<sup>110</sup>.
- 228.** However, the transition to a climate-smart world is occurring at a time when nearly half of the world's population lacks reliable access to modern energy services. Consequently, the energy transition and climate vulnerability are much more closely connected than current analysis suggests, as the world's poor struggle over a dwindling resource base that is being further degraded by the impacts of climate change.
- 229.** There is an urgent need not only to greatly scale up support for energy access, but also to link this support more closely to the climate agenda, to the revitalization of rural areas, and to better management of the urban

<sup>108</sup> UNIDO. 2012. Energy and Climate Change. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=1001541>

<sup>109</sup> Johnson, F. and Lambe, F. 2009. Energy Access, Climate and Development. Stockholm Environmental Institute: Commission on Climate Change and Development. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.ccdcommission.org/Filer/commissioners/Energy.pdf>

<sup>110</sup> Bradbrook, A. and Ottinger, R. 2003. Energy Law and Sustainable Development. IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper No. 47. Environmental Law Program, International Union for Conservation of Nature – IUCN.

and peri-urban development that has dominated the changing energy landscape of recent decades.

- 230.** The case for linking energy access to achieving the MDGs is counted by the hours that women and children spend gathering fuelwood, agricultural residue and dung for fuel; by the toll of respiratory illnesses caused by indoor air pollution; and by the frustration of small business owners who cannot expand business because of the lack of reliable energy.
- 231.** Understanding the links between climate change and energy also involves understanding the energy profile or “energy economy” of a country or region. These countries or regions derive energy from multiple sources of fuels and produce multiple kinds of services from energy. Analyzing the prospects for changing energy supplies or uses in a region or country requires an understanding of its energy economy.
- 232.** By adopting an integrated approach and identifying new links between energy, poverty and climate change it will be possible to tackle the situation in a comprehensive way. Energy must become a mainstream element of vulnerability analysis if countries are to meet the dual challenge of implementing NAPAs as a matter of urgency, and ensuring sufficiently diverse and sustainable energy sources to underpin their future development<sup>111</sup>.
- 233.** Though most countries still rely heavily on traditional biomass (unsustainably harvested wood and charcoal used for heating and cooking), there is both high potential and interest in modern forms of bioenergy, as a sustainable alternative to fossil fuel for transport, as well as a means of decentralized energy production. Many countries already have national programs in place to promote the production and use of bioenergy, and most of these are geared towards rural development goals and reducing poverty.
- 234.** The range of potential bioenergy options is wide and extremely varied such as the Jatropha plant, which requires little water and can grow on low-quality land, for producing biodiesel. One of the most promising bioenergy options is the use of agricultural waste, which doesn't require new plantations or disrupt existing farming practices and food production. It is extremely important, however, that the importance of identifying appropriate areas for cultivation do not jeopardize water, land, or food security.
- 235.** While the potential for bioenergy in developing countries is considerable, there are significant barriers to overcome: lack of policy and regulatory frameworks, infrastructure and a trained local workforce.
- 236.** Research and development (R&D) for biofuel technology and electricity production also presents an excellent

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111 UNEP.2009. Exploring the Links Between Climate Change, Energy and Poverty. Global Network on Energy and Sustainable Development. Nairobi.

opportunity for South-South cooperation. Evidence supporting this understanding may be found in Latin American countries with bioethanol and biodiesel, and in India with small-scale gasifiers.

- 237.** International foster agencies can play an important role by helping countries build infrastructure, enhance capacity and facilitate technology transfer through South-South cooperation.

### Situational Analysis

- 238.** Though Nepal emits only a negligible amount of Greenhouse Gasses globally, the country's communities have already started experiencing the adverse impacts of climate change. Nepal therefore needs to adapt to these emerging problems, recognizing that the demand for fossil fuel has both environmental and economic consequences, whilst at the same time also assisting in the global reduction of GHG emissions.
- 239.** Recognizing the energy sector has both economic as well as environmental impacts, the GoN actively promotes energy provision that contributes to energy supply and environmental protection at the local level, and that also supports climate change mitigation globally.
- 240.** Nepal is rich in clean sources of energy but it has been marginally successful to

harness these sources. Out of the total 400506.4 thousand GJ of energy, the traditional sources, commercial sources and renewable sources cater 87.1, 12.2 and 0.7 percent energy demand of Nepal respectively<sup>112</sup>. The share of residential energy is more than 89 percent in total energy consumption. Cooking and heating are the main household activities demanding significant amount of energy. More than two thirds (68.4 percent) of the total households of Nepal use firewood as their main source of fuel for cooking followed by Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) (12.3 percent), cow-dung (10.7 percent), bio-gas (2.4 percent) and kerosene (1.4 percent). LPG is the main source of fuel (51.8 percent) for cooking in urban areas. The firewood is the major source of cooking fuel in Mountain (87.9 percent), Hill (76.2 percent)<sup>113</sup>.

- 241.** In 1996, the GoN established the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPCC) to develop and promote renewable and alternative energy technology<sup>114</sup>. Even though Nepal's per capita energy consumption is around 14.32 GJ<sup>115</sup> the regional energy demand within the country varies substantially due to elevation, climate, and population density. Despite 10 decades of electrification efforts, only 56.1 percent of the population of Nepal has been reported to have access to electricity. 48.5 percent Nepalese living in rural areas have been reported to have

<sup>112</sup> WECS. 2010. Energy Strategy of Nepal. Kathmandu: Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, Government of Nepal.

<sup>113</sup> Nepal, G.2011. Ensuring Energy Security and Enhancing Alternative Energy Technologies for Nepal. Bhutan Climate Summit: Nepal Thematic Road Map. Bhutan.

<sup>114</sup> District Development Committee, Mustang District.2011. District Energy and Climate Plan. Nepal.

<sup>115</sup> Government of Nepal Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS). 2010.



access to electricity, compared to 92.1 percent living in urban areas<sup>116</sup>.

**242.** Nepal relies heavily on traditional energy resources, as no significant deposits of fossil fuel are available. The major energy resource in the country consists of biomass, hydroelectricity, petroleum products, natural gas and coal reserves. It is estimated that Nepal has a theoretical Hydropower potential of 83,000 MW of which 42,000 MW is economically feasible. Among the entire energy resource base, it is evident that biomass is the dominant resource base of the country with respect to utilization. Overall, more than two-thirds of the energy needs are met by fuel wood, followed by farm residue, animal dung, fossil fuel, and hydropower which Nepal has a huge potential for in terms of production, but the potential of the latter currently remains largely untapped.

**243.** In 2005, Nepalese used the lowest commercial energy (around 500 kWh per capita per year) of all South Asians by far. The total energy consumption in Nepal for the year 2003/04 by the residential sector was 90 percent and the agricultural sector 1 percent. Biomass provided 86 percent of the total energy consumption, petroleum 9 percent (mainly consumed in urban areas), electricity 2 percent and renewable energy 1 percent<sup>117</sup>. The overall energy consumption of Nepal is largely dominated by the subsistence

use of traditional forms of energy such as fuel wood, agricultural residues and animal wastes. The share of traditional biomass resources, commercial energy resources and renewable energy resources are 87 percent, 12 percent and 1 percent respectively<sup>118</sup>.

**244.** About 84 percent of the Nepalese population lives in rural areas and agricultural work is the mainstay of the rural population. In rural Nepal in 2003/04, 63.9 percent of energy was used for cooking, heating accounted for 8.5 percent, lighting 1.31 percent, agro-processing 3.4 percent, animal feed preparation 16.5 percent and others (such as religious occasions and ceremonies) 4.3 percent.

**245.** In its TYIP issued in August 2010, the Government of Nepal recognizes that electricity service is an important tool for the overall development of the nation<sup>119</sup>.

**246.** Though there is an enormous potential for hydropower, yet the total installed capacity in 2010 was only 689 MW. of which 71 percent is hydro electricity and 8 percent is Thermal and imports 21 percent to 23 percent (156 MW) by the private sector. The present generation capacity of electricity faces a deficit of 400 mw in supply during the dry season and as a result, load shedding has been frequent up to 12 hours with frequent instances of up to 18 hours daily reported in the capital Kathmandu.

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<sup>116</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics. 2008. Nepal Labor Force Survey. National Planning Commission Secretariat. Government of Nepal. Nepal.

<sup>117</sup> Ghimire, D. 2004. Paper presented at National Training Workshop on the Integration of Energy and Rural Development of Policies and Programs in Nepal.

<sup>118</sup> Water and Energy Commission. 2010. Nepal Energy sector Synopsis Report. Nepal.

<sup>119</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13). Government of Nepal.

**247.** The TYIP also recognizes that most of the settlements in Nepal are scattered throughout the country, challenging the prospects of providing electricity through the national grid. Rather, it states, it is possible to promote socioeconomic development, poverty reduction and environmental conservation through the use of alternative energy technologies like micro-hydro, solar energy, wind energy, smokeless stoves, bio- briquette and bio-mass energy. So far, almost nine percent of total population is provided with energy through alternative sources of energy.

**248.** The country's topographic diversity with its rich natural resources offers considerable potential to develop clean energy not only by using hydropower, but also solar, wind power, and biogas.

### Gender in the Energy Sector

**249.** In rural poor households, cooking often accounts for 92 percent or more of the total energy demand from traditional biomass of which fuelwood constitute 75.1 percent (Nepal Labor Force Survey, 2008). Typically burnt on open fires or inefficient stoves, biomass, when used indoors, produce levels of indoor air pollution (IAP) many times higher than international ambient air quality standards allow for, exposing poor women and children to a major public health hazard<sup>120</sup>.

**250.** Surveys show an average of 3-4 hours per day spent by women in fuel wood collection; health costs of the traditional fuel usage include mainly respiratory and eye diseases from indoor air pollution. Women exposed to heavy indoor smoke are three times as likely to suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (e.g. chronic bronchitis), than women who use cleaner fuels. Among men (who already have a heightened risk of chronic respiratory disease due to their higher rates of smoking), exposure to indoor smoke nearly doubles that risk<sup>121</sup>.

**251.** Furthermore, using biomass for energy is one of the drivers of deforestation has negative impact on forest resources and it contributes to the deterioration of biodiversity. Deforestation remains a serious local problem in many mountain and hill areas of Nepal and only 29 percent of the country remains forested, compared to 37 percent in 1990. Rural populations in Nepal pay the highest price for environmental degradation, as their livelihoods depend on the goods and services from ecosystems (e.g. water, non-timer products, soil fertility, prevention of erosion). Women are generally more vulnerable to environmental hazards than men, due to closer exposure to risk such as long distances to collect water and fuel.

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**120** World Health Organization. 2000. Addressing the Impact of Household Energy and Indoor Air Pollution on the Health of the Poor: Implications for Policy Action and Intervention Measures. Paper Prepared for the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health. Washington DC, 3-4 May 2000.

**121** World Health Organization. 2011. Indoor air pollution and health. Fact sheet N°292. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs292/en/>

- 252.** In addition to cooking itself, the task of gathering fuel wood and carrying heavy load also falls mainly on women and children. Under this scenario, the future prosperity of women and girls in Nepal is thus likely limited. Much of their time is spent searching for and using less efficient forms of energy. This in turn limits access by girl children to schools and by association to improved literacy; restricts opportunities to engage in communal or other social activities; and prevents them from acquiring new skills or engaging in income-generating activities. Furthermore, cases of prolapsed uterus from carrying heavy load is a common health problem among women of rural Nepal.
- 253.** In Nepal renewable energy technologies are increasingly been promoted as a solution to a number of energy-related problems, including mitigation of climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the search for energy security at national levels, and efforts to achieve locally appropriate and sustainable development among disadvantaged communities. If these goals are to be achieved, it will be necessary to challenge the traditional view of energy planning as the simple provision of energy sources and appropriate conversion of technologies, to include the social and economic circumstances of the groups for whom energy is being provided.
- 254.** In Nepal, it is essential to integrate gender considerations in the design, planning and implementation of energy projects and policies, including renewable energy policies and projects. This is because women and men have different roles as users and managers of energy systems. It follows, therefore, that they may have differentiated energy needs in terms of, for example, appropriate technology for their situation, capacity building or training needs, access to available technologies and funding, among others.
- 255.** The first step towards ensuring women's participation in renewable energy projects and policies is to empower them by providing them with knowledge about available technologies and the potential benefits or constraints these systems may bring to their lives.
- 256.** In addition, women's role in production of energy could lead to the establishment of small-scale enterprises that can become a new source of income.

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To develop gender sensitive energy policies in Nepal	Collect evidence, such as case studies, on gender impact of energy and climate change	No. of case studies prepared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> </ul>
	Conduct stakeholder consultation with women groups nationally in order to assess status quo and define priorities	Amount of women and women groups consulted	
	Review of energy policies from a gender perspective	First draft developed	
	Sharing policy review through orientation programs targeted to decision-makers such as Members of Parliament, policy makers etc.	No. of decision-makers involved in discussions on the first draft	
	Amendment of the current energy policy integrating findings of the review process and consultation	No. of gender references taken up in policies	
	Further implementation of “Gendered Rural Energy Policy 2011”	Development of implementation document	
To raise awareness about the importance of gender, climate and energy and implement effective coordination mechanisms among stakeholders	Organize open days/gender-cc-energy fairs to raise public awareness at city-, regional-, local- and policy levels	No. of persons attending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• MoEs</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	<p>Inclusion of gender, energy and climate change related content in academic curricula (schools, vocational institutions, universities)</p> <p>Establish collaboration with academic institutions to involve post-graduate students in research/analysis, training, tutorials and job placement</p> <p>Develop technical expertise to support gender, climate change and energy issues through bursaries and incentive schemes involving the private sector</p> <p>Prepare gender sensitive IEC material</p>	<p>Amount of curricula including gender, energy and climate change</p> <p>Amount of studies produced by academic institutions</p> <p>No. of students taken up in study-related positions</p> <p>No. of bursaries made available</p> <p>No. of private sector companies engaged</p> <p>No. of published IEC materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic institutions</li> <li>• Existing networks in gender, climate change and energy</li> <li>• Curriculum Development Centre</li> </ul>
<p>To increase active participation of women to make energy programs more effective</p>	<p>Collect gender disaggregated data to understand the gender dimensions within all levels of energy policies and programs</p> <p>Produce disseminate a report with findings</p> <p>Create strategies to address gender issues in the energy programs e.g. as mobilizing and involving women's groups</p>	<p>Uptake of results/ data in programs and policies</p> <p>No. of strategies developed that are gender sensitive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MWCSW</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• INGOs</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
		Amount of women involved	
	Establish a gender responsive budget for the energy sector	Increase in resources allocated	
	Involve at least 50 percent of women in decision-making at all policy, program and project levels	Quota achieved	
To mobilize women's groups to become agents of change for climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies	Raising awareness on climate mitigation and adaptation among community women's groups, e.g. community health workers and -volunteers, women's cooperatives, community forest users groups, etc.	No. of messages developed for different groups such as health, environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• MoES</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> <li>• Academic institutions</li> <li>• GEWNet</li> </ul>
	Capacity building of women's groups to develop strategic actions to implement mitigation and adaptation actions; such as	No. of trainings organized	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of energy efficient technologies</li> <li>• Create advocacy groups to make their voices heard at local government</li> <li>• Develop financing schemes and also utilize the existing funds for accessing efficient technologies</li> </ul>	No. of gender sensitive and energy efficient technologies promoted	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To increase the availability of diversified energy technology options that are commercially viable	Conduct a study/research on available indigenous RETs	Study/research completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> <li>• Existing gender, energy and climate change networks</li> </ul>
	Research & development (R&D) for improvement and innovation of RETs including technology transfer, taking into account the needs of women	Conduct R&D for improvement and innovation of RETs	
	Capacity building of communities (women) on design, manufacturing, installation, operation, maintenance and repair of ETs.	<p>No. of women involved in R&amp;D process</p> <p>Percentage of women and men participating in design, manufacturing, installation, operation, maintenance and repair of ETs.</p> <p>Amount of profit generated in the hands of women</p>	
	Financial support/subsidy provision and incentives for developing market with specific outreach and support given to women entrepreneurs	<p>No. of women entrepreneurs benefitting from subsidies and financial support</p> <p>No. of successful new start-ups in the hands of women</p>	
To reduce dependency on biomass energy	Conduct a gender-responsive needs-assessment at the community level for ETs	Needs-assessment outcome launched at appropriate levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoH</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> <li>• Private sectors</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Raise awareness on inter-linkages of deforestation, IAP, climate change, the benefits of using ETs and the role of women	No. of events conducted	
	Technological research and development for increasing efficiency of biomass-based ETs	Improved/innovated and appropriate designs of biomass technologies with marketing strategies developed  Standards developed for biomass-based ETs	
	Conduct market research to understand adoption drivers of ETs, including gender-specific drivers	Increase in the adoption of ETs by sex	
	Promote other alternative ETs	No. of AETs promoted and their positive implication on health (decrease in IMR, MMR, COPD, ARI)	
To increase investment in gender-sensitive energy solutions	Investing in R&D to make energy technologies gender sensitive specifically including women in the design process  Encourage research institutions and companies by providing funds for innovation that contributes positively to the lives of women	New technologies developed and made available  Resources available from different sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoH</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• Academic institutions</li> </ul>



## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Develop capacity of organizations to access carbon finance mechanisms, e.g. CDM, CIF, etc.	Percentage increase in funding accessed by organizations post capacity building	
	Encourage government to include gender in proposals – either as stand-alone or part and parcel of other proposals - to the climate adaptation fund for projects to be implemented	No. of proposals that includes gender submitted to the climate adaptation fund  No. of resources assigned for mainstreaming gender	
To have an effective energy strategy in place for urban settings	Understand the urban energy needs of both women and men through surveys and develop a strategy to ensure that users' needs are met	Gender-responsive strategy developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA)</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• Department of Electricity</li> <li>• MoEn</li> <li>• MoF</li> <li>• Private Power Producers Association</li> <li>• Private companies</li> <li>• AEPC</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> </ul>
	Develop strategies to support individual power producers, particularly women, to increase production of sustainable energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R&amp;D for feeding small hydro in national grid</li> <li>• Incentivize installation of hydro power</li> <li>• Financial incentives for women to produce sustainable energy</li> <li>• Increase share of investment from government for hydro power generation</li> </ul>	No. of women and men producing sustainable energy	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
Develop and implement a community adaptation/mitigation initiative to address climate change and reduce emissions at scale by leveraging the role of women at the household level	<p>Introduce a program for reducing carbon footprint within the household and accumulating results at community, local, regional level.</p> <p>Training and monitoring of women and youth on key program components, e.g. waste, energy, recycling, behavioral change, consumption, etc.</p> <p>Conduct a feasibility study to enlist the program with the UNFCCC Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)</p>	<p>Number of training courses held to rise women's capacity</p> <p>No. of communities involved in campaigns</p> <p>Reduction of per capita consumption</p> <p>Water saving per household</p> <p>Amount of CO2 reduction per household</p> <p>Reduction in energy bills</p> <p>CDM project approved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• AEPC</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: ENERGY (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To promote the participation of women and men in renewal energy efforts at household level through the introduction of efficient, innovative and sustainable systems of energy use	<p>Encourage households to lessen their dependence on fossil fuel sources and move towards the utilization of renewable energy technology in cities</p> <p>Conduct a program to promote introduction of solar energy and other RETs in rural areas through women</p> <p>Training course for women for maintenance and management of RETs</p> <p>Establish financial mechanism (energy fund for women) to assist in having efficient household appliances</p>	<p>No. of solar panels installed</p> <p>Reduction of wood and fossil fuel consumption</p> <p>No. of houses using composting</p> <p>Kind of technologies available to women</p> <p>Number of women accessing funds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• AEPC</li> </ul>

## 6. PRIORITY SECTOR 5: HEALTH

### Overview

- 257.** Every major national scientific body worldwide today recognizes and accepts human-driven climate change as an immediate and grave threat. Climate change can no longer be considered simply as an environmental or developmental issue. Importantly, it puts at risk the protection and improvement of human health and well-being. Climate change presents a formidable challenge to societies throughout the world and it could also be the biggest global health threat of the 21st century.
- 258.** The case for major reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions is well established and is based on the recognition of the multiple adverse effects of climate change: on the environment (disruption of ecosystems, species loss), on social integrity (population displacement, effects on livelihoods), on nutrition (altered agricultural productivity), on the economy (regional and local economic shocks), and on population health.
- 259.** Climate change already affects human health. If no action is taken, problems such as malnutrition, deaths and injury due to extreme weather conditions, and change in geographical distribution of disease vectors will worsen<sup>123</sup>. Most populations will increasingly feel the effects from climate change on health in the next decades – with the lives and wellbeing of billions of people put at increased risk.
- 260.** According to WHO, climate change resulted in the loss of 5.5 million Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) in 2000, a morbidity burden which is increasing<sup>124</sup>.
- 261.** The changing climate will inevitably affect the basic requirements for maintaining health: clean air and water, sufficient food and adequate shelter. Each year, about 1.2 million people die from causes attributable to urban air pollution, 2.2 million from diarrhea largely resulting from lack of access to clean water supply and sanitation, and from poor hygiene, 3.5 million from malnutrition and approximately 60 000 in natural disasters.
- 262.** A warmer and more variable climate threatens to lead to higher levels of some air pollutants, increase transmission of diseases through unclean water and through contaminated food, to compromise agricultural production in some of the least developed countries, and to increase the hazards of extreme weather.
- 263.** Climate change also brings new challenges to the control of infectious diseases. Many of the major killers are highly climate sensitive as regards temperature and rainfall, including

<sup>123</sup> Lancet Commission. 2009. Aligning climate change and public health policies. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://download.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140673609616676.pdf>

<sup>124</sup> Climate and Health Council Official Website. 2012. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.climateandhealth.org/know.html>

cholera and the diarrheal diseases, as well as diseases including malaria, dengue and other infections carried by vectors.

- 264.** In sum, climate change threatens to slow, halt or reverse the progress that the global public health community is now making against many of these diseases.
- 265.** In the long run, however, the greatest health impacts may not be from acute shocks such as natural disasters or epidemics, but from the gradual build-up of pressure on the natural, economic and social systems that sustain health, and which are already under stress in much of the developing world. These gradual stresses include reductions and seasonal changes in the availability of fresh water, regional drops in food production, and rising sea levels. Each of these changes has the potential to force population displacement and increase the risks of civil conflict<sup>125</sup>.
- 266.** All populations will be affected by a changing climate, but the initial health risks vary greatly, depending on where and how people live. People living in small island developing states and other coastal regions, megacities, and mountainous and polar regions are all particularly vulnerable in different ways.
- 267.** Health effects are expected to be more severe for elderly people and people with infirmities or pre-existing medical conditions. The groups who are likely

to bear most of the resulting disease burden are children and the poor, especially women.

- 268.** The major diseases that are most sensitive to climate change – diarrhea, vector-borne diseases like malaria, and infections associated with under nutrition – are most serious in children living in poverty.
- 269.** Ongoing climate change is also a trans-boundary issue. Coupled with globalization, it will make it more difficult to contain infectious diseases within their current ranges. Health challenges arising from population displacement and conflict are unlikely to stay confined within national borders.
- 270.** Improved health conditions for all populations, alongside more rapid and effective international disease surveillance, constitute a vital contribution to global public health security. Urgent action is therefore needed to protect the world's health from the worst effects of climate change.

### Situational Analysis

- 271.** Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and providing adequate and sufficient healthcare accessible to the broad Nepalese population is a major challenge.
- 272.** The country's three main rivers, Koshi, Karnali and Gandaki, become uncrossable when swollen by monsoon

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<sup>125</sup> World Health Organization. 2009. Protecting Health from Climate Change: Connecting Science, Policy and People. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241598880\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241598880_eng.pdf)

- rains and melting snows, which happens often during the year. The mountainous terrain and distinct geographic divisions isolate most of the rural population and the Nepal's topographical and sociological diversification helps to promote periodic epidemics of infectious diseases, epizootics and natural hazards like floods, forest fires, landslides and earthquakes.
- 273.** Global climate change has serious implications and a compounded impact for Nepal's health system - both currently and into the future. The temperature is rising in Nepal and Kathmandu valley and it will continue to rise in the coming years partly due to increases in the human population, vehicles, development activities, and a change in agricultural patterns.
- 274.** Millions of people are at risk of infection and thousands die every year due to communicable diseases, malnutrition and other health-related events, which particularly affect the poor living in rural areas. Economic and demographic changes like new agro-industries, migration, deforestation, encroachment, unplanned urbanization with little or no provision for safe drinking water and sewerage systems and degradation of the environment further aggravate the epidemic situation<sup>126</sup>.
- 275.** Vector and water-borne disease have been found to be increasing within country, along with a strong identified relationship between these diseases, temperature and precipitation.
- 276.** The projected increase of climate disasters under climate change (particularly from floods related to glacier melt) would have a direct impact on health in Nepal. It is already evident that malaria, Kalaazar, Japanese encephalitis, and other water borne diseases such as typhoid and cholera are commonly seen in different parts of the country.
- 277.** It is mostly the poor and disadvantaged groups who suffer from these climate change consequences, but the health impacts will be experienced across all sectors and regions<sup>127</sup>.
- 278.** In Nepal, a fairly comprehensive framework of health policies, strategies and plans have been in place. The main components of the framework are: the National Health Policy 1991; the Second Long-Term Health Plan (1997-2017); the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002); the Strategic Analysis to operationalize the Second Long-Term Health Plan; the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework; Nepal Health Sector Program, Implementation Plan 2003-2007; The Tenth Plan (Poverty Reduction Strategy

**126** World Health Organization. 2010. Health System in Nepal: Challenges and Strategic Options. Country Office for Nepal.

**127** Bimal, R.R., Pandit, A., Pradhan, B., Kovats, S. and Lama, P. 2008. International Institute for Environment and Development (IISD) Capacity Strengthening in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC) Working Paper No. 3: Climate Change and Health in Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://www.Clacc.Net/Humanhealth/Health%20report08-Final/Healthstudy-Workingpaper3nepal\\_Ed.Pdf](http://www.Clacc.Net/Humanhealth/Health%20report08-Final/Healthstudy-Workingpaper3nepal_Ed.Pdf)

- Paper) 2002-2007; and Health Sector Strategy – an Agenda for Reform 2004. Recently, together with the interim constitution, a Three Year Plan has been introduced<sup>128</sup>.
- 279.** The Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2006 also incorporated health as a fundamental right of the people<sup>129</sup>.
- 280.** The National Health Policy 1991 aimed at extending the primary health care system to the rural population through health infrastructure development, community participation, multi-sectoral coordination, mobilizing local resources and decentralized planning and management. Reducing infant and child mortality has been a priority.
- 281.** The Second Long-Term Health Plan (1997-2017) has focused on improving the health status of women and children; the rural population; the poor; the underprivileged; and the marginalized. The plan has spelled out the need for redirecting resources from high-cost, low-impact interventions to the low-cost high-impact Essential Health Care Services (EHCS), while improving effectiveness and efficiency. There are 20 elements of the EHCS package. The EHCS are priority public health measures and essential clinical and curative services for the appropriate treatment of common diseases. The EHCS, under Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine, are defined separately.
- 282.** Following a strategic analysis to operationalize the second long-term health plan, a number of recommendations were made reflecting the pro-poor orientation including development of budgets linked to priority, performance and outcome, moving towards the sector-wide approach, and establishing a monitoring system that will assess the health status of the poor.
- 283.** The Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) has adjusted priorities, based upon disease burden, equity considerations and pro-poor orientation. It provides an increased budget for achieving the targets of prioritized health interventions in the first three years of the Tenth Plan. The objectives of the plan are: reducing the magnitude of poverty; improving quality and access of health services to the poor, specifically access to reproductive health and family planning services in rural areas. The same objectives have been re-emphasized in the Nepal Health Sector Programme–Implementation Plan 2003-2007 (NHSP-IP).
- 284.** The NHSP-IP has three program outputs and eight sector outputs. These are: prioritized EHCS; decentralized health management; private and NGO sector develop; sector management; financing and resource allocation; management of physical assets; human resource development; and integrated MIS and QA policy.

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<sup>128</sup> World Health Organization. 2010. Health System in Nepal: Challenges and Strategic Options. Country Office for Nepal.

<sup>129</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper. Government of Nepal.

- 285.** The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) 2002, while highlighting the critical importance of the health sector, has also identified the main weaknesses. These are as follows: “The health sector is of critical importance for human development, improving living standards in rural areas and for mainstreaming marginalized groups and communities. Despite significant progress in recent years, service delivery in the health sector remains weak. Although an extensive network of primary health care centres has been constructed nationwide, it has not been functioning well in many rural areas due to lack of trained staff, drugs and medicines, etc. The sector’s overall performance has suffered due to inadequate funding for essential recurrent expenditures, misallocation of resources and limited capacity for supervision and, for co-ordination of the activities of other agencies providing health care services”.
- 286.** In its TYIP, the GoN, therefore, sets itself the objective: “To increase the utilization of quality health service by ensuring availability and accessibility of health services to the citizens of all class, region and society.”
- 287.** The current TYIP has been introduced as a bridge between the Tenth and Eleventh five-year plans as the country is now heading towards building a new Nepal through a democratic process. It is also to maximize effort in achieving the MDGs. Apart from continuing the momentum of the Tenth Plan, the salient features of this plan are to initiate new programs not included in the EHCS package and to address the existing weakness in overall manpower of the health system.
- 288.** The right to health will be the main strategic direction as per the interim Constitution, provision of free services to 22 low HDI districts and people below the poverty line. It will also take up measures to improve health services management and improve the partnership with the private sector, NGOs and other professional organizations. New initiatives include prevention and control of dengue, avian influenza, introduction of new vaccine – measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) and health of the elderly<sup>130</sup>.
- 289.** Through Nepal’s health-sector policies, programs and organizational efforts, qualitative and quantitative development on health service delivery has improved the access of general people to quality health services in the country.
- 290.** There has been considerable improvement on mortality rates of infants, children and mothers: health organizations have provided free maternity services under a mother protection program; all the services provided by the health posts and sub health posts and the basic health services provided by the district hospitals to the poor and backward communities have been made freely

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130 World Health Organization. 2010. Health System in Nepal: Challenges and Strategic Options. Country Office for Nepal.



available; there is a provision for special discounts being made available to poor citizens on certain services; family planning and safe abortion services are available in all districts; there has been expected delivery and growth in micro-nutrition and vaccinations; and different programs have been conducted to improve the level of nutrition.

**291.** Infant mortality declined by 39 percent over the last fifteen years from 79 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1991-94 to 48 deaths in 2001-2005. An even more impressive decline was observed in under-five mortality, which declined by 48 percent from 118 to 61 deaths per 1,000 live births over the same period while neonatal and postnatal mortality also decreased by 34 percent and 48 percent, respectively.

**292.** These declining trends in mortality rates continue as confirmed by a recent survey where both infant and under-five mortality have further declined to 41 and 50 per 1000 live births respectively in 2004-2008. Similarly, maternal mortality declined significantly from 530 per 100,000 live births in 1996 to 281 in 2006, a trend consistent with the data from the maternal mortality survey in 2009 that showed a Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of 229. Several of Nepal's immunization and nutrition programs are also performing very well. However, not all segments of the society equally benefit from the progress<sup>131</sup>.

**293.** Even though the overall health system has improved, remote districts have not benefitted fully from it to the extent it was envisaged and expected: the health condition of disadvantaged societies and people living below the poverty line has not been improved as expected; due to geographical differences it has been a challenge to provide equal health services throughout the country; and health services are not being provided equally due to cultural, social, economical and gender barriers.

**294.** Currently, the largest challenges of health sector are to (i) revise existing legal provisions, (ii) increase government investments, (iii) absorb financial resources provided by the donor communities, (iv) regulate the private sector, and to (v) solve the problems related to conflict victims, especially those suffering from mental disorder, disabilities and economic hardship.

**295.** Structural problems of the health system in Nepal, impeding on the country's ability to address these challenges, include: a lack of human resources and equipment for qualitative services in health organizations; centralization; inadequacy of necessary equipment and medicines and their unmanaged supply; a weak supervision system; lack of repair and maintenance of physical infrastructures; lack of basic services and facilities for health workers; unaffordable health services provided

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<sup>131</sup> World Bank, 2010. Press Release: World Bank Supports Access to Essential Health Services in Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.un-foodsecurity.org/node/475>

by the private hospitals to the general public; and the inability of poor people to meet expenses of treatment of serious disease<sup>132</sup>.

### Gender and the Health Sector in Nepal

- 296.** The World Health Organization (WHO)<sup>133</sup> recognizes that climate change is already affecting human health directly (e.g. impacts of thermal stress, death/injury in floods and storms) and indirectly through changes in the ranges of disease vectors (e.g. mosquitoes), water-borne pathogens, water quality, air quality, and food availability and quality. It also recognizes that the impacts dependent on age, socioeconomic class, occupations and gender.
- 297.** Climate change in Nepal is having and will continue to have a detrimental effect on the agricultural sector, affecting the production of their main staple crops. Women are more prone to nutritional deficiencies because of their unique nutritional needs, especially when they are pregnant or breastfeeding, and in some groups in Nepal there are household food hierarchies. Therefore, the lack of food will affect women in a disproportionate way, since climate change already finds

them in a disadvantageous situation. According to UNDP<sup>134</sup>, dietary intake of pregnant women in Nepal is inadequate. Low Birth Weight, the best indicator for malnutrition, suggests that 30-50 percent of babies are born with low birth weight and 50 percent of women of childbearing age and 63 percent of pregnant and lactating mothers are anemic. Likewise 24 percent of women aged 15-49 years are undernourished. This figure is much higher for women in the Tarai 33 percent. According to the FAO, in places where iron deficiency is prevalent, the risk of women dying during childbirth can be increased by as much as 20 percent<sup>135</sup>.

- 298.** According to the Center for Rural Technology (CRT),<sup>136</sup> in Nepal 86 percent of the energy comes from biomass fuels (e.g. dung, crop residues, wood), resulting (particularly for women and children) in exposure to very high concentrations of indoor air pollutants and impacting on health by increasing the risk of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, worsening lung function and contributing to childhood pneumonia and lung cancer<sup>137</sup>.
- 299.** In addition, fuel shortages increase the workload of women, since they are responsible for collecting fuel. In some parts of Nepal women can walk

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132 National Planning Commission. 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper. Government of Nepal.

133 WHO. 2011. Gender, Climate Change and Health. Switzerland.

134 UNDP. 2010. Millennium Development Goal Needs Assessment for Nepal.

135 FAO. 2002. The state of food insecurity in the world: Food insecurity – when people must live with hunger and fear of starvation. Food and Agriculture Organization. Rome.

136 CRT. 2005. National Energy Situation Survey Report Nepal. Kathmandu.

137 WHO. 2011. Gender, Climate Change and Health. Switzerland.

over 20 km per journey in search of wood<sup>138</sup>. Women are reported to suffer back problems from carrying heavy wood loads. Women also suffer of a high incidence of uterine prolapse, in all likelihood associated with the practice of carrying heavy loads of wood soon after childbirth (20 kg are not unusual).

**300.** Due to their role in ensuring energy supply it is therefore crucial to involve women in the design, negotiation and implementation of clean energy choices that have the potential to improve health and well-being, both through reduced risks to health, and through savings in time and financial resources<sup>139</sup>.

**301.** Pregnant women are particularly susceptible to water-borne diseases. For example, pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to malaria as they are twice as 'appealing' to malaria-carrying mosquitoes as non-pregnant women. A study that compared the relative 'attractiveness' of pregnant and non-pregnant women to mosquitoes found that the mechanisms underlying this vulnerability during pregnancy is likely to be related to at least two physiological factors. First, women in the advanced stages of pregnancy (mean gestational age 28 weeks or above) produce more exhaled breath (on average, 21 percent more volume) than their non- pregnant counterparts.

There are several hundred different components in human breath, some of which help mosquitoes detect a host. The study also found that the abdomen of pregnant women was on average, 0.7°C hotter than that of non-pregnant women and that there may be an increase in the release of volatile substances from the skin surface as well as a larger host 'signature' which allows mosquitoes to detect them more readily at close range. Maternal malaria increases the risk of spontaneous abortion, premature delivery, stillbirth and low birth weight<sup>140</sup> it is important to point out that maternal mortality in Nepal has historically been among the highest in Asia<sup>141</sup>.

**302.** Differences are also found in vulnerability to the indirect and longer-term effects of climate- related hazards. For example, droughts in Nepal bring health hazards through reduced availability of water for drinking, cooking and hygiene.

**303.** In times of disaster and environmental change, women and girls are expected to care for ill members of the family, which takes time away from income generation and education.

**304.** When confronted with long-term weather shifts, men show a greater preference to migrate, both seasonally

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**138** Mahat, I. 2004. Rural Energy Planning and Policies in Nepal: Gendered Perspectives, Resources, Energy and Development (READ), Vol.1 (1) pp. 19-41.

**139** Aguilar, L. 2009. Training Manual on Gender and Climate Change. GGCA-IUCN. San Jose, Costa Rica.

**140** WHO. 2011. Gender, Climate Change and Health. Switzerland.

**141** World Bank. 2009. Women's Health in Nepal. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.pri.org/stories/health/global-health/womens-health-nepal1422.html>

and for a number of years. With specific regards to HIV/AIDS, it is important to note a strong correlation with migration, as Nepal's 1.5 to 2 million labour migrants account for 46 percent of the country's HIV-positive population<sup>142</sup>.

- 305.** Since the majority of the health staff are male not only in general services, but also in the women specific services, social barriers make it difficult for women to access health services though these are widely inadequate in any case<sup>143</sup>.

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<sup>142</sup> Asian Development Bank, Department for International Development UK and the World Bank. 2011. Gender and Social Exclusion Assessment, Vol II. ADB-UKAID-WB. Nepal

<sup>143</sup> MWCSW and MGEP. 2002. Gender assessment in the health sector. UNDP. Nepal.

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
<p>To build the capacity of national and other professional technical and scientific institutions to conduct research in the area of climate change and health from a gender perspective</p>	<p>Collaborate with the National Health Research Council (NHRC) to strengthen research on the linkages between climate change/ gender and health</p>	<p>Working relationship established with the NHRC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Health, MoHP and NHRC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• I/NGOs</li> </ul>
	<p>Conduct workshops at the regional and international level to enhance capacity on methodologies that enables research to link climate change, health and gender</p>	<p>No. of scientific research and interventions conducted that uses gender and gender as a departure point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i.e. Safe Motherhood Network Federation, Nepal Public Health Foundation</li> <li>• Multilaterals (WHO, UNWomen</li> </ul>
	<p>Conduct research and data collection to identify the differential impact of climate change on the health of men, women and children</p>	<p>No. of workshops conducted at regional and international level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBOs</li> <li>• Gender institutions and organizations</li> </ul>
	<p>Conduct research and data collection to identify the differential impact of climate change on the health of men, women and children</p>	<p>No. of women and men trained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender institutions and organizations</li> <li>• Associations of Health Professionals (NESOG, nursing Association, etc.)</li> </ul>
	<p>Conduct research and data collection to identify the differential impact of climate change on the health of men, women and children</p>	<p>No. of research conducted using knowledge acquired</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research institutions, including academic institutions</li> </ul>
	<p>Identify disease patterns for new and emerging diseases and feed into an early warning system, raise awareness and mobilize women and women groups</p>	<p>Gender disaggregated data generated and made accessible to stakeholders (see below creation of women database)</p> <p>Disease patterns mapped</p> <p>Policy change/shift and projects/programs design as response and for early warning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donors</li> <li>• Cooperatives</li> <li>• Micro-finance institutions</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
		No. of groups active in the health sector and women organizations informed and mobilized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Development Bank Limited</li> </ul>
	<p>Conduct gender-responsive research to create a better understanding of the links between climate change and migration, particularly with regards to the health of migrating population concerning HIV/AIDS, malnutrition and psychosocial problems</p> <p>Disseminate research results among policy makers, professionals and development stakeholders</p>	<p>No. of research conducted</p> <p>No. of research publications published and distributed</p>	
	Mobilize resources to support gender-sensitive research	Percentage increase in the allocation of financial resources	
	Create a Women and Information Database Center in the hands of women (the center should provide decentralized access to information to the regions and districts)	No. of users utilizing data enabled by the Women and Information Database Center	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
<p>To ensure increased availability and accessibility of environment friendly technology to women, particularly in rural areas, to reduce exposure to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions<sup>144</sup></p>	<p>Widely disseminate information on environmentally friendly technology throughout the country, highlighting the positive impact of these technologies on the health of users, particularly that of women</p>	<p>No. of awareness campaigns rolled out on use of alternative technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoEnv- AEPC</li> <li>• MoHP</li> <li>• MoST</li> <li>• Institutions involved in alternative energy usage</li> </ul>
	<p>No. of training sessions conducted on use of alternative technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business institutions (private sector)</li> </ul>	
	<p>No. of women and men trained and using alternative energy sources and Improved Cook Stoves (ICS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I/NGOs-donors (i.e. CRT, Practical Action, SNV, UNDP, DANIDA)</li> </ul>	
<p>Reduction of morbidity and mortality relating to CO<sub>2</sub> exposure at the household level, disaggregated by sex</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community groups</li> <li>• Banks, cooperatives</li> </ul>		
	<p>Coordinate and synergize the efforts of different groups that are providing environmentally friendly technology to ensure need-based distribution thereof</p>	<p>Stakeholder coordination facilitated</p>	
		<p>Increased usage of new alternative technology, particularly among the rural community and women</p>	
		<p>Percentage increase in use of alternative technology by historically disadvantaged communities and individuals</p>	

<sup>144</sup> See also objective 4.5 under the energy section

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Link with microcredit programs and cooperatives to ensure financial resources are available for the dissemination of these technologies	<p>Increased financial resources to the community and women to purchase alternative technology</p> <p>No. of women and women groups from socially discriminated and economically backward groups accessing microcredit for environmentally friendly technology</p>	
To mainstreaming gender/health/climate change in the national disaster risk reduction policy	Establish coordination between the Ministries of Environment, -Health and -Home Affairs on climate change and DRR	Working relationship established amongst various Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoHA-DRRMC</li> <li>• MoH</li> <li>• INGOS</li> <li>• WIDPTC</li> </ul>
	Create awareness of the negative impacts of disasters on women and children among key stakeholders	<p>Working group formed</p> <p>No. of awareness campaigns rolled out at community level</p> <p>No. of training programs conducted for the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committees (DRRMC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoI</li> <li>• MoIC</li> <li>• IUCN</li> <li>• WHO</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• UNWomen</li> <li>• ICIMOD</li> </ul>



## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	Strengthen interventions on reproductive health (like pre- and post natal care, safe motherhood, nutritional needs etc.) and on prevention of gender-based violence in post-disaster relief and rehabilitation	Inclusion of a reproductive health component within the national Disaster Management Plan.	
	Develop strong community-level disaster risk reduction and -preparedness programs and ensure the inclusion of women in these	Formulation of a gender-sensitive national plan on disaster risk reduction and preparedness	
		Reduction in gender-based violence cases in post-disaster relief and rehabilitation	
		No. of women involved in disaster risk reduction and -preparedness programs	
	To ensure at least a 33 percent representation of women in disaster management programs and committees	Quota achieved	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
To design and implement policies to reduce health risks, particularly water and vector borne diseases, resulting from climate change	<p>Develop a detailed action plan to link climate change, health and gender in the NHSIP (2011 – 2015)</p> <p>Include gender considerations in the climate change and health section in the LAPA</p> <p>Prioritise environmental health and hygiene by establishing a separate section under the Division of Epidemiology and Communicable Disease Control and link it with GESI</p> <p>Secure adequate resources to implement health policies for Nepal with particular focus on policy objectives</p>	<p>No. of gender strategies in plans produced on issues of climate change, gender and health</p> <p>No. of policies reviewed and adjusted</p> <p>Morbidity reduction related to water, air and vector borne diseases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoHP</li> <li>• DoH</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• Ministerial Cluster: CCGender and Health</li> <li>• Donors</li> </ul>
Develop and roll-out a public awareness campaign on the linkages between climate change, health women and children	<p>Change in policy to include distribution of nets in hilly districts</p> <p>Identify target audiences and develop clear messaging on (i) the effects of firewood stoves on the health of women and families, (ii) causes, treatment and follow-up of uterus prolapse, (iii) HIV/AIDS prevention (targeting areas of high migration and women at risk),</p>	<p>No. of nets distributed</p> <p>No. of communities reached through an innovative and non-traditional public awareness campaign on the issues identified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoHA</li> <li>• National Health, Education, Information, Communication Center (NHEICC)</li> <li>• MoIC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: HEALTH (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
	<p>and (iv) on the use of local available sources of nutrition to fight malnutrition in cases of food insecurity</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I/NGOs</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an innovative media campaign for the four areas identified above on climate change, gender and health, including non-traditional communication tools (e.g. song competitions during religious festivals, street theatre, radio, TV, newspaper articles etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>No. of events organized</p> <p>No. of messages designed and disseminated</p>	
<p>To build capacity of decision-makers, health professionals, and community workers on the linkages between health, gender and climate change</p>	<p>Develop training materials and conduct training for health care providers such as doctors, nursing staff and grassroots workers and other stakeholders such as NGOs on climate change and its effect on health and, in particular, that of women</p>	<p>No. of training workshops conducted</p> <p>No of health service providers trained (by sex)</p> <p>No. of NGOs trained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoHA</li> <li>National Health Training Center</li> <li>WHO</li> <li>UNICEF</li> <li>IUCN</li> <li>ICIMOD</li> </ul>
	<p>Include the climate change impacts on health and gender in the curriculum of health service providers</p>	<p>Revision of the curriculum and inclusion of climate change, gender and health at all levels</p>	

## 7. PRIORITY SECTOR 6: URBANIZATION

### Overview

- 306.** Globally, the world's urban population<sup>145</sup> now exceeds the world's rural population and urbanization has become "unstoppable". Just over half the world now lives in cities but by 2050, over 70 percent of the world will be urban dwellers when only 14 percent of people in rich countries will live outside cities, and 33 percent in poor countries.
- 307.** The world's mega-cities are merging to form vast "mega-regions" which may stretch hundreds of kilometers across countries and be home to more than 100 million people. This "endless city" could be one of the most significant developments - and problems - in the way people live and economies grow in the next 50 years<sup>146</sup>. The development of mega-regions is regarded as generally positive as they, rather than countries, are now driving wealth.
- 308.** Research show that the world's largest 40 mega-regions cover only a tiny fraction of the habitable surface of our planet and are home to fewer than 18 percent of the world's population [but] account for 66 percent of all economic activity and about 85 percent of technological and scientific innovation<sup>147</sup>. The top 25 cities in the world account for more than half of the world's wealth and the five largest cities. The migration to cities, while making economic sense, is affecting the rural economy too: Most of the wealth in rural areas already comes from people in urban areas sending money back.
- 309.** The growth of mega-regions and cities is also leading to unprecedented urban sprawl, new slums, unbalanced development and income inequalities as more and more people move to satellite or dormitory cities. This sprawl is now increasingly happening in developing countries as real estate developers promote the image of a 'world-class lifestyle' outside the traditional city.
- 310.** Urban sprawl is the symptom of a divided, dysfunctional city: it is not only wasteful, it adds to transport costs, increases energy consumption, requires more resources, and causes the loss of prime farmland.
- 311.** The more unequal cities become, the higher the risk that economic disparities will result in social and political tension. The likelihood of urban unrest in unequal cities is high. The cities that are prospering the most are generally those that are reducing inequalities.
- 312.** Unprecedented disaster, wide-scale disruption and loss face many of the world's cities because of climate

<sup>145</sup> UN Habitat. 2010. State of the World's Cities 2010/2011 – Cities for All: Bridging the Urban Divide. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2917>

<sup>146</sup> UN Habitat. 2008. State of the World's Cities 2008/2009 – Harmonious Cities. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2562>

<sup>147</sup> Vidal, J. 2010. The Guardian. Interview with Eduardo Lopez Moreno, co-author "State of the World's Cities Report 2008". Monday, 22 March 2010.

change<sup>148</sup> and by 2050 there could be as many as 200 million climate change-displaced people around the world. The growing demands of cities in terms of consumption and lifestyle compound the pace of climate change and increase the risks.

- 313.** Climate change is also likely to hit the social fabric of cities and increase poverty through the high costs of damaged water supply, transportation systems, health services, and energy provision, industry and commerce and the very ecosystems themselves. The disruption to local economies is also likely to lead to mass migration and possible conflict. Cities will face increased tropical cyclones as well as heavy rains with increased flooding and landslides; they will also be hotter with more frequent drought conditions – the pressure on food supply and water availability could be severe with potential civil unrest expected.
- 314.** The present rapid pace of urbanization is unprecedented, with an almost five-fold increase of the urban population between 1950 and 2011. The fastest rates of urbanization are currently taking place in the least developed countries. In fact, that is where more than 90 percent of the world's urban population growth is occurring.
- 315.** At the same time many of those people are forced to live in slums and informal

settlements that are often built on marginal or dangerous land that is not deemed suitable for permanent residential structures, such as steep slopes, flood plains or industrial areas. Faulty construction methods and missing or inadequate infrastructure design contribute further to slope degradation. These populations are even more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as heavy rain, flash floods and landslides. According to UN Habitat, cities and climate change are on course for a deadly collision<sup>149</sup>.

- 316.** Cities therefore has a crucial role to play both in relation to mitigation and adaptation in relation to climate change. Efforts in terms of mitigation include cities (i) measuring their emissions of greenhouse gases, generated through the actions of their local government administration (government emissions) and through the actions of the community they serve (community emissions), (ii) committing for an emissions (government or community) reduction target with respect to a base year and a target year, (iii) planning their actions (e.g. energy efficiency in buildings and transport, introduction of renewable energy, sustainable waste management) at the government and community level to reach this committed reduction target, (iv) implementing their local climate action plans, and (v) monitoring emissions reductions achieved by their mitigation actions<sup>150</sup>.

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**148** UN Habitat. 2011. Cities and Climate Change: Global Report on Human Settlements. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/GRHS2011/Pr3RiskyCities.pdf>

**149** UN Habitat. 2011. Cities and Climate Change: Global Report on Human Settlements 2011. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/GRHS2011/Pr3RiskyCities.pdf>

**150** ICLEI. 1993. Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP). Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=10828>

**317.** Similarly, and in terms of adaptation, cities play a crucial role in building the resilience of urban communities through efforts on adaptation. Resilience is more than successful adaptation to climate change.

**318.** The concept of resilience, as a development approach, is able to address the complexity and the inter-linkages of challenges confronting local governments in cities of both developed and developing countries. In order to host 3 billion additional urban dwellers, the urban capacity will need to double within 40 years in a world where risks are increasingly complex and interconnected. Urban systems and communities need to be able to withstand stress and survive, adapt, bounce back from a crisis or disaster and rapidly move on.

**319.** Key issues are (i) the broader concept of resilience need to include key issues such as water, energy, food security, urban poverty and ecosystems, (ii) cities must be in the spotlight of resilience building, as these multiple issues come together in a context of high complexity, density and diversity, (iii) urban systems interact and are inter-dependent and these systems need to withstand stress in mutually supportive ways, (iv) urban resilience building has to take advantage of co-benefits, complementarity and realize synergies in the broader context of sustainable development, and (v) urban resilience

needs to work its way through the urban development agenda in order to systematically reduce risks.

**320.** In short, resilience building needs to be integrated into urban development: technical definitions of goals and targets, assessments, infrastructure and investment planning, as well as stakeholder consultation and participation among others. At the city level an integrated framework needs to account for water, energy and food security, greenhouse gas reductions, ecosystem protection, urban poverty, amongst others<sup>151</sup>.

### Situational Analysis

**321.** Although the Nepalese urban population still only comprises around 19 percent<sup>152</sup> of the overall population, urbanization has emerged as an increasing trend and a major national challenge.

**322.** This is largely due to the haphazard and rapid nature of urbanization in the country since 1970. Historically, policymakers, planners, academics and development partners have not been adequately appreciated the positive aspects of cities and towns as engines of economic growth in the context of national development.

**323.** The historical reaction of development agents to a spatial approach to development is that Nepal is a predominantly a rural society, and that

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<sup>151</sup> ICLEI. 2011. Report from the Resilient Cities 2011 Conference. Bonn, Germany. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: [http://resilient-cities.iclei.org/fileadmin/sites/resilient-cities/files/Resilient\\_Cities\\_2011/RC2011\\_Congress\\_report\\_20111114\\_01.pdf](http://resilient-cities.iclei.org/fileadmin/sites/resilient-cities/files/Resilient_Cities_2011/RC2011_Congress_report_20111114_01.pdf)  
<sup>152</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13). Government of Nepal. Nepal.

urbanization could drain resources from rural areas to urban centers. In many instances, the populist emphasis on rural and agricultural development as the only strategy has caused development agents to depict urbanization as the wrong path to development, highlighting the negative aspects of urbanity. Thus, due attention to urbanization has never been part of the planned development of Nepal<sup>153</sup>.

**324.** Currently, most urbanization occurs in an unbalanced manner in relation to the rest of the country: urbanization is largely centered in the Kathmandu/-Valley area, as well as a limited number of large municipalities and therefore is still not viewed as a major priority within the overall governmental policy development context by Nepal's government.

**325.** Due to weak institutional capacity of municipalities, the physical infrastructure in urbanized areas is neither adequate nor sufficient. The urban environment is therefore rapidly deteriorating. Solid waste management, in particular, is posing significant challenges. Other key challenges include unemployment (increasing both urban poverty, squatter settlements and related socio-economic problems), the division of roles and responsibilities between the various tiers of government (central and local authorities) involved in urban development, as well as a general lack in overall policy direction

on urbanization to eradicate poverty and drive economic development<sup>154</sup>.

**326.** In its Three-Year Plan Approach Paper<sup>155</sup>, the Government of Nepal addresses urbanization under section 9: Infrastructure Development Policy, chapter 9.6 *Building, Housing and Urban Development*. The topic is also addressed as intersecting with various other chapters.

**327.** The document acknowledges that there is a rapid urbanization process underway in Nepal. The density of population in 58 municipalities and 132 small towns is increasing daily, largely driven by a decade-long conflict and migration from rural to urban areas in search of better services, facilities and security. At present, around 19 percent of the total population is living in urban areas.

**328.** Though the process of urbanization has helped in the expansion of economic activity and utilization of opportunities, it has been very difficult to provide basic urban services and maintain an environmental balance, because of the lack of extension of cities and settlements according to an appropriate urban development plan. Lack of prioritizing on the return of investment is one of the major reasons for this. Similarly, more effective coordination among the agencies involved in urban management is necessary.

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<sup>153</sup> Iiwari, I. P. 2008. Urban Migration and Urbanization in Nepal. *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*, April 2008.

<sup>154</sup> Government of Nepal. 2012. National Urban Policy by the Ministry of Physical Planning and Work. Department of Urban Development and Building Construction. Nepal.

<sup>155</sup> National Planning Commission. 2010. Three-Year Plan Approach Paper (2010/11 – 2012/13). Government of Nepal. Nepal.

- 329.** Difficulties in implementing the effort of making private buildings safe, as expected, in order to reduce the negative environmental and social effects created by the development of uncontrolled expansion of housing and settlements, and lack of expected coordination among various agencies working in this sector are some major challenges that have been identified.
- 330.** Furthermore, to make an arrangement for a proper settlement of the people who are homeless and who do not have access to good housing services by developing appropriate towns from a social and environmental point of view is the main challenge of this sector. Similarly, existences of necessary policies, growing demand of systematic urbanization and safe housing and various development partners' priority to this sector, are some areas of opportunities.
- 331.** The effects of climate change on the cities in Nepal are not directly addressed in the Three-Year Plan Approach Paper.
- 332.** The National Urban Policy (NUP)<sup>156</sup>, however, puts forward three main objectives in terms of urban policy for the country: (i) providing support to sustainable development and poverty reduction by making every development regions self sustained through achievement of balanced national structure by careful allocation of development and investment in infrastructure facilities, (ii) improving the quality of life of urban residents through the development of a clean, safe and developed urban environment and (iii) Making urban management more effective by institutionally and legally strengthening local bodies and enhancing coordination and support amongst different institutions involved in urban development.
- 333.** To achieve these objectives, the NUP is proposing various strategies and policies, including prioritizing the development of a system to execute different physical development planning activities to maintain a clean and safe urban environment, prioritizing environmentally friendly public transportation system, conservation of natural and cultural resources, institutionalizing health city programs, minimizing risk of natural disasters, increasing outreach to lower class groups in terms of shelter and housing, and prioritizing economic development based on local opportunities and the management of economic activities within informal sector.
- 334.** In Nepal desegregated studies in relation to urbanization are insufficient.
- 335.** The NUP also does not acknowledge gender considerations. It only makes one mention to women in the entire document when it relates to “Consideration of factors like convenience to physically disabled people and women during construction of government, public or community building”.

### Gender and Urbanization in Nepal

<sup>156</sup> Government of Nepal. 2012. National Urban Policy by the Ministry of Physical Planning and Work. Department of Urban Development and Building Construction. Nepal.



- 336.** Slum dwellers make up close to 60 percent of the urban population. They experience varying deprivations and risks, which can include a lack of durable housing, overcrowding, insufficient access to clean water, poor sanitation, and threats of forced evictions. Women and girls often suffer the worst effects in Nepal.
- 337.** In more than two decades the population of Kathmandu Valley has more than doubled, whilst a very nominal increment in water was supplied. As a result, residents throughout Kathmandu, irrespective of the neighborhood, are getting water for about an hour on every 5<sup>th</sup> day. At present the dry season and wet season water production is estimated to be 97 MLD and 150 MLD with respective deficiencies of 65 percent and 54 percent. People are adapting to the scarcity through digging shallow wells, buying water from private tanker services and exploiting every drop of traditional water systems like wells and stone spouts. The burden of time, resource and effort for fetching water has become severe with more stress to poor particularly poor women<sup>157</sup>. This situation has also increase the girls drop out of school, particularly in poor households.
- 338.** In urban areas of Nepal, women's assets holdings have increased dramatically over the last four decades<sup>158</sup>. According to the Centre for Integrated Urban Development (CIUD) 2010 Household Survey, women own 30 percent of registered houses<sup>159</sup>.
- 339.** There are a number of factors in the urban context that promote female ownership of land. The main one being the changing social fabric in cities with a large percentage of immigrants: the large number of men migrating abroad in the search of work and fortune and the recent insurgency in the country has added to the percentage of single and women headed households. Another reason is to avoid the costly customary sharing arrangements in the case of family break up which require a man to share his earnings with all other family members. Finally a recent government policy to provide a 25 percent tax rebate to properties registered to women has exerted an upward pressure on women ownership in land and property<sup>160</sup>.
- 340.** There is a squatters' women's federation registered in 1996, Nepal Mahila Ekta Samaj (NMES), whose main goal is to find means of securing housing rights for poor communities in Nepal. Some of the areas of work of the women's federation concentrate on savings and credit, infrastructure, and women rights issues.
- 341.** Compared to male counterpart, women in the urban areas, use more public transport (estimates are around 60 percent).

<sup>157</sup> UN-HABITAT. 2010. Nepal Urban Housing Sector Profile. Kenya.

<sup>158</sup> Pandey, S. 2009. Rising property ownership among women in Kathmandu, Nepal: An exploration of causes and consequences. Nepal.

<sup>159</sup> CIUD. 2010. Sample Household Survey for Nepal Urban Housing Sector Profile Study. Unpublished report. Centre for Integrated Urban Development.

<sup>160</sup> UN-HABITAT. 2010. Nepal Urban Housing Sector Profile. Kenya.

**342.** Environmental degradation, climate change, and natural disasters threaten the livability of towns and cities. Since 1975, there has been a four-fold increase in the number of recorded natural disasters, including tsunamis, tropical cyclones, earthquakes and flooding<sup>161</sup>. Seven out of ten natural disasters are believed to be climate-related<sup>162</sup>. To improve policies and programs, governments and urban planners benefit from understanding how gender affects women and men differently as victims of disasters, but also how the knowledge and skills of both can help them and their communities to survive. The same holds true for how we seek to address climate change.

**343.** As they take care of their families during crisis situations in Nepal, women also face enormous challenges securing enough food and water, fuel for cooking and lighting, and wood or other building materials for rebuilding destroyed homes, especially if crops fail, droughts occur and natural resources are depleted.

**344.** Women can and do contribute to disaster management and the creation of resilient communities. Promoting women's equal leadership in adopting more environmentally sound practices for example, around fuel use (for cooking and lighting) and in materials for home reconstruction, can reduce the negative impact of disasters.

Women also play a strong role in mobilizing communities in post-crisis reconstruction, and their contributions should be further encouraged<sup>163</sup>.

**345.** Women powerful agents of change with regards to several factors in terms of both our efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change within an urban environment, apart from those within a disaster management context.

**346.** These include: (i) driving the lowering of emissions through energy efficiency, sustainable waste management and recycling at the household level that could have an accumulated effect at scale, (ii) impacting on consumption patterns by favoring local to imported products or products that have to be transported over long distances when doing the household's shopping, (iii) assisting in the overseeing and implementation of local action plans by acting as the main focal point for these initiatives at the household level, sharing information in discussions in various women support groups and playing an oversight role in monitoring and evaluation at micro scale to improve efficiency and effectiveness of these, (iv) efficient water management, (v) implementing behavioral change, and (vi) mobilizing collective action on socio-economic issues to alleviate the hardship of poverty, increase food security especially in disadvantaged areas.

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<sup>161</sup> UN-HABITAT. 2009. Fact sheet on Natural and Human-made Disasters. Global Report on Human Settlement.

<sup>162</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2008. Climate Change: Risks Overwhelming Current Global Humanitarian Capacity as cited by UNFPA 2009 State of the World Population: Facing a Changing World: Women, Population and Climate.

<sup>163</sup> Women Watch. 2012. Gender Equality and Sustainable Urbanization. Retrieved from the World Wide Web: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/urban/factsheet.html>

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: URBANIZATION

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE
Revise, review and enforce relevant urban policies within the framework of gender and climate change	Review and refine policies (such as WASH policy, National Urban Policy, National Shelter Policy, etc.) in order to make them gender-responsive	No. of policies review and amended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoPPW in wider consultation with key stakeholders and local women groups</li> <li>• Gender and Climate Change Task Force</li> </ul>
	Disseminate information, and regulate policy implementation	Gender and Climate Change Task Force operational and functioning effectively	
Integrate climate change issues and gender participation in urban planning	Incorporate climate change and gender issues in the planning guidelines for planning processes	Climate change and gender- responsive planning guidelines available and used by at least 25 percent of municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoPPW</li> <li>• MoLD</li> <li>• MoEnv in consultation with experts</li> <li>• Real Estate developers and planners</li> </ul>
	Support, monitor and evaluate the use of guidelines by municipalities		
	Build capacity towards the adoption of gender-responsive green building initiatives through the building code, for example implementation	No. of gender-responsive green building projects  Incentive packages for green building project in place	

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: URBANIZATION (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE	
Develop adequate policies, frameworks and technology systems for waste management	Develop gender-smart programs that create “waste to wealth”	No. of non-traditional waste-based jobs created for women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoPPW</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> <li>• MoLD in consultation with the experts</li> </ul>	
	Establish public-private partnerships to address waste-related challenges, benefiting women in affected communities	No. of women collectors involved		Tonnage of waste collected and used
	Develop the capacity of women to manufacture and sell high-quality souvenirs and products generated from the collection of waste through, for example, exchange schemes with women around the world engaged in similar ventures	Increase in income for women		Cleaner city communities perceived
Increase women representation in the management roles in the transportation sector	Pro-actively involve women in policy-making related to transport sector	Transportation policy revised in consultation with key women stakeholders and under implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoPPW (Department of Roads and Department of Transport Management)</li> <li>• MoWCSW</li> </ul>	
	Secure women representation in planning urban design, infrastructure			No. of women entrepreneurs benefitting from subsidies
	Provision of subsidies for women entrepreneurs involved in transport sectors	Year-on-year improvement in the gender profile of local authorities and officers		
	Promote women taking up roles relating to enforcement of laws and regulations at the local level, e.g. police, construction inspections, and the community			

## EXAMPLES OF ACTION: URBANIZATION (CONT.)

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	RESPONSIBLE	
Promote urban agriculture among women at the household community and professional level	Prepare urban agriculture (organic farming) training and information packages and implement them	No. of trainings conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoAC</li> <li>• NARC</li> <li>• MoEnv</li> </ul>	
	Establish a demonstration and support center to inform the decisions and practices of women producers that result in the promotion of better nutrition and organic produce	Support center established	Farming practices by women altered towards cultivating environmentally friendly varieties with better nutrition	
	Provide infrastructure for the selling of organic produce by women in urban areas	Organic market established in main urban centers	Increase in the income generated by women and men through selling organic produce	
			Nutritional level of children (0 – 5) increase in the immediate community	

## 1. PROPOSED GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE FOR NEPAL:

### Gender and Climate Change Task Force

**347.** It is proposed that a multi-stakeholder Gender and Climate Change Task Force be formed by the Government of Nepal under the leadership of the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment.

**348.** The main objective of this Task Force will be to provide oversight at the central level to the gender sensitive implementation of NAPA and LAPA and other components of climate change responses in Nepal.

**349.** The members of this Task Force will include a Member-Secretary who will be the Joint Secretary responsible for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI FP) in the Ministry of Environment; other Members will be represented at the Joint Secretary Level by the respective GESI from other Ministries directed involved in the implementation of NAPA.

**350.** These Ministries are: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives; Ministry of Health and Population; Ministry of

Forests and Soil Conservation; Ministry of Physical Planning and Works; Ministry of Irrigation and the Ministry of Local Development. The Joint Secretary responsible for Climate Change in the Ministry of Environment will also be a member of this Task Force. An additional member from the Ministry of Environment will also be invited from the Alternate Energy Promotion Centre to join this Task Force.

**351.** It is also proposed to have representation at the Joint Secretary Level from the National Planning Commission, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. In order to make the Task Force more effective it is proposed to have as a representative one member from among Nepal's External Development Partners involved in this area and one representative from the non-government sector. Both these representatives will be members of the Stakeholder Forum (described below).

### Government of Nepal G & CC Task Force Secretariat

**352.** Coordination and Support to this Task Force will be provided by IUCN Nepal. IUCN will set up a Secretariat with the specific Terms of Reference to support

this Task Force at the national level. IUCN will also provide Secretariat support the Stakeholder Forum. This Secretariat will also liaise with the Ministerial Chapters/Clusters of the Task Force.

- 353.** The proposed Women Information Database Centre (outlined above) will also be housed within the Secretariat and supervised by the Secretariat staff.
- 354.** Among the key responsibilities of this Task Force will be the role of watchdog for gender sensitive implementation of NAPA, LAPA and ccGAP. The Task Force will ensure effective coordination and information sharing on the progress of NAPA, LAPA and ccGAP implementation. This Task Force will also provide guidelines and indicators for ensuring gender considerations in the implementation of NAPA and LAPA activities and actions by all the stakeholder ministries.

### **Stakeholder Forum**

- 355.** A Stakeholder Forum comprised of all donors, INGOs, Networks, Federations and Alliances, NGOs will be established as a Forum for information sharing and coordination of programmes and projects in this sector. Members of this Forum will also be the members of the Ministerial Climate Change and Gender Clusters.
- 356.** The Stakeholder Forum members will also be responsible for contributing to the creation of the Women Information Database Centre. The Secretariat

established by IUCN will also provide support to this Forum. The members of this Forum will play a key role in promoting the formation of the Ministerial Climate Change and Gender within the Ministries they are partnering.

### **Ministerial Climate Change and Gender Clusters (CCGender)**

- 357.** The Ministerial Climate Change and Gender Clusters will be formed in the 6 ministries directly involved in the implementation of NAPA. Specifically the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives; Ministry of Health and Population; Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation; Ministry of Physical Planning and Works; Ministry of Irrigation and the Ministry of Local Development. Each of these Clusters will be headed by the GESI FP (Focal Point) within the Ministry. Members of the Cluster will include the representatives of Departments, Divisions, Units and other institutions under the Ministry with direct linkage to climate change issues. Representatives of relevant External Development Partners (donors and INGOs) working with the Ministry will also be invited to members of this Cluster along with NGOs and Networks active in the specific work area of the Ministry.
- 358.** The Ministerial Cluster will be responsible for overseeing the entire process for integrating gender in the climate change programmes and projects in that sector. This Cluster will also be responsible for reviewing legislation and policy documents to

ensure that the inalienable relationship of gender and climate change is reflected in them. This Cluster will also collect all reports and information of relevant ongoing programmes and projects. The Cluster will prepare periodic reports to map progress and identify gaps and challenges for its own information as well as to provide information to the Gender and Climate Change Taskforce and the Stakeholder Forum.

- 359.** An Ad-hoc Committee will be formed to initiate the process of establishing the Ministerial Climate Change and Gender. Participants representing the various ministries who attended the strategy-writing workshop will be requested to take the lead of the Ad-hoc Committee formation. It is recommended that IUCN Nepal Country Representative request the Secretary of Environment to brief the secretaries of the different ministries and request for support prior to formation of the Task Force. The Ad-hoc Committee will be entrusted with drafting Terms of Reference for the Cluster and for exploring opportunities for resourcing the Cluster. IUCN will provide initial support for the formation of these groups.

### **Regional and District Level Coordination Unit**

- 360.** This Unit will be formed at the district level and where appropriate at the regional level (e.g. to respond to floods within a river basin). This group which will be at the implementation level will be headed by the Local Development Officer of the Ministry of Local Development at the district level. The members of this group will include all the district line officers representing the ministries of Health and Population, Irrigation, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Forestry and Soil Conservation. Representatives of INGOs, UN agencies and NGOs and CBOs (women's cooperatives, mothers groups, forest users groups, etc.) working in the related field will also be invited to be part of this Unit.
- 361.** The Unit will serve as a platform for sharing all activities being done at the district level in response to climate change and with an engendered perspective. The Gender and Climate Change Taskforce at the Central Level will have to mandate this group and develop Terms of Reference. This Unit will report to the Gender and Climate Change Task Force in addition to its parent ministry.



## GENDER EQUALITY TEXTS INCLUDED IN THE CANCUN AGREEMENT

**Preamble:** The effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, **gender**, age, indigenous or minority status and disability;

### I. A shared vision for long-term

**cooperative action:** Recognizes ... that **gender equality** and the effective **participation of women** and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change;

**II. Enhanced action on Adaptation:** Affirms that enhanced action on adaptation should ... follow a country-driven, **gender-sensitive**, participatory and fully transparent approach; taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems;

### III. Enhanced action on Mitigation C:

Requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plan, to address, inter alia ... **gender considerations** and the safeguards identified in paragraph 2 of Annex 1;

### III. Enhanced action on Mitigation E:

Affirming that responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner ... taking fully into account the ... consequences for vulnerable groups, **in particular women** and children;

### IV. Finance, technology and capacity-

**building C:** Decides that capacity-building support to developing country Parties should be enhanced with a view to strengthening endogenous capacities ... taking into account **gender aspects**; and

**Annex IV:** Parties are encouraged to nominate senior experts with a view to achieving, within the membership of the Technology Executive Committee, an appropriate balance of technical, legal, policy, social development and financial expertise ... taking into account the need to achieve **gender balance** in accordance with decision 36/CP.7.

**(FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 72).** Requests parties to address: (...) **gender considerations** and the safeguards ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia, indigenous peoples and local communities

<sup>164</sup> Summary provided by Women Environment and Development Organization on behalf of GGCA.

## Gender equality texts included in the Subsidiary Body Outcomes in Cancun

### Decision 6/CP.16- Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group:

2. Also decides that the Least Developed Countries Expert Group should be mandated to provide technical guidance and advice on: (c) Strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities within least developed country Parties;

### Decision 7/CP.16- Progress in, and ways to enhance, the implementation of the amended New Delhi work program on Article 6 of the Convention:

2. Invites Parties, with a view to enhancing the implementation of the amended New Delhi work program: (c) To enhance efforts to elaborate national strategies and action plans on Article 6 of the Convention, including climate change communication strategies, taking into account, inter alia, the gender perspective; (e) To foster the participation of women, youth, indigenous peoples, civil society groups and relevant stakeholders in decision-making on climate change at the national level and their attendance at intergovernmental meetings, including sessions of the Conference of the Parties, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the subsidiary bodies;

### Agenda item 3: Nairobi work program on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change:

7. The SBSTA noted that additional effort is needed to assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, to improve their understanding and assessment of

impacts, vulnerability and adaptation and make informed decisions on the implementation of practical adaptation actions and measures, and to assist Parties to enhance the capacity of relevant decision makers and stakeholders, at different levels, including representatives of women, local communities and indigenous peoples, to better utilize the information and tools provided by the Nairobi work program.

## GENDER EQUALITY LANGUAGE IN DURBAN OUTCOMES

### II. Enhanced action on mitigation

#### F. Economic and social consequences of response measures

90. Urges Parties to give full consideration to the positive and negative impacts of the implementation of response measures to mitigate climate change on society and on all vulnerable groups, in particular women and children

### III. Enhanced action on adaptation

103. Encourages Parties to nominate experts to the Adaptation Committee with a diversity of experience and knowledge relevant to adaptation to climate change, while also taking into account the need to achieve gender balance in accordance with decision 36/CP.7;

### IV. Capacity building

*Further reaffirming* the importance of taking into account gender aspects and acknowledging the role and needs of youth

and persons with disabilities in capacity-building activities,

## **Annex VI Composition and working modalities of the Standing Committee**

2. The Standing Committee shall be composed of members nominated by Parties for approval by the Conference of the Parties, who shall have the necessary experience and skills, notably in the areas of climate change, development and finance, taking into account the need to achieve **gender balance** in accordance with decision 36/CP.7.

## **Annex VII Terms of reference of the Climate Technology Centre and Network**

1. The mission of the Climate Technology Centre and Network is to stimulate technology cooperation and to enhance the development and transfer of technologies [...] to facilitate the preparation and implementation of technology projects and strategies taking into account **gender considerations** to support action on mitigation and adaptation and enhance low emissions and climate-resilient development.

4. The prospective host's existing governance and management structures will be scored based on the following sub criteria, which are of equal importance:

(c) Effectiveness of the current management structure of the host organization to ensure **gender sensitivity**, transparency, responsiveness, flexibility, financial

management, auditing and reporting functions, and the ability to provide high-quality administrative, infrastructural and logistic arrangements, and accessibility to developing country Parties including least developing countries.

## **Green Climate Fund -report of the Transitional Committee Draft decision [-/CP.17]**

3. [...] The Fund will strive to maximize the impact of its funding for adaptation and mitigation, and seek a balance between the two, while promoting environmental, social, economic and development co-benefits and taking a **gender-sensitive** approach.

## **II. Governance and Institutional arrangements**

C. Rules of procedure of the Board

2. Selection of Board members

11. The members of the Board and their alternates will be selected by their respective constituency or regional group within a constituency. Members of the Board will have the necessary experience and skills, notably in the areas of climate change and development finance, with due consideration given to **gender balance**.

E. Secretariat

1. Establishment of the secretariat

21. The secretariat will be staffed with professional staff with relevant experience. The staff selection will be managed by the Executive Director and will be open, transparent and based on merit, taking into account geographical and **gender balance**.

## V. Operational modalities

31. The Fund will provide simplified and improved access to funding, including direct access, basing its activities on a country-driven approach and will encourage the involvement of relevant stakeholders, including vulnerable groups and addressing **gender aspects**.

### XIII. Stakeholder input and participation

71. The Board will develop mechanisms to promote the input and participation of stakeholders, including private-sector actors, civil society organizations, vulnerable groups, **women** and indigenous peoples, in the design, development and implementation of the strategies and activities to be financed by the Fund.

#### National adaptation plans Draft decision [-/CP.17]

##### A. Framing national adaptation plans

3. *Further agrees* that enhanced action on adaptation should be undertaken in accordance with the Convention, should follow a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and by *gender-sensitive approaches*, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate;

## Annex

### Draft initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by least developed country Parties

#### B. Elements of national plans

##### 2. Preparatory elements

3. In developing NAPs, consideration would be given to identify specific needs, options and priorities on a country-driven basis, utilizing the services of national and, where appropriate, regional institutions, and to the effective and continued promotion of **participatory and gender-sensitive approaches** coordinated with sustainable development objectives, policies, plans and programmes.

#### Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change Draft decision [-/CP.17]

4. *Also requests* the secretariat to organize, in collaboration with Nairobi work programme partner organizations and other relevant organizations, the following workshops, informed by the information contained in annex I to the report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its thirty-fourth session and subsequent views of Parties, and to include indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation and **gender-sensitive tools and approaches** as cross-cutting issues:

#### Draft decision on guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected and modalities related to forest reference

**emission levels and forest reference levels as referred in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I Draft decision [--/CP.17]**

*Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected*

2. *Agrees* that systems for providing information on how the safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected should, taking into account national circumstances and respective capabilities, and recognizing national sovereignty and legislation, and relevant international obligations and agreements, and respecting **gender considerations**:

**Capacity-building under the Convention Draft decision [-/CP.17]**

*Reaffirming* the importance of taking into account **gender aspects** and acknowledging the role and needs of youth and persons with disabilities in capacity-building activities,

**Capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol Draft decision [-/CMP.7]**

*Reaffirming* the importance of taking into account **gender aspects** and acknowledging the role and needs of youth and persons with disabilities in capacity-building activities,

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## ANNEX 2: LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS VISITED/INTERVIEWS

<b>ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>PERSON CONTACTED</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>
Ministry of Environment	Batu Krishna Uprety	Joint Secretary
UNDP	Vijaya Singh	Assistant Country Director
	Anupa Rimal Lamichhane	Climate Change Analyst
	Brian Harding	Climate Change Specialist
MoFSC	Nabin Kumar Ghimire	Secretary
	Sagar Rimal	Joint Secretary
SDC	Bimala Rai Poudyal, PhD	Senior Program Officer
DFID	Sabita Thapa, PhD	Climate Change and Natural Resource Advisor
REDD Cell	Resham Raj Dangi	Joint Secretary
Ministry of Energy	Moti Bahadur Kuwar	Joint Secretary
National Planning Commission	Yuba Raj Bhusal	Member Secretary
MSFP	Kanti Risal	Social Development Advisor at DFID/UK AID/LFP
	Peter Neil	Livelihood Forestry Programme

**ORGANIZATIONS****PERSON CONTACTED****DESIGNATION**

Ministry of Women  
Children and Social  
Welfare

Bala Nanda Poudel

Secretary

Hari Poudel, PhD

Joint Secretary

Dipendra Prasad Adhikari

Joint Secretary

Ministry of Education

Kishore Thapa

Secretary

JS Awasthi, PhD

Joint Secretary

Janandran Poudel

Joint Secretary

Winrock International

Suman Dhakal

Senior Research Officer

Mona Sharma

Rural ICT Officer

Nira Bhatta

Program Associate

ICIMOD

Madhav Karki, PhD

Deputy Director General

Manohara Khadaka, PhD

Gender Specialist

AEPC

Raju Laudari

Manager Climate Change and Carbon Unit

Kathmandu University

Tanka Nath Sharma, PhD

Dean School of Education

Laxman Gyawali

Ast. Professor

ADB

Jaya Sharma

Gender and Social Development  
Consultant

Ministry of Finance

Yugal Kishor Gautan

Section Office Foreign Aid Coordinator  
Division

Abi Nath Rai

Under Secretary Foreign Aid Coordinator  
Division

**ORGANIZATIONS****PERSON CONTACTED****DESIGNATION**

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MoAC

---

Deepak Mani Pokhrel, PhD

---

Under Secretary

---

Hari Dahal, PhD

---

Joint Secretary

---

Surendra Subedi

---

Under Secretary

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Bidhya Panday

---

Under Secretary

---

WWF

---

Moon Shrestha

---

Senior Program Officer

---

Tara Gyawali

---

Livelihood Advisor

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Judy Oglethorpe

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Chief of Party-Hariyo Ban

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CARE

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Sunil Kumar Regmi

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Climate Change adaptation Coordinator

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## ANNEX 3: LISTS OF PARTICIPANTS WORKSHOPS

### LINKING GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE February 7-9, 2012

S. No.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1	Ms. Poonam Bhatta	FECOFUN
2	Ms. Kamala Thapa Magar	NEFIN
3	Ms. Gita Bohara	HIMAWANTI Nepal
4	Ms. ShantaManavi	All Nepal Peasants' Federation
5	Ms. Shanti Karanjit	Women in Environment
6	Ms. Sushila Khadgi	ECCA
7	Ms. Ishana Thapa	Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN)
8	Ms. Sanjeevani Yonzon Shrestha	WCN
9	Ms. Suman Bisht	ICIMOD
10	Ms. Manohara Khadka, PhD	ICIMOD
11	Ms. Dibya Gurung	WOCAN
12	Ms. Mona Sherpa	ActionAid International Nepal
13	Mr. Bed Khatiwada	ActionAid International Nepal
14	Ms. Anupa Rimal Lamichhane	UNDP
15	Ms. Mona Sharma	Winrock International

## LINKING GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE (CONT.)

February 7-9, 2012

S. No.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
16	Ms. Moon Shrestha	WWF Nepal
17	Ms. Sangita Lama	Climate Action Volunteers Nepal
18	Ms. Puspa Bhatt, PhD	Safe Motherhood Network Federation Nepal
19	Ms. Sangita Paudel	National Planning Commission
20	Ms. Radha Wagle	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
21	Ms. MeenaKhanal	Ministry of Environment
22	Ms. AshaSharma	Ministry of Environment
23	Ms. ShantaPant	Ministry of Environment
24	Ms. Sarita Maskey	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
25	Ms. Ishwari Devi Shrestha	Ministry of Health
26	Ms. Indu Ghimire	Ministry of Local Development
27	Ms. Indra Kumari Manandhar	Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
28	Ms. Sirjana Sharma	Ministry of Energy
29	Ms. Bhagawati Gyawali	Ministry of Finance
30	Ms. Mandira Pokharel	National Women Commission
31	Ms. Pragati Shahi	The Kathmandu Post
32	Ms. Arzu Rana Deuba, PhD	Parliamentarian
33	Ms. Racchya Shah	IUCN Nepal

**LINKING GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE (CONT.)**  
**February 7-9, 2012**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
34	Ms. Anu Adhikari	IUCN Nepal
35	Mr. Yam Malla, PhD	IUCN Nepal
36	Mr. Rajendra Khanal	IUCN Nepal
37	Ms. Bharati Sharma	IUCN Nepal
38	Ms. Bidya Pandy	MoAC
39	Ms. Geeta D. Pradhan	UNDP
40	Ms. Chhatra Amatya, PhD	NagarikAawaz
41	Ms. Manju Malashi	FECOFUN
42	Ms. Samjhana Phuyal	RUWDUC
43	Ms. Indira Shakya	BSP-Nepal
44	Mr. Brian Harding	UNDP

**NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY  
TOWARDS THE MAINSTREAMING OF GENDER IN CLIMATE CHANGE IN NEPAL  
February 21- 23**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
1	Ms. Poonam Bhatta	FECOFUN
2	Ms. Gita Bohara	Himawanti Nepal
3	Ms. Shanti Karanjit	WE
4	Dr. Puspa Bhatt	Safe Motherhood Network Federation Nepal (SMNF)
5	Dr. Chhatra Amatya	Nagarik Aawaz
6	Mr. Vijay Singh	UNDP
7	Ms. Dibya Gurung	WOCAN
8	Mr. Bed Prasad Khatiwada	Action Aid
9	Ms.Radha Wagle	Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation
10	Ms. Sabina Kharbuja	Ministry of Energy
11	Mr. Nam Raj Khatri	WHO
12	Mr. Terrence Thompson	WHO
13	Ms. Subhechchha Shrestha	CEAPRED Nepal
14	Ms. Neeru Gurung	Forest Action
15	Mr. Netra Sharma Sapkota	USAID
16	Mr.Tahalia Barrett	USAID
17	Mr. Prafulla Man Sing	UN-HABITAT
18	Mr. Praveen Man Sing	OXFAM Nepal

**NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY  
TOWARDS THE MAINSTREAMING OF GENDER IN CLIMATE CHANGE IN NEPAL (CONT.)  
February 21- 23**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
19	Mr. Subarna Kapali	CRT
20	Ms. Devi Pandey	Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation
21	Ms. Kanti Risal	SDC/MSFP
22	Mr. Krishna Raj Aryal	SAPPROS- Nepal
23	Mr. Arun Kumar Thapa	Ministry of Environment
24	Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba	IUCN
25	Mr. Mohan Bdr. Thapa	CEAPRED Nepal
26	Mr. Parbat Dhungana	KU Env. Education QSD
27	Mr. Indra Raj Bhattarai	SDI Nepal & KU
28	Ms. Melissa Alipalo	ADB/MoENV
29	Ms. Shilpa Bhattarai	TU
30	Ms. Meena Khanal	MoENV
31	Ms. Kamana Gurung	Embassy of Finland
32	Ms. Lalu Kadel	Practical Action
33	Mr. Vinod Gautam	Ministry of Environment
34	Mr. Sujan Subedi	Ministry of Environment
35	Ms. Moon Shrestha	WWF
36	Ms. Pratibha Manandhar	DHM

**NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY  
TOWARDS THE MAINSTREAMING OF GENDER IN CLIMATE CHANGE IN NEPAL (CONT.)  
February 21- 23**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
37	Ms. Suman Bisht	ICIMOD
38	Mr. Ram Chandra Khanal	Freelancer
39	Ms. Pasang D. Sherpa	NEFIN
40	Ms. Mercedes Feldman	US Embassy
41	Ms. Shikha Shrestha	Care Nepal
42	Mr. Avishesh Neupane	PAF
43	Mr. Batu Uprety	MoE
44	Mr. Tulasi pd. Chaulagain	MoE
45	Mr. Narayan Bdr. Bist	Ministry of Physical Planning & Works
46	Mr. Krishna Chandra Paudel	AEPC
47	Ms. Durga Karki	NFN
48	Ms. Surendra Subedi	Himalayan Times (Nepali)
49	Ms. Sama Shrestha	UN Women
50	Mr. Netra Sharma	USAID
51	Ms. Sharada Pandey	MoHP
52	Ms. Anamika Adhikari	
53	Ms. Bidya Pandey	MoAC
54	Mr. S.P. Sharma	DoF

**NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL STRATEGY  
TOWARDS THE MAINSTREAMING OF GENDER IN CLIMATE CHANGE IN NEPAL (CONT.)  
February 21- 23**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
55	Ms. Anita Pradhan	Water Aid
56	Ms. Sushila Pandit	THE- Nepal
57	Ms. Sandhya Shrestha	OXFAM Nepal
58	Ms. Geeta D. Pradhan	UNDP
59	Ms. Anupa Rimal Lamichhane	UNDP
60	Mr. Deepak Raj Parajuli	KU
61	Dr. Nakul Baniya	MoE
62	Ms. Pratikshya Pradhan	CRT
63	Ms. Anita Karki	ICIMOD
64	Ms. Kamala Thapa	NEFIN CCREDD
65	Ms. Srijana Baral	Rupantaran Nepal
66	Ms. Deepa Dahal	Radio Kantipur
67	Ms. Jenty Krisch-Wood	UNDP
68	Ms. Bandita Sijapati	World Bank
69	Dr. Suman S. Bhattarai	Nepal Agroforestry Foundation (NAF)