

GLORIOUS 25 YEARS OF **ECARDS- Nepal**



**STRIVING FOR SUPPORTING THE PRO-POOR SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH ENDEAVOURS IN NEPAL**



ECARDS-Nepal



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

"You are the one who contributed for successful completion of 25 years journey of ECARDS-Nepal".

It is our great pleasure to put this special publication on your hand on the occasion of ECARDS-Nepal's sustained journey for 25 years. The main intention of this publication is to document our experiences and growth, projects and programme, partners and donor, stakeholders and geographical coverage, challenges and problem, achievements and learning; and share with communities, partners and government and non-governmental development agencies. This document will also keep informed to our staff, members and executive committee on achievements and learning as well as reference point for any future 'actions' and 'directions'.

Working for 25 years mostly with rural communities of Nepal in different fields of natural resources management and socio-economic development, ECARDS-Nepal had opportunities to learn and develop its capacity while contributing in the livelihoods improvement of poor, women and disadvantaged groups of Nepal. We have implemented a range of research and development projects on Agriculture, Forestry, Integrated Water Resource Management, Enterprise Development, Climate Change and REDD ("Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation"), Livelihoods Improvement, Social Mobilisation, Micro-finance and Co-operative Development, Infrastructure Development, Health and Nutrition, WASH ("Water, Sanitation and Hygiene") and ODF ("Open Defecation Free"), Civic Education, Peace Building, Human Resources and Institutional Development, Feasibility and Impact Study, Earthquake Relief Programme, etc. Through these projects, we have not only reached to more than 350,000 households and worked in all districts of Nepal but also contributed directly and indirectly on social and economic empowerment of these people in collaboration with community-based organisations (CBOs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), Networks, Projects/ Programmes, International NGOs (INGOs) and Government Agencies.

The successful journey of ECARDS-Nepal for 25 years has been meaningful, and this uninterrupted journey was possible with the support of hundreds of communities and local social/political leaders. We are very much thankful to them for their continual support. Similarly, we would like to thank different agencies of GoN, donors, projects, I/NGOs that supported and extended their warm arms to jointly undertake more than 150 projects successfully as well as to bring our organisation ECARDS-Nepal at this stage.

I would like to thank Messrs Chet Nath Kanel and Bhola Shiwakoti for preparing this publication. Similarly, I am also thankful to Ms. Manju Rijal and Mr. Krishna Bdr. Acharya for their supports in collating information for this publication. Last, but not least, on behalf of ECARDS-Nepal and myself, I would like to extend special thanks to all staff, members, founder members and executive committee team who served/volunteered in different capacities; for their commitments and untiring efforts to make this successful journey.

We hope, this publication will provide some insights to development individuals and agencies working in similar fields and helps to understand ECARDS-Nepal as an experienced, competent and trustworthy NGO in Nepal.

“Thank you very much and we expect your continuous support in coming days”!.

Brahma Dhoj Gurung
Chairperson
ECARDS-Nepal

शुभकामना मन्तव्य

वातावरण, संस्कृति, कृषि, अनुसन्धान तथा विकास समाज (ईकार्डस्) नेपाल (Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society Nepal " ECARDS- Nepal ") ले २५ वर्षको निरन्तर यात्रा सम्पन्न गरेकोमा यससंग आबद्ध सम्पूर्ण महानुभावहरुलाई हार्दिक बधाई ज्ञापन गर्न चाहन्छु ।

नेपालमा गैरसरकारी संस्था सञ्चालन गर्नु आफैमा एक चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य हो । यो चुनौती सामना गर्न ईकार्डस् नेपालले जुन पहल कदमी अघी बढाइरहेको छ, त्यो सहानीय छ । प्रतिबद्ध सदस्य तथा लगनशील कर्मचारीबाट मात्र कुनै पनि संस्था दिगोरूपमा अघी बढ्न सक्ने सत्यलाई स्वीकार गरी यस संस्थाले आफ्नो कामबाट देखाएको बाटो अरु संस्थाहरुको लागि पनि उपयोगी र अनुकरणीय बन्न सक्नेछ, सिक्नयोग्य छ । ईकार्डस् नेपालले आफ्नो संस्थागत विकासमा प्राप्त गरेको उपलब्धी र प्रगति उदाहरणीय र प्रशंसनीय छ ।

यस संस्थाले २५ औं वर्ष गाँठको उपलक्ष्यमा आफूले कार्यान्वयन गरेका क्रियाकलापको अनुभव र सिकेका पाठहरुको आधारमा एक विशेष अभिलेख पुस्तिका (Glorious 25 years of ECARDS-Nepal) प्रकाशन गर्न लागेकोमा हामीलाई खुसी लागेको छ । यस प्रकाशनबाट नेपालको ग्रामीण क्षेत्रको विकासमा कार्यरत सरोकारवालाहरु तथा नीति-निर्माताहरुलाई सहयोग पुग्नेछ भन्ने विश्वासका साथ ईकार्डस् नेपालको उत्तरोत्तर प्रगतिका लागि शुभकामना व्यक्त गर्न चाहन्छु । धन्यवाद ।



डिल्ली प्रसाद भट्ट

सदस्य-सचिव,

समाज कल्याण परिषद्

लैनचौर, काठमाण्डौ ।



आनन्द प्रसाद पोखरेल

सदस्य, संविधानसभा
दोलखा, क्षेत्र नं. २
नेकपा (एमाले)

Ananda Prasad Pokharel

Member, Constituent Assembly
Dolakha, Constituency No. 2
CPN (UML)



मैले बुभेको इकाईस्-नेपाल

अस्तित्वस्तो लाग्छ, तर २५ वर्ष पुगिसकेछ इकाईस्-नेपाल जन्मेको ! २०४६ सालको जनआन्दोलनपछि नेपालमा गैरसरकारी संस्थाहरू खोल्ने लहर नै चल्थो । नागरिक समाजका आवाज मुखरित गर्ने र समुदायमा पछाडि पारिएका वर्गको उत्थानमा परिपूरकको भूमिका खेल्ने कार्यमा गैससको भूमिका कसैले नकार्न सक्दैन । हामी त्यतिवेलादेखि नै दृढ थियौं । अहिले पनि छौं ।

आफूले पनि कृषि विषय पढियो । तर कृषिमा जागिर खाने होइन, जागिर खुवाउनुपर्छ भन्ने मान्यतामा म अडिग रहें । आफू राजनीतिमा होमिएँ । राजनीति र गैससमार्फत् समाजको सेवा गर्ने दुवै कुरा मिल्दाजुल्दा लागे । मैले केही मन मिल्ने साथीहरु भेटें । एउटा संस्था जन्माउने अठोट निकाल्यौं । नाम के राख्ने ? निकै छलफल भयो । हामी कृषि पढेका मान्छे, नेपाल कृषिप्रधान देश, तसर्थ 'कृषि' शब्द छोड्नै नमिल्ने हाम्रो निष्कर्ष निस्क्यो । पछिल्लो समयमा वातावरणीय हास र जलवायु परिवर्तनले पनि नेपाल र विश्वलाई नै पिरोल्दै गइरहेको सन्दर्भमा वातावरणीय सवालमा पनि काम गर्नुपर्छ भन्ने साथीहरुको राय आयो । हामी ग्रामीण समुदायमुखी भावनाले ओतप्रोत त छँदै थियौं । साथै सांस्कृतिक धरोहरहरूको संरक्षण र उत्थानमा पनि हाम्रो संस्थाले केही काम गर्नुपर्छ र त्यो कुरा पनि संस्थाको नाममा नै झल्कनुपर्छ भन्ने कुरामा हामी मतैक्य भयौं ।

विकास र अनुसन्धान दुवैमा हाम्रो टोलीको असीम चाहना छँदै थियो, त्यसैले संस्थाको नाममा नै यी सबै कुरा झल्कने गरी अङ्ग्रेजी शब्दहरूको चयन भयो । सक्षिप्त नाम मिलाउने प्रयास गरियो, 'इकाईस्-नेपाल' नाम जुन्यो । सबै साथीहरूलाई राम्रो लाग्यो । संस्थालाई २०४७ मा जन्म दियो । हामी केही साथीहरू संस्थापक बन्यौं । यो यात्रामा अहिले त हामी ३० जना सदस्य पुगेछौं ! २५ वर्षमा नेपालका ७५ जिल्लामा नै पुगेर काम गर्ने अवसर पायौं । यी सबै कुराले हामीलाई गौरवान्वित बनाउँछ ।

म राजनीति गर्ने मान्छे । तर राजनीति र विकास राम्रोसँग नजोडिएसम्म देशको उन्नति र समृद्धि सम्भव नहुने कुरा जगजाहेर छ । इकाईस्-नेपालले मलाई ग्रामीण विकास कसरी गर्नुपर्छ भन्ने कुरा सिकाएको छ । यो मेरो लागि एउटा 'विकास-पाठशाला' पनि हो । समयक्रममा म सांसद प्रतिनिधिसभा, संविधानसभा सभासद/व्यवस्थापिका सांसद बन्न पुगेको छु । छोटै समय भए पनि मन्त्री (संस्कृति, पर्यटन तथा नागरिक उड्डयन मन्त्रालय) पनि बन्ने अवसर पाएँ । मलाई इकाईस्-नेपाल को सिकाइले धेरै सहयोग पुगेको महसुस गरेको छु । यस संस्थाका सिकाइहरू विभिन्न माध्यमहरूबाट धेरै साथीहरूसँग सेयर पनि गर्ने गरेको छु ।

इकाईस्-नेपाल अहिले तन्नेरी बनिसकेको छ । संस्थाको अहिले आफ्नै घरजग्गा छ । व्यवस्थित कार्यालय छ । कामको प्रभाव ७५ जिल्लामा नै पुऱ्याउने अवसर प्राप्त भयो । इकाईस्-नेपालको राष्ट्रिय/अन्तराष्ट्रिय पहिचान बनेको छ । आधारभूत संस्थागत कुराहरु पनि जेडिइसकेका छन् । कुनै पनि संस्था चलाउन आफ्नै पूर्वाधार भयो भने विकास कार्यक्रम चलाउन धेरै सजिलो पर्ने कुरा पनि हामीले इकाईस्-नेपालबाट सिक्किरहेका छौं । नेपालमा गैससहरूबीच अनुभवहरु बाँड्नका लागि यो संस्था एउटा 'नमुना संस्था'को रुपमा उभिएको मैले अनुभव गरेको छु ।

संस्थालाई यहाँसम्म ल्याइपुऱ्याउने कार्यमा दिलोज्यान दिएर खट्ने मेरा सम्पूर्ण सहकर्मी सदस्य एवं कर्मचारी मित्रहरु साधुवादका पात्र हुनुहुन्छ । इकाईस्-नेपालको भविष्य मैले अबै उज्यालो देखिरहेको छु । धन्यवाद

आनन्द प्रसाद पोखरेल

आनन्दप्रसाद पोखरेल

(संस्थापक उपाध्यक्ष/पूर्व अध्यक्ष, इकाईस्-नेपाल)

(पूर्व मन्त्री, संस्कृति, पर्यटन तथा नागरिक उड्डयन मन्त्रालय)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From the very beginning, it has covered a wide range of sectors including agriculture, livestock, natural resources/ forestry, rural infrastructure, climate change, education, literacy programme,

Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society Nepal (ECARDS-Nepal) has completed its 25 working years acting as a non-profit, non-governmental, non-sectarian social development organisation. It was set up in 1991 (BS 2047) with the aim of fostering sustainable community development through people's organisations and leadership. There are at present a total of 30 members. Among these members, 23 (76.6%) are male members and 7 (23.4%) are female members.

ECARDS-Nepal envisages contributing meaningfully to the creation of a self-reliant society that is economically productive and equitable, socially just, environmentally friendly, and genuinely democratic. Its goal is to improve the socio-economic conditions of the poorest of the poor through better management of natural resources.

Now ECARDS-Nepal has been journeying in its glorious 25th year. During these periods it has completed more than 150 projects throughout Nepal, covering all districts from Mechi to Mahakali representing all ecological belts namely- Terai, Hills and Mountains. It has implemented a range of research and development projects. It believes in multi-partnerships. Mutual respect, accountability and transparency are key principles in partnerships. It also believes that synergic efforts can produce better and quicker results. Participatory, inclusive and rights-based approaches are ECARDS-Nepal's developmental approaches that it has been adopting for the last 25 years. It facilitates development programmes based on felt-needs and availability of internal/external resources available in communities.

From the very beginning, it has covered a wide range of sectors including agriculture, livestock, natural resources/ forestry, rural infrastructure, climate change, education, literacy programme, open defecation free (ODF) campaigns, training, governance, gender mainstreaming/ empowerment, institutional development, etc. Since its establishment, it has reached to more than 350,000 households. Similarly, it has been able to form, mobilise and strengthen almost 9 thousand Self-Help Groups (SHGs), 258 rural cooperatives and more than 200 VDC level coordination committees in 1067 VDCs of different districts. It has conducted various projects/programmes and activities related to community development, livelihoods improvements, income generation and poverty reduction.

It has been conducting some action-oriented research activities in partnerships with various organisations, such as- NARC/NARDF and other academic institutions. It has also been facilitating and providing different types of trainings/ orientations to its stakeholders. For example, it has facilitated training to VDC personnel including the VDC secretaries and technical assistants. Most importantly, it puts emphasis on giving skills-oriented training to local people for their income generation and livelihood improvements. As a part of the software development activities, it has conducted more than three dozen types of trainings. It gives adequate priority to enhance local capacities, particularly of its district/local partners on various subject matters in order to capacitate with different knowledge and skills of sustainable institutional management and development.

ECARDS-Nepal has wealth of experiences on capacity building of institutions and organisations. It has promoted more than 250 cooperatives in Nepal. Since its establishment, it has been bringing a number of publications (more than 2 dozens) on various themes including: research reports, training manuals/resource books/ guidelines, IEC materials, etc. It has been actively involved in national level sharing and interactions where applicable, and where invited.

It has worked in partnership with different donor organisations and development partner institutions including major UN organisations, donor agencies, international non-governmental organisations and bilateral projects. It has also worked with different

national partners and stakeholders representing Nepal government, non-governmental organisations and academic sectors. With wider and varied partnerships, it has been able to mobilise an ample amount of resources for different projects and activities spreading throughout the country.

The trend of resource availability is increasing in the last 5 years. With its 25 years' experience, working as a NGO, it has gained a wide range of experiences and has also learned so many lessons from programme implementation and development partnerships.

Based on its 25 years' long experience, it has seen a number of opportunities for its continuous work with the donors/ partners/ government and non-governmental organisations, academia and so on. It has clear path to stand as "Centre of Excellence" in carrying out community-focused participatory development, research, innovation and extension works towards serving the people stricken by poverty and backwardness.

There are obviously some challenges too, for instance, securing regular funds for institutional operation as well as programme implementation at desired places/ communities (perhaps this is a 'disease' of all NGOs!). It has not yet been able to produce a long-term plan or strategic document despite of having 25 years' experiences.

सारांश

कुनै जिल्लामा अनुसन्धान, कुनै जिल्लामा स्थानीय विकास निर्माण, कुनै जिल्लामा चेतनामूलक कार्यक्रम तथा तालिम र कुनै जिल्लामा समाज परिवर्तनका विशेष अभियानहरू लिएर हामी त्यहाँ पुगेका हौं । यस क्रममा हामीले करिब दुई दर्जन नाम चलेका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संस्थाहरूसँग मिलेर काम गर्‍यौं ।

विश्वास गर्ने संस्था हो । त्यसो हुँदा हरेक स्थलगत गतिविधिमा इकार्डस् नेपालले सहभागितात्मक विधि तथा तौरतरिका अपनाई कार्य गर्ने गर्दछ । वातावरणमैत्री, स्थानीय संस्कृतिमैत्री एवं समुदायमैत्री विकास हुनुपर्छ भन्ने इकार्डस् नेपालको मान्यता रही आएको छ । हामी यिनै मूल्य-मान्यतामा अडिग रही जनकेन्द्रित विकास तथा अनुसन्धानका कार्यहरू गर्न चाहन्छौं । यस क्रममा आवश्यकताको पहिचान, परियोजना डिजाइन, कार्यान्वयन, अनुगमन तथा मूल्याङ्कनका सबै प्रक्रियामा स्थानीय सेवाग्राहीको प्रत्यक्ष संलग्नता रहने गर्दछ । हामीले साभेदारितामा काम गर्दा दाताको रूपमा खोज्ने साभेदारहरूका पनि यस्तै मूल्य र मान्यता हुनुपर्छ भन्ने हाम्रो मान्यता र अडान रहिआएको छ । हाम्रो साभेदारिता त्यस्तै संस्थाहरूसँग मात्र हुने गर्दछ ।

विकास तथा अनुसन्धानका काम गर्ने क्रममा हामीले सम्पूर्ण ७५ जिल्लालाई नै समेट्न सकेछौं । कुनै

इकार्डस् नेपालको स्थापना आजभन्दा २५ वर्षअघि अर्थात् सन् १९९१ (वि.सं.२०४७) मा काठमाडौंमा भएको हो । वातावरण, संस्कृति, कृषि, अनुसन्धान तथा विकासका क्षेत्रमा संलग्न रहने हाम्रो लक्ष्यबमोजिम संस्थाको नाम पनि तिनै शब्दको छोटकरी रूप समेटेर 'इकार्डस् नेपाल' राखिएको हो । इकार्डस् नेपालले चौथाइ शताब्दीको अनुभव बटुलिसकेछ ! यिनै गौरवका कुरा तपाईंहरूसँग बाँड्ने अभिप्रायले नै यो प्रकाशन तयार पारिएको हो ।

यस अवधिमा हामीले पूर्व मेचीदेखि पश्चिम महाकालीसम्म नै काम गरी अनुभव बटुल्ने मौका पायौं । त्यहाँका स्थानीय बासिन्दसँग मिली सँगसँगै काम गर्‍यौं । इकार्डस् नेपाल सहभागीमूलक पद्धतिमा

जिल्लामा अनुसन्धान, कुनै जिल्लामा स्थानीय विकास निर्माण, कुनै जिल्लामा चेतनामूलक कार्यक्रम तथा तालिम र कुनै जिल्लामा समाज परिवर्तनका विशेष अभियानहरू लिएर हामी त्यहाँ पुगेका हौं । यस क्रममा हामीले करिब दुई दर्जन नाम चलेका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संस्थाहरूसँग मिलेर काम गर्‍यौं । साथै नेपाल सरकारका विभिन्न निकायहरूसँगका साभेदारितामा पनि हामीले धेरै प्रकारका विकास, अनुसन्धान तथा तालिम र प्रचार-प्रसारका काम गरेका छौं । त्यतिमात्र नभएर हामीले प्राज्ञिक संस्थाहरू (विश्वविद्यालय) सँग पनि समय-समयमा सहकार्य गर्दै आएका छौं । एक राष्ट्रिय गैससको हिसाबले हामीले स्थानीय गैसससँगको सहकार्य र उनीहरूको क्षमता विकासमा पनि जोड दिने गर्छौं ।

इकार्डस् नेपाल अहिले नेपालको एक स्थापित राष्ट्रिय संस्थाको रूपमा परिचित छ । यसमा हाल ३० जना सदस्य रहेका छन् । जसमा पुरुष २३ जना (७६.६

प्रतिशत) र महिला ७ जना (२३.४ प्रतिशत) छन् । काठमाडौंको कोटेश्वर अमरावती मार्गमा यसको मुख्य कार्यालय रहेको छ । आवश्यकताअनुसार इकाईस् नेपालले विभिन्न जिल्लामा समेत अफिस राख्ने गर्दछ । साभेदारिताको प्रकृतिअनुसार त्यस प्रकारका सम्पर्क, समन्वय तथा कार्यान्वयन कार्यालयहरु राख्ने गरिएको छ ।

इकाईस नेपाल २३ औं वर्षको यात्रा गर्दा (दुई वर्षअघि) आफ्नै घरमा बस्न पाएको छ । यो पनि हामी सबैका लागि गौरवको विषय हो । दिगो ठाउँ र दिगो कोष भनेका अरूका लागि काम गर्ने 'स्वयम्सेवी संस्था'का मुख्य पूर्वाधार हुन् । यसै सत्यलाई अंगीकार गरी हामीले २०/२२ वर्षसम्म निरन्तर अनिवार्य बचत गर्दै र 'ओभरहेड'का लागि सहयोगी संस्थाहरुमा समेत अनुरोध गर्दै इकाईस् नेपाल कार्यालयको आफ्नै घरको जोहो गर्न सफल भएको हो । गैरसरकारी क्षेत्रमा यो एउटा ठूलो चुनौती हो । त्यो चुनौतीलाई केही हदसम्म हामीले पूरा गरेका छौं । संस्थागत विकासका सन्दर्भमा यो पनि हाम्रो एक उपलब्धि हो ।

हामीले काम किन गर्छौं ? कसका लागि गर्छौं ? काम गरेर कसलाई लाभ भएको छ त ? यी अहम् प्रश्नहरु हामीमाथि आइलाग्ने सहज प्रश्नहरु हुन् । २५ वर्षको यात्रा वास्तवमा हामीले यिनै प्रश्नहरु मनमा लिएर पूरा गरेका छौं ।

देश विकासका लागि हामीले 'सर्वश्व' गर्छौं भन्ने हाम्रो मनसाय पनि होइन, तर हामीले गरेका कामहरु बाट यो राष्ट्र निर्माणमा एउटा ईटाको भूमिका भने अवश्य खेलेको छ भन्ने हामीलाई लागेको छ । हामीले गरेका कामबाट स्थलगत तहमा थुप्रै प्रभाव परेका अनेक कथा हामीसँग छन् । अनेक सरोकारवालाहरु साक्षीको रूपमा हामीसँगै छन् । हाम्रो प्रयास निरन्तर छ । हामी भन्नुपर्छ भन्नु अनुभवी बन्दै गएका छौं, खारिँदै गएका छौं । हाम्रो विकास सञ्जाल (नेटवर्क) अझ विस्तृत बनेको छ । यो अनुभवले हामीलाई पहिलेको तुलनामा छिटो र प्रभावकारी रूपमा कार्य सम्पन्न गर्न सक्छौं भन्ने आँट दिएको छ । तर हामीले यो कुरा धेरैलाई भन्नु पर्ने भएको छ ।

अतः इकाईस् नेपालको २५ औं वर्षगाँठको उपलक्ष्यमा हामीले त्यही अभीष्ट पूरा गर्ने अभिप्रायले यो अनुभवमा आधारित अभिलेखप्रधान पुस्तिका प्रकाशन गरेका हौं । यसले इकाईस् नेपालको परिचय त गराउँछ नै, साथै यसले गरेका विगतका प्रयासहरु, प्रमुख उपलब्धिहरु र प्रभावहरुका बारेमा पनि केही प्रकाश पार्ने जमर्को गरेको छ । साथै इकाईस् नेपालका आउँदा दिनहरु के-कसरी अगाडि बढ्ने छन् भन्ने रणनीतिक अग्रगामिताको सङ्केत पनि स्पष्टरूपमा यहाँ दिने प्रयास गरिएको छ ।

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAN	Action Aid Nepal
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFEC	Agriculture, Forest and Environment Committee
AGM	Annual General Meeting
BS	Bikram Sambat (Vikram Era)
CABI	Centre for Agriculture and Bio-science International
CADP	Commercial Agriculture Development Project
CAPA	Community Adaptation Plan for Action
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CC	Coordination Committee
CCO	Canadian Cooperation Office
CDP	Community Development Project
CFUG	Community Forestry User Group
CIRAD	Centre for International Research on Agriculture and Development
CLDP	Community Livestock Development Project
CSANN	Civil Society Alliance of Nutrition in Nepal
CSPM	Conflict Sensitive Programme Management
CTEVT	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office
DAG	Disadvantaged Group
DDC	District Development Committee
DEO	District Education Office
DFID	Department for International Development/ UKAid
DHO	District Health Office
DiSCO	District Soil Conservation Office
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
DLSO	District Livestock Services Office
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DoF	Department of Forests
DoI	Department of Irrigation
DWSSP	Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Programme
EC	Executive Committee/ European Commission
ECARDS	Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FCHV	Female Child Health Volunteer/ Community Health Volunteer
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry Users- Nepal
GA	General Assembly
GESI	Gender and Social Inclusion
GIZ	German Development Organisation
GO	Government Organisation
GoN	Government of Nepal
GSF	Global Sanitation Fund
HANCI	Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index
HICAST	Himalayan College of Agriculture and Animal Sciences
HKI	Helen Keller International
HR	Human Resources
ICS	Internal Control System
ICIMOD	International Centre for Mountain Development
IDS	International Development Services
IEC	Information, Education (Extension) and Communications
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INGO	International non-Government Organisation

IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JV	Joint Venture
JT	Junior Technician
JTA	Junior Technical Assistant
Kg.	Kilogram
LAPA	Local Adaptation Plan for Action
LFG	Leasehold Forestry Group
LFLP	Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Programme
LFUG	Local Forestry Users' Group
LGCDP	Local Governance and Community Development Programme
LIP	Livelihood Improvement Plan
LRP	Local Resource Person
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MEDEP	Micro-Enterprise Development Programme
MGEP	Mainstreaming Gender project
MOFALD	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Local Development
MSFP	Multi-Stakeholder Forestry Programme
NARC	Nepal Agricultural Research Council
NARDF	Nepal Agricultural Research Development Fund
NAST	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
NCRP	Nepal Citrus Research Programme
NEA	Nepal Electricity Authority
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NISP	Nepal Irrigation Support Project
NSCFP	Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project
NTB	National Skill-Testing Board
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PAF	Poverty Alleviation Fund
PRAG	Prakash Awareness Group
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
RAP	Rural Access Programme
RCIW	Rural Community Infrastructure Work
R&D	Research & Development
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
Rs.	Nepali Rupees
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SEDC	Safe and Effective Development in Conflict
SHG	Self-Help Group
SHNP	School Health and Nutrition Project
SMC	School Management Committee
SSMP	Sustainable Soil Management Project
TfE	Training for Employment
ToT	Training of Trainers
TU	Tribhuvan University
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
US	United States (of America)
VAHW	Village Animal Health Worker
VDC	Village Development Committee
VMGO	Vision, Mission, Goal and Objective
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WVI	World Vision International

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1. INTRODUCTION TO ECARDS-Nepal

1.1 Background of the organisational establishment

Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society Nepal (ECARDS-Nepal) has completed its 25 working years acting as a non-profit, non-governmental, non-sectarian social development organisation. It was set up in 1991 with the aim of fostering sustainable community development through people's organisations and leadership.

ECARDS' Central office is located at Koteswor, Kathmandu at own premises managed since 2013. At present there are 30 members in ECARDS-Nepal. According to the ECARDS-Nepal Constitution- 1991, there are three types of membership-provisions: General, Life and Honorary. As of August, 2016, there are 14 'General', 12 "Life" and 4 'Honorary' members. These members are from different professional backgrounds, geographical locations (Mechi to Mahakali; Terai- Hills- Mountains), and with gender and ethnic backgrounds as well.

The General Assembly (GA), which is organized annually, forms the new executive committee (EC) for next 2 years, and the EC provides guidelines to the Central Office and the programme management teams for effective mobilisation of members, staff and other resources to achieve the organisational goals. Now ECARDS-Nepal has been journeying in its glorious 25th year. During these periods

ECARDS-Nepal has completed more than 150 projects throughout Nepal, covering all districts from Mechi to Mahakali representing all ecological belts namely- Terai, Hills and Mountains.

It has implemented a range of research and development projects on agriculture, forestry, integrated water resources management, enterprise development, climate change and REDD ("reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation"), livelihoods improvement, social mobilisation, micro-finance and cooperative development, infrastructure development, health and nutrition, WASH ("water, sanitation and hygiene") and ODF ("open defecation free"), civic education, peace building, human resources and institutional development, feasibility and impact study, earthquake relief programme, etc.

This document provides the details of ECARDS-Nepal journey from the beginning to date particularly focusing on its organisational profile, developmental activities, trends of expansion and institutional growths, achievements and impacts. Also, it has given an indication on the future paths of ECARDS-Nepal development and its visions for creating more sustainable societies in Nepal through partnerships and collaborations with the INGOs/NGOs, GOs as well as academic and private sectors.

1.2 The VMVGOs (Vision, Mission, Values, Goal, Objectives)

Vision

ECARDS-Nepal envisages contributing meaningfully to the creation of a self-reliant society that is economically productive and equitable, socially just, environmentally friendly, and genuinely democratic. Its basic philosophy is to create awareness and promote understanding of the dynamics of the development process by empowering the local communities.

Mission

The mission of ECARDS-Nepal is to empower the people by improving the socio-economic conditions of the local communities through better management of available resources in complement with national development efforts.



Goal

ECARDS-Nepal's goal is to improve the socio-economic conditions of the poorest of the poor through better management of natural resources. So, it is working with the needy and vulnerable sections of the Nepalese societies to promote various activities that benefit these extremely poor, disadvantaged, marginalized and ethnic minority groups as well as other communities in the country with their full and 'meaningful' participation.

Objectives

ECARDS-Nepal seeks to achieve the following objectives in pursuing its vision, mission and goal:

- To establish self-reliant and self-governing local level organisations capable of solving their problems themselves;
- To create awareness and work with the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups of people with special emphasis on women and children;
- To promote activities that benefit special target groups (marginalized communities and ethnic minorities) with their full participation in need assessment, programme implementation, technology dissemination and development of their associations and cooperatives;

- To implement income generating programmes and micro-enterprises especially designed for poverty alleviation, co-participating with the target communities;
- To undertake programmes in areas of rural community development, health and sanitation, sustainable agriculture, rural infrastructure development and natural resource management on a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner; and,
- To undertake research in agriculture and socio-economic fields.

1.3 Partnership principles, approaches and working strategies

ECARDS-Nepal always believes in multi-partnerships. Thus it does not like to be depended only one donor or partner. It seeks

ECARDS-Nepal also believes that synergic efforts can produce better and quicker results. Thus, it has been striving for making multiple partnerships and, based on such partnerships, it works with diverse societies with their active and decisive participation. This multiple



to develop partnerships with many like-minded partners and makes effort in reaching the disadvantaged societies, mostly in the remote and far-flung parts of the country. Mutual respect, accountability and transparency are key principles in partnerships. These practices have given the ECARDS-Nepal an image of values-based organisation.

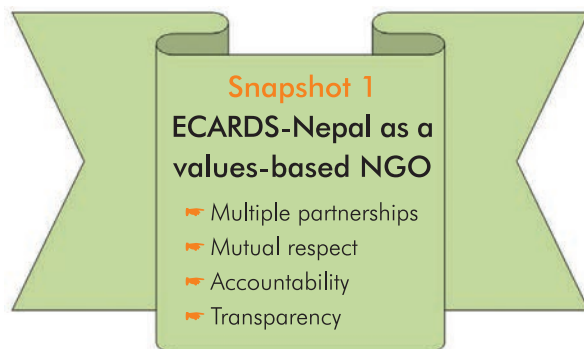
partnership approach does enhance not only learning (knowledge & skills) and expands interventions in wider areas of community developments but also reduces dependency to limited partners/donors.

ECARDS-Nepal adopts different types of working approaches including: direct

implementation, partnering with local NGOs and CBOs; consultancy services for short-term; advisory services to the organisations working in technology promotion, research, innovation, extension and advocacy. It also facilitates farmers and local organisations through different publications helping them to equip with new ideas and knowledge on technology/ techniques, practices and critical issues to be cared for.

Participatory, inclusive and rights-based approaches are ECARDS-Nepal's developmental approaches it has been adopting for the last 25 years. It also promotes research-oriented developmental activities in farmer's fields in order to develop new technologies and varieties. These efforts are geared towards equipping the local farmers with new innovations and at the same time ensuring increased adaptation. Additionally, ECARDS-Nepal adopts pro-environment sustainable developmental practices as an integral working modality.

ECARDS-Nepal facilitates development programmes based on felt-needs and availability of internal/external resources available in communities. Based on the suitability and compatibility of ECARDS philosophies, it also adopts joint venture (JV) partnerships for different projects. One of the examples of JV is the Multi-Stakeholder Forestry Programme (MSFP) implemented in Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap and Khotang districts. This JV has been made with Federation of Community Forestry Users- Nepal



(FECOFUN) of the respective districts. Similarly collaboration and implementation partnership with other NGOs/CBOs/networks/federations and private sector individuals/experts/consultants has also been developed based on their competency.

Coordination with different development projects/programmes including Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC) funded projects in the districts has been given priority to increase synergy, connectedness and for better outcomes. Higher emphasis has also been given to provide maximum input to target/disadvantaged group (DAG) by providing direct support to implement their Livelihood Improvement Plans (LIPs).



Increasing transparency and accountability has been promoted through regular sharing, public auditing and participating and organizing public hearing events at district, village and community levels.

1.4 Major programmes/ thematic focus

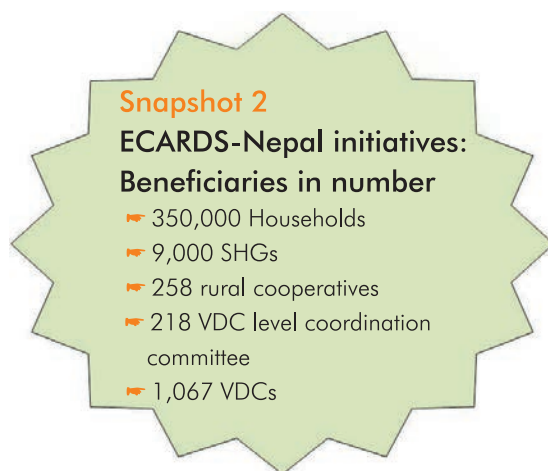
During the last 25 years, ECARDS-Nepal has implemented more than 150 projects in partnerships with different donors and partners (Box- 1). From the very beginning, it has covered a wide range of sectors including agriculture, livestock, natural resources/ forestry, rural infrastructure, climate change, education, literacy programme, open defecation free (ODF) campaigns, training, governance, gender mainstreaming/ empowerment, institutional development, etc.

From the thematic perspective as well as the nature of the programme, the following Box depicts the broad picture of the projects and

activities that ECARDS-Nepal executed in the last 25 years (1991-2016):

Year-wise number of projects completed in the years from 1991 to 2016 is presented in Annex 1. It is noteworthy that ECARDS-Nepal has been able to run up-to 40 projects in a single year (e.g. it was possible in year 2006).

The numbers of projects and programmes depend upon the available funds from development partners, and also the internal capacity/ human resources availability within ECARDS-Nepal.



Box-1: Projects by thematic nature/subject types (1991-2016)

- Community mobilisation for participatory planning and economic development (rural road projects)
- Women's cooperative promotion and strengthening
- Agriculture marketing and value chain promotion (mushroom, honey-bee, asparagus)
- WASH programme/ ODF Initiative
- Action research and development (citrus, cereals, goat fattening, green manure, integrated pest management-'IPM', etc.)
- Natural resource management (community/ leasehold forestry, homestead)
- Climate change and REDD supports (LAPA & CAPA formulations)
- School & community infrastructure development programme
- Capacity strengthening/ institutional development of local partners
- Human resources development/ trainings (VAHWs, LRP, Local Triggerers for WASH)
- Mainstreaming gender equity/ elected women leaders' capacity enhancement
- Special studies/ research (programme impacts, training effectiveness, awareness campaigns, biodiversity/climate change impacts, baseline studies; value chain analysis, etc.)

1.5 Major target beneficiaries & regions/ districts coverage

Since its establishment, ECARDS-Nepal has reached to more than 350,000 households.

Similarly, it has been able to form, mobilise and strengthen almost 9 thousand Self-Help Groups (SHGs), 258 rural cooperatives and more than 200 VDC level coordination committees in 1,067 VDCs of different districts.

The SHGs mainly include: farmers' groups, child clubs, mothers' groups, Community Forestry Users' Groups (CFUGs), Leasehold Forestry Groups (LFGs). Similarly, VDC level coordination committees include: Village WASH Coordination Committee (V-WASH-CC) and Agriculture, Forest and Environment Committee (AFEC).

From gender and social inclusion perspective, among the total households more than 60 percent are from women, poor and

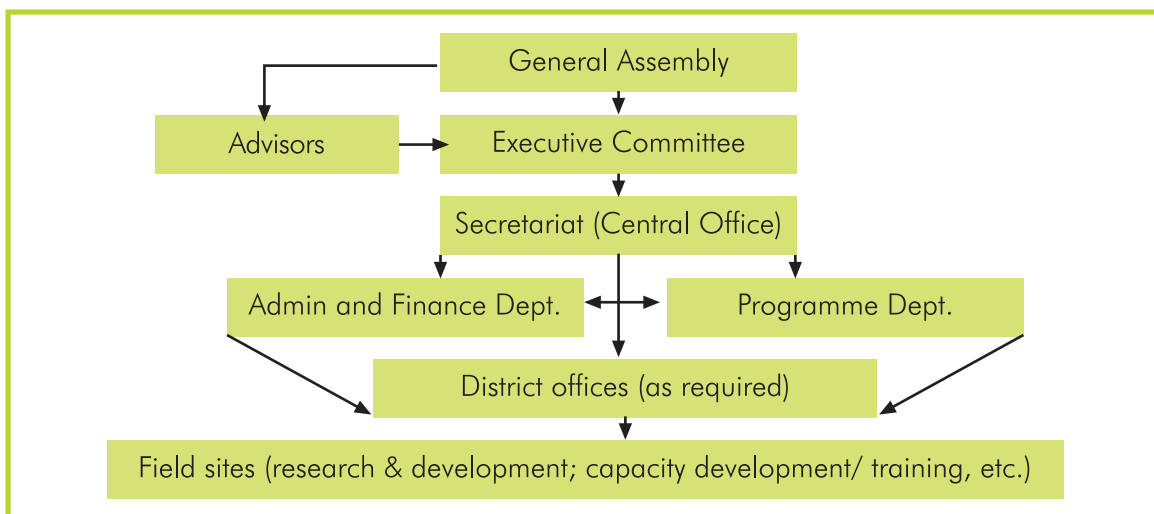
disadvantaged communities. ECARDS-Nepal always emphasizes the active participation of poor and marginalized communities in the rural and remote parts of Nepal.

1.6 The ECARDS-Nepal team

The organisational structure of ECARDS-Nepal is depicted below in Figure 1. The organisation is run through its general Assembly, which is the forum of all ECARDS-members which is generally held once a year. Then, the General Assembly forms an Executive Board/ Committee (EC) and this EC nominates some of the senior intellectuals as "Advisors" to the Committee. The Advisors do not have any management or administrative roles, rather they provide visionary guidance and other intellectual supports when required by the EC.

The EC manages its Secretariat Team at the "Central Office" at Koteshwor, and the Central Office is responsible to look after the regional and district/ project offices.

Figure 1: Organisational structure of ECARDS-Nepal



Specific roles and responsibilities of each Committee are very briefly highlighted below.

Members/ General Assembly:

As mentioned above, there are at present a total of 30 members. Among these members, 23 (76.6%) are male members and 7 (23.4%) are female members.

Similarly, among the total members, 12 are Life members, 14 are General members and 4 are Honorary members. These whole members represent the General Assembly (GA; also called Annual General Meeting- "AGM"), which is normally held once a year.

Executive Committee:

The EC is formed by the GA, normally for 2 years. At present it comprises total 9 members, including Chairperson (1), Vice-Chairperson (1), Secretary (1), Joint Secretary (1), Treasurer (1), Executive members (2) and Advisor (2)

The EC has the responsibility of overseeing all management aspects (staff, finance, organisational development, fund raising, promotion, networking, representing, etc.) of the organisation. To help the Executive Committee, a team of staff is hired at the secretariat.

Advisors:

As per the constitution of ECARDS-Nepal, there is a provision of Advisors. At present there are 2 Advisors. The Advisors provide technical as well as managerial advisory services to the EC and the Secretariat team/ Central Office as and when required.

Snapshot 3

Chairpersons at ECARDS-Nepal from the beginning to date (1991-2016)

1. Mr. Madhav Narayan Pradhan
2. Mr. Ananda Pd. Pokharel
3. Dr. Netra Pd. Timsina
4. Dr. Ganga Datta Subedi
5. Mr. Rudra Pd. Devkota
6. Dr. Devendra Pd. Chapagain
7. Mr. Ghan Shyam Awasthi
8. Dr. Shreeram Pd. Neopane
9. Mr. Brahma Dhoj Gurung



The Secretariat/ Central Office:

The 'Secretariat' is also called the 'Central Office', which is staffed with different personnel covering the areas of: administration & personnel management, finance, logistic management, programme development and implementation. In addition, some cross-cutting staffs are hired to look after the disciplines such as- human resources, training, gender, social inclusion, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and so on.

At present there are 41 staff members, of which 29 (70.7%) are male staff and 12 (29.3%) are female staff

Snapshot 4

ECARDS-Nepal: Members and Staff by GENDER

	Total	Male	Female
Members	30	23 (76.6%)	7 (23.4%)
Staff	41	29 (70.7%)	12 (29.3%)

1.7 ECARDS-Nepal's Policies and Guidelines

ECARDS-Nepal has developed its own policies and guidelines to smoothly run the organisation under its overall umbrella guidance of its Constitution 1991 (BS 2047). Some of the key Policy Guidelines Strategies are presented below:

- I. Administration & Finance Policy including HR management
- II. Policy on Internal Control System (ICS)
- III. Gender and DAG Strategy
- IV. Strategy for Collaboration and Coordination Mechanisms with other Programmes and Projects
- V. Strategy for Mainstreaming Safe and Effective Development in Conflict (SEDC)/ Conflict Sensitive Programme Management (CSPM) Approach
- VI. Policy on Anti-Fraud Corruption Control System
- VII. Member and Staff Commitment/ Code of Conduct (Policy)



2. HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST ACHIEVEMENTS/ IMPACTS

2.1 Key highlights of community development thrusts

ECARDS-Nepal has conducted various projects/programmes and activities related to community development, livelihoods improvements, income generation and poverty reduction. For instance, in partnership with Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), it implemented a project in Achham district (3 VDCs) with the programme title, 'Income Generation, Capacity Building and Infrastructure Development Programme for Poverty Reduction through Social Mobilisation'. The key objective of the programme was to improve the livelihood of the community through organizing them in groups/ cooperatives, capacity building and support for infrastructure.

Similarly, in Baitadi district (4 VDCs) and Dadeldhura district (3 VDCs) it implemented similar programmes with the titles, respectively 'Poverty Alleviation Programme for Sustainable Livelihood' and 'Income Generating through Social Mobilisation of Remote Area for Women, Dalit, Janajati and Minorities' in partnership with PAF.

Likewise, ECARDS-Nepal is involved in supporting the community schools through different activities. For example, with the support from Namaste-No-Kai Japan and other local partners, it facilitated to complete a two-storey (8 rooms) school building of Shree Swabalambi Primary School at Murali Bhanjyang- 3, Dhading.

In addition to such projects, ECARDS have been able to demonstrate successful examples of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) programmes at different locations. One of the best examples is Arghakhanchi district (see Case 1 below).



Case 1: Arghakhanchi as an ODF district

Sanitation and hygiene sector has recognized lately as a separate sector by government agencies in comparison with other development sectors. It has been taking place as an integral part of drinking water supply projects. Sanitation promotion is understood mainly in terms of toilet construction with less emphasis on behavioural change. The new approach of Total Sanitation has emerged from around 2005 in Nepal. ECARDS-Nepal is involving for the promotion of WASH sector since its establishments.

From 2011 ECARDS-Nepal has been involving in Open Defecation Free (ODF) Campaign in support from Global Sanitation Fund (GSF)/UNHABITAT in different districts, Arghakhanchi was one of them. From June 2012 ECARDS-Nepal was involved for the implementation of "Capacity Building on Total Sanitation and Behavioural Change to Schools, communities and Local Level Stakeholders and sector coordination and planning in Arghakhanchi District".

The objective of the programme was to capacitate school teachers, representatives from School Management Committees (SMCs) and Parents and Teachers' Associations (PTAs), district level line agencies, NGO/CBOs, local level line agencies, front line workers and stakeholders who have working linkage with policy makers in district, and also between implementers and actual beneficiaries in the communities for the promotion of sanitation and hygiene making the total district as ODF.

Before programme, there was 42% sanitation coverage in the district among 46,828 households (HHs). Similarly, toilet facility was not available in all institution (school, VDC) building. The programme covered all 42 VDCs and 403 schools of the district. ECARDS-Nepal managed this programme in collaboration with local Partner in close coordination and guidance from district WASH coordination committee. In order to achieve the objectives capacity building and mobilisation of school and civil society group was the main approach of the programme. Further the following approaches were adopted:

- Sanitation and hygiene master plan as a guiding document
- Build government ownership on the programme
- Institution building and capacity enhancement of WASH committees
- Use of qualified and experience resource person
- Focused on gender and social inclusion (GESI)
- Regular supervision and monitoring, linkages and coordination, knowledge sharing and management.
- Development and implementation of the strategic plan and plan of actions



Major Achievements

i) Capacity Development of Stakeholders on WASH:

Capacity on WASH of more than 9000 child club members, 1072 civil society members, 1860 SMC/PTA chairperson, VDC secretary and head master, more than 900 teachers, 60 sanitation champions and 577 FCHV from different type of training. Almost all line agencies staff has been capacitated on the WASH sector.

ii) Establishment of Institutional Mechanism for Promotion of WASH Sector:

WASH activities in schools and formation and mobilisation of more than 300 child-clubs in public schools;

iii) Declaration of Arghakhanchi District as ODF District:

Arghakhanchi district has been declared it as ODF district. Before the programme implementation the sanitation coverage was around 40 percent which reached 100 percent at the end of the programme period. The capacity building component contributes significantly to achieve the district ODF

status. School teachers and child club members took lead for the campaign at their school and respective community.

iv) Other noted benefits were

- Increased quality of education in schools and developed sanitation infrastructure in schools and public places
- Improved health condition of the community people and school children through behavioral change
- Developed local level resource persons (LRPs) on WASH
- Developed IEC materials on WASH and knowledge management and publication Key Learning
- Leadership of concerned line agencies (for example District Education Office- DEO) was found effective to implement the programme and achieve the results. The district ODF status was not possible without ownership of programme by DEO and its wing.
- Participation of local communities has increased due to increase Local ownership. For example there is more participation in the programme activities then anticipated
- Children were found more effective change-makers to motivate the communities of school catchment area.

Case study contribution: Bhola Shiwakoti and Gopal Ghimire



Likewise, it has been continuously facilitating Siraha district, which is considered as one of the most challenging 8 districts of Terai region towards that WASH-Campaign. The programme has been supported by Global Sanitation Fund (GSF)/ UN-Habitat. In this context, it is notable that the Government of Nepal (GoN) has aimed to achieve universal access to water sanitation and hygiene till 2017. ECARDS-Nepal has been one of the active partners of the governmental and non-government initiatives to achieve the aim set.

2.2 Key highlights of research/ action research/survey efforts

ECARDS-Nepal has been conducting some action-oriented research activities in partnerships with various organisations, such as- NARC/NARDF and other academic institutions.

These research activities are carried out in farmers' fields and seek to find out local solutions which are more productive, economic, low-input-high output oriented, sustainable and farmer-friendly. For example, in partnership with NARDF, ECARDS conducted an action-research in Japhe, Dolakha focusing on 'goat fattening technology'. The initiative was accomplished through the introduction of legume fodder shrubs (*Tephrosia candida* and *Flemingia macrophylla*) coupled with Boer-goats. The main objective of the research was to address the problems of shortage of quality feed during the dry season, especially among the peri-urban communities who have very



limited land and devoid of forest access for grazing and have lower finishing weight of goats at marketing stage. Similarly, large size meat-goat breeds have been introduced to upgrade the local goat for additional income generations.

ECARDS-Nepal has also been running an action-research-based 'Model Citrus Development Programme' in Kavre district (Banepa municipality) with the objective of enhancing the production and productivity of the citrus fruits so as to increase the income of the farmers through the establishment of model and demonstration orchards using all the available techniques (see the success story in the box below, Case 2). Initially the Citrus Farm was supported by French Cooperation & Banepa municipality, and partly by Dr Joseph Bove, Emeritus Professor of Microbiology, University of Bordeaux-2, Bordeaux (France). The farm is being run through its own sources. For sustainability, the farm has been utilized as a training centre too.

Case 2 : Efforts made by ECARDS-Nepal for development of citrus in Nepal

'Suntala' or Mandarin is cultivated throughout Mid-hills of Nepal since immemorial. The very traditional system of cultivation practices such as establishment of orchard with seedlings and cultivation of maize in the orchard has led to mass decline of citrus due to Phytophthora.

Phytophthora is a soil-borne fungal disease to which mandarin and sweet orange trees of seedling origin are very susceptible. But they are tolerant if grafted on Trifoliate orange (*Poncirus trifoliata*). Considering these facts, major citrus growing countries of the world have been cultivating citrus grafted on *Poncirus trifoliata* and similar other rootstocks for last 150 years. Recently "Twig Grafting" is being practiced in Nepal although more advanced budding technology is available. Similarly Huanglongbing or citrus greening disease is also spreading very fast. It is vectored by citrus psylla-Diaphorinacitri. Screen house nursery system avoids the spread of HLB from nursery.

Realizing the need of introduction of new technologies for citrus development in the country, ECARDS-Nepal implemented a project "Enhancing food security in Kavre through citrus rehabilitation" with the financial support of Nepal food security project, jointly operated by Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and French Embassy in Kathmandu.

ECARDS-Nepal developed facilities for screen house nursery got its human resources trained in Saopaulo, Brazil on budding technology

and screen house nursery management system. ECARDS-Nepal has introduced, adopted developed following technologies.

- Introduction of Screen house nursery system -Different types of designs with different size and shape and double door system structures used in screen house nursery management system of Brazil were studied and constructed as per our need. This technology has been adopted by Fruit Development Directorate, Kirtipur and some other private nurseries.
- Soil media for rootstock –The soil media composed of forest soil and sand in 1:1 ratio developed by NAST, was brought into practice for screen house citrus nursery management system.
- Size and height of poly bags –ECARDS-Nepal adopted poly-bags of 50 cm height with 10 cm in diameter. These poly-bags are suitable to grow rootstock up to 1 m height on which scions are easily budded and success rate is increased.
- Budding technology– Twig grafting is used to produce grafted citrus saplings by citrus nurseries in Nepal. The height of grafting on root stock is about 10 cm which is very low as the rootstock is buried during plantation and the purpose of growing grafted saplings is lost. Most importantly, budding technology was introduced by sending two technicians to Brazil. It allows to graft (Budding) at 25-35 cm height that is appropriate for plantation.
- Screen house citrus nursery management technology – Screen house must be made of special screen, the roof must be white



and, there must be definite temperature and moisture regime inside the screen house and definite sanitary and before entering the screen house, arrangement of benches and poly-bags with plants to perform activities to take care the plants. All these aspects have been optimized in the screen house system developed by ECARDS-Nepal in Banepa.

- Demonstration orchard – ECARDS-Nepal has managed the demonstration orchard in 8 ropani at Banepa farm. It is the best orchard in terms of accessibility to show the uniformity of trees, early fruit bearing, true to type of quality of fruits and resistance of trees to phytophthora and convince farmers that the grafted plants are better than seedlings.
- Maintenance of mother plants. It has been maintaining and propagating mother plant J-90 selected by NCRP. This line could be

recommended as the variety of 'Suntala' since the performance is found very suitable in Kavre and other districts.

- Production and supply of grafted saplings- ECARDS-Nepal is producing and supplying thousands of grafted saplings. The performance of orchards established with saplings produced in this nursery is highly appreciated by farmers and the demand in saplings is increasing every year.
- Transfer of technology - ECARDS-Nepal has capable human resources starting from skilled workers, technicians and experts working together. This team has already given trainings to farmers and nursery owners in the past and still ready to do so. The team is also ready to provide any type of technical support rendered by the concerned for the development of citrus nursery and orchard management practices.

Case study contribution: Dr. Chiranjivi Regmi

Another example of action-research is the project being launched in partnership with NARDF entitled, 'Development of Organic Pest Management in Peri-urban Agriculture of Nepal'. This 3-year project (March 2014 to February 2017) is implemented in Kavre and Bhaktapur districts with the main objective of identifying and validating the most effective Biorationals (botanicals and microbial preparations) for the control of insect pests both attacking in root and foliar parts of the plants. Production techniques of bio-rationals based local extracts with locally available botanical plants such as titepati (*Artemisia vulgaris*), khirro (*Sepium insigne*), bakaino (*Melia azadirach*) and banmara (*Eupatorium adenophorum*) and insect pathogenic fungus (*Metarhizium anisopliae* and *Trichoderma viridae*) have been used.

In this action-research, extraction of botanical plants has been done in the farming communities whereas the microbial based bio-rational will be multiplied in NAST laboratory. On successful validation of the technology, farming communities and private sector would lead to the production and distribution of these novel preparations as a means for organic production. The technology has been tested and demonstrated through mini-plots. The farmers have been trained on the efficient production and use of developed techniques. The validated innovation will be documented and distributed through mass media. Similarly, ECARDS-Nepal demonstrated a very good research on potato production system in Dadeldhura district. The storage and production systems have been improved, and the lessons learned from the action research are well adopted by the locals as well as concerned stakeholders in the region (see a success story below Case 3).



Case 3: On-farm evaluation of evaporative cold storage for seed potato storage in Far Western hills

The production potential of potato crop is quite high in the low and mid-hill areas and the accessibility of these areas to the big Terai markets is quite good. However, this potentiality has not been fully materialized mainly due to the lack of seed. Aiming to address this problem, ECARDS-Nepal has implemented On Farm Evaluation of Evaporative Cool Storage for Seed Potato Storage in Far Western hills in support from NARDF. The objective of the project is to develop and transfer low cost storage technology/practices suitable for the low and mid-hill conditions.

Project target groups and activities carried out Six seed producers groups from Dadeldhura participated in the implementation of the project activities. The project activities had implemented in active participation of those groups from very beginning of the project. In order to enhance the technical knowledge and skill, farmers led experimentation, farmers field days, construction of cold storage, inception of seed potato, and demonstration were held. Further, selected farmers were mobilised in farmer-to-farmer-diffusion of seed and ware potato production and storage practices in Dadeldhura, Doti and Baitadi. Technical and managerial capabilities of the farmers from the groups had enhanced in testing and verification of technologies. Project results

- Losses from rotting in storage have been successfully reduced.
- Two farmers from each group have been developed as a lead farmer in potato production and post harvest management.

- A storage house has been constructed by the participating farmers in centrally located area of Bhatkanda bazaar of Ashigram VDC of Dadeldhura for post harvest management. Seed potato is being stored in the storage house to sold outside the project command area.
- Production and productivity has been increased in the project area. Farmers produced 334820 KG of potato in which 83705 Kg was stored for seed and rest have sold as ware potato in Terai market.
- Increased demand and availability of seed potato in the area (Now farmers are collecting and selling seed potato to other areas farmers around 500 Quintal per year in average rate of 70/Kg.)
- Similarly out of total 126 farmers associated with cooperative they are selling 15-200 quintal ware potato per year in average price of 50 rupees per Kg.
- Established mechanism for seed potato production and marketing and wider adoption of improved variety in the project area
- Farmer's income improved from seed and ware potato marketing.

Lesson learned

Seed potato storage with evaporative cooling and diffused light alone is not enough for long term seed potato storage in the lower altitude of mid hill areas. As the mid hill possess high growth potentials in potato production especially due to its market connections, appropriate long term storage facilities should be developed in the potato production areas. The results of this project suggests that minimum energy based cool storage needs to be designed/developed and promoted to enhance the productivity and production of potato crop.

Case study contributed by : Bhola Shiwakoti

There are several other examples of best practices developed and facilitated by ECARDS-Nepal in different disciplines including agriculture, natural resources management, etc.

2.3 Key highlights of human resources development/ training endeavors

ECARDS-Nepal has been facilitating and providing different types of trainings/ orientations to its stakeholders. For example, it has facilitated training to VDC secretaries and technical assistants. Similarly, it provides training to WASH-CC members and stakeholders in the VDCs and districts. Likewise, capacity enhancement of school stakeholders in the WASH-project areas becomes an integral part of the local community empowerment endeavors.

Most importantly, ECARDS-Nepal puts emphasis on giving skills-oriented training to local people for their income generation and livelihood improvements. As a part of the software development activities, it has conducted more than three dozen types of trainings.

Major training types ECARDS-Nepal are highlighted in the Box 2 below.



Box 2:

Training related to Agriculture and natural resource management sector

- Implementation of Multi-Stakeholders Forestry Programme (MSFP) in Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga and Khotang in support from SDC/DFID/Finland government. Under this programme following trainings were carried out:
 - Training to 500 Community Forest User groups on institutional development, forest management, climate change adaptation and GESI (Gender and Social Inclusion) and good governance.
 - LAPA/CAPA preparation training to local NGO in three districts (more than 200 participants)
 - Forest-based enterprise development training to 38 enterprises from three districts
 - Conduction of CTEVT level two training to local forest facilitator (50 participants). Further skill tests of these participants was carried out by CTEVT/NSTB
- Homestead food production training to 1,000 golden-days women groups in six districts (Darchula, Bhajang, Bajura, Bhojpur, Sankhuwasabha and Taplejung) with the support from HKI/USAID. Two events of Master TOT were organized to develop the field level trainers. Then, they provided 2-day training to more than 1700 groups.
- Social Mobilisation service for Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Programme, 22 Mid Hill Districts of Nepal for 4 years supported by IFAD, IFAD / LFLP. Under this programme around 4,000 groups were formed, capacitated on institutional development, saving and credit mobilisation, business plan preparation and income generation by mobilizing 198 district and field-level staffs. An additional 30 events of 7-day trainings were carried out for capacity building of staff on group mobilisation and management, saving and credit mobilisation, account keeping, business plan preparation.
- Under the project entitled, "Support to Mitigate the Negative Effects of High Food Prices on Local Rural Population" (GCP/NEP/065/EC), Doti district, in support of EU FFP / FAO, 78 lead farmers developed through 7-day training, 117 demo plots were established and provided training to 14,717 families by mobilizing 26 JTA and lead farmers.
- Demonstrating Enhanced Productivity of Irrigated Agriculture System Through Multifunctional Water Users Associations, Rasuwa and Nuwakot Districts, in support from Asian Development Bank. Farmers' groups formed with this project have been capacitated on group management, bio-engineering technology and income generation activities through different trainings.
- Technical Assistances: Agricultural Livelihood Component Global Food Crisis Response Project, in Kailali, Dadeldhura and Baitadi, with the support from Mercy

Corps Nepal. Farmers' groups and cooperatives have been formed and capacitated on improved agriculture practices, group and cooperative management, business plan preparation and market linkage through different training packages.

- Technical Assistance to Rural Community Infrastructure Works, Baitadi & Udayapur, in support from WFP/RCIW; all 43 road-building groups formed, trained on group management, income generation and promoted on cooperative later. Organized training on group/cooperative management, income generation including vegetable production.
- Social Mobilisation of Farmers Groups of CDP (through 4 separate contract), Baitadi, Dailekh, Achham, Dadeldhura), Farmers from 52 production pockets have been organized into 600 groups as per the programme of the project. All 600 groups were trained on institutional development, income generation, pocket area development and improved agriculture practices.
- Promotion of small holders farming system and cooperative development from Plan Nepal in Bara and Rautahat. Under this programme support/mobilisation was made to form 6 milk cooperatives (mixed) and 4 fish producer's cooperatives of women-only covering 1,585 marginal and rural poor families. Training was organized for capacity building activities, technology dissemination, linkage and networking among the stakeholders.

- Organisation of trainings on "gender, environment and sustainable agriculture development" and "post harvest technology" to CDP districts of Far Western Development Region, with the support from CDP, Khajura Banke.
- 5 events training to agriculture and livestock technicians (35 days) in Kailali, Dolakha, Makwanpur, Bara and Rautahat in support from TFE and Plan Nepal.
- Institutional development of Water Users' Association, with the support from GoN/WB/ Royds Consulting CMS Nepal/ NISP ('Nepal Irrigation Sector Project') since 2000-2002 covering all 9 districts of Far Western Development region. 88 water users committee were formed and their capacity enhanced through different training activities.

Community mobilisation and empowerment-related training activities

- Consulting service for orientation on social mobilisation: 75 Districts, in support from LGCDP. Members of district social mobilisation committee from all 75 districts



have been trained on Social Mobilisation Guideline of LGCDP through 10 events of two-day trainings.

- Capacity building to schools, communities and stakeholders in Arghakhanchi and Siraha for Total Sanitation in support from Global Sanitation Fund/UN-HABITAT. Under this programme, child club from 400 schools in Arghakhanchi and 92 in Siraha were trained, 60 events of training to Head-Master, School Management Committee, 30 events of training to teachers, 60 events training to civil society organisations were carried out.
- Electricity users cooperative under Kailali Kanchanpur Rural Electrification Programme, 169 cooperatives are promoted and strengthened in Kailali and Kanchanpur under Kailali Kanchanpur Rural electrification programme. The programme was implemented in joint venture with Soil and Stone Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. The initial and refresher cooperative management training was provided to all promoted cooperatives.
- Empowerment of Elected / Nominated Women Ward Representatives in Kailali and Dadeldhura districts in support from MGEP/UNDP. Trained elected & nominated women ward representative on different issues and developed national forum, covering all VDCs and wards of two districts.

**Compiled by: Krishna B. Acharya and
Manju Rijal**



2.4 Key highlights of local institutions' capacity development initiatives

ECARDS-Nepal gives adequate priority to enhance local capacities, particularly of its district/local partners on various subject matters in order to capacitate with different knowledge and skills of sustainable institutional management and development (see Box 3 below). In this respect, ECARDS-Nepal has delivered a number of capacity development activities including: planning, budgeting,

proposal writing, report preparation, leadership development, presentation skills, exposure visits, etc.

Likewise, periodical reflective workshops with local partners provide them with the opportunities of expanding their visioning, planning, programme execution and timely reviews along with an enhanced capacity for handling more activities and programmes based on local needs and demands.

Box 3 :

How local institutions feel that their capacities have enhanced: A voice from Arghakhanchi district

"ECARDS-Nepal has earned its reputation as a leading national NGO in development and research sector, specializing in community-based developmental and empowerment initiatives, income generation and livelihoods strengthening supports as well as a national centre for WASH-related programmes.

We were lucky to be the local partner of ECARDS-Nepal in Arghakhanchi district for almost 3 years (2013-2015). During these periods, we not only implemented joint activities to make the Arghakhanchi district as an ODF District, but we also learned many skills from ECARDS-Nepal. It always cares for the capacity enhancement and sustainability aspects of the local (partner) NGOs. As a part, we also got chance to develop our institutional capacities in the areas of NGO management, proposal writing, fund raising skills, report writing and so many arenas. Along with these, the most important learning was the techniques of social/community mobilisation. We have realised that ECARDS-Nepal's experiences in community mobilisation are worth sharing with many organisations in Nepal and elsewhere.

Now we have been able to develop new partnerships in WASH sector independently. This is one of the examples how we got an opportunity to learn from ECARDS-Nepal after a joint partnership in our district."

Mr. Prem Narayan Gaire, Executive Director, Prakash Awareness Group (PRAG), Sandhikharka, Arghakhanchi. (Based on an interview with Chet Nath Kanel, 31 August, 2016)

ECARDS-Nepal has wealth of experiences on capacity building of institutions and organisations. It has promoted more than 250 cooperatives in Nepal and strengthened more than 4,800 Local Forestry User Groups (CFUGs and LFUGs). Similarly, it has worked on the capacity building of WASH coordination committees, AFEC. It has facilitated the planning process for the promotion of WASH sector in various districts. For instance, very recently, ECARDS-Nepal facilitated for developing District Sanitation Strategic Plan in three districts. Similarly, it facilitated 97 VDCs in those 3 districts to prepare the VDC-level Sanitation Plan of Actions.

In addition, it has facilitated for the preparation and endorsement of Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) in 52 VDCs in three districts.

2.5 Key highlights of publications, advocacy and policy influence

Since its establishment, ECARDS-Nepal has been bringing a number of publications (more than 2 dozens) on various themes including: research reports, training manuals/resource books/ guidelines, IEC materials, etc. A list of such publications is presented in Annex 2.

These publications are focused, among others, particularly on the grassroots-based development workers and district level stakeholders. Technically speaking, process-based technology and techniques, sustainable farming practice, conservation-oriented developmental activities, income generational commodities, inspiring or motivational

publications targeting to school students (e.g. Sana Kalam) are the major themes of ECARDS-Nepal publications.

Likewise, it publishes some materials (e.g. calendar, note book, diary, office folders, promotional brochures of programmes and activities, etc.) to facilitate local development workers.



ECARDS-Nepal in National/International Media: A Glimpse



2.6 ECARDS-Nepal's participation in national and international forums

ECARDS-Nepal has been actively involved in national level sharing and interactions where applicable, and where invited. For example, in recent years, ECARDS-Nepal had meaningful participation in the following national and international forums.

Recent participations national events

- The Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (HANCI), Evidence for Policy Advocacy on Hunger and Nutrition in Nepal, Organized by Save the Children and IDS, April 1-2, 2014, Kathmandu.
- Regional Workshop on, Pro-poor Leasehold Forestry, 11-13 June, 2014, Kathmandu, Nepal, Paper presented on 'Importance of Social Mobilisation in Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Programme-based on the Experience of ECARDS-Nepal'.
- Compilation Workshop, 9-10 January 2014 at Khumaltar, Organized by ICIMOD.
- Workshop to form CSANN (Civil Society Alliance of Nutrition in Nepal) organized by Save the Children (ECARDS-Nepal has been nominated as one of the members of the Executive Committee).
- UN-HABITAT Workshop held at Lahan, Siraha, Nepal.

Recent participations in international events

ECARDS-Nepal has also demonstrated its capacity in participating and contributing to

some of the important international events. For instance, in recent times the following opportunities were trapped, where 'paper presentation' representing ECARDS-Nepal was a great chance:

- Agro-biodiversity Hotspots in the Hindu Kush Himalayan Region: Recognizing their Potential for Ensuring Hunger Free World and Role of Mountain Communities as Custodians and Managers, Regional Inception workshop, Shillong, Meghalaya, India, 5th-7th September 2013, Organized by ICIMOD.
- Paper Presented on Efforts of ECARDS-Nepal for Development of Citrus in Nepal at the International Horticulture Conference held on 8-11 April, 2016, Kathmandu.
- Workshop in Delhi by CABI (Centre for Agriculture and Bio-science International).
- International Training on: Green House Cultivation Knowledge and Skills; 10 day; 5-15 April 2016; organized by International Training Centre, Korea.

Networking and lobbying

Efforts have been made for networking and lobbying of the organisation for wider visibility of the organisation. Similarly ECARDS-Nepal has given emphasis on being in the Social Network (e.g. Facebook of WASH- National Sanitation Forum). Under this WASH related regular activities have been updated in the 'social network' which has been instrumental for wider dissemination of organisation's activities.

3. PARTNERSHIPS AND FUND MOBILISATION

3.1 Major international partners and fund mobilisation

ECARDS-Nepal had worked in partnership with different donor organisations and development partner institutions. Major UN organisations, donors, international non-governmental organisations and bilateral projects are listed below:

UN Organisations:

- Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- UN- Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP)

International donors/Embassies/ bilateral projects/INGOs:

- Action Aid Nepal (AAN)
- Canadian Cooperation Office (CCO)
- Caritas Nepal
- European Union (EU)
- Embassy of Finland
- FSPN French Cooperation
- German Development Organisation (GIZ)

- Heifer International Nepal
- Helen Keller International (HKI) Nepal
- Helvetas Nepal
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- International Centre for Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
- Mercy Corps Nepal
- Namaste No-Kai Japan
- Nepal Irrigation Sector Project (NISP)/ Royads Co.
- Plan International Nepal
- Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC)
- UK-Aid/ DFID
- USAid
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- World Vision International (WVI) Nepal

International Banks:

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- World Bank (WB)

Details of projects and activities carried out in partnerships with those organisations are presented in Annex 3.

3.2 Major national partners and collaborators

ECARDS-Nepal has worked with different national partners and stakeholders representing Nepal government, non-governmental organisations and academic sectors.

It works with the Department of Agriculture (DoA), Department of Livestock Services (DLS),

Department of Forests (DoF), Department of Irrigation (DoI), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MOFALD), Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), Nepal Agricultural Research Council/ National Agricultural Research & Development Fund (NARC/NARDF).

While working with these organisations, ECARDS-Nepal makes its efforts in bringing "synergic effects" through resource sharing, collaborations & partnerships, and knowledge/information sharing. Such collaborations are always not only done for 'fund'-sharing, but also for information, knowledge and experiences sharing as well. Such sharing activities also provide new avenues for further collaborations and partnerships for the better results.

In addition to government central departments, ECARDS-Nepal has also closely works with the district- and region-based line agencies of the government. Some of the key line agencies in the districts include: District Development Committees (DDCs), District Agriculture Development Offices (DADOs), District Livestock Services Offices (DLSOs), District Forest Offices (DFOs), District Women and Children Offices, District Education Offices (DEOs), District Soil Conservation Offices (DiSCOs), District Health Offices (DHOs), District Drinking Water Committees/Offices, etc.

Likewise, ECARDS-Nepal extends its partnerships with various universities, research

and development institutes and academic institutions, including: Tribhuvan University (TU), Bordeaux University (France), Valencia Polytechnic Institute- Spain, Centre for Agriculture and Bio-resources (CABI), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Centre for International Research on Agriculture and Development (CIRAD)- France, Himalayan College of Agriculture and Animal Sciences (HICAST, Nepal), etcetera.

Equally, it works with local NGOs and CBOs in the concerned programme districts. In the recent years, working with local cooperatives has also been an important feature. In summary, it has worked more than 135 non-State local-level non-state institutions in the programme districts.

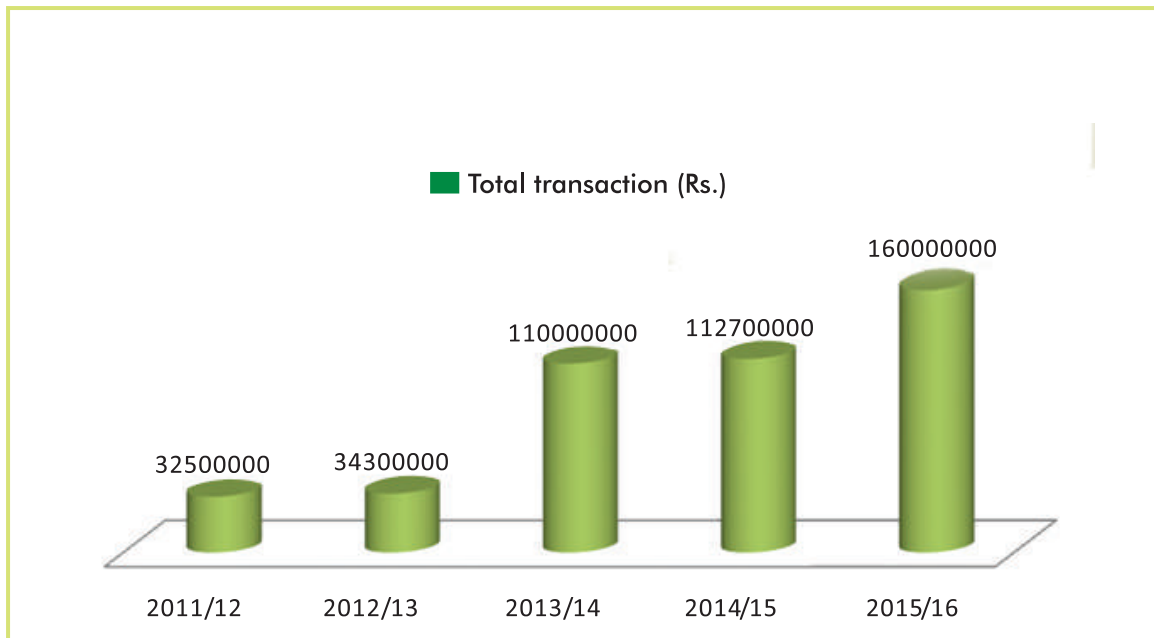
Further elaborations on the projects and activities carried out with these organisations are presented in Annex 4.

3.3 Fund mobilisation trends

With wider and varied partnerships, ECARDS-Nepal has been able to mobilise an ample amount of resources for different projects and activities spreading throughout the country.

The trend of resource availability is increasing in the last 5 years (Figure 2 below). For, example, in the fiscal year 2011/12 it mobilised only about 32.5 million rupees; nevertheless, it was able to mobilise some 160 million rupees in the year 2015/16.

Figure 2: Annual Turn-over of ECARDS-Nepal (last 5 years: 2011/12 to 2015/16)



Programme and management budget ratio

ECARDS-Nepal has a general trend of spending almost 80% to 85% budget in the programme and about 15% to 20% in the administrative and management supports.



4. KEY LESSONS LEARNED, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

4.1 Key lessons learned from programme implementation and partnerships

With its 25 years' experience, working as a non-state organisation, ECARDS-Nepal has gained a wide range of experiences and has also learned so many lessons from programme implementation and development partnerships. Some of the experiences and lessons learnt can be drawn as:

- Committed and competent members of the organisation are the backbones in the NGOs, like ECARDS-Nepal;
- Working in partnership mode with government agencies is effective for successful implementation and ownership which leads to sustainability of the programmes;
- Working in alliance and mega-projects (joint ventures) have been found further effective; however, management and internal control system must be very effective;
- Addressing poverty and livelihoods is possible through integrated programme intervention only; and, this includes both on-farm and off-farm activities;
- Diversifying the donors/partners is a crucial factor for continuous funding to any NGOs;
- Institutional sustainability of any NGOs should be taken into account from the very beginning.

4.2 Opportunities

ECARDS-Nepal has successfully implemented about 150 rural community-based projects in many districts of Nepal. For example, in year 2014 and 2015 alone it was working in 19 districts; and, in fiscal year 2015/16 it has been able to conduct various activities in 23 districts. With the successful implementation of many activities in partnerships, ECARDS-Nepal has been awarded for its better performance.

Similarly, UN-HABITAT awarded ECRADS-Nepal for effectively launching "Open Defecated Free (ODF) Area Campaign" in Siraha. Likewise, it has been nominated as District-WASH-Coordination Committee member in Arghakhanchi district (Western Nepal) as well as in Siraha district (Eastern Nepal). Similarly, ECARDS-Nepal's initiative towards citrus research and development has been appreciated in the national research system, which is a great strength of the institution after its long involvement in such endeavors.

ECARDS-Nepal's contributions in the VDCs, districts as well as at national level are recognized through different types of "appreciation certificates" and felicitation programmes. Likewise, recognizing its long-term involvement in nutrition-related programmes, ECARDS-Nepal has been nominated as an Executive member in the Civil Society Alliance for Nutrition- Nepal (CSANN).

ECARDS-Nepal, based on its 25 years' long experience, has seen a number of opportunities for its continuous work with the donors/ partners/ government and non-governmental organisations, academia and so on. It has clear path to stand as "Centre of Excellence" in carrying out community-focused participatory development, research, innovation and extension works towards serving the people stricken by poverty and backwardness. Thus, ECARDS-Nepal has seen its future to be one of the leading national NGOs, for which it has to continuously and devotedly work particularly concentrating on the following strategic paths:

- Focusing on integrated (holistic) approach for sustainable community development
- Balancing the works on agriculture, culture and environment as well as on research & development (R&D)
- Working more in partnerships and collaborations with GOs for programme sustainability
- Working extensively with existing as well as new partners (I/NGOs) for better coverage and wider impacts
- Efficient mobilisation of (internal) assets and resources
- Maintaining and enhancing the quality of delivery from ECARDS-Nepal
- Increasing the involvement of EC members for programme design and development and assign as thematic focal person: based on their expertise and experience
- Developing long-term organisational strategies for its better growth and expansion

with an enhanced national and international visibility

- Becoming an international resource centre for action-based research and development/ innovations
- Enhancing visibility and quality of publications
- Establishing and creating better office and its working environment.

4.3 Challenges ahead

As for other NGOs, ECARDS-Nepal has also a number of challenges ahead to work at anticipated level, including:

- Securing regular funds for institutional operation as well as programme implementation at desired places/ communities;
- Long transitional socio-political situations of the country has discouraged ECARDS-Nepal to cover all ecological zones and venture out novel activities;
- Scattered programme in far remote areas causing increased costs for the field monitoring due to distance between the project locations and the organisation headquarters;
- Inadequate professional (multi-disciplinary expert) staff in central office for proposal development, fund raising and documentation;
- Out-stationed EC members;
- Long retention of qualified and experienced staff has been a challenge due to high salaries in the government and other INGO sectors.

Annex 1: Number & trends of projects run/accomplished by ECARDS-Nepal in different years (1991-2015)

Year	Total No. of projects
1991	1
1992	2
1993	4
1994	8
1995	10
1996	5
1997	8
1998	8
1999	10
2000	12
2001	16
2002	15
2003	20
2004	24
2005	36
2006	40
2007	26
2008	12
2009	12
2010	11
2011	13
2012	16
2013	16
2014	19
2015	12
Total	366

Note: If same project runs for 2 years or more, then the "counts" go on for those years. Thus, counting of the total projects in last 25 years becomes 366, but the total number of the projects run by ECARDS-Nepal remain only about 150.

Source: Official records, ECARDS-Nepal Central Office, 2016

Annex 2: LIST OF PUBLICATIONS & DOCUMENTARIES from ECARDS-Nepal

SN	Title of the Publication	Type*	Language	Year published	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Remarks
Study Reports/ Research Reports/ Process Documentation						
1	Kisan ka Bujhaima Jalabayu Paribartan	Study report	Nepali	2015	Bhola Shiwakoti	Supported by Care
2	Adaption Learning Highway	process documentation of study on climate change adaptation	Nepali	2013	Bhola Shiwakoti	Supported by ICIMOD
3	Sana Kalam- Part 1 and 2	Collection of poems, song by children on sanitation	Nepali	2014	Gopal Ghimire Krishna GC	Supported by GSF/ UNHABITAT
4	Seed Potato Production and Storage Technology for mid Hill Region of Nepal	Research outcome	Nepali	2008	DR. Basant Vikram Thapa	With NARC/NARDF
5	Problems and Potentials of Citrus Production and Marketing in Achham and Dailekh Districts of Nepal	Study Report		2002		
6	Citrus Decline problem in Baitadi	Study Report		2002		
Training Manuals/ Guidelines/ Handbooks/ Booklets						
7	Farmers' Manual	Manual on vegetable farming	Nepali	2012	Arun GC	Supported by World Vision Int'l
8	Krishak Sahayogi (A Hand Book for Leader FarmersNepali:2007)	Hand Book	Nepali	2007		
9	Resource Book on Groundnut, Citrus and Ginger Production	Resource book		2002		
10	Manual of Landslide Investigation and Control at Village Level	Manual	Nepali	2011	Ghan Shyam Awasthi	Supported by ADB

SN	Title of the Publication	Type*	Language	Year published	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Remarks
11	Bio-Engineering Field Training, guideline	Training Guideline	Nepali	2011	Ghan Shyam Awasthi	Supported by ADB
12	Potato Production Technology,	Booklet	Nepali	2009		Supported by Mercy Corps
13	Ginger Production Technology,	Booklet	Nepali	2009		
14	Production & Marketing potentials of Ginger in Baitadi District	Booklet		2001		
15	Horticultural Text Book for Technical Schools, CTEVT	Text book	Nepali	1997		
Miscellaneous promotional & motivational publications						
16	Jaibik Prabidhi Dwara Pahiyo Niyantran (Land-slide control through bio-engineering techniques)	Leaflet	Nepali	2009	Parbati Lama	
17	Sudhariyako Gothemal, yek Jankari (Improved farmyard manure technology)	Leaflet	Nepali	2009	Padam Sapkota	
18	Aduwa Kheti Yek Jankari (Ginger production)	Leaflet	Nepali	2008	Padam Sapkota	
19	Paniko Bhuupayog, Yek Jankari (Multiple use of water resources)	Leaflet	Nepali	2008	Parbati Lama	
20	Bird Flu, Yek Parichaya	Leaflet	Nepali	2008	Arun GC	
21	Hamara Gharma Charpi Ayeche, Yehime hamara Garva Ayeche (Now we have built our toilets! what about you?)	Poster	Maithali	2015	NA	supported by GSF/ UNHABITAT
22	Pocket Calendar with IEC message on different theme	Pocket Calendar	Nepali	Since 2004-2015 Yearly	NA	

SN	Title of the Publication	Type*	Language	Year published	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Remarks
23	ECADS-Nepal Brochure	ECADS-Nepal Introduction	English	2004 and 2015	NA	
24	Fecal-oral transmission route and safety measure	Poster	Nepali	2014	NA	distributed in Arghakhanchi focusing specific programme
Documentaries						
25	Arghakhanchi Jilla ko Sarasafai Abhiyanma Chhayamata bridhi tatha Chhetragat samanwoyako Bhumika (Role of capacity and co-ordination in ODF initiatives in Argakhachi district)	Video Documentary	Nepali	2014	NA	In support from GSF/ UNHABITAT
26	Integrated Water Resource Management Programme	Video Documentary	Nepali and English	2009	Achyut Adhikari	Support by ADB

Source: Official records, ECARDS-Nepal Central Office, 2016

Annex 3: ECARDS- Nepal Partnerships with key INGOs, Donors, UN Agencies, International Academic Institutes					
SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
1.	Action Aid Nepal/ NSCFP/SDC	- Research on Diversified Livelihoods Strategies of the Poor and Excluded in Chitwan Valley. - Terai Community Forestry Development Program - Integrated Community Development Program	1992 to 2008 (Various Years)	Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Kailali, Kanchanpur and Sindhupalchowk	3 projects
2.	ADB	- Assessment of Result Monitoring of Capacity Building Activities under CADP - Demonstrating Enhanced Productivity of Irrigated Agriculture System Through Multifunctional Water Users Associations - Developing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Models for Hill and Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal - Social Mobilization of Farmers Groups of CDP - Temperate Fruit Pocket Area Development Programme under CDP - Ginger Pocket Area Development Programme - Organization of a National Tour/ Exposure Visit for Farmers and Traders - Organization of a Training on Gender, Environment and Sustainable Agriculture Development - Organization of a Training on Post Harvest Technology	2001 to 2013	Udaypur, Dhankuta, Terahthum, Pachthar, Taplejung, Ilam Sirha, Saptary, Sunsari, Morang, Jhapa, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Baitadi, Dailekh, Achiham, Dadelhdhura, Dati	13 projects
3.	CABI/HICAST	Impact study of plant clinic	2013- 2014	Kathmandu	1 project
4.	Canadian Co-operation Office (CCO)	Thami Women Income Generation Program	1993-1995	Sindhupalchowk	1 project
5.	CARE Nepal	Documentation of Community Perception on Climate Change its Impact on Livelihood and Indigenous Knowledge	2014 to 2015	Siraha	1 project
6.	CIRAD, France	High Altitude Rice Research Project	1993-1998	Jumla, Kathmandu, Dolakha	1 project
7.	EU FFP / FAO/ telefood	- Support to Mitigate the Negative Effects of High Food Prices on Local Rural Population (GCP/NEP/065/EC) - Improving Nutritional Status of Children by Demonstrating Kitchen Garden Model in School and its Vicinity	2010 to 2013	Doti, Kavre	2 projects

SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
8.	Caritas	- Nepal Earthquake response Programme - Capacity Building and Extension Program for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) - Cooperative Development and Environmental Support Program - Women Groups Organization for Vegetable & Livestock Production. - Tharu Community Empowerment Program - Rickshaw Puller Support Program - Rural Education and Income Generation Project - Development of Kumal Community - Thami Community Development Program	1993-2015	Dolakha, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Tanahu, Baitadi, Dhading, Kailali, Morang	9 projects
9.	FSPN/RCIW	- Implementation of RCIW Programme in Baitadi District - Enhancing Food Security in the Kavrepalanchok District of Nepal through Citrus Development - Enhancing Food Security in the Kavrepalanchok District of Nepal through Citrus Development - Implementation of Food Security Program for RCIW	2004 - 2007	Kavre & Baitadi	4 projects
10.	Global Sanitation fund/UNHABITAT	- Implementation of Open Defecation Free (ODF) Campaign-Siraha - Implementation of Open Defecation free campaign-Rasuwa - Capacity Building on Total Sanitation and Behavioural Change to Schools, Communities and Local Level Stake holders in 10 VDCs of Arghakhanchi District - Capacity Building on Total Sanitation and Behavioural Change to Schools, Communities and Local Level Stake holders in 32 VDCs of Arghakhanchi District - Capacity Development of Stakeholders on Sector Coordination and Planning in Arghakhanchi District - Capacity Development of Stakeholders on Sector Coordination and Planning in Bardiya District - District Level Master Trainers' Training of Trainers (TOT) on Total Sanitation in Bajura District	2011 - 2017	Siraha, Rasuwa, Arghakhanchi, Bajura and Bardiya	7 projects
11.	GTZ / RPN, GTZ/RCIW, GTZ-RPN/GFA	- Implementation of RPN / RCIW Programme in Udayapur District - Social Mobilization, Physical Infrastructure, Economic Promotion & Strengthening Local Service system - Implementation of RCIW and Related Activities - Implementation of RCIW and Related Activities	2005 - 2007	Baitadi & Udayapur	4 projects

SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
12.	HEIFER International	Bara Integrated Community Development Project for Rural Women	2007 -2009	Bara	1 project
13.	Helen Keller International (HKI)	- Homestead Food Production Training Focusing Women Groups of Golden 1000 Days of SUAAHARA Programme - School Health and Sanitation for Trachoma Reduction and Control Program - Animal Husbandry and Vegetable Gardening Program - Home Gardening and Nutrition Education Program	1997-2014	Taplejung, Sankhuwasabha, Bhojpur Darchula, Bajura, Bhangang, Kailali	5 projects
14.	HMG/ UNDP/ MGED	Empowerment of Elected/ Nominated Women Ward Representatives	2000-2002	Kailali and Dadeldhura	1 project
15.	ICIMOD	- Participatory Action Research for characterization and identification of agro diversity hotspots' across the Himalayan regions and for recognition of communities' role as custodian and managers. - Adaptation Learning Highways - Document Community Perceptions on change, impact and adaptation responses	2010-2013	Bhangang, Tehrathum, Tanahun, Dailekh, Humla	3 projects
16.	IFAD / LFLP	Social Mobilization service for Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Program	2008 - 2012	22 Districts of Nepal	1 project
17.	ILO	Initiating a Pilot Income Generating Project on Bee Keeping for "A" and "B" Categories Farmer Kamaiyas Kailali district."	2005	Kailali	1 project
18.	IUCN	Awareness Raising Program on Environment Management	1994-1995	Parbat	1 project
19.	UNDP/ MEDEP	- Environmental Assessment for Agro-Enterprises - Training On Sericulture Cocoon Processing And Angora Yarn Marketing In Kavre District - Training of Rabbit Keeping Technicians	2006-2011	Siraha, Ramechhap, Sindhuli, Nuwakot, Dang, Salyan, Rukum, Jumla, Kavrepalanchok and Kathmandu	3 projects
20.	Mercy Corps	Technical Assistances: Agricultural Livelihood Component Global Food Crisis Response Project, Mercy Corps Nepal	2009-2011	Kailali, Dadeldhura and Baitadi	1 project
21.	Namaste-No-Kai	- Construction support for school building - Construction of Shree Swawalambi Primary School of the Deaf (SSD) Building - Construction of Shree Laxmi Lower Secondary School, Building in Tanahun VDC of Tanahun District, Nepal - Construction Support to Primary School Building Section of Shree Chandrawati Secondary School Satsiwar, Tanahun - Construction of Primary School Children Building: Supervision and Monitoring & Budget Mobilization	2008-2017	Tanahun, Dhading, Bhaktapur	5 projects

SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
22.	Plan Nepal	- Cooperative Development Program (Milk and Fish Farming) - Improvement of Water and Sanitation Situation of Bara - Promotion of Smallholders Farming System for Improved Livelihood Program - Water and Sanitation Program - Cooperative Development Program - Improvement of Water and Sanitation Situation of Bara - Cooperative Development Program - Organization of Milk & Fish Producers in Cooperative Society - Water and Sanitation Program - Training of Agriculture and Livestock Technicians - Empowering Rural Women through Fish & Milk Production Co-operatives - Feasibility Study for the Production & Marketing of Pre-basic Seeds & Ware Potato - Water and Sanitation Training to the water users - Training Needs Assessment of the Serving Veterinary Assistants and Lead Farmers - Development and Training to Use of IEC Materials - Development Sensitization Training for Volunteers - Rural Animal Health Worker's Training	1995-2007	Morang, Bhojpur, Sunsari, Makwanpur, Bara and Rautahat	17 projects
23.	Queen Clare Overseas Educational Fund	Community Mobilization in School Building Construction	1991-1992	Sindhupalchowk	1 project
24.	RAP/ DDC / DFID	Rural Access Programme	2003-2004	Doti	1 project
25.	SDC/MSFP/ Helvetas/LLINK/ SSMP/TFE, Employment fund secretariat	- Multi stakeholders Forestry Programme - Action research on green manuring for maize crop at mid hill of Nepal - Action research on White Grub management at mid hill of Nepal - Promotion of SSM Practices for Increased Agricultural Production & Income of Men & Women Farmers by Mobilizing Local NGOs and CBOs in Selected VDCs of Dhading district. - Promotion of High Value Commodities & Income Generation by Introducing Sustainable Soil Management and Organic Matter Management Practices by Promoting Local Institutions in Dadeldhura district - Integrated Nutrients Management System for Sustainable Production and Income Generation	1999-2016	Kavrepalanchok, Sindhupalchowk, Dhading, Dadeldhura, Doti, Kailali, Achham, Dailekh, Baitadi, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Okhaldhunga, Khotang and Makwanpur	15 projects

SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
		- Integrated Nutrient Management System for Sustainable Production & income Generation in South Dola - Social Mobilization and Economic Promotion for Improved Livelihood Programme - Social Mobilization and Economic Promotion for Improved Livelihood - Village Agriculture and Animal Health Worker Training, Kailali, Dolakha, Makwanpur - Income Generation by Introducing Sustainable Soil Management Practices in Citrus Cultivation in Achham - Income Generation by Introducing Sustainable Soil Management Practices in Citrus Cultivation in Dailekh - Sustainable Soil Management for Income Generation & Food security by Involving local Partners in Baitadi - Market assessment of Major Livestock Products in the Main Urban Centers of the Country - Technical Backstopping to EFS Trained Producers (Honey & Mushroom) for sustainability of Trade			
26.	WFP/RCIW	- Technical Assistance to Rural Community Infrastructure Works - Suilek-Kuwakot-Bhatana Rural Road under Rural Community Infrastructure works of DDC, Baitadi	2007-2009	Baitadi, Udayapur	2 projects
27.	World Vision International (WVI)	- Improved Household Livelihood Security of Marginal People - School Health and Nutrition Project (SHNP) - School Health and Sanitation and Women Health Awareness Project - School Health and Sanitation and Women Health Awareness Project - School Health and Sanitation Project - De-worming and Health Awareness Project	2006-2013	Kathmandu, Lalitpur	6 projects
28.	UPWARD, Philippines	Role of Gender in Root and Tuber Crop Production, Processing and Utilization.	1995-1997	Jhapa	1 project

Source: Official records, ECARDS-Nepal Central Office, 2016

Annex 4: ECARDS- Nepal Partnerships with Nepali organizations (GOs, NGOs, National Academic Institutes)					
SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects / activities accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
1.	CEC/GoN Bagmati Integrated Watershed Management Program Kath	Training Program on Cooperative Account and Saving Mobilization for the Cooperative/FI Officials	2002-2002	Lalipur, Kavre Sindhuli Kathmandu, & Makawanpur	
2.	Community Livestock Development Project (CLDP)	- CLDP Impact on Poverty Reduction & Food Security Improvement in Project Area - Study of Impact of Forage Development Program on Livestock Productivity and Environmental Conservation	2009-2011	22 districts and Nawalparasi, Palpa, Sarlahi, Tanahun, Kaski	
3.	DDWSS Office Kailali	Community Mobilization for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Program	1999-2000	Kailali	
4.	Department of Soil conservation	Capacity building of Watershed Communities	2016-2018	Dadeldhura, Baitadi, Achham, Doti, Bajhang, Bajura	1 project
5.	Directorate of Livestock Production	- The Impact Evaluation of Extensive Pocket Package (Growth Axis) Livestock Development Program - Market assessment of Major Livestock Products in the Main Urban Centers of the Country	2012	Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Sarlahi, Rasu & Dang, Jhapa, Chitwan, Kathmandu, Kaski, Rupandehi, Dang, Banke, Kailali & Kanchanpur	
6.	District Drinking Water Supply Office	Community Water Supply and Sanitation Project	2006 -2009	Baitadi	
7.	HMG/N/WB/ Royds Consulting CMS Nepal/NIISP	Institutional Development of Water Users' Association	2000-2002	Baitadi, Bajura, Kailali Achham Darchula, Doti Bajhang, Dadeldhura, Kanchanpur	
8.	HMG/ MPLD	Bhand Community Development Program	1999-2000	Baitadi	
9.	MOFALD/LGCDP	- Development of messages for Civic Education Focusing on children's right, women's human rights, gender equality and social inclusion. - Consulting Service for Orientation on social mobilization	2010-2010	Dhankuta, Makwanpur, Sindhupalchok, Kapilbastu and Kailali and 75 Districts	
10.	MoAC	Food security through citrus rehabilitation	2006-2007	Kavre	1 project

SN	Institution's Name (alphabetical order)	Key projects Key projects / activities accomplished	Duration/ Year	Project Locations	Remarks
11.	NARDF	- Goat Fattening Technology by Introducing Legume Fodder Shrubs <i>Tephrosia candida</i> and <i>Flemingia macrophylla</i> coupled with Boer Goats - Development of Organic Pest Management in Peri-urban Agriculture of Nepal - Review of the Research & Development Activities related with Agriculture - Action Research: In Farm Evaluation of Evaporative Cold Store for Seed Potato Storage in far western Hills.	2005-2017	Dolakha, Kavrepalanchowk, Bhaktapur, Dadelhdura	4 projects
12.	NEA Kailali – Kanchanpur Rural Electrification Project/DANIDA (JV ECARDS / SASCON Pvt. Ltd)	- Identification and Locating Users and Corresponding Poles on GPS - Formation of Electricity User's Cooperative Society (JV SASCON) - Kailali Kanchanpur Rural Electrification Project of Nepal Electricity Authority.	2005-2007	Kailali and Kanchanpur	
13.	Nepal Netra Jyoti Sangha	Trachoma Reduction and Control Program	2001-2003	Kanchanpur	
14.	PAF	Poverty Reduction through Social Mobilization and Income Generating Activities for Dalits, Ethnic Minorities and Poor Communities in Remote Areas.	2006-2006	Dadelhdura	
15.	REDD Implementation	Consultation, Outreach and Capacity Building of Relevant Stakeholders on REDD+ (FCPF/REDD/S/QCBS-28):	2015	Taplejung, Solukhumbu, Sindhupalanchok, Rasuwa, Jumla, Mugu, Dolpa, Humla, Bajura and Darchula	
16.	RWSS Fund Board	Action Research to Review and Redesign the Women's Technical Support Services	2004-2006	12 districts of Nepal as per sample	
17.	SAHAS Nepal	Civic Education Programme	2006-2007	Udayapur	
18.	Samjhauta Nepal	Economic Empowerment, Dispute Resolution & Peace Building Program	2006-2006	Kailali	
19.	S & S Analysis for Rice Production Network	System Approach for Nitrogen Application to Rice	1994-1995	Kailali	
20.	Welfare Council of Nepal	Rickshaw Puller Support Program for Tharu Community	1998-1999	Kathmandu	

Source: Official records, ECARDS-Nepal Central Office, 2016



Some publications of ECARDS- Nepal



ECARDS-Nepal

ECARDS-Nepal

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