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Initiative for Climate Change Adaptation (ICCA)

The International Development Enterprises (iDE) Nepal in partnership with Rupantaran, RIMS Nepal and six district NGO's is implementing the USAID funded Initiative for Climate Change Adaptation (2012-17) project. The ICCA goal is to increase resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to adapt and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change in Nepal. The primary objective is to work with communities to develop interventions which improve the ability of individuals and groups to adapt to climate change. The project has the following four integrated *objectives*:

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



ICCA farmer Sabita Pariyar earned over \$800 using climate smart technology including drip, IPM, high tunnel, and crop insurance.

Good governance: Strengthening existing local institutions [transparency, participation, accountability, decision making and benefit sharing], developing and implementing local adaptation plan of actions (LAPA), supporting existing local institutions to mobilize available resources; and promoting participatory monitoring and evaluation systems.

Capacity building: Raising awareness on climate change, building capacity of community members, local institutions and stakeholders on adaptation and resiliency development; mutual sharing and learning for establishing Community Climate Resource Center (CCRC); building the capacity of the line agencies and service providers for mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) and climate proofing; and strengthening the capacity of communities for promoting innovation and best practices on CCA.

Improved resilience: Enhancing adaptive capacity through transfer of information, resources, technologies, market linkage, sustainable use and management of NTFPs/essential oils/high-value vegetables, public land management, income generation, engaging poor communities in economic activities

Mitigating impacts from climate change: Managing critical watersheds, improving agricultural practices, promoting low energy water application technologies, developing schemes for social protection & safety nets.

The project's focus is on helping smallholder farmers and forest-dependent people who have low food self-sufficiency to improve their livelihoods through climate smart agriculture and efficient use of natural resources. National partners Rupantaran and RIMS implement the project field activities thru 6 district

based NGO partners. Rupantaran oversees climate change adaptation in the forestry sector and RIMS oversees climate change adaptation for agriculture / watershed.. The project takes a public private partnership approach working closely with government thru a central level Project Advisory Committee (CPAC) and district project advisory committees (DPACs). ICCA works closely with local government and line agencies and is working in Kaski, Parbat, Syangja, Nwalparasi, Rupandehi, Dang, and Rolpa.

ICCA has interventions in two primary areas: (1) Increase income thru climate technologies in the vegetable, essential oil/Non Timber Forest Product Subsectors (NTFP) and a smaller program in coffee building on past market development work of USAID projects implemented by iDE in the BDS-MAPs, SIMI, and EIG projects (2) To increase community coping capacity thru facilitating Local Action Plans of Adaption (LAPA) which are the government developed system to allocate investments for climate adaption. ICCA is taking a unique approach of developing representation in LAPA committees for Market and Planning Committees that manage rural vegetable collection centers for representation of Agriculture.



ICCA developed essential oil distillation enterprise Kapilvastu District. Essential oil crops are more resistant to drought and floods and increase incomes.

For Forestry sector interventions ICCA worked closely with USAID's Hariyo Ban and other climate change programs. The project's agricultural interventions are focused on climate change resilient water saving and risk minimizing activities. These agricultural climate change interventions are also supporting USAID's Feed the Future agriculture initiative and other projects implemented by iDE and ICCA partners. ICCA goals included increasing the incomes of 20,000 households thru climate smart technologies and developing 50 VDC level LAPA.

ICCA developed a unique public private partnership approach to address climate change. ICCA impacts include:

- ❖ Increased the annual income of 21,556 households by \$212 taking market development approaches to extend climate smart technologies thru last mile supply chains.
- ❖ Developed / strengthened 20 vegetable collection centers that formed smallholder commercial pockets that participated in the LAPA process in PPP.
- ❖ Developed / strengthened 13 Essential Oil Distillation units thru community forestry that formed smallholder commercial pockets that participated in the LAPA process.
- ❖ Developed 16 Multiple Use Water Systems (MUS) for a population of 4,000 people. MUS enable households to increase income from more reliable piped irrigation, enable the application of micro irrigation, reduce time needed for women and girls to carry water, and improve health and nutrition.
- ❖ Facilitated crop insurance thru a pilot program with the ADBN for 600 HHs.
- ❖ Developed 51 VDC level LAPA that were officially recognized by local government covering a population of 400,000 people. Already over 35,000 households have received substantial benefits including from revolving funds for climate smart technologies, investments in MUS, Distillation Units, protective infrastructure, and other activities.

For more information see: www.idenepal.org