



Initiative for Climate Change Adaptation (ICCA)

Annual Report 2016

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1. Background

Initiative for climate change adaptation (ICCA) is five (2012-2017) years long project funded by USAID. It is awarded to consortium of iDE Nepal, Rupantar and RIMS-Nepal in global competition. ICCA have overall goal to increase resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to adapt to and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change in Nepal. Good governance, capacity building, improved reliance and climate change Adaptation & mitigation are four component of project intervention. The project will directly benefit 20,000 HHs (over 100,000 individuals), of which 10,000 HHs will be involved in smallholder enterprises generating an average incremental income of US \$ 100 per annum and rest will increase their incremental income by US \$ 50 (Overall by US \$ 75). It is also expected to involve at least 50% women and 50% disadvantaged caste/ethnic groups among the beneficiaries. It include eight district namely kapilvastu, Rupandehi, Nawalparashi, Kaski, Syangja, Parbat, Rolpa and Dang. While implementing the project in Kapilvastu District, Kalika Self-reliance Social Centre (KSSC) kapilvastu is a local partner NGO who has taken over all implementing responsibilities in 8 VDCs namely; Banganga, Gajheda, Kopwa, Mahuwa, Dhankauli, Maharajgunj, Sauraha, and Kajarahawa.

1.1. ICCA Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of this program is to increase resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to adapt to and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change in Nepal. The primary objective is to work with communities to develop interventions which improve the ability of individuals and groups to adapt to climate change. The program has the following four integrated objectives:

- Strengthen institutions and mechanisms to facilitate effective governance for climate change adaptation, resource mobilization and mainstreaming development planning linking forestry and agricultural development initiatives;
- Enhance communities' capacities to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change and harness opportunities;
- Diversify and improve livelihood and resilience of poor and vulnerable communities through sustainable income generation, skills and enterprise development; and
- Identify and facilitate suitable adaptation interventions, innovations and technologies.

Each of these objectives represents a specific program component: good governance, capacity building, improved resilience, and climate change adaptation.

1.2. Implementing Partners

The program is implemented by a consortium of three organizations, viz., International Development Enterprises (iDE) Nepal, Rupantaran and Resource Identification and Management Society (RIMS) Nepal. iDE is the lead organization responsible for overall project management and implementation, partners' capacity building, value chain development in income generating activities (NTFP, vegetables, essential oils value added processing), monitoring, coordination, supervision and reporting. Partners, viz. Rupantaran and RIMS implement the project field activities. Rupantaran oversees climate change adaptation in forestry context, while RIMS oversees climate change adaptation in watershed context. The project is designed for management at different levels, e.g. through a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) at the central level, though a Senior Management Team at project level, Regional Management Team at regional level and Local Partner NGO (Kalika Self-reliance Social Centre-Taulihawa, Kapilvastu (KSSC-Nepal) at District level.

1.3. Expected Results

ICCA's expected results include:

- Climate change adaptation mainstreamed into existing district / community institutions
- Communities' knowledge and capacities enhanced for climate change adaption
- Climate change resilient income opportunities developed for vulnerable communities
- Adaptation interventions adopted in project pockets and then extended to GON and other climate adaptation programs.

Selected impacts include:

- At least 3 Government Organizations and 6 NGOs at the local level integrate climate change adaptation interventions and at least 10 non-project VDCs in other climate change projects adopt promoted interventions/approaches
- At least 20 adaptation interventions, practices, and technologies identified and executed
- 20,000 households will increase their annual income by an average of \$75 from climate change resilient opportunities
- 10,000 households will participate and benefit from improved governance and activities for climate change adaption at the local level. The proposed ICCA project will also build the capacity of IDE, Rupantaran, RIMS-Nepal, and a network of district based NGOs to be strong partners for USAID development initiatives.

2. Planned Activities for the period

ICCA Project had planned to focus on household identification, Group/Sub Groups formation/Strengthening, Capacity Building of group, VFCC/VC4 Strengthening, Establishment of Revolving fund and management for IGAs, Facilitate for Market Information System (MIS) for Vegetable, Demonstration of NTFP/trees seed seedling production and plantation, Scale up/strengthening of existing potential NTFP based enterprise, Demo Of European Chamomile, Training and support on institutional development and management of distillation unit (DU) and Periodic program review & planning meeting at district level.

3. Major Accomplishments (Target Vs Achievements)

3.1 Numerical Progress Summary

The Table1 below summarizes the progress made during the period and also the reason for variance/unaccomplished

Table: 1

Code	Activity	Target	Progress	Reason for variance/unaccomplished
1.2.1	HH selection (through vulnerability assessment) and group/sub-group formation/strengthening	24	8	Due to long Festive period, CA Election & Farmers busy time
1.2.2	Capacity Building at group level (Sensitization/ awareness on good governance, social mobilization)	20	6	Farmers busy time and delay in group formation
1.2.3	Village Climate Change Coordination Committee (VCCCC) strengthening/ formation	8	2	Busy schedule of VDC Secretary
3.1.1	Revolving fund establishment /and management for IGAs (Income generation activities)	8	-	Delay in group formation and budget flow
3.2.4	Facilitate for Market Information System (MIS) for vegetable.	1	-	Initiated/on progress
3.4.4	Demonstration of NTFP/trees seed seedling production and plantation.	1	-	Demand is collecting/ On progress
3.6.3	Scale up/strengthening of existing potential NTFP based enterprise	1	-	Due to delay of Budget flow from centre to LNGO
3.6.5.1	Demo Of European Chamomile	1	1	
3.6.8	Training and support on institutional development and management of distillation unit	1	-	Due to busy schedule of Gharelu and Tax offices
5.1.5	Periodic program review and planning at district level (LNGO through)	2	3	

The progress is highlighted below.

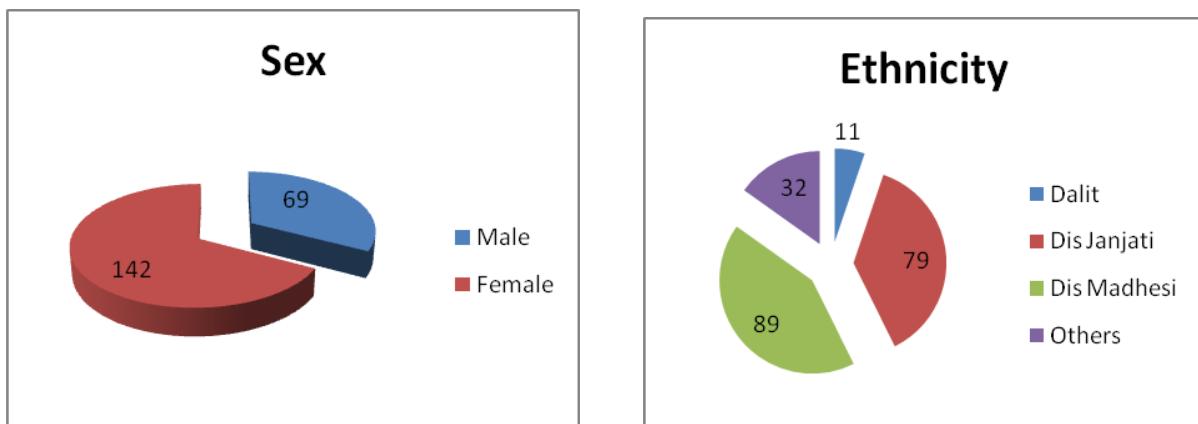
- A total of 7 Vegetable groups and 1 Non-timber forest product/essential oil cultivation group have been formed from identified vulnerable households
- 6 Capacity Building training at group level has been delivered
- 1 VFCC and 2 VC4 Strengthening w/s has been completed
- One event of Demo Of European Chamomile has been completed
- A total of 3 Periodic district level meeting (LNGO through) has been held to plan and review progress of field level activities

3.2 Qualitative Progress/Achievements:

Objective 1: Strengthen institutions and mechanisms to facilitate effective governance for climate change adaptation, resource mobilization and mainstreaming development planning (Specific component: Governance)

1.2.1 HH Selection and Group/Sub Group formation/Strengthening:

Considering vulnerability as a prime, potentiality of project intervention and local priority, target vulnerable areas for group/sub-group formation were identified by local CMs. In order to take local ownership and consent, final decision for the site and target group selection was done in close coordination with VFCC/VC4. Based on the potentiality and interest of the targeted vulnerable group, vegetable cultivation and NTFP/essential oil cultivation groups are formed as per the set target in each sub-sector. Existing groups were also used where appropriate as per the nature and demand of ICCA. So far, a total 8 groups including 1 NTFP and 7 Vegetable cultivation groups have been formed/reformed covering 211 households. [See the Annex for details]



1.2.2 Capacity Building of group at Field level

ICCA formed or strengthened groups were capacitated with training covering sessions on group dynamics, good governance, leadership, crop insurance/assurance and the context specific issues. Similarly, sessions on vegetable and NTFPs were also incorporated in respective groups. Altogether 6 capacity building training events were organized during this project period which has capacitated 176 (86 females and 90 Male) households. The training was delivered in leadership of PC and/or Technicians with the support from respective CMs. Participants of these training have built understanding and realization on need of good governance and ideas for effective functioning of the groups to achieve their intended objectives. [See the **Annex** for details]

1.2.3 Village Forest/Climate Change Coordination Committee (VFCC/VC4) strengthening

ICCA have been regularly backstopping VFCC/VC4. Besides regular events, ICCA has organized 2 capacity building events in Kopawa and Gajehda VDC covering a total of 48 members. In this workshop, the prime focus was on LAPA endorsement and prioritization of activities for implementation. During the workshop, sort sessions of VDC planning process was also discussed and were aware to keep the LAPA activities in VDC plan as well.

Objective 2: Enhance communities' capacities to respond to adverse impact of climate change
(Specific component: Capacity building)

No activities were planned for this period

Objective 3: Diversify and improve livelihoods of poor and vulnerable communities through sustainable income generation, skill advancement and enterprise development (Specific component: Improved Resilience)

3.1.1 Revolving fund establishment /and management for IGAs

Planned for this period but due to incompleteness of group formation target, couldn't accomplish the task.

3.2.4 Facilitate for Market Information System (MIS) for NTFPs and vegetable crops

Due to low budget plan this activities was not carried out which is carry over for the next year with sufficient budget.

3.4.4 Demonstration of NTFP/trees seed seedling production and plantation.

The demand collection of Mentha sucker is on progress, most probable will complete in January 2014.

3.6.3 Scale up/strengthening of existing potential NTFP based enterprise

Due to budget flow from centre the schedule activities couldn't be accomplished

3.6.5.1 Demo of European Chamomile

Within this period European chamomile were introduced by establishing nursery for seed production as a demo. One site nearby Jeetpur DU is identified and with the assistance of NTFP Program Officer, a demo plot was established.

Objective 4: Identify and facilitate suitable adaptation intervention, innovation and technologies (specific component, climate impact mitigation)

No activities were planned for this period ultimately no progress made so far

Promoting Participatory monitoring and evaluation system to ensure effective participation and ownership of communities

5.1.5 Periodic program review and planning at district level (LNGO through)

All together 3 events in three months were organized by LNGOs to review the progress of previous months and plan for the coming months. All staffs of LNGOs, concerned district and regional staffs were participated in such events and give/coach with the valuable inputs/tips. These meetings have been very useful to collect the field reports/data as well as for discussion over progress, sharing of learning, best practices, field issues and guidance for further activities. These meetings also supported for financial settlements of monthly expenses. [See the **Annex** for details]

Other general progress

Apart from the above mentioned activities, other additional activities have also been conducted in the community within this period:

- VFCC/VC4meeting
- Group meetings
- Follow up to old groups
- Groups registration & crops assurance process
- Advocacy to integrate LAPA and CAPA activities in VDC plan

- Capacity building of Staff in SM/LAPA
- Monitoring and onsite coaching to field staff

Coordination and Linkages

ICCA team made various efforts to build good coordination and linkage with relevant stakeholders at various levels. Like coordination with DADO and ADB for Crop assurance, DEEU for Solar installation (40 plants) within working areas in targeted vulnerable HHs in Mahuwa VDC. DDC for LAPA letter sign (from LDO) and letting them feel ownership for LAPA preparation and support in implementation as well. Likewise coordinated with RIMS/ Helvetas & KIDS for Riverbed farming practices and support in LAPA through MSFP and consultation with Agriculture Nutrition extension Project (ANEP) for successful implementation of Challenge fund to track out income of indirect HHs. Courtesy visits and sharing of ICCA with local government, line agencies and other relevant stakeholders are continuing.

4. Lessons learned and success stories/quotations

4.1 Learning:

- Including landless farmer in lease hold farming
- Suitable and proper site selection for NTFP nursery
- Demonstration approach is good to disseminate the technologies.
- If we provide skilful and practical knowledge to the groups, their income resources will gradually increase. They also try to learn about new technology for their betterment. This is vividly reflected in NTFP and vegetable group works.
- Prior coordination makes easier for matching fund generation as well as sustainability of the interventions.
- It would be better if LAPA is prepared in the beginning and made interventions accordingly.
- Establishment of Distillation Unit in southern belt is necessary for scaling up the NTFP/Essential oil cultivation.

4.2 Success Stories

See the Annex _ Case Study

5 Issues/Challenges & Problems

- Long Festive Season
- Unexpected rain during dashain time
- CA Election
- Farmers busy time
- The lack of local elected representative has constrained local leadership, ownership and support in the program.

- Expectation of DSA
- Delay in fund flow
- Delay in decision of field level staffs for Travel and per diem
- Crop insurance being new, even concerned stakeholders is not clear on it.
- Limited funds for implementation of LAPA and no fund for CAP implementation

6. Status of Finances and Expenditures

The program's financial and expenditure is in line with plan

7. Plan and prospect for the next periodic performance

Scheduled Activities: Tentative activities planned for the next period are: complete all the dues of project, trainings of MIT and vegetables cultivation at the field level, group level capacity building, VFCC/VC4 Strengthening, LAPA preparation and implementation support. MIT demo and promotion, Public pond management, Crop Insurance, IPM and NTFP Training

Anticipated Future Supports: Some of the VDCs and district line agencies are responding positively and allocating matching funds. Similarly, commitments of VFCC/ VC4 and political parties for continuous support to ICCA are some encouragements to effectively implement program in the future.

Anticipated Future Problems: The transfer of VDC secretary in working areas may cause problem. Similarly uncertain strike may hamper program pace.

8. Conclusions

The ICCA project has successfully implemented the planned activities

Annex 1: Household Coverage of ICCA VDC/Cluster & CM wise

Cluster /Pocket	Name of CM	Name of VDC	Total Group		Vulnerable Participants/Beneficiaries									
					Dalit		Dis. Janajati		Dis. Madhesi		Others		Total	
			V E G	N T F P	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
A	Fulmaya Lama	Banganga												
	Fulmaya Lama	Kopwa	4				11	66				23	11	89
	Fulmaya Lama	Gajehda												
B	Subhash Kasyap	Mahuwa	1	1	3	3	2		24	30			29	33
	Subhash Kasyap	Dhankauli												
	Subhash Kasyap	Maharajganj												
C	Rohit Kumar Yadav	Kajarahwa	2		4	1			20	15	5	4	29	20
	Rohit Kumar Yadav	Sauraha												
Total					7	4	13	66	44	45	5	27	69	142