REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email or fax.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project/programme must be fully prepared (i.e., fully appraised for feasibility) when the request is submitted. The final project/programme document resulting from the appraisal process should be attached to this request for funding.

Complete documentation should be sent to the email: submissions@adaptation-fund.org

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Empowering Local Climate Action: A Locally Led Adaptation Initiative for Resilience in the Bagmati and Madhesh Provinces of Nepal

Countries: Nepal

Thematic Focal Area: Locally Led Adaptation (specifically focusing on Nature based solution, Biodiversity, Water Resources, Agriculture, and Disasters)

Type of Implementing Entity: National Implementing Entity (NIE)

Implementing Entity: National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)

Executing Entity/Entities: National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)

Amount of Financing Requested: USD 5,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request: Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: US$150,000

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes ☒ No ☐

Stage of Submission:

☒This pre-concept has been submitted before
☐ This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

NOTE: The LOE should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities

Project / Programme Background and Context:

Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate.

1.1 Geography

1. Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia, nestled between China to the north and India to the South, east and west. The country spans a diverse geography from the flat Terai plains in the south to the Himalayan mountains ranging in the north with a population of ~29.2 million[1]. Nepal is a federal democratic republic divided into seven provinces and 77 districts covering a total area of 147,516 km^2. The country's geography is defined by its topography, encompassing five major physiographic regions (Figure 1) that includes the Terai, Siwalik Hills, Middle Mountains, High mountains and Higher Himalayas[2]. The Terai, constituting about 17% of Nepal's land, supports agriculture and dense populations; the Hill region, covering 68%, and the Himalayan region, about 15% of the land, hosts eight of the world's fourteen highest peaks[3]. Due to the altitudinal range, all ecological zones experience varied climate, for instance Terai experiences a tropical to subtropical climate, the Hill region is temperate, and the Himalayan region have alpine conditions; monsoon rains dominate precipitation patterns, particularly in the east[4]. Nepal is endowed with over 6,000 rivers and rivulets, the most significant being the Koshi, Gandaki, and Karnali River systems. These rivers are largely fed by glacial and snowmelt runoff from the Himalayas, and they serve as critical sources of water for irrigation, drinking supply, and hydropower generation. However, they also pose increasing risks of seasonal flooding, particularly during the monsoon[5]. Nepal is rich in biodiversity, encompassing more than 13,000 plant species within 118 distinct ecosystems, 75 vegetation types, and 35 forest types. The country forms part of 12 global terrestrial eco-regions and is home to 350 endemic plant species and 14 endemic animal species. Contributing significantly to global biodiversity, Nepal supports 5.2% of the world's mammal species—including iconic species such as the Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) and Greater one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) —alongside 9.5% of all bird species, and a substantial diversity of gymnosperms and bryophytes. Its agricultural landscape is equally diverse, comprising more than 550 crop species and around 400 varieties of horticultural plants[6].

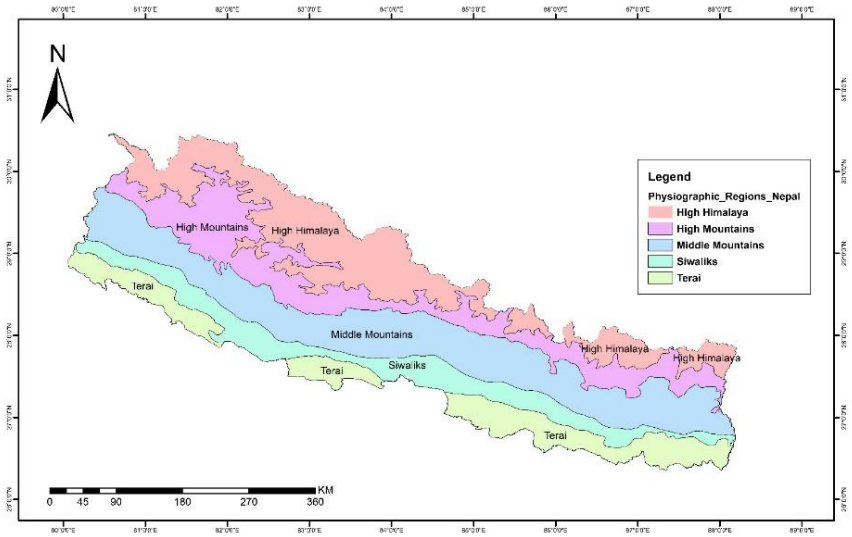

Figure 1: Map of Nepal showing Physiographic regions of Nepal

[1] Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). (2021). *National Population and Housing Census 2021*. Kathmandu: Government of Nepal.
[2] MoFE. (2021). Nepal's third national communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Climate Change Management Division, Government of Nepal.
[3] Shrestha, A. B., & Aryal, R. (2011). *Climate change in Nepal and its impact on Himalayan glaciers*. *Regional Environmental Change*, 11(Suppl 1), S65–S77.
[4] Karki, R., Talchabhadel, R., Aalto, J., & Baidya, S. K. (2016). *New climatic classification of Nepal*. *Theoretical and Applied Climatology*, 125(3), 799–808.
[5] Hannah, D. M., Kansakar, S. R., Gerrard, J., & Rees, G. (2005). Flow regimes of Himalayan rivers of Nepal: Context for hydrological regionalization and river basin management. Hydrology and Earth System Sciences, 9(3), 344–362.
[6] MoFE. (2018). Nepal's sixth national report to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), Government of Nepal.

1.2 Socio-Economic Context

2. Nepal's economy is classified as a low-income economy with a GDP of approximate $40.9 billion in 2023 and a per capita GDP of about $1,378[7]. Agriculture remains the backbone of the economy—contributing around 23.95% of GDP, and is driven by the production of staple crops such as rice, maize, and wheat, as well as livestock and horticulture. The industry sector, which includes manufacturing and construction, makes up about 14.29% of GDP, while the services sector—encompassing tourism and trade—accounts for approximately 61.76% of GDP. Nepal's tourism industry, centered on its rich natural and cultural heritage, brought in an estimated US $800 million in revenue in 2022. Remittances play a crucial role in Nepal's economy; in 2023 they totaled around US $11 billion, equivalent to roughly 26.6% of GDP, making Nepal one of the most remittance-dependent countries globally. Despite economic progress, unemployment remained a significant challenge, with the official rate at around 12.6% in 2022, estimates suggest a 5–11% range in 2023[8]. To address economic and climate risks, the Government of Nepal has prioritized the development of green and resilient infrastructure and is scaling up climate-smart agricultural investments, aligning with its GRID strategy[9].

1.3 Development Context

3. Although Nepal has made progress in decentralization and local governance, capacity gaps persist at the local government level, particularly in integrating climate change into development planning and budgeting. National Climate Change Policy (2019), Environment Protection Act (2019) and Local Government Operation Act (2017) provides authority to local governments to develop and implement development plans including climate plans. However, there exists limited technical expertise, climate data, and financial resources. Climate vulnerable people and development infrastructure in the areas remains under-resourced and often vulnerable to climate risks; roads, drinking water systems, irrigation channels, and public buildings are regularly damaged or rendered unusable due to floods and landslides[10]. Nepal aspires to be a low middle income in 2026, but the development contexts and high sensitivity to climate exposes its development to high risks.

1.4 Environmental Context

4. Nepal's diverse topography and climate has assisted in harboring 3.2% of the world's flora and 1.1% of its fauna, making it one of the richest in terms of biodiversity[11]. Nepal has developed an extensive network of protected areas encompassing 12 National Parks, 1 Wildlife Reserve, 1 Hunting Reserve, 6 Conservation Areas, and 13 Buffer Zones. These protected areas span from the lowland Terai plains to the high Himalayan mountains, collectively covering approximately 23.39% of the country's total land area. This network plays a critical role in the in-situ conservation of the nation's diverse ecosystems and rich biodiversity[12]. In addition, Nepal is blessed with a rich diversity of wetlands, including 10 Ramsar-listed sites that are internationally recognized for their ecological significance[13]. Besides, the country has over 6000 rivers and streams with an estimated average annual runoff of 225 billion cubic meters[14], but water resources are under pressure from glacial melting, sedimentation, and contamination. Floods caused by monsoon, particularly in the Terai cause economic loss of around US$100 million annually and displaced thousands of people[15]. Deforestation driven by agricultural expansion, fuelwood collection, and infrastructure development has significantly reduced forest cover, contributing to increased soil erosion and frequent landslides, especially in the Hill region[16]. Land degradation affects 20% of Nepal's cultivable land, reducing agricultural productivity[17]. Air pollution is increasing, and Kathmandu's air quality index is regularly over 150 (unhealthy) due to biomass burning and vehicular emissions[18]. Solid waste management remains inadequate, with approximately 70% of urban waste

[7] World Bank Group. *World Development Indicators – Nepal*, 2024. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/country/nepal
[8] Nepal Rastra Bank 2022. Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation of Nepal.
[9] World Bank. (2021). Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Development (GRID) in Nepal. World Bank.
[10] Ministry of Home Affairs. (2023). Nepal disaster risk reduction and management report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[11] Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. (2014). Nepal biodiversity strategy and action plan 2014–2020. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[12] Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC). (2021). Protected Areas of Nepal: Status and management. Kathmandu, Nepal: Ministry of Forests and Environment.
[13] Ramsar Convention Secretariat. (2023). The List of Wetlands of International Importance.
[14] MoFE. (2025). Nepal First Biennial Transparency Report. Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), Government of Nepal. Kathmandu, Nepal.
[15] Ministry of Home Affairs. (202 3). Nepal disaster risk reduction and management report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[16] Food and Agriculture Organization. (2020). Global forest resources assessment 2020: Nepal country report. Rome, Italy: FAO.
[17] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[18] Ministry of Health and Population. (2023). Nepal air quality monitoring report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.

being improperly disposed of, leading to the contamination of water sources[19]. Nepal has had success in implementing robust conservation policies, including community forestry interventions across 2.2 million hectares that have revitalized degraded forests and empowered local communities[20].

5. Nepal aims to be carbon neutral by the year 2045 and to maintain at least 45% of its total land area as forest cover by 2030, including other wooded land limited to less than 4% under its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement. Nepal aims to increase its renewable electricity generation capacity from around 3,500 MW in 2025 to 14,031 MW by 2030 and further to 28,500 MW by 2035. This includes hydropower as the dominant source, along with diversification into solar, wind, micro-hydro, and bioenergy, which are expected to contribute 10% by 2030 and 15% by 2035 of the total renewable capacity[21]. Tourism, while economically vital, strains fragile ecosystems, with over 1.1 million visitors in 2023 exerting significant environmental stress on ecologically sensitive areas such as Sagarmatha National Park[22]. Nepal's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) prioritize climate resilience through afforestation and flood early warning systems, though funding deficits retard progress[23].

1.5 Vulnerability Context

6. Nepal has seen a mean annual temperature rise of 0.056°C since the 1970s, where the Himalayas have risen in temperature faster than the global average and are expected to raise by 0.92–1.07°C by 2045[24]. This speeds up glacier retreat, and 20–30% of Himalayan glacier volume is projected to be lost by mid-century at the cost of water security for major rivers such as the Koshi, Gandaki, and Karnali supplying 200 billion cubic meters of runoff annually[25]. These alterations threaten agriculture and hydropower, major drivers of Nepal's economy, and increase vulnerability for high-altitude communities[26].

7. The monsoon season (June–September) contributes 80% of Nepal's yearly rainfall (1,600 mm average), and climate change has increased rain variability, with 10% more extreme rain events post-2000[27]. This results in flooding in the Terai at around US$100 million's worth of economic loss per year and displacing 20,000–30,000 individuals annually[28]. Conversely, Hill region dry spells have reduced maize and rice staple production by 5–10% since 2015, creating food insecurity threats to rural communities[29].

8. The monsoon season (June–September) contributes 80% of Nepal's yearly rainfall (1,600 mm average), and climate change has increased rain variability, with 10% more extreme rain events post-2000[30]. This causes flooding in the Terai, inflicting annual economic losses of approximately $100 million and displacing 20,000–30,000 individuals annually[31]. In contrast, Hill region droughts lowered maize and rice staple crop outputs by 5–10% since 2015 and pose a threat to rural societies' food security[32].

9. Nepal's position over Himalayan fault lines exacerbates climate-worsened disasters such as landslides, floods, and earthquakes, the 2015 Gorkha earthquake (7.8 on the Richter scale) inflicting $7 billion worth of damage and exposing systemic weaknesses[33]. Landslides due to monsoons kill 12,000–15,000 households every year in the Hill region, while Terai flooding inflicts $50–100 million yearly damage on infrastructure[34].

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[19] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[20] Ministry of Forests and Environment. (2023). Nepal biodiversity strategy and action plan 2014–2023: Progress report. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[21] Government of Nepal. (2025). Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[22] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[23] National Planning Commission. (2021). Nepal's Second Voluntary National Review on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Government of Nepal.
[24] MoFE. (2021). Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Identifying of Adaptation options in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM). Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal. Kathmandu, Nepal.
[25] Hannah, D. M., Kansakar, S. R., Gerrard, A. J., & Rees, G. (2005). Flow regimes of Himalayan rivers of Nepal: nature and spatial patterns. Journal of Hydrology, 308(1-4), 18-32.
[26] International Energy Agency. (2024). Nepal energy outlook 2024. Retrieved from https://www.iea.org/reports/nepal-energy-outlook-2024.
[27] Karki, R., Talchabhadel, R., Aalto, J., & Baidya, S. K. (2016). New climatic classification of Nepal. Theoretical and applied climatology, 125(3), 799-808.
[28] Ministry of Home Affairs. (2023). Nepal disaster risk reduction and management report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[29] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[30] Karki, R., Talchabhadel, R., Aalto, J., & Baidya, S. K. (2016). New climatic classification of Nepal. Theoretical and Applied Climatology, 125(3–4), 799–808.
[31] Ministry of Home Affairs. (202 3). Nepal disaster risk reduction and management report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[32] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[33] Bilham, R. (2015). Seismology: Raising Kathmandu. qNature Geoscience, 8(8), 582–584.
[34] Ministry of Home Affairs. (202 3). Nepal disaster risk reduction and management report 2023. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.

Western Nepal drought has lowered the groundwater level by 10% since 2010, affecting irrigation and livelihood[35].

1.6 Current Climatic hazard and impact

10. Nepal currently faces multiple climatic hazards like floods, landslides, drought, forest fire and epidemics with significant impacts on lives, livelihoods, and the economy. In Nepal, floods are the most devastating natural hazard, affecting approximately 71% of the population followed by the landslide impacting about 9.5% of the population[36]. Droughts, especially in western Nepal, have increased because of decreased rainfall after 2003, posing a risk to agricultural production[37]. Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) are an increasing concern, with the ICIMOD identifying 21 potentially dangerous glacial lakes in the high Himalayas[38]. Temperatures are inducing heatwaves, especially in urban centers like Kathmandu, where mean annual temperatures rose between 0.02–0.04°C per annum for the years 1973–2012[39]. Forest fires induced by warmer and drier climates have resulted in 2.1% forest cover loss in Nepal since 2000[40].

11. These risks have high impacts on human life, economy, agriculture, biodiversity, and infrastructure. Landslides and floods result in high mortality rates, especially for low-income families, and result in economic losses of around 1–2% of Nepal's GDP every year. For example, the floods in Terai in 2017 impacted 1.7 million individuals and damaged $600 million worth of infrastructure[41]. Agriculture, which supports one-third of Nepal's labor force, experiences decreased crop production because of erratic rains and droughts, raising food insecurity, particularly in western areas[42]. Nepal's abundant biodiversity, comprising 118 ecosystems and 75 types of vegetation, is at risk, with 10% of the species being in peril for every 1°C of global warming[43] [44]. Glacier loss, at a rate of 10–15 meters annually, wreaks havoc on the availability of water for 700 million downstream inhabitants, impacting rivers such as the Indus and Ganga[45] [46]. Losses in infrastructure due to floods and landslides, along with unplanned urbanization, also increase vulnerability[47].

1.7 Future Climate Projections

12. Future climate projections under Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs) forecasts deteriorating conditions. The temperature of Nepal is likely to increase by 1.8–2.8°C by 2050 under SSP2-4.5, ahead of the world average, leading to more frequent heatwaves as well as glacier retreat. Monsoon rains are projected to be more unpredictable, with 10–20% more intense rain events by the year 2100 under SSP5-8.5, adding flood and landslide hazards in eastern and central Nepal while western parts will encounter prolonged drought[48]. Himalayan glaciers will lose 30–50% of their volume by 2100, increasing GLOF risks and decreasing water availability[49]. Loss of biodiversity is estimated to hit 15–20% of Nepal's species by 2050 when global temperatures are 2°C or more above present levels, posing a risk to ecosystem services vital for livelihoods and tourism[50]. Nepal's 10th most affected country globally according to the Climate Risk Index[51] highlights the need to take initiative.

1.8 Climate Interventions

[35] Food and Agriculture Organization. (2021). Global forest resources assessment 2020: Nepal country report.
[36] Ministry of Forest and Environment, 2021, The Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Report.
[37] Luo, Y., Zhang, X., & Wang, J. (2024). Changing extreme precipitation patterns in Nepal over 1971–2015. Earth and Space Science, 11(3).
[38] ICIMOD. (2011). Glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst floods in Nepal. Kathmandu: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.
[39] Aryal, K. R. (2014). Climate change in Nepal: A comprehensive analysis of instrumental data and people's perceptions. Regional Environmental Change, 14(2), 515–527.
[40] Bhandari, P., Karki, S., & Bista, R. (2021). Consequences of climate change impacts and implications on ecosystem and biodiversity; impacts of developmental projects and mitigation strategy in Nepal. IntechOpen.
[41] UNDP. (2019). Climate change vulnerability mapping in Nepal. United Nations Development Programme.
[42] Sapkota, P., & Rijal, K. (2021). Climate change and its impacts in Nepal. Pravaha, 29(1), 1–10.
[43] IPCC. (2021). Climate change 2021: The physical science basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.
[44] Bhandari, P., Karki, S., & Bista, R. (2021). Consequences of climate change impacts and implications on ecosystem and biodiversity; impacts of developmental projects and mitigation strategy in Nepal.
[45] ICIMOD. (2011). Glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst floods in Nepal. Kathmandu: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.
[46] Pawan, G. (2022). Climate change impacts on water resources in Nepal. Journal of Water Resources, 45(3), 123–134.
[47] UNDP. (2019). Climate change vulnerability mapping in Nepal. United Nations Development Programme.
[48] World Bank. (2021). Nepal - Mean projections expert. Climate Change Knowledge Portal.
[49] ICIMOD. (2011). Glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst floods in Nepal. Kathmandu: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.
[50] IPCC. (2021). Climate change 2021: The physical science basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.
[51] Eckstein, D., Künzel, V., & Schäfer, L. (2021). The global climate risk index 2021. Bonn: Germanwatch.

13. The Government of Nepal has set overarching policy frameworks to deal with climate vulnerabilities. The NAPA of 2010 outlined short-term adaptation priorities, enabling access to the LDCF of the UNFCCC, such as the Community-Based Flood and GLOF Risk Reduction Project, which safeguards 50,000 individuals residing in high-risk zones[52]. The 2019 National Climate Change Policy seeks to develop a climate-resilient country by focusing on eight thematic and four cross-cutting issues such as agriculture, forests, and disaster risk reduction. National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2021–2050), launched in 2023 at the National Climate Summit, prioritizes 64 adaptation interventions in key sectors of agriculture, food security, and disaster management at a cost of USD 47 billion, out of which USD 1.5 billion is mobilized nationally[53]. The Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) framework, established in 2011, helps enable adaptation at the local level through localized plans, covering 1.5 million individuals[54].

14. Disaster Risk Reduction has been given precedence by the government to reduce the effects of climate hazards. The Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) has set up 150 automatic weather stations from 2015, which has increased the precision of flood and landslide prediction by 30%[55]. Early warning systems under the GLOF have been set up in 10 glacial lake high-risk areas, safeguarding people in districts such as Solukhumbu[56]. Nepal's NAP includes the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, with an emphasis on multi-hazard preparedness[57]. It also builds infrastructure resilience by retrofitting schools and hospitals to protect 200,000 individuals every year in flood-risk zones such as Sunsari[58].

15. Community-based adaptation is a cornerstone of Nepal's approach. The Community Forestry Program has restored 2.2 million hectares of degraded forest, decreased landslides and provided livelihood support for 80% of forest-reliant rural citizens[59]. Hariyo Ban Program (2011–2021), supported by USAID, fostered ecosystem-based adaptation in 15 districts, building resilience for 500,000 individuals through sustainable forest management (USAID, 2022, Agriculture, Gandaki Province Chief Minister's Environment Friendly Model Agriculture Village Programme (CMEFMAVP) (2020) encourages climate-smart agriculture (CSA) through enhanced soil management and crop tolerance to 10,000 farmers[60].

16. While adaptation takes preference, low-carbon measures are included by the government to build resilience. Nepal's electricity generation is 100% renewable since 2015, predominantly from hydropower (Kathmandu Post, 2023). The government's fiscal incentive policies for electric vehicles, coupled with proposals for sufficient charging points by 2030 to phase out petrol-diesel vehicles[61], cutting emissions and air pollution assist in adaptation by lessening dependence on those fossil fuels with a higher contribution to climate.

17. Nepal, as a least developed nation, depends on international assistance for adaptation. Between 2011-2016, USD 151.04 million was committed to adaptation initiatives such as Hariyo Ban Programme and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation-I[62]. The NAP demands USD 45.9 billion in external assistance, with implementation enabled through collaboration with UNEP, the Green Climate Fund, and the World Bank[63]. The Climate Finance Strategic Roadmap is to fund USD 24 billion for adaptation by 2030, as backed by Oxford Policy Management's collaborative effort with the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE). The nation's COP26 and COP28 pledges, including net-zero carbon by 2045, are reflective of its climate action leadership globally[64].

1.9 Project target areas and beneficiaries

18. The proposed project sites in Makwanpur and Parsa districts of Nepal (Figure 2) are located in ecologically fragile zones, including the Chure hills and Terai plains. These areas face significant environmental challenges such as soil erosion, water scarcity during dry seasons, and flooding during monsoons, all of which are

[52] UNDP. (2019). Climate change vulnerability mapping in Nepal. United Nations Development Programme.
[53] UNEP. (2023, August 30). The climate crisis is making the monsoon season in Nepal more dangerous.
[54] MoFE. (2019). National Climate Change Policy. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.
[55] DHM. (2023). Annual report on weather monitoring and forecasting. Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Government of Nepal.
[56] NDP. (2019). Climate change vulnerability mapping in Nepal. United Nations Development Programme.
[57] MoFE. (2021). National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021–2050. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.
[58] UNDP. (2019). Climate change vulnerability mapping in Nepal. United Nations Development Programme.
[59] Bhandari, P., Karki, S., & Bista, R. (2021). Consequences of climate change impacts and implications on ecosystem and biodiversity; impacts of developmental projects and mitigation strategy in Nepal. IntechOpen.
[60] CDKN Global, Strengthening local capacities for climate-smart agriculture: Insights from Nepal.
[61] Government of Nepal. (2025). Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0. Kathmandu, Nepal: Government of Nepal.
[62] MoALD. (2019). Climate finance in Nepal: Status and trends. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.
[63] UNEP. (2023, August 30). The climate crisis is making the monsoon season in Nepal more dangerous.
[64] OPM. (2022). Capitalising Green Finance for Nepal, Oxford Policy Management Limited.

intensified by climate change. These conditions degrade ecosystem services and heighten risks for local communities. The region's socio-economic context is marked by high poverty rates, limited adaptive capacity, and reliance on subsistence agriculture, with marginalized groups—indigenous peoples, women, and landless households—being particularly vulnerable due to restricted access to resources and institutional support. Local governments (LGs) in these areas, despite Nepal's decentralized governance framework, struggle with capacity and resource constraints, including limited access to climate data, technical expertise, and funding for climate-resilient planning. Existing climate finance mechanisms, such as equalization grants, conditional grants, cooperatives, and community funds, are underutilized or poorly coordinated, hindering effective adaptation. The lack of localized risk and vulnerability assessments, coupled with low community engagement, often results in top-down interventions that fail to address the specific needs of households and ecosystems. This project aims to address these interconnected environmental, social, and institutional challenges through locally led, inclusive, and context-specific climate adaptation strategies.

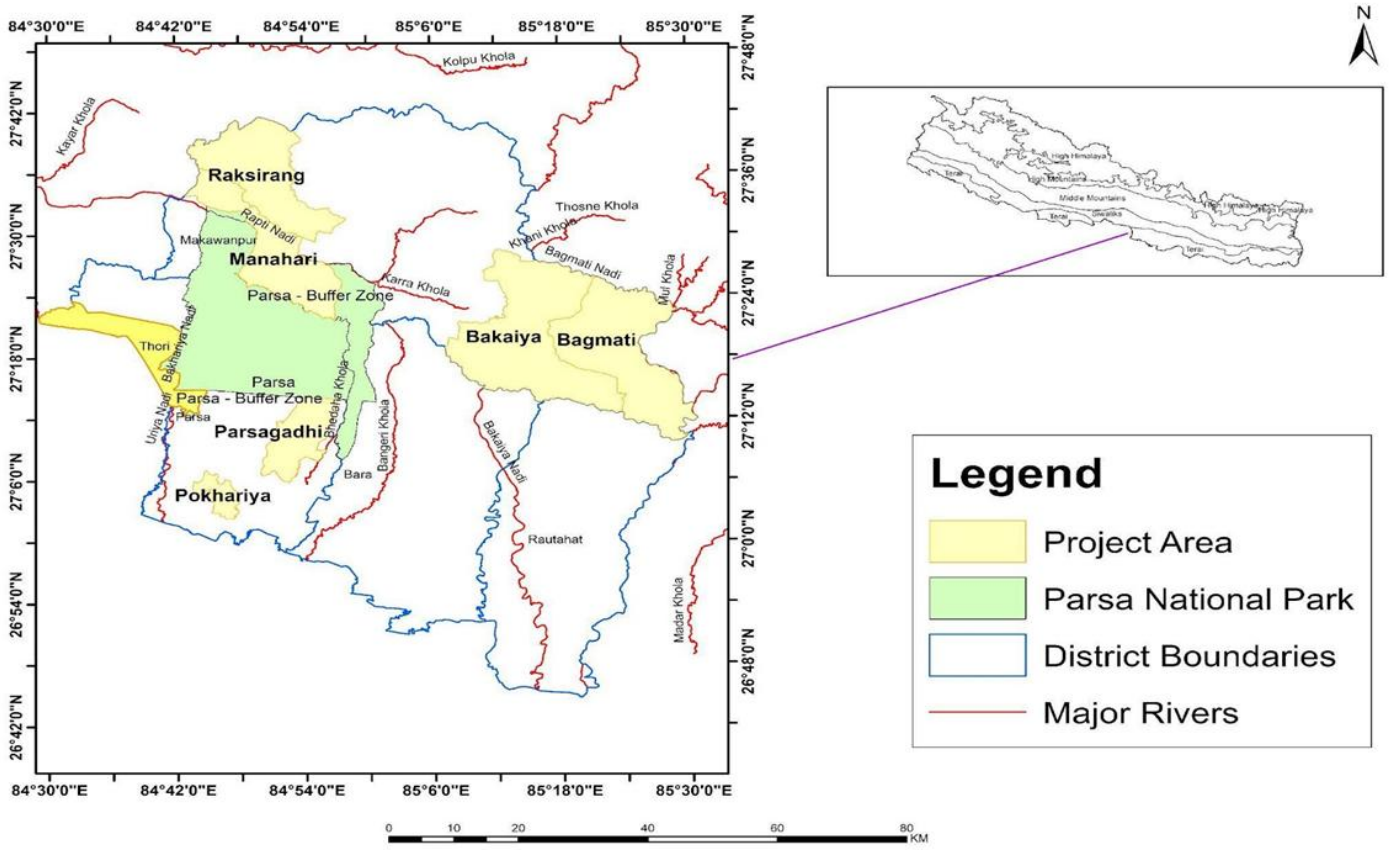

Figure 2: Map of proposed project sites

19. The project sites are home to marginalized and climate-vulnerable populations, including tribal and indige nous groups (e.g., Chepang in Makwanpur), Dalits, women, and landless communities. These groups often face social exclusion, limited access to decision-making spaces, and weak representation in local governance processes. According to Nepal's Multidimensional Poverty Index (2021), the southern Tarai region and parts of the Chure hills show higher poverty and inequality levels than the national average. Gender inequality remains significant, especially in terms of land ownership, access to climate information, and participation in community-level climate actions[65].

20. The project area has a pre-dominant Indigenous population (Adivasi Janajati), which includes Tamang (Manahari (46.78%), Raksirang (46.25%), Bakaiya (73.31%), Bagmati (22.10%), and Thori (32.12%)), Chepang (Manahari (9.38%) and Raksirang (43.96%)), Magar (Raksirang (1.5%) and Bagmati (11.88%)), Majhi (Bakaiya (3.35%)), Newar (Thori (18.01%)) and Tharu (Parsagadhi (23.76%)). Additionally, Tribal and minority groups, including Madhesi communities such as Yadav (9.32%) and Muslim (9.20%) in Parsagadhi, and Muslim (13.26%), Kurmi (9.80%), and Kanu (8.26%) in Pokhariya, alongside Koiri (7.43%) in Bagmati also make a significant portion of the local population. Further, there are Dalit communities, like Kami (Manahari (4.61%),

[65] ICIMOD, UNEP and UN Women 2021. State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in Nepal

Bakaiya (3.05%), and Thori (4.64%), Chamar (Parsagadhi (8.89%) and Pokhariya (6.23%)), Musahar, (Parsagadhi (5.98%); and unspecified Dalit groups (Raksirang (2.38%)) in the study area. Meanwhile the Brahmin-Chhetri though present across several municipalities relatively make lower population count. (Brahmin populations found in Manahari (11.46%), Bakaiya (5.98%), Bagmati (9.04%), and Thori (7.63%), while Chhetri populations appear in Manahari (13.02%), Raksirang (2.75%), Bakaiya (5.84%), Bagmati (16.53%), Pokhariya (9.61%), and Thori (20.95%) (Table 2).

Table 2: General information on proposed project sites including overall vulnerability index and rank (CBS, 2021 and MoFE, 2021)

Municipality	Population	Households	Overall Vulnerability Index	Overall Vulnerability Rank	Top Ethnic Groups (% of total)
Manahari	47,353	10,724	0.737	High	Tamang (46.78), Chhetri (13.02), Brahmin (11.46), Chepang (9.38), Kami (4.61)
Raksirang	25,996	5,044	0.764	High	Tamang (46.25), Chepang (43.96), Chhetri (2.75), Dalit (2.38), Magar (1.5)
Parsagadhi	41,569	7,632	0.809	Very High	Tharu (23.76), Yadav (9.32), Muslim (9.20), Chamar (8.89), Musahar (5.98)
Bakaiya	40,907	8,913	0.985	Very High	Tamang (73.31), Brahmin (5.98), Chhetri (5.84), Majhi (3.35), Kami (3.05)
Bagmati	30,425	6,460	0.726	High	Tamang (22.10), Chhetri (16.53), Magar (11.88), Brahmin (9.04), Koiri (7.43)
Pokhariya	37,675	6,076	0.833	Very High	Muslim (13.26), Kurmi (9.80), Chhetri (9.61), Kanu (8.26), Chamar (6.23)
Thori	17,219	4,452	0.64	High	Tamang (32.12), Chhetri (20.95), Newar (18.01), Brahmin (7.63), Kami (4.64)
Total	**241,144**	**49,301**			

21. As outlined by the World bank report, the southern municipalities like Parsagadhi and Pokhariya prone to river flooding, heat stress and drought and northern areas like Bakiya and Raksirang susceptible to landslides and flash floods[66]. The high vulnerability and exposure of the chosen municipalities combined with the socio-economic condition of the population dominated by disadvantaged communities who often lack access to resources, government relief, and coping mechanisms, heightens the urgency for targeted interventions to enhance resilience and mitigate the economic losses. Thus, making climate intervention in these municipalities more critical (DCA, 2021).

22. Nepal remains one of the least developed countries, with an economy highly dependent on agriculture (employing around 60% of the workforce) and foreign remittances (accounting for nearly 24% of GDP)[67]. The project areas have limited employment opportunities beyond agriculture and informal labor, with subsistence farming dominating local livelihoods. These sectors are highly climate-sensitive, and frequent and unpredictable floods, droughts, and soil degradation have led to significant economic losses in recent years. The average economic loss per year due to such disasters is estimated at USD 27.78 million (NPR 2,778 million), equivalent to 0.08% of Nepal's GDP. This figure encompasses various hazards, including floods, landslides, and droughts, which are exacerbated by climate change. The 2024 floods, including events like Thame, contributed to a cumulative loss of US$127 million, displacing thousands and threatening economic growth. These losses disproportionately affect agriculture, which employs 62% of Nepal's workforce, and critical infrastructure like hydropower and water supply projects[68]. Economic losses were substantial, with estimates indicating significant disruption to livelihoods and the local economy. Poor market access, limited infrastructure, and lack of climate-resilient financial products (such as insurance and risk transfer mechanisms) further compound the vulnerability of local economies.

23. The Chure region, often called the "Green Belt of Nepal," is experiencing severe ecological degradation due to the impacts of climate change, including increased rainfall variability, prolonged droughts, and intensified soil erosion, which have led to declining groundwater recharge, forest loss, and heightened vulnerability of downstream communities to floods and sedimentation[69], while the Terai plains frequently suffer from seasonal flooding and waterlogging. Climate change has amplified these risks through erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and increasing temperatures. These environmental stressors have cascading impacts on agriculture, biodiversity, water security, and overall community resilience.

24. By addressing the interlinked economic, social, development, and environmental challenges, the project aims to build long-term resilience of local communities and indigenous peoples and while ensuring that these vulnerable populations

[66] World Bank. 2023. Climate Risks, Exposure, Vulnerability and Resilience in Nepal.
[67] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[68] DCA. (2021). When Climate becomes a Threat, Evidence of Climate Change Induced Loss and Damage in Nepal.
[69] MoFE. (2021). *National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021–2050*. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.

are empowered to lead climate solutions in their own communities.

1.7 Rational

25. The adaptation to climate change project for the municipalities of Manahari, Raksirang, Parsagadhi, Bakaiya, Bagmati, Pokhariya, and Thori in Makwanpur and Parsa districts of Nepal is a pressing requirement to build resilience against the high environmental, socio-economic, and institutional vulnerabilities faced by these municipalities. These municipalities, which are located in the ecologically fragile Chure hills and Terai plains, are facing mounting climate problems in the shape of soil erosion, dry season water scarcity, and monsoon-triggered floods, all of which are accelerated by climate change[70]. Southern municipalities such as Parsagadhi and Pokhariya are highly vulnerable to river flooding, heat stress, and drought, whereas northern municipalities such as Bakaiya and Raksirang are prone to landslides and flash floods[71]. Such environmental stressors stresses ecosystem services like water security and agricultural productivity that directly affect the livelihoods of individuals who depend heavily on subsistence agriculture for survival and employment and which occupies around 60% of Nepal's labor force[72]. The intervention is also necessary to reduce the average yearly economic loss due to climate-induced disasters valued at USD 27.78 million (0.08% of Nepal's GDP) in which the 2024 floods with events such as Thame have wrought USD 127 million in damages, the agriculture sector and infrastructure such as hydropower and water supply systems in these municipalities disproportionately impacted[73].

26. The municipalities' socio-economic status demands the project since they have climate-sensitive and marginalized communities such as indigenous peoples (e.g., Tamang, Chepang, Tharu), Dalits, women, and landless families who are extremely poor, socially excluded, and low in adaptive capacity (Mishra, 2023; Yadav, 2023). For example, Tamang settlements predominate in Bakaiya (73.31%), Manahari (46.78%), and Raksirang (46.25%), whereas Parsagadhi is Tharu (23.76%) and Madhesi predominant, and Dalits such as Kami and Chamar are found in different municipalities[74]. Nepal's Multidimensional Poverty Index (2021) shows that these regions, especially in the Tarai and Chure hills of the south, are poorer and more unequal than the country's average, and gender inequalities restrict access to land ownership, climate information, and involvement in decision-making[75]. The dependency on climate-risky subsistence agriculture, along with limited market access and absence of climate-resilient financial services such as insurance, increases economic vulnerability, and special interventions are required to build resilience and minimize economic losses[76].

27. Institutionally, the local governments of these seven municipalities have major capacity gaps, such as limited access to climate information, technical capacity, and financial resources for climate-resilient planning, even with Nepal having a decentralized governance structure under the Local Government Operation Act (2017). Financial instruments for climate finance, including equalization grants and community funds, remain underused because of weak coordination[77]. Top-down interventions that are not sensitive to local ecosystem and household-specific conditions are the outcome. These municipalities' very high to high vulnerability levels—Bakaiya (0.985), Pokhariya (0.833), Parsagadhi (0.809), Raksirang (0.764), Manahari (0.737), Bagmati (0.726), and Thori (0.64)—indicate that they are very much exposed to climate hazards[78]. For instance, land cover change from 2000 to 2022 in Parsagadhi and Pokhariya shows extensive forest loss and expansion of built-up areas that intensify flood hazards, and shrinking water bodies in Raksirang and Bakaiya worsen water scarcity[79].

28. The LLA strategy of the project is crucial to empower these municipalities to counter their own issues by delegating decision-making and power to the local governments and communities. It is also in line with Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (2021–2050), National Climate Change Policy (2019), and Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) Framework (2019), which emphasize equity and decentralization. By scaling up successful models such as UNCDF's LoCAL, the project will build institutional capacity, unlock climate finance, and apply nature-based solutions, such as watershed management and ecosystem restoration, to reduce environmental degradation, including the 2.1% loss of forest cover since 2000 and 20% degradation of cultivatable land[80]. The project's social inclusion emphasis guarantees that vulnerable groups, such as indigenous people and women, drive adaptive actions, promoting gender and social equity[81]. As Nepal's climate projections anticipate a rise in temperature by 1.2°C–4.2°C by 2080 and heightened monsoon variability[82], the project is vital in protecting the 241,144 citizens of 49,301 households of these municipalities, guaranteeing sustainable development and climate-resilient livelihoods from mounting climate risks.

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[70] MoFE. (2021). National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021–2050. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.
[71] World Bank. 2023. Climate Risks, Exposure, Vulnerability and Resilience in Nepal.
[72] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[73] DCA. (2021). When Climate becomes a Threat, Evidence of Climate Change Induced Loss and Damage in Nepal.
[74] Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). (2021). National Population and Housing Census 2021. Kathmandu: Government of Nepal.
[75] NPC. (2021) Nepal Multidimensional Poverty Index: Analysis Towards Action.
[76] DCA. (2021). When Climate becomes a Threat, Evidence of Climate Change Induced Loss and Damage in Nepal.
[77] MoFE. (2021). National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021–2050. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.
[78] MoFE. (2021). Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Identifying Adaptation Options: Summary for Policy Makers.
[79] ICIMOD (2022). Land cover of Nepal.
[80] World Bank. (2024). Nepal development update: October 2024.
[81] MoFE. (2020). Gender and Climate Change Strategy. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of Nepal.
[82] Climate Risk Country Profile: Nepal (2021): The World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank.

Project / Programme Objectives:

List the main objectives of the project/programme.

29. The main objectives of the proposed project/programme can be highlighted as:

- Localization: Empower local governments and communities to lead climate adaptation planning and implementation by building institutional, technical, and leadership capabilities
- Financing: Identify, leverage, mobilize and strengthen transparency of local-level financing mechanisms, such as from equalization grants, conditional grants, community funds, cooperatives, and public-private partnerships for adaptation actions.
- Actioning: Implement adaptation measures focusing on Nature based solutions building on the LLA principles viz. climate-resilient infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable land and water management
- MEL (Monitoring Evaluation and Learning): Develop tools and platforms for tracking adaptation progress, documenting best practices, conducting learning events, and evaluating outcomes based on inclusive indicators.

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30. To attain the objectives, a project will be centered on inclusive engagement; leaving no one behind principle and systematic implementation and mainstreaming from local to the Federal level based on Local adaptation Principles and Local Adaptation plan of Action revised framework 2019. This involves ensuring the meaningful and equitable participation of marginalized and tribal groups that have the higher dominance in the proposed area throughout all stages of climate planning, decision-making, implementation and monitoring. Their voices and experiences are important for shaping effective, context-specific, and just climate actions.

Project / Programme Components and Financing[83]:

Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, activities, expected concrete outputs, and the corresponding budgets. If necessary, please refer to the attached instructions for a detailed description of each term.

For the case of a programme, individual components are likely to refer to specific sub- sets of stakeholders, regions and/or sectors that can be addressed through a set of well-defined interventions / projects.

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)
1. Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment for Baseline Development and Adaptation Planning	• Baseline data generated and documented • Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) developed aligned with the revised LAPA framework	Local governments and communities, including IPs and marginalized groups, are equipped/empowered to assess climate risks and co-develop inclusive and context-specific adaptation plans.	277,010
2. Capacity Building and Institutional strengthening support to Local communities, LGs and Provincial Government based on need Assessment	• Training and sensitization programs on climate risks and adaptation designed and delivered for CBOs, Local Governments, and Provincial Governments • Citizen scientists and climate champions identified, trained, and mobilized in each local unit. • Local advocacy groups, including youth, women, and mothers' groups, strengthened and empowered to advocate for climate justice at the	Communities, Local and provincial institutions have the skills, systems, and knowledge to lead, coordinate and implement effective climate governance and adaptation action	504,019

[83] IE and EE fees calculator: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/ie-and-ee-fees-calculator/

		community and policy levels. ● Local Governments capacitated on planning and implementation of climate-resilient infrastructure and conducting loss and damage assessments. ● Advocacy conducted at the federal level to promote Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) for better resource flow.		
3.	Implementation of Locally Led Adaptation initiatives	● LLAP actions in alignment with NAP and NDCs implemented in priority themes: Forests & biodiversity, Sustainable agriculture & food security, Water resource management, disaster resilience, Promote climate-resilient livelihoods, especially for vulnerable groups.	Communities implement need-specific, locally driven adaptation actions and nature-based solutions to enhance climate resilience	2,986,115
4.	Sustainability and Financing	● Equalization grants allocation prioritized by GON of to support climate adaptation initiatives. ● Local-level financing sources such as community funds, local taxes, and cooperatives identified and mobilized to support climate adaptation efforts. ● Risk transfer mechanisms (insurance, social protection systems) established ● Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) approaches mainstreamed into local and national climate policies and planning frameworks. ● Community-led innovation fund established including an operation and maintenance (O&M) fund to support sustainable adaptation solutions in the working palikas ● Public Hearing and auditing undertaken across ● Cross collaboration with other programs undertaken to learn and share on innovative incentivization of climate change adaptation	Long-term sustainability of adaptation initiatives is ensured through robust financing and institutional mechanisms.	372,412
5.	Knowledge management and MEL	● Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) practices and models successfully documented, scaled up, and replicated ● Learning sharing Workshop organized ● Diverse knowledge products including case studies, journals, research grants,	Enhanced learning, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making support adaptive management of climate actions	400,636

	publications, and social media content to disseminate insights and promote awareness developed. ● Quarterly, annual, and mid-term monitoring to track progress, assess performance, and inform adaptive management carried out ● Best practices to capture successful approaches and lessons learned documented for wider dissemination and replication ● Evaluation of financial management to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficient use of resources conducted ● Baseline and endline studies conducted to assess project impact and measure changes over time. ● Mid-term and final evaluations conducted to assess project performance, effectiveness, and outcomes against set objectives		
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			68,102.88
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			4,608,295
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			391,705
Amount of Financing Requested			**5,000,000**

Projected Calendar:

Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project/programme.

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	July, 2026
Mid-term Review (if planned)	July, 2028
Project/Programme Closing	July, 2030
Terminal Evaluation	December, 2030

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience. Specify how the project/programme enables devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level and gives local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented; how progress is monitored and how success is evaluated.

31. The project is structured around five interlinked components designed to operationalize Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) in the ecologically vulnerable and socioeconomically marginalized areas of Makwanpur and Parsa districts. These components emphasize devolution of power, community leadership, and climate justice. The project adopts a Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) approach and principles to address the growing climate risks in Makwanpur and Parsa districts that are continuously facing compounding ecological and socio-economic vulnerabilities in line with Nepal's National Climate Change Policy (2019), Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) Framework (2019), and National Adaptation Plan (NAP 2021), which call for integrating climate resilience into local development and ensuring inclusive participation and access to finance for the most climate-vulnerable populations.

The theory of change is presented in below figure:

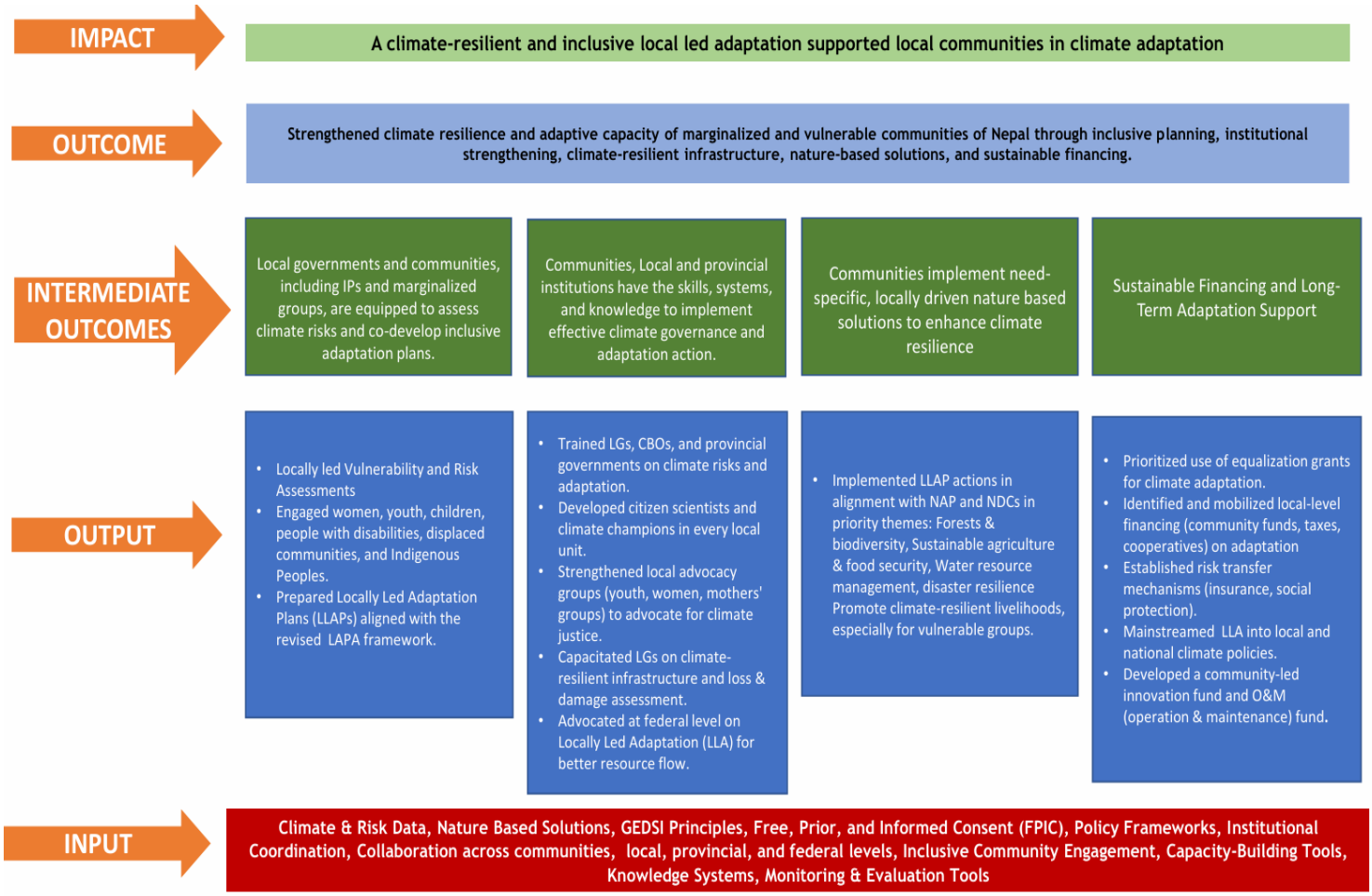


Figure 3: Theory of Change

Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment for Baseline Development and Adaptation Planning

32. This component establishes the foundation for evidence-based and inclusive adaptation planning by empowering local communities and governments to lead participatory risk, vulnerability, and capacity assessments. It adopts a bottom-up approach that incorporates scientific data with local and indigenous knowledge to ensure that adaptation planning is both technically sound and socially grounded.

Climate Resilience Contribution:

33. By identifying and validating localized climate risks and root causes of vulnerability, this component ensures that subsequent interventions are targeted, efficient, and responsive to real needs. It enhances the accuracy, relevance, and sustainability of adaptation actions, ultimately improving long-term community resilience to climate shocks and stresses.

Devolution & Decision-Making:

34. The assessment and planning processes are aligned with the seven steps local planning process of Nepal (from ward level plan prioritization, plan and budget formulation, approval from municipal assembly, implementation of action plan to pre-plan preparation, estimation of source and plan identification in the next cycle of local level planning) and designed to be community-led and inclusive, with a strong focus on ensuring the active leadership of women, youth, indigenous peoples, Dalits, and landless communities. Local governments are positioned as conveners and facilitators rather than

top-down implementers, promoting democratic ownership of adaptation strategies and reinforcing local autonomy in defining, prioritizing, and sequencing actions.

Outcome 1: **Local governments and communities, including IPs and marginalized groups, are equipped/empowered to assess climate risks and co-develop inclusive and context-specific Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA)**

35. Under this outcome the project aims to empower local governments and communities, including Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and marginalized groups, to assess climate risks and actively co-develop inclusive, context-specific adaptation plans. Through capacity building, participatory assessments, and inclusive planning processes, the project enhances local ownership and ensures that adaptation strategies are tailored to the unique vulnerabilities and priorities of each community, promoting equitable and resilient outcomes.

Output 1.1: **Locally led participatory Vulnerability and Risk Assessments conducted and validated**

36. This output aims to ensure that adaptation actions are grounded in local contexts through locally led participatory vulnerability and risk assessments. By applying participatory tools and integrating local knowledge systems, the assessments identify climate hazards, exposure, and adaptive capacities at household, community, and ecosystem levels. The process prioritizes inclusive engagement of women, indigenous peoples, youth, and other marginalized groups, ensuring their voices shape adaptation priorities. Findings from these assessments inform the development or revision of Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs), fostering a bottom-up, evidence-based planning approach that strengthens ownership and effectiveness of adaptation responses. This will also support to generate and document comprehensive baseline data on climate vulnerabilities, risks, and adaptive capacities across the project sites. The data will serve as a critical reference point for measuring progress, informing adaptive planning, and evaluating the effectiveness of interventions.

Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 1.1.1: *Orientation and Training on Risk Assessment Tools*

37. This will involve training sessions for local government officials, community leaders, women's groups, youth representatives, IPs, PWD and community-based organizations (CBOs) to enhance their understanding and capacity on climate vulnerability and risk assessment methodologies. These sessions will introduce and apply participatory tools such as the Climate Resilient Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA), Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA), and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques. The training will equip local stakeholders with the skills to identify climate risks, assess community vulnerabilities, and generate localized data to inform inclusive and evidence-based adaptation planning processes.

Activity 1.1.2: Formation or Mobilization of Local Assessment Teams

38. Inclusive community-level assessment teams will be established or mobilized, consisting of local leaders, climate champions, and representatives from marginalized groups to ensure broad participation and local ownership in the vulnerability and risk assessment process.

Activity 1.1.3: Data Collection Using Participatory Tools

39. Participatory tools such as hazard mapping, resource mapping, seasonal calendars, historical timelines, and transect walks will be applied to gather and document local knowledge on climate risks, hazards, and exposure, ensuring context-specific insights that inform targeted adaptation planning. Structured surveys and focus group discussions will be conducted to collect disaggregated data on climate impacts, livelihood vulnerabilities, and coping strategies, with a particular focus on capturing the perspectives and experiences of women, indigenous communities, and landless households.

40. The scientific information provided by the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) will be used to identify climate hotspots, flood-prone areas, and patterns of seasonal variability. This data can be aligned with Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs) and Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessments (CRVAs) to ensure that local planning reflects both scientific analysis and community needs. Furthermore, DHM forecasts and projections will be translated into practical and actionable information, such as agriculture calendars, early warning messages, and water management plans. Sharing this interpreted data with local governments will enable evidence-based decision-making, allowing them to develop more targeted and effective climate adaptation and disaster preparedness strategies.

41. Engaging local communities in data collection through participatory tools involves inclusive, bottom-up approaches that build local capacity and draw on community knowledge. The collected data, grounded in local realities, supports informed planning and creates a feedback loop between communities and decision-makers.

Activity 1.1.4: Ecosystem and Livelihood Mapping

42. Climate-sensitive ecosystems, water resources, agricultural zones, and socio-economic infrastructure vulnerable to climate hazards will be mapped using citizen scientists to identify priority areas for adaptation interventions and to support

evidence-based planning at the local level.

Activity 1.1.5: Validation and Feedback Workshops

43. Validation workshops will be hosted in each target local government to present the initial assessment findings, gather feedback from community members and stakeholders, and incorporate their inputs into the final climate risk and vulnerability profiles, ensuring accuracy, inclusivity, and local ownership.

Activity 1.1.6: Preparation of Localized Vulnerability and Risk Profiles

44. Assessment results will be compiled into clear and accessible vulnerability and risk profiles, incorporating maps and concise summaries, and disaggregated by geography, gender, caste/ethnicity, and livelihoods to ensure inclusive representation and support targeted adaptation planning.

Activity 1.1.7: Documentation and Dissemination

45. Key findings, lessons learned, and recommendations from each assessment will be documented and disseminated to local governments, provincial authorities, and community stakeholders to inform and guide inclusive, evidence-based adaptation planning and decision-making

Output 1.2: Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA) developed aligning with the principle of locally led adaptation and locally revised LAPA framework

46. This output aims to empower local governments and communities to create inclusive, evidence-based, and actionable adaptation plans that reflect localized climate risks and vulnerabilities. These plans are developed through participatory processes that integrate findings from community-led risk and vulnerability assessments, incorporate local and Indigenous knowledge, and align with Nepal's revised Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) framework (2019). The LAPA outlines context-specific adaptation priorities, actions, responsible institutions, timelines, and budgets. By centering marginalized groups in planning, the output ensures equity, ownership, and integration of adaptation into broader local development agendas, ultimately contributing to long-term climate resilience.

47. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 1.2.1: Conduct orientation workshops for local governments, community-based organizations (CBOs), and key stakeholders on the revised LAPA framework and principles of Locally Led Adaptation (LLA)

Activity 1.2.2: Facilitate inclusive and participatory planning processes in each target local government, ensuring the meaningful engagement of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups.

Activity 1.2.3: Analyze findings from vulnerability and risk assessments to identify priority climate risks, exposure hotspots, and adaptation needs at household, community, and ecosystem levels.

Activity 1.2.4: Organize multi-stakeholder planning workshops to co-develop adaptation actions, goals, targets, and implementation strategies, using the LAPA framework as a guiding tool.

Activity 1.2.5: Integrate locally generated data and traditional knowledge into the adaptation planning process to ensure context-specificity and community ownership.

Activity 1.2.6: Prepare draft LAPAs that include prioritized adaptation actions, responsible entities, timelines, budget estimates, and monitoring indicators.

Activity 1.2.7: Validate draft LAPAs through feedback sessions with local governments, community members, and provincial representatives to ensure alignment with local priorities and national policy frameworks.

Activity 1.2.8: Finalize and endorse LAPAs through formal approval by the respective local governments, ensuring integration into local development and sectoral plans.

Activity 1.2.9: Link LAPAs to available financing sources, such as equalization grants, local revenue, community funds, and external adaptation finance channels to ensure implementation feasibility ensuring that LAPAs are inclusive, evidence-based, and actionable, forming the cornerstone of climate resilience planning at the local level.

Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening

48. This component aims to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of local governments (LGs), community-based organizations (CBOs), and provincial stakeholders based on the needs identified in Component 1. Through tailored training, mentoring, and technical support, stakeholders will be capacitated in key areas such as climate risk governance, participatory planning, climate budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and integration of climate adaptation into local development processes. Special focus will be given to enhancing the effectiveness of community adaptation committees, local climate focal points, and grassroots advocacy networks, including youth, children, people with disabilities, LGBTIQ, women, and Indigenous groups to ensure inclusive and sustained climate action at the local level.

49. Climate Resilience Contribution: By building local capacities, the project enhances the ability of local governments,

community-based organizations, and provincial institutions to plan, finance, and manage climate adaptation actions. Strengthened technical knowledge, skills, and systems improve coordination, accountability, and responsiveness in addressing climate risks. This not only supports the integration of climate resilience into local development planning and service delivery but also lays the foundation for long-term, adaptive governance structures capable of responding to evolving climate challenges.

50. Devolution & Decision Making: This component empowers local institutions by providing them with technical tools, contextual knowledge, and decision-making authority to independently define, design, implement, and monitor climate adaptation priorities. Capacity building needs will be demand-based, taking a bottom of approach to understand needs and design capacity building needs according to support LLA. By strengthening institutional capacity at the local level, the project fosters greater ownership, accountability, and sustainability of adaptation interventions. This localized approach ensures that adaptation actions are responsive to community-specific needs and challenges, while promoting inclusive participation and long-term climate resilience.

Outcome 2: C**ommunities, Local and provincial institutions have the skills, systems, and knowledge to lead, coordinate and implement effective climate governance and adaptation action**

51. This outcome focuses on strengthening institutional capacities through targeted training, technical support, and knowledge transfer to ensure inclusive, accountable, and evidence-based climate planning and implementation. It promotes multi-level coordination, empowers local actors to mainstream adaptation into development planning, and enhances the ability of institutions to mobilize resources, monitor progress, and sustain locally led adaptation efforts over time.

Output 2.1: **Training and sensitization programs on climate risks and adaptation designed and delivered for CBOs, Local Governments, and Provincial Governments**

52. Training and sensitization programs on climate risks and adaptation are designed and delivered for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Local Governments (LGs), and Provincial Government stakeholders to enhance their understanding of climate change impacts, adaptation strategies, and governance mechanisms. These programs build capacity for inclusive planning, budgeting, and implementation of locally led adaptation actions, ensuring that institutions at all levels are equipped to respond effectively to climate risks.

53. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 2.1.1: Conduct capacity needs assessment of CBOs, Local Governments (LGs), and Provincial Government stakeholders to identify gaps in knowledge, skills, and systems related to climate risks and adaptation.

Activity 2.1.2: Develop tailored training curricula and modules on climate change science, vulnerability assessment, adaptation planning, climate budgeting, and governance, incorporating local contexts and national frameworks (e.g., LAPA Framework, NAP, NCC Policy).

Activity 2.1.3: Organize training-of-trainers (ToT) workshops to create a pool of local facilitators from among LG staff, CBO leaders, youth, and women's groups who can replicate training at the community level.

Activity 2.1.4: Deliver multi-stakeholder training and sensitization sessions at municipal and provincial levels to strengthen understanding of climate risk, adaptation measures, and inclusive planning practices.

Activity 2.1.5: Facilitate exposure and peer-learning exchanges between LGs and provinces to share successful climate adaptation and governance practices.

Activity 2.1.6: Monitor and evaluate training effectiveness through pre- and post-training assessments, participant feedback, and follow-up coaching to ensure knowledge retention and application.

Activity 2.1.7: Document lessons learned from the training programs and use insights to refine future capacity-building efforts.

Output 2.2: **Citizen scientists and climate champions identified, trained, and mobilized in each local unit.**

54. This output involves identifying motivated individuals particularly from youth, women, and indigenous groups within each local unit who can serve as citizen scientists and climate champions. These individuals will be trained on local climate monitoring, data collection, and adaptation practices. Training will include participatory tools, mobile-based reporting, and awareness-raising techniques. Once trained, they will be mobilized to support local adaptation planning, monitor ecosystem changes, disseminate climate information in their communities, and act as liaisons between technical agencies and local populations, fostering grassroots ownership and enhancing local climate governance.

55. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 2.2.1: Develop selection criteria and guidelines for identifying potential citizen scientists and climate champions, with emphasis on gender, social inclusion, and youth engagement.

Activity 2.2.2: Conduct outreach and nomination processes through community meetings, schools, youth clubs, women's

groups, and local networks to identify enthusiastic and representative individuals.

Activity 2.2.3: Organize training workshops on basic climate science, local climate impacts, adaptation practices, and climate data collection methods (e.g., rainfall, temperature, water levels, biodiversity indicators).

Activity 2.2.4: Train selected individuals on participatory tools such as community mapping, ecosystem observation, and early warning systems.

Activity 2.2.5: Provide training on digital/mobile tools (e.g., open data platforms, mobile apps) for community-based climate data monitoring and reporting.

Activity 2.2.6: Develop and distribute toolkits (manuals, guides, checklists) tailored for citizen scientists and climate champions.

Activity 2.2.7: Form and strengthen local networks or clubs of citizen scientists to promote peer learning, exchange, and mutual support.

Activity 2.2.8: Regular mentoring, refresher sessions, and peer-to-peer exchanges to sustain engagement and improve technical skills.

Activity 2.2.9: Link climate champions with local governments and CBOs to formally integrate them into local climate governance structures.

Output 2.3: **Local advocacy groups, including youth, women, and mothers' groups, strengthened and empowered to advocate for climate justice at the community and policy levels**

56. The output aims to enhance the capacity, confidence, and influence of grassroots groups to actively engage in climate-related decision-making and demand equitable adaptation actions. These groups often represent the most vulnerable populations and possess vital local knowledge, but they lack formal platforms, resources, and training to advocate effectively. By equipping them with climate literacy, leadership skills, and policy engagement tools, the project ensures their voices are heard in planning and governance processes. This contributes to inclusive climate governance, promotes social equity, and fosters accountability in adaptation interventions.

57. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 2.3.1: Map and assess existing local advocacy groups (youth clubs, women's cooperatives, mothers' groups, etc.) in the target areas to understand their capacity, structure, and influence.

Activity 2.3.2: Conduct capacity needs assessments of these groups related to climate literacy, rights-based advocacy, communication, and leadership.

Activity 2.3.3: Design and deliver tailored training programs on climate change impacts, climate justice principles, policy advocacy, negotiation skills, and rights of marginalized communities.

Activity 2.3.4: Organize leadership and confidence-building workshops specifically for women, youth, and marginalized members to amplify their voices in local decision-making.

Activity 2.3.5: Provide technical support to develop community advocacy strategies and action plans linked to Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs) and local development planning.

Activity 2.3.6: Facilitate regular dialogues and policy forums between advocacy groups and local government representatives to strengthen accountability and participatory governance.

Activity 2.3.7: Create peer-learning and exchange platforms among advocacy groups across local governments and provinces to promote solidarity, shared learning, and joint advocacy.

Activity 2.3.8: Engage advocacy groups in monitoring budgeting processes to ensure transparency, inclusion, and responsiveness to vulnerable populations promoting the institutionalization of advocacy roles within local planning mechanisms (e.g., inclusion in ward or municipal committees on environment or climate change).

Output 2.4: **Local Governments capacitated on planning and implementation of climate-resilient infrastructure and conducting loss and damage assessments.**

58. This output aims to enhance the technical and institutional capacity of local governments to plan, design, and execute infrastructure that can withstand climate-related hazards such as floods, landslides, and heatwaves. This includes training on climate-resilient design principles, risk-informed planning, and integration of nature-based solutions. Additionally, local governments will be supported to systematically assess climate-induced loss and damage using standardized tools, enabling evidence-based decision-making and resource allocation. Strengthening these capacities ensures that adaptation measures are locally appropriate, durable, and aligned with national frameworks, while also supporting local access to finance and compensation mechanisms related to loss and damage.

59. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 2.4.1: Conduct capacity needs assessments to identify gaps in planning, technical knowledge, and infrastructure development related to climate resilience at the local government level.

Activity 2.4.2: Organize technical training workshops for local government engineers, planners, and relevant staff on climate-resilient infrastructure design, including eco-safe roads, flood-proofing, water harvesting, and green infrastructure.

Activity 2.4.3: Provide orientation sessions on nature-based solutions (NbS) and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) approaches relevant to local infrastructure projects.

Activity 2.4.4: Develop local guidelines or toolkits for planning and implementing climate-resilient infrastructure based on national standards and global best practices.

Activity 2.4.5: Train local officials and disaster focal points on standardized methodologies for assessing climate-induced loss and damage using different tools.

Activity 2.4.6: Facilitate joint simulation exercises and field visits to demonstrate resilient infrastructure and loss & damage assessment in practice.

Activity 2.4.7: Establish multi-stakeholder infrastructure planning committees at the municipal level including participation from engineers, civil society, women, and vulnerable groups.

Activity 2.4.8: Support the integration of climate-resilient infrastructure projects into municipal periodic and annual plans (e.g., through technical backstopping or planning camps).

Activity 2.4.9: Pilot small-scale climate-resilient infrastructure projects in selected wards to demonstrate practical application and gather lessons learned.

Activity 2.4.10: Document case studies and lessons from infrastructure implementation and share with provincial and national bodies for replication and policy feedback.

Output 2.5: **Advocacy conducted at the federal level to promote Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) for better resource flow**

60. This output focuses on influencing national-level policies, financing mechanisms, and institutional frameworks to support and scale Locally Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA). By advocating at the federal level, the project aims to create an enabling environment where local governments and communities can access climate finance directly, define their priorities, and implement context-specific adaptation actions. Efforts will include policy dialogues, position papers, and multi-stakeholder consultations to integrate LLA principles into national adaptation strategies and budgetary processes. The outcome is a strengthened vertical linkage between local realities and national policy, ensuring sustained resource flow and policy coherence for grassroots climate action.

61. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 2.5.1: Organize national policy dialogues and multi-stakeholder consultations with federal ministries, development partners, and civil society to promote the importance of LLA in national adaptation frameworks.

Activity 2.5.2: Develop and disseminate policy briefs, evidence-based case studies, and position papers demonstrating the effectiveness of LLA models from the project sites.

Activity 2.5.3: Facilitate federal-local learning exchanges to showcase best practices from local governments and communities implementing LLA.

Activity 2.5.4: Engage with parliamentary committees, national climate change platforms, and inter-ministerial coordination bodies to mainstream LLA into national climate policies, NAP implementation, and budget processes.

Activity 2.5.5: Advocate for inclusion of LLA in climate finance mechanisms and budget allocations, such as conditional grants, performance-based funds, or climate-responsive planning tools.

Activity 2.5.6: Support the revision and alignment of national guidelines and frameworks (e.g., LAPA Framework, Climate Resilient Planning tools) to institutionalize LLA.

Activity 2.5.7: Collaborate with national media, think tanks, and CSOs to raise awareness and build a national narrative around climate justice and devolved adaptation governance.

Activity 2.5.8: Track and document the impact of advocacy efforts to measure policy uptake, institutional changes, and budgetary shifts at the national level.

Component 3: Implementation of LAPA Actions Aligned with NAP and NDCs

62. This component has been designed to operationalize the locally developed adaptation priorities identified in Component 1 by directly implementing targeted, community-driven actions aligned with Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This component focuses on key thematic areas such as forest and biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, water resource management, disaster risk reduction, and climate-

resilient livelihoods where climate vulnerabilities are most acute in the project areas. By grounding interventions in local knowledge and prioritizing the needs of vulnerable groups (e.g., women, indigenous peoples, and landless communities), this component ensures that adaptation measures are not only technically effective but also socially just and environmentally sustainable. It bridges planning with action, building resilience at the grassroots level and contributing to Nepal's broader climate and development goals.

63. Concrete adaptation interventions will be co-designed and implemented by local actors. These include:

- Nature-based solutions (e.g., reforestation, rainwater harvesting, slope stabilization, water source protection);
- Climate-resilient infrastructure (e.g., green embankment, flood barriers, small scale irrigation canals);
- Diversification of climate-resilient livelihoods (e.g., agroecology, sustainable forestry, eco-enterprise support).

64. **Climate Resilience Contribution:** Directly reduces exposure to climate hazards and strengthens ecological and socioeconomic buffers.

65. Devolution & Decision-Making: Communities are the principal actors in prioritizing and managing interventions. Local adaptation committees and cooperatives will oversee co-creation to design and implement.

Outcomes 3: **Communities implement need-specific, locally led adaptation actions and nature-based solutions to enhance climate resilience**

66. This outcome reflects the core goal of translating community-defined priorities into concrete, on-the-ground interventions that strengthen adaptive capacity. It emphasizes the execution of tailored, inclusive, and ecosystem-based adaptation measures that directly address the specific climate risks, vulnerabilities, and livelihood challenges identified in each local context. By promoting nature-based solutions and climate-smart practices such as agroecology, community forestry, water harvesting, and green infrastructure; the project enables communities to build resilience while restoring ecosystems. This outcome also reinforces local ownership, as communities lead the design and implementation of solutions, fostering long-term sustainability and alignment with national adaptation strategies.

67. Output 3.1: **Implemented locally led adaptation actions in alignment with NAP and NDCs in priority themes: Forests & biodiversity, Sustainable agriculture & food security, Water resource management, disaster resilience, and promotion of climate-resilient livelihoods, especially for vulnerable groups**

68. This output ensures the translation of community-developed Locally Led Adaptation Plans (LLAPs) into tangible, on-the-ground adaptation actions. These interventions will be carefully selected based on prioritized needs identified during participatory planning processes and aligned with Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The focus will be on priority thematic areas such as:

- Forests and biodiversity conservation through community forestry, afforestation, and ecosystem restoration;
- Sustainable agriculture and food security via promotion of climate-smart and agroecological practices;
- Water resource management through rainwater harvesting, spring revival, and micro-irrigation systems;
- Disaster risk reduction and resilience with nature-based flood mitigation, bioengineering, and slope stabilization; and
- Climate-resilient livelihoods targeting the poor, women, indigenous peoples, and landless communities with green enterprise promotion and vocational training.

69. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 3.1.1: Identify and prioritize adaptation actions from the finalized Locally Led Adaptation Plans (LLAPs) in consultation with local stakeholders, ensuring alignment with NAP and NDC targets.

Activity 3.1.2: Design and implement climate-smart agriculture initiatives, including organic farming, agroecology, drought-resistant crops, and soil management practices to enhance food security.

Activity 3.1.3: Support biodiversity and forest-based adaptation actions, such as community forest restoration, plantation of climate-resilient native species, and conservation of ecologically critical habitats.

Activity 3.1.4: Promote integrated water resource management, including construction of rainwater harvesting systems, spring source protection, drip/micro-irrigation systems, and watershed conservation activities.

Activity 3.1.5: Implement disaster risk reduction and ecosystem-based adaptation measures, including bioengineering, slope stabilization, check dams, early warning systems, and flood-safe infrastructure.

Activity 3.1.6: Support climate-resilient livelihoods through vocational training, entrepreneurship development, and seed funding for green enterprises targeting women, youth, IPs, and marginalized groups addressing structural inequalities.

Activity 3.1.7: Mobilize and engage community-based institutions (e.g., forest user groups, water user committees, farmers'

cooperatives) in the implementation of locally prioritized interventions.

Activity 3.1.8: Establish public-private-community partnerships for scaling adaptation investments in nature-based and climate-resilient enterprises.

Activity 3.1.9: Monitor and document adaptation results and lessons learned, ensuring continuous feedback loops for adaptive management.

Activity 3.1.10 Ensure social and gender inclusion in all implementation activities by facilitating targeted participation and leadership of women, indigenous peoples, and the most climate-vulnerable groups.

Component 4: Sustainability and Financing

70. This component focuses on ensuring the long-term sustainability of locally led adaptation actions by strengthening local climate financing mechanisms and promoting the institutionalization of adaptation planning and implementation within existing government systems. It aims to create an enabling environment where local governments, communities, and institutions have access to sustained financial resources, technical capacity, and governance systems to continue climate adaptation beyond the project period. The component will support local governments to integrate locally led adaptation actions into annual and periodic development plans and budgets, while also building their capacity to leverage existing intergovernmental fiscal transfers such as equalization and conditional grants. It will promote blended financing approaches, including public-private-community partnerships, cooperative financing, and climate finance mobilization from federal sources and international adaptation funds.

71. This component focuses on mobilizing and institutionalizing climate finance at the local level by:

- Strengthening the use of equalization grants, community funds, and cooperatives for adaptation;
- Establishing a Community-led Innovation Fund and O&M Fund to support long-term maintenance and scaling;
- Advocating for dedicated budget lines and financial instruments for LLA at provincial and federal levels.

72. Climate Resilience Contribution: Secures financial sustainability for continued adaptation investments beyond the project lifecycle and creates the right incentives to mainstream climate change.

73. Devolution & Decision-Making: Enables direct financial access for local actors, reducing dependency on top-down budgeting and increasing local control over resource allocation. Public audits will be conducted at key stages of the project cycle, providing platforms for stakeholders to review expenditures, verify fund utilization, and raise concerns. Regular financial disclosures and social audits will enhance transparency and build trust among community members. Local governments will be actively involved in budgeting, disbursement, and monitoring processes, with clear roles and responsibilities defined through coordination committees. To strengthen sustainability and shared responsibility, the project will promote blended or co-financing approaches, encouraging contributions from local government budgets, community user groups, and other stakeholders ensuring that resources are used effectively and equitably, reinforcing community empowerment and long-term impact.

Outcome 4: Long-term sustainability of adaptation initiatives is ensured through robust financing and institutional mechanisms

74. This outcome ensures that the locally led adaptation actions initiated through the project are not one-off interventions, but are sustained and scaled through the integration of adaptation priorities into local development planning, budgeting, and financing systems. It focuses on establishing robust financial mechanisms such as local climate finance tracking, leveraging intergovernmental fiscal transfers, and mobilizing external and domestic climate funds. Additionally, the outcome strengthens institutional mechanisms and governance structures, enabling local governments and communities to independently plan, finance, and implement adaptation measures beyond the project lifecycle ensuring ownership, accountability, and climate resilience in the long run.

Output 4.1: **Prioritized the allocation of equalization grants to support climate adaptation initiatives.**

75. This output ensures that local governments strategically allocate a portion of their fiscal equalization grants; a key source of unconditional public finance to climate adaptation priorities identified through the LLAPs. By integrating adaptation into the regular budgeting and public financial management processes, this output promotes financial sustainability and institutional ownership. It also enhances local accountability and transparency by aligning budget allocations with community-identified climate needs, especially benefiting vulnerable groups and climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water, and biodiversity.

76. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 4.1.1: Conduct orientation sessions for local government (LG) officials on climate finance, fiscal equalization grants, and their role in supporting adaptation priorities.

Activity 4.1.2: Facilitate budget tagging and climate-responsive public financial management (PFM) processes at the local level to help LGs track and allocate funds for climate adaptation.

Activity 4.1.3: Support integration of LLA priorities into local government annual and periodic plans and budgeting cycles.

Activity 4.1.4: Provide technical assistance to local planning units for costing LLA interventions and aligning them with available public finance mechanisms, including equalization grants.

Activity 4.1.5: Establish coordination platforms between LGs, provincial planning commissions, and the Ministry of Finance to advocate for and track climate finance allocations.

Activity 4.1.6: Monitor and document fund utilization for adaptation actions supported through equalization grants to inform best practices and promote accountability.

Activity 4.1.7: Develop guidance notes and policy briefs for LGs on prioritizing and justifying climate-relevant expenditures within regular budget processes.

Activity 4.1.8: Engage community members, including women and marginalized groups, in participatory budget hearings and monitoring to ensure transparency and equitable allocation.

Output 4.2: **Identified and mobilized local-level financing sources such as community funds, local taxes, and cooperatives to support climate adaptation efforts**

77. This output focuses on strengthening the financial sustainability of locally led adaptation (LLA) by unlocking and mobilizing diverse community-based and local revenue sources. It aims to reduce dependency on external funding and promote ownership, while enabling continuity and scaling of adaptation actions.

Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

78. *Activity 4.2.1: Conduct mapping and analysis of existing local financing sources*

Activity 4.2.2: Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues with cooperatives, ward offices, municipal finance sections, and local businesses to identify alignment opportunities for climate finance.

Activity 4.2.3: Build capacity of local institutions and cooperatives to integrate climate-smart lending practices and investment portfolios, especially targeting women and vulnerable groups.

Activity 4.2.4: Design and implement community-based revolving funds or micro-grants schemes to finance small-scale adaptation actions (e.g., resilient agriculture, water conservation, eco-enterprises).

Activity 4.2.5: Promote public-private-community partnerships (PPCPs) to co-finance climate-resilient infrastructure and nature-based solutions.

Activity 4.2.6: Establish financial tracking and transparency systems to monitor the flow and effectiveness of mobilized local finance toward LLA implementation.

Activity 4.2.7: Document and share case studies of successful local finance mobilization models to encourage replication across other municipalities and provinces.

Output 4.3: **Established risk transfer mechanisms, including climate insurance and social protection schemes**

79. This output aims to reduce the vulnerability of at-risk populations; particularly smallholder farmers, landless households, and marginalized groups by introducing and scaling up financial instruments that help communities manage climate-induced losses and shocks. It strengthens resilience through risk-sharing and targeted safety nets.

80. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 4.3.1: Conduct feasibility studies to assess community demand, affordability, and readiness for climate risk insurance and social protection schemes.

Activity 4.3.2: Collaborate with insurance providers, cooperatives, and financial institutions to design context-specific climate insurance packages (e.g., crop, livestock, weather-index-based insurance).

Activity 4.3.3: Pilot climate insurance schemes in selected wards, focusing on high-risk sectors like agriculture, livestock, and water infrastructure.

Activity 4.3.4: Raise awareness through orientation sessions for farmers, women's groups, and local governments on the benefits, mechanisms, and procedures of climate insurance.

Activity 4.3.5: Integrate climate risk coverage into local cooperative or savings-and-credit institutions' services, targeting vulnerable households.

Activity 4.3.6: Support the inclusion of climate-responsive social protection measures in municipal planning such as cash transfers or emergency support programs linked to early warning systems.

Activity 4.3.7: Train local governments and social protection actors to manage, monitor, and scale risk transfer mechanisms in coordination with national frameworks (e.g., National Social Protection Framework, Agriculture Insurance Directive).

Activity 4.3.8: Establish grievance redress and claims support mechanisms at the community level to ensure accessibility, equity, and transparency in benefit delivery.

Activity 4.3.9: Document lessons learned and best practices to support national policy dialogue and potential replication in other climate-vulnerable areas.

Output 4.4: **Mainstreamed Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) approaches into local and national climate policies and planning frameworks**

81. This output aims to institutionalize and sustain the principles of Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) by embedding them into formal governance systems, planning processes, and climate policy frameworks at both the local and national levels. It ensures that adaptation efforts are not isolated, one-off interventions but become an integral part of government decision-making, budgeting, and accountability structures.

82. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 4.4.1: Review and analyze existing climate policies and plans (e.g., NAP 2023, Climate Change Policy 2019, NDC 3.0, NDC Implementation Plan, LAPA Framework) to identify entry points for integrating LLA principles.

Activity 4.4.2: Facilitate multi-stakeholder policy dialogues and roundtables involving government ministries, provincial and local governments, CSOs, and community leaders to promote the value and relevance of LLA.

Activity 4.4.3: Facilitate the revision of local development plans, LAPAs, and periodic municipal strategies to align with LLA principles ensuring participatory planning, equity, and inclusion.

Activity 4.4.4: Capacitate provincial and federal line ministries through training and technical assistance to incorporate LLA into climate budgeting, monitoring, and reporting frameworks.

Activity 4.4.5: Advocate for budget codes and resource allocation mechanisms that directly support LLA at the local level within national and provincial planning systems.

Activity 4.4.6: Document and share best practices and success stories from the project's implementation to influence ongoing policy reforms and the next NDC/NAP revision cycles.

Activity 4.4.7: Establish formal partnerships and MoUs with relevant government agencies to ensure institutional ownership and long-term sustainability of LLA integration.

Output 4.5: **Established a community-led innovation fund and a dedicated operation and maintenance (O&M) fund to support sustainable adaptation solutions**

83. This output focuses on ensuring the long-term sustainability and ownership of adaptation investments by mobilizing local financial resources and empowering communities to lead innovation and maintain adaptation infrastructure. The Community-Led Innovation Fund will support grassroots ideas and practices that enhance local adaptive capacity, while the O&M Fund ensures proper upkeep of adaptation infrastructure and solutions.

84. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 4.5.1: Design the structure and governance of the Community-Led Innovation Fund and O&M Fund in collaboration with local governments, user committees, cooperatives, and community-based organizations.

Activity 4.5.2: Develop transparent guidelines and eligibility criteria for communities to apply for funding; prioritizing women, youth, indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups.

Activity 4.5.3: Capacitate local fund management committees on financial management, proposal screening, fund disbursement, and reporting.

Activity 4.5.4: Conduct community-level calls for proposals and facilitate the co-creation and selection of innovative adaptation solutions aligned with LLA priorities.

Activity 4.5.5: Support piloting of locally developed adaptation technologies and practices through the innovation fund; such as climate-resilient farming methods, eco-based infrastructure, or indigenous knowledge revival.

Activity 4.5.6: Establish dedicated O&M mechanisms for infrastructure developed under Component 3, including setting up user committees, assigning responsibilities, and providing training.

Activity 4.5.7: Regularly monitor fund performance and adaptation outcomes through community scorecards, social audits, and participatory M&E.

Activity 4.5.8: Document lessons learned and scale successful models by integrating them into local development plans and advocating replication at the provincial and national levels.

Component 5: Knowledge Management and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)

85. Component 5 is designed to ensure that the project is evidence-driven, adaptive, and contributes to the broader climate

adaptation learning ecosystem in Nepal and beyond. It will generate, capture, disseminate, and use knowledge for improved adaptation planning and implementation, while establishing a robust MEL framework that promotes accountability, transparency, and learning throughout the project cycle. This component especially focuses on:

- Strengthen learning loops between communities, local governments, and national institutions.
- Promote horizontal knowledge sharing across local governments and provinces.
- Ensure continuous tracking of project results and impacts through adaptive MEL systems that integrate both quantitative and qualitative evidence.
- Embed local voices, indigenous knowledge, and community reflections into the learning and decision-making process.

86. Climate Resilience Contribution: This component ensures that adaptation actions are continuously refined based on what works and what doesn't. By documenting local experiences and integrating feedback, the project builds a culture of learning-driven resilience that enhances the effectiveness, replicability, and sustainability of adaptation measures.

87. Devolution and Empowerment: The project promotes bottom-up accountability and empowerment through tools such as community scorecards, local monitoring committees, and citizen-led evaluations, ensuring that local voices guide adaptation efforts. By valuing local knowledge equally alongside scientific assessments, the project fosters the co-production of adaptation intelligence that is both credible and contextually relevant. Monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) data generated at the community level informs broader policy reforms and resource allocation decisions, effectively closing the feedback loop between grassroots action and national policy-making.

Outcomes 5: **Enhanced learning, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making support adaptive management of climate action**

88. This outcome aims to institutionalize adaptive learning and evidence-informed decision-making at all levels: community, local government, and national by embedding strong systems for knowledge management and participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL). Through inclusive learning processes, the project ensures that local experiences, successes, and challenges are documented, shared, and applied to strengthen future adaptation planning and implementation. The outcome will empower stakeholders with timely data and reflective tools to adjust strategies, improve accountability, and sustain impact. It fosters locally driven climate intelligence, supports innovation, and promotes cross-learning that informs policy and investment decisions, contributing to long-term resilience and sustainability.

Output 5.1: **Successful Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) practices and models documented, scaled up, and replicated**

89. This output aims to capture, systematize, and disseminate effective LLA practices that emerge from project implementation across Makwanpur and Parsa districts. By documenting context-specific innovations, success stories, and lessons learned, the project will identify models with high potential for replication and scaling. Activities will include case study development, cross-learning visits, and knowledge-sharing events at local, provincial, and national levels. These documented practices will be shared with policymakers, practitioners, and development partners to inform future adaptation planning and programming. Ultimately, this output contributes to creating an enabling environment for wider adoption of proven, community-driven adaptation solutions across Nepal.

90. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 5.1.1: Identify and select successful LLA initiatives implemented under the project using predefined criteria (e.g., effectiveness, sustainability, inclusiveness, and scalability).

Activity 5.1.2: Document case studies, success stories, and process learnings from the implementation of LLAPs and other community-driven adaptation actions.

Activity 5.1.3: Organize cross-learning visits and exchange programs between communities, local governments, and provinces to promote peer-to-peer learning and replication.

Activity 5.1.4: Facilitate knowledge-sharing platforms and reflection workshops at local, provincial, and national levels to showcase documented LLA practices.

Activity 5.1.5: Engage with federal and provincial planning bodies to promote uptake of proven LLA approaches in government policies, programs, and resource allocation frameworks.

Activity 5.1.6: Support local governments in integrating successful LLA models into regular development planning and budgeting cycles.

Activity 5.1.7: Build partnerships with media outlets and CSOs to disseminate documented practices widely for awareness, advocacy, and replication beyond the project areas and leverage digital platforms (e.g., web portals, social media, knowledge hubs) for wider visibility and access to LLA documentation.

Activity 5.1.8: Monitor the replication and scale-up of LLA models and document the enabling factors and barriers for

broader adoption.

Output 5.2: **Knowledge Sharing Workshop**

91. This output aims to facilitate cross-learning, reflection, and dissemination of lessons and best practices from the project's Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) interventions. The workshops will provide a platform for stakeholders at local, provincial, and national levels to exchange experiences, promote transparency, and strengthen adaptive management.

92. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 5.2.1: Design the learning workshop framework with clear objectives, expected outcomes, and target participants including communities, local governments, civil society, and policymakers.

Activity 5.2.2: Facilitate participatory review sessions to reflect on successes, challenges, and key learnings from LLAP implementation and adaptation interventions.

Activity 5.2.3: Prepare and present case studies, good practices, and knowledge products developed during the project, including videos, reports, and testimonies.

Activity 5.2.4: Document the proceedings and policy recommendations emerging from the workshops for further advocacy and integration into planning.

Output 5.3: **Carried out quarterly, annual, and mid-term monitoring to track progress, assess performance, and inform adaptive management**

93. This output ensures that the project implements a robust Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system that facilitates evidence-based decision-making, strengthens transparency and accountability, and supports continuous adaptation of project strategies. Regular monitoring will track project performance against indicators, timelines, and targets while integrating feedback from beneficiaries and stakeholders.

94. **Potential/indicative activities under this output are:**

Activity 5.3.1: Develop a comprehensive MEL framework aligned with project outcomes, outputs, and indicators, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative data.

Activity 5.3.2: Prepare quarterly progress reports summarizing key achievements, lessons learned, issues encountered, and corrective measures taken.

Activity 5.3.3: Organize annual review workshops with implementing partners, local governments, and community stakeholders to jointly assess progress and adjust work plans.

Activity 5.3.4: Carry out mid-term performance evaluation to assess project relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and early signs of sustainability.

Activity 5.3.5: Collect and analyze disaggregated data (by gender, caste/ethnicity, geography, livelihood) to ensure equity in adaptation outcomes.

Activity 5.3.6: Utilize digital tools to support real-time data tracking and visualization.

Activity 5.3.7: Integrate community-based monitoring mechanisms (e.g., citizen scorecards, local monitoring committees) to promote transparency and local ownership.

Activity 5.3.8: Feed monitoring findings into decision-making platforms at local and provincial levels to guide adaptive project planning.

Output 5.4: **Conducted evaluation of financial management to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficient use of resources**

95. This output ensures that the project upholds high standards of financial accountability by regularly assessing budgeting, expenditure, and fund flow mechanisms. It focuses on enhancing transparency and efficiency in the management of climate adaptation resources at all levels—community, local government, and implementing partners. The financial evaluation process aims to build trust among stakeholders and ensure optimal use of funds in delivering adaptation benefits to the most vulnerable.

96. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 5.4.1: Develop and apply financial management assessment tools to evaluate internal control systems, budgeting, procurement, and reporting practices.

Activity 5.4.2: Conduct periodic financial audits (quarterly and annual) by independent third-party auditors to assess fund utilization and compliance with financial policies.

Activity 5.4.3: Train local governments and CBOs on transparent budgeting, financial tracking, and reporting standards.

Activity 5.4.4: Establish community-based financial oversight mechanisms (e.g., social audits, public hearings) to promote transparency at the grassroots level.

Activity 5.4.5: Integrate financial evaluation findings into regular MEL reports and share with stakeholders, including local governments and provincial authorities.

Activity 5.4.6: Support the adoption of digital financial systems (where feasible) for real-time tracking and improved transparency.

Output 5.5: **Conducted baseline and endline studies to assess project impact and measure changes over time**

97. This output focuses on conducting comprehensive baseline and endline studies to generate evidence on the effectiveness, relevance, and impact of the project interventions. The baseline study establishes initial benchmarks across key indicators related to climate vulnerability, institutional capacity, community resilience, and access to adaptation services. The endline study evaluates the progress made and changes observed over the project period, allowing for an evidence-based assessment of outcomes and impact.

98. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 5.5.1: Design and finalize baseline and endline study frameworks aligned with project indicators, including both qualitative and quantitative methods.

Activity 5.5.2: Develop tools and indicators to capture social, economic, environmental, institutional, and climate resilience variables.

Activity 5.5.3: Train enumerators and conduct field data collection across all project sites, ensuring representation of marginalized groups including women, indigenous peoples, and youth.

Activity 5.5.4: Conduct endline study near project completion to assess improvements in community resilience, institutional capacity, and adaptation practices.

Activity 5.5.5: Compare baseline and endline data to measure project results, changes over time, and overall effectiveness.

Activity 5.5.6: Engage stakeholders in validation workshops to ensure credibility and ownership of study results.

Output 5.6: **Conducted mid-term and final evaluations to assess project performance, effectiveness, and outcomes against set objectives**

99. This output aims to systematically evaluate the project's implementation process, progress, and results through structured mid-term and final evaluations. These evaluations assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, and sustainability of the project in achieving its stated goals and objectives. The findings will provide critical insights for adaptive management, learning, and accountability.

100. Potential/indicative activities under this output are:

Activity 5.6.1: Develop evaluation framework and methodology in alignment with project goals, outcomes, and key performance indicators (KPIs).

Activity 5.6.2: Recruit independent evaluators or third-party experts to ensure objectivity, credibility, and transparency.

Activity 5.6.3: Conduct mid-term evaluation to review progress, identify implementation challenges, and recommend corrective measures for the remaining period.

Activity 5.6.4: Facilitate participatory evaluation methods (e.g., community scorecards, stakeholder interviews, focus groups) to ensure inclusivity and reflect diverse perspectives.

Activity 5.6.5: Conduct final evaluation near project completion to assess overall impact, sustainability, and alignment with national frameworks (NAP, NDCs, LAPA).

Activity 5.6.6: Host validation workshops with local governments, communities, and partners to share evaluation findings and gather feedback.

Activity 5.6.7: Document lessons learned and best practices to inform future adaptation programming and policy formulation.

Activity 5.6.8: Publish and disseminate evaluation reports to stakeholders at local, provincial, and federal levels for transparency and uptake.

B. Describe how the project / programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project / programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. In particular, specify how the project/programme is addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities,

people who are displaced, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized ethnic groups.

101. The project delivers a holistic set of economic, social, and environmental benefits that directly target the most vulnerable communities and groups, including women, youth, children, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced populations, and marginalized ethnic groups. Through its Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) approach, the project ensures that climate resilience efforts are not only technically sound but also socially justifiable and inclusive. This inclusive strategy guarantees that adaptation measures are context-specific, equitable, and rooted in local knowledge and priorities ensuring that climate actions address both environmental risks and long-standing social and economic inequalities. Moreover, the implementation of this project provides adaptation planning, awareness building, and technology transfer to implement the adaptation options and build community resilience.

102. Economic Benefits:

- *Improved climate-resilient livelihoods:* The project supports sustainable agriculture, eco-enterprises, water-efficient technologies, and value chain development to increase income security for vulnerable groups; particularly women, landless households, and Indigenous Peoples.
- *Access to finance:* It facilitates access to local adaptation finance (e.g., community funds, equalization grants, conditional grants, cooperative loans), enabling communities to invest in livelihood diversification and micro-adaptation projects.
- Climate-Resilient infrastructural investment: Investment in resilient infrastructure such as early warning systems and micro-irrigation systems improves productivity and reduces economic losses.
- *Risk reduction:* By promoting climate risk insurance and social protection schemes, the project reduces economic shocks and supports financial stability for poor and excluded households, including persons with disabilities and displaced families.
- *Training and capacity enhancement:* Beneficiaries will be trained to enhance sustainable practices and create jobs, including access to better markets for their products. Furthermore, beneficiaries will be trained to save part of their fund to build a contingency fund, this is one of the measures to adapt and mitigate against the climate extreme.

103. **Social Benefits:**

- *Empowerment of women, youth, and marginalized groups:* Through capacity-building, citizen science, and local adaptation planning, the project ensures that women, Indigenous Peoples, and youth actively participate in and lead decision-making processes. This strengthens local leadership, voice, and agency.
- *Social cohesion and inclusion:* By mobilizing diverse community stakeholders (e.g., mothers' groups, CBOs, youth clubs), the project fosters inclusive governance structures, reducing discrimination and building trust across ethnic, caste, and social lines.
- *Improved public services:* Climate-resilient infrastructure (e.g., water supply, irrigation, early warning systems) contributes to better access to essential services, particularly for rural, underserved areas and settlements facing climate-induced displacement.

104. **Environmental Benefits:**

- *Ecosystem restoration and conservation:* The project promotes community-based conservation of forests, watersheds, and biodiversity-rich areas enhancing ecosystem services such as water regulation, soil fertility, and carbon sequestration.
- *Nature-based solutions (NbS)*: Interventions such as agroforestry, wetland protection, and green infrastructure reduce environmental degradation while enhancing adaptive capacity.
- *Sustainable resource management:* Localized planning and participatory mapping ensure the protection of climate-sensitive ecosystems and equitable use of natural resources benefitting both current and future generations.

Addressing Structural Inequalities:

105. The project explicitly targets systemic barriers that limit access to opportunities and resources for women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and minority ethnic groups by:

- Applying disaggregated data collection to understand how we have addressed structural inequalities and inclusive vulnerability assessments.
- Designing affirmative action such as quotas, targeted training, and livelihood support.
- Embedding gender and social equity indicators into monitoring, evaluation, and learning frameworks.
- Establishing feedback and grievance mechanisms that are safe, accessible, and responsive to the needs of

excluded populations.

- Employing staff ensuring GEDSI deliver the anticipated results of the programme

106. The project is designed to fully align with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund by proactively identifying, avoiding, and mitigating any potential negative impacts on social, environmental, or gender-related issues. A comprehensive Environmental and Social Risk Screening (ESRS) and Gender and Social Inclusion Analysis (GESI) were conducted during project formulation, ensuring that all activities uphold the principles of do no harm, social justice, gender equity, and environmental sustainability.

To mitigate adverse impacts and promote social equity, the project adopts the following strategies:

1. Inclusion and Representation of Vulnerable Groups

107. The project ensures that women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, people with disabilities, displaced persons, and marginalized ethnic groups are not just beneficiaries but active participants in decision-making processes. Quotas and safeguards are established to guarantee their meaningful participation in community consultations, planning workshops, adaptation committees, and monitoring bodies.

2. Culturally Appropriate and Accessible Interventions

108. Project activities are designed in a culturally sensitive manner that respects Indigenous knowledge systems, languages, and traditional governance structures. Communications and training materials are adapted to be accessible for people with disabilities and those with low literacy. Venues for meetings and workshops are selected based on accessibility criteria.

3. Gender-Responsive Planning

109. The project mainstreams gender equity across all components. Specific interventions are tailored to empower women economically and socially, such as supporting women-led green enterprises and creating dedicated platforms for women's leadership in adaptation planning. Gender-disaggregated data is collected and used to monitor progress and adjust interventions as needed.

4. Environmental Safeguards

110. All infrastructure and nature-based solutions implemented through the project undergo environmental screening to avoid harm to ecosystems, biodiversity, or natural habitats. Only environmentally safe and locally accepted technologies and practices are promoted, with continuous monitoring in place to identify any unforeseen impacts.

5. Conflict Sensitivity and Social Cohesion

111. In contexts where resource use or social dynamics may lead to conflict, especially among displaced groups and host communities, the project promotes inclusive dialogue and conflict-sensitive planning to reduce tension and promote shared benefits.

6. Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

112. A transparent, accessible, and culturally appropriate GRM is established at the community and project levels to allow individuals or groups to raise concerns, seek redress, and receive responses in a timely and respectful manner. By mainstreaming these safeguards and inclusion measures, the proposed project not only mitigates risks but actively contributes to reducing structural inequalities and promoting climate justice for historically marginalized populations in the project area.

1. 113. As per Initial Gender Assessment carried out during project formulation stage the following key results were identified:

1. Gender Roles and Division of Labor

a. Agriculture and Natural Resource Management: Women play a major role in subsistence farming, livestock rearing, and collection of forest products. However, land ownership and decision-making remain largely male-dominated. In Chepang and other Indigenous households, women are engaged in foraging and forest-based food systems yet lack recognition and control over resources.
b. Household and Care Work: Women bear the primary responsibility for unpaid domestic and caregiving tasks, averaging over twice as much time as men in daily reproductive labor. This limits their participation in paid work and local governance activities.
c. Income and Livelihoods: Women, particularly from marginalized groups, are concentrated in low-income, informal, or seasonal labor sectors. In Parsa, women often engage in daily wage work or small trade with limited access to financial services, credit, and extension support.

2. Access to and Control over Resources

a. Women's land ownership is low below 20%, constraining access to agricultural inputs, loans, and government subsidies. Customary inheritance systems favor men, limiting women's control over productive assets.
b. Although local cooperatives and savings groups exist, women's access to credit and decision-making power in these institutions remains limited.
c. Literacy and technical skills among women, especially Indigenous and Dalit groups, are found significantly lower than men's, restricting their access to climate information and agricultural extension services

3. Participation and Decision-Making

d. Legal provisions for women's representation in local governments and user groups exist but often result in symbolic participation. Cultural barriers, lack of confidence, and workload burdens reduce their influence in decision-making.
e. In community forest user groups, water user committees, and farmers' cooperatives, leadership positions are typically dominated by men, while women's participation remains nominal.
f. Youth and people with disabilities (PwDs) face additional barriers, as disability inclusion and youth engagement are rarely prioritized in local climate or livelihood planning

4. Gender-Differentiated Climate Vulnerabilities

g. Women and marginalized groups face higher exposure to climate shocks due to low literacy, limited mobility, and constrained access to information.
h. Women from Chepang communities in Makanpur spend longer hours collecting water and fuelwood and the whole settlement is under the landslide threat.
i. In the flood-prone plains of Parsa, women are disproportionately affected by displacement and loss of income annually during floods.
j. Women's lower access to land, credit, and technology limits their capacity to adopt climate-resilient practices. Social barriers reduce their participation in training, market linkages, and formal adaptation initiatives

5. Opportunities for Gender-Responsive Interventions

k. Targeted livelihood diversification and skill-building for women, Indigenous Peoples, and landless households.
l. Access to finance via women-led cooperatives, revolving funds, and micro-credit mechanisms tailored to women's needs.
m. Institutional capacity building to enhance women's leadership in local adaptation planning and resource management.
n. Inclusive data systems that disaggregate by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity to monitor participation and benefits.
o. Sensitization and behavioral change programs to address gender stereotypes and promote shared household responsibilities

6. Risks and Challenges:

p. Women's participation constrained by workload and social norms
q. Risk of elite capture or exclusion of marginalized groups
r. Risk of Gender-based violence from shifting power relations
s. Tokenistic participation
t. Unequal access to project benefits

C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme, focusing on the implementation and execution arrangements, in particular the mechanism which will provide more direct access to finance.

114.

The proposed project demonstrates high cost-effectiveness by prioritizing nature-based and community-led approaches, optimizing delivery systems, and channeling resources directly to local institutions and communities. The design minimizes administrative overheads, leverages existing provincial and municipal systems, and maximizes transformative impact per dollar invested.

115. Cost-Effectiveness of Interventions

Nature-based Solutions (NbS) as a cost-efficient alternative: NbS selected for this project—such as watershed restoration, slope stabilization through bioengineering, wetland rehabilitation, and climate-resilient agroforestry—provide significantly higher value for money compared to grey

infrastructure alternatives. For example:

- **Reforestation and bioengineering** cost approximately **USD 1,500–2,000/ha**, far below the cost of concrete embankments or engineered slope protection, while simultaneously providing multiple co-benefits including erosion reduction, biodiversity enhancement, and carbon sequestration.
- **Wetland restoration** in Nepal and the region yields **benefit–cost ratios of 2.1–4.5**, especially when linked with livelihood improvements and ecosystem conservation.
- Independent assessments show that **NbS investments return 2–5 times their cost over a 20-year period**, largely due to avoided disaster losses and sustained ecosystem services.

116. By prioritizing upstream ecological interventions and natural buffer systems, the project reduces future public expenditure on disaster relief, infrastructure rehabilitation, and maintenance, resulting in long-term fiscal savings for local governments.

117. The climate action in alignment with Government of Nepal (GoN) policies and targets related to the National Adaptation Plan (2021–2050), the third Nationally Determined Contribution (2025), and the 16th Five-Year Development Plan (FY 2023/24-FY 2027/28). The proposed locally led adaptation actions will be integrated into local governments' plans, policies, and budgets. The activities will be incorporated into the local government planning process, and matching funds from the GoN will also be ensured while designing and implementing local adaptation options. The proven GoN and NTNC procurement processes and public financial management systems will be ensured while procuring goods and services for the project.

Implementing Arrangements

118, Project Advisory Committee: A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be established at the federal level under the leadership of the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), in collaboration with the Implementing Entity—the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)—and representatives from the executing partners. The Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) will serve as the national coordinating authority, providing oversight and necessary clearances, whereas the provincial forest-related ministry will facilitate the execution of activities at the provincial level.The PAC will ensure inclusive representation of key project stakeholders and will be responsible for providing strategic direction, policy oversight, and coordination support to facilitate effective project implementation in alignment with national and sub-national priorities.

119, Project Management Unit: The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) will lead the overall management of the project in partnership with the executing partner such as Youth Alliance for Environment (YAE) and others. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established at the NTNC Central Office in Kathmandu valley, in collaboration with YAE. The PMU will serve as the central hub for technical, managerial, and coordination functions. PMU will also have overarching oversight of project implementation, ensuring coherence, quality control, and effective coordination across all levels and partners involved in the project.

120. Field Execution Office: A Field Execution Office (FEO) will be established on a need basis to function as the operational unit for project execution at the field level. Operating under the direct supervision of the Project Management Unit (PMU), it will be responsible for coordinating, overseeing, and executing project activities on the ground.

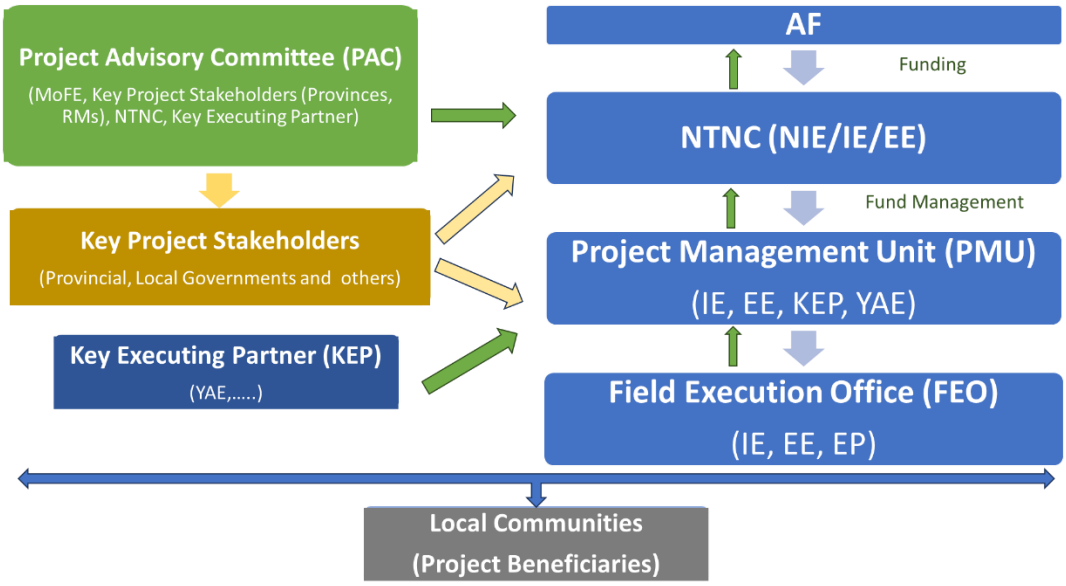


Figure 3: Institutional Arrangements

D. Describe how the project / programme is consistent with national, sub-national and local sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national, sub- national or local development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.

121, The project aligns and supports Nepal's climate change adaptation and sustainable development objectives, aiming to reduce vulnerability, enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and promote sustainable livelihood for marginalised communities in the face of climate impact. The proposed project targets high and very high vulnerability areas in Makwanpur and Parsa districts. The specific policies, strategies and measures supported by its project initiatives as followers.

1. National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021-2050: The project supports Nepal's NAP as it integrates climate risk assessments and Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA) in line with the LAPA framework, as outlined in Component 1 activities such as Activity 1.1.1 and 1.1.2. It addresses vulnerability in high-risk municipalities like Bakaiya and Bagmati, focusing on agriculture, water and disaster management, as prioritised in NAP'S nine thematic sectors
2. 16th Periodic Plan (2024/25-2028/29): Mainstreaming climate change into local and provincial planning process in Activity 4.1.3 aligns with the 16th periodic plan. It supports the plan's goals of inclusive growth and poverty reduction through capacity building (Component 2) and sustainable financing (Component 4) ensuring climate resilient development in vulnerable areas like Raksirang and Pokhariya.
3. Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) The project advances SDG 1 (No Poverty) by targeting marginalised groups like Tamang and Chepang communities, SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through food security initiatives, SDG 13 (Climate action) by implementing adaptation measures such as climate-resilient infrastructure and nature- based solutions (Component 3) and SDG 15 (Life and Land) via forest and biodiversity management (Activity 3.1.1).
4. Climate Change Policy (2019): The project promotes community-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction thus supporting the Nation climate policy (2019). Activities like capacity building for local government (Activity 2.1.1) and climate risk transfer mechanism (Activity 2.1.3) support the policy's focus on equitable adaptation and resilience for vulnerable populations in areas like Managari and Thori.
5. Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPAs): LLAPs development (Activity 1.1.2) and engaging local communities, including women, youth and indigenous groups (Activity 1.1.1), the project strengthens the LAPA framework. It ensures bottom-up adaptation planning in highly-vulnerable municipalities like Parsagadhi and Pokahriya fostering local ownership and resilience.
6. Tearai Arc Landscape (TAL) Strategy: Activities like buffer zone management (Activity 3.1.1) in Terai region, including Parsa District supports the TAL strategy. It promotes biodiversity conservation and sustainable ecosystem management, livelihood enhancement for communities like the Tharu and Tamang while contributing to ecological connectivity.
7. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and UNFCCC commitments: Component 3 of the project supports Nepal's NDC 3.0 by addressing adaptation needs in agriculture, water and disaster management, which aligns with the 2025 NDC submission. Activities like forest fire management, water source protection, sustainable forest management, climate smart agriculture and climate risk assessments contribute to UNFCCC goals under the Paris Agreement, enhancing resilience and reducing vulnerabilities in targeted municipalities.

E. Describe how the project / programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

Also describe, as needed, how the project/programme will provide support to local actors and build their capacities to comply with the standards.

122. The proposed project ensures compliance with Nepal's national technical standard along with Environment and social policy (ESP) of Adaptation Fund, through identification, mitigations of any potential environmental and social impact through comprehensive planning and management. The project adheres to standards for environmental assessment, disaster risk reduction and climate resilient infrastructure while enhancing the capacity of local actors. The following table outlines the project's technical standard compliance and capacity-building efforts.

National Standard/Policy	Relevant Project Components and Activities	Alignment with National Standards	Compliance with Adaptation Fund ESP Principles
Environment Protection Act (2019) and Environment Protection Rule (2020) Mandates Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), and Brief Environmental Study (BES) for projects in high-vulnerability zones.	**Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment** - **Output 1.1: Vulnerability and Risk Assessments** - Activity 1.1.3: Data collection using participatory tools (hazard mapping, transect walks). - Activity 1.1.4: Ecosystem and livelihood mapping using GIS for environmental risks. - Activity 1.1.6: Preparation of localized vulnerability and risk profiles. **Component 3: Implementation of LLA Actions** - **Output 3.1: Implemented LLA Actions** - Activity 3.1.3: Support biodiversity and forest-based adaptation (e.g., community forest restoration, native species plantation). - Activity 3.1.4: Integrated water resource management (e.g., spring protection, watershed conservation). - Activity 3.1.5: Ecosystem-based adaptation (e.g., bioengineering, check dams).	Conducts climate risk and vulnerability assessments to identify environmental risks, as mandated by EPA/EPR. Incorporates nature-based solutions (NbS) like forest restoration and watershed conservation, aligning with environmental protection requirements. Uses GIS-based mapping to assess impacts on natural habitats and ensure compliance with IEE/BES processes.	**Principle 1: Compliance with the Law**: Adheres to EPA/EPR by conducting risk assessments and integrating environmental safeguards. **Principle 9: Protection of Natural Habitats**: Promotes NbS and ecosystem conservation (e.g., forest restoration, watershed management). **Principle 10: Environmental Conservation**: Ensures project activities minimize environmental harm through participatory and ecosystem-focused interventions.
National Building Code (NBC, 1994; Updated 2015)	**Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional**	Ensures infrastructure designs meet NBC standards and Climate	**Principle 4: Human Rights**: Protects communities by

Sets standards for infrastructure to withstand climate - induced hazards (e.g., floods, landslides).	**Strengthening** - **Output 2.4: LGs Capacitated on Climate-Resilient Infrastructure** - Activity 2.4.2: Technical training on climate-resilient infrastructure design (e.g., eco-safe roads, flood-proofing). - Activity 2.4.3: Orientation on NbS and ecosystem-based adaptation for infrastructure. - Activity 2.4.4: Develop local guidelines for climate-resilient infrastructure. - Activity 2.4.9: Pilot small-scale climate-resilient infrastructure projects. **Component 3: Implementation of LLA Actions** - **Output 3.1: Implemented LLA Actions** - Activity 3.1.5: Implement disaster risk reduction measures (e.g., flood-safe infrastructure, slope stabilization).	Resilient Guidelines through training and pilot projects. Integrates NbS (e.g., bioengineering) into infrastructure planning to enhance resilience against climate hazards. Develops local guidelines aligned with national standards to ensure consistent application in vulnerable municipalities.	ensuring safe, resilient infrastructure. **Principle 14: Physical and Cultural Heritage**: Incorporates local contexts in infrastructure design, respecting cultural landscapes while addressing disaster risks.
Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act (2017) Requires risk assessments and preparedness plans to minimize vulnerabilities to climate-induced disasters (e.g., floods, landslides, wildfires).	**Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment** - **Output 1.1: Vulnerability and Risk Assessments** - Activity 1.1.1: Training on risk assessment tools. - Activity 1.1.3: Data collection for hazard mapping. - Activity 1.1.6: Preparation of risk profiles. **Component 3: Implementation of LLA Actions** - **Output 3.1: Implemented LLA Actions** - Activity 3.1.5: Implement DRR measures (e.g., early warning systems, siltation gauges, check	Conducts participatory risk assessments to inform preparedness plans, as required by the Act. Implements DRR measures like early warning systems and siltation gauges, aligning with disaster risk reduction mandates. Introduces climate risk transfer mechanisms (insurance) to enhance financial preparedness for disasters.	**Principle 6: Core Labour Rights**: Ensures safe working conditions in DRR infrastructure projects. **Principle 11: Climate Change**: Addresses climate-induced disaster risks through proactive assessments and resilience-building actions.

	dams). **Component 4: Sustainability and Financing** - **Output 4.3: Risk Transfer Mechanisms** - Activity 4.3.2: Design climate insurance packages (e.g., crop, livestock, weather-indexed). - Activity 4.3.3: Pilot climate insurance schemes in high-risk wards.		
National Climate Change Policy (2019) Emphasizes integration of climate adaptation into sectoral planning (agriculture, water, disaster management) with stakeholder inclusion.	**Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment** - **Output 1.3: Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs)** - Activity 1.3.1: Orientation on LAPA framework and LLA principles. - Activity 1.3.2: Inclusive planning with women, youth, IPs, and marginalized groups. - Activity 1.3.8: Endorse LAPAs for integration into sectoral plans. **Component 3: Implementation of LLA Actions** - **Output 3.1: Implemented LLA Actions** - Activity 3.1.2: Climate-smart agriculture (e.g., organic farming, drought-resistant crops). - Activity 3.1.4: Integrated water resource management (e.g., rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation). **Component 4: Sustainability and Financing** - **Output 4.4: Mainstreamed LLA into Policies** - Activity 4.4.1: Analyze NAP, NDC, and LAPA for LLA integration. - Activity 4.4.3: Revise local plans to align with LLA principles.	Integrates adaptation into sectoral planning (agriculture, water, disasters) through LLAPs aligned with NAP and NDC. Ensures stakeholder inclusion (women, IPs, marginalized groups) in planning and implementation. Mainstreams LLA into local and national policies, supporting policy coherence and sectoral integration.	**Principle 2: Access and Equity**: Promotes equitable access to adaptation resources through inclusive planning. **Principle 13: Public Health**: Enhances community resilience to climate impacts affecting health (e.g., water scarcity, food insecurity).
GESI Strategy and Action Plan (2020-	**Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need**	Ensures equitable participation through	**Principle 3: Marginalized and**

2030) Promotes equitable participation of women, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups in development processes.	**Assessment** - **Output 1.1: Vulnerability and Risk Assessments** - Activity 1.1.2: Mobilize inclusive local assessment teams (women, IPs, marginalized groups). - Activity 1.1.5: Validation workshops with diverse stakeholders. **Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening** - **Output 2.3: Advocacy Groups Strengthened** - Activity 2.3.4: Leadership workshops for women, youth, and marginalized groups. - Activity 2.3.6: Policy forums for inclusive governance. **Component 3: Implementation of LLA Actions** - **Output 3.1: Implemented LLA Actions** - Activity 3.1.6: Climate-resilient livelihoods targeting women, youth, IPs. - Activity 3.1.10: Ensure GESI in implementation. **Component 4: Sustainability and Financing** - **Output 4.5: Community-Led Innovation Fund** - Activity 4.5.2: Prioritize women, youth, IPs in fund access.	inclusive assessment teams, planning processes, and targeted livelihood interventions. Strengthens advocacy groups (women, youth, IPs) to promote climate justice. Establishes transparent GRMs and public hearings to ensure accountability and inclusion, as per GESI guidelines.	**Vulnerable Groups**: Prioritizes marginalized groups in assessments, planning, and implementation. **Principle 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**: Promotes women's leadership and equitable access to resources. **Principle 7: Indigenous Peoples**: Integrates IPs in all components with respect for their knowledge and rights.
Local Government Operation Act (2017) Emphasizes building local capacity for governance and development, including compliance with environmental and social standards.	**Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening** - **Output 2.1: Training Programs for LGs, CBOs, Provincial Governments** - Activity 2.1.1: Capacity needs assessment for LGs and CBOs. - Activity 2.1.4: Multi-stakeholder training on climate governance.	Builds LG capacity through training on climate governance, infrastructure, and budgeting, aligning with the Act's focus on local governance. Mobilizes citizen scientists and advocacy groups to enhance community participation in local development. Integrates LLAPs into local budgets and plans, ensuring	**Principle 2: Access and Equity**: Enhances local access to climate finance and governance processes. **Principle 12: Grievance Mechanism**: Supports transparent GRMs and community oversight (e.g., public hearings, social audits).

	- **Output 2.2: Citizen Scientists and Climate Champions** - Activity 2.2.2: Outreach to identify diverse climate champions. - Activity 2.2.9: Link champions to local governance structures. - **Output 2.4: LGs Capacitated on Infrastructure and Loss/Damage** - Activity 2.4.7: Establish multi-stakeholder infrastructure planning committees. **Component 4: Sustainability and Financing** - **Output 4.1: Prioritized Equalization Grants** - Activity 4.1.3: Integrate LLAPs into local budgets and plans. - Activity 4.1.5: Coordination platforms with provincial and federal levels.	compliance with environmental and social standards.	

F. Describe if there is duplication of project / programme with other funding sources, if any. Describe how the project/programme will ensure coordination of different initiatives, sub-projects and small grants towards a common goal, enhance collaboration across sectors and outlines how activities avoid duplication and enhance efficiencies and good practice.

123. The proposed project focuses on highly vulnerable municipalities of Makwanpur (Manahari, Rakshirang, Bakaiya, Bagmanti) and Parsa (Parsagadhi, Pokahriya, Thori) of Nepal and has been developed through a thorough review of all past and ongoing climate adaptation initiatives in the project area to avoid any kind of duplication. There aren't any GEF, GCF, LDCF, Bilateral and Multilateral and Adaptation Fund related project in the proposed area, whereas within this province the GCF funded Building Resilience Churia Region in Nepal (BRCRN) Project is being implemented, the British Embassy Kathmandu is also implementing their RAIN (Resileince Adaptation and Inclusion in Nepal) Programme in Madhesh Province but no overlap on the proposed local government site. USAID, Hariyo Ban Program (2011-2016), Terai Arc Landscape Program Project have been implemented adaptation programmes in the Madhesh Province and Bagmati Province but the programme has ended and does not overlap. Additionally, the ongoing GEF's Managing Watersheds for Enhanced Resilience of Communities to Climate Change in Nepal (MaWRiN) the selected project areas also do not overlap. Our project aims to fill the gaps and address the unmet needs left by these earlier and ongoing initiatives in the proposed project area.

G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned and how this contributes to building and institutionalizing local capabilities. Provide details on managing traditional and/or indigenous knowledge, where relevant.

124. For the sustainability of the project, effective communication, learning, and knowledge management are essential. Knowledge will be systematically captured, curated, and disseminated across all components to ensure continuous learning and to institutionalize local capacities.

125. The project embeds knowledge management within each activity and sub-activity. Key learnings, innovations, and experiences will be regularly recorded, analyzed, and transformed into various knowledge products, including manuals, policy briefs, fact sheets, training modules, case studies, and visual content. Dissemination will take place via multiple channels such as social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter/X, YouTube), project websites, mass media (TV, radio,

newspapers), and digital platforms to reach diverse audiences.

126. At the community level, participatory knowledge sharing methods will be prioritized to strengthen awareness and build local capacity especially among smallholder farmers, women, youth, and Indigenous communities. Tools such as community film screenings, participatory videos, storytelling, thematic group discussions, and local and culturally sensitive visual materials in local languages will ensure knowledge is accessible and resonates with various educational backgrounds and cultural contexts.

127. To enhance climate resilience in water resources, biodiversity and agriculture and natural resource management, the project will promote local innovations and transfer of traditional knowledge through Field Schools, demonstration plots, farmer-to-farmer exchange visits, and local experimentation. These activities will be combined with modern scientific practices to enhance hybrid, context-relevant solutions. Methods such as learning transects, field observations, simulations, and reflective sessions will be used to generate and validate local knowledge.

128. Traditional and Indigenous knowledge systems will be respected and integrated throughout the project. Local elders, Indigenous leaders, and knowledge holders will be engaged in co-producing solutions, particularly in areas such as agriculture, biodiversity conservation, and climate adaptation. Documentation efforts will ensure Indigenous practices are recorded with free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), recognizing both their intellectual value and community ownership.

129. All materials and learnings will be tailored to ensure gender and social inclusion using simplified language, pictorial guides, role plays, and audio-visual aids. Policy outputs such as LAPA, contingency plans will be produced through inclusive multi-stakeholder processes and will also be documented and made publicly accessible, ensuring transparency and replication. Through these approaches, the project aims not only to disseminate lessons learned but to embed adaptive capacities, develop community ownership, and institutionalize knowledge for long-term resilience and community empowerment.

130. The project is designed in a way that the previous knowledge will be applied, and new innovative technologies will be developed and demonstrated in the project sites of Nepal. In that sense, it can be said that it is a natural lab to demonstrate the best practices and document them for further replication and upscale. Components 3 support the implementation of innovative technologies and practices which will be documented to replicate and upscale the practices in similar geographical and ecological regions of Nepal. The document will be disseminated to the local government for their prioritization in nature-based solutions, sustainable agriculture, water resource management and Forest and Biodiversity. A comprehensive communication strategy for this project to ensure better visibility and dissemination of its outcomes and impacts will be developed. Regular monitoring and evaluation produced findings and recommendations will be disseminated with the stakeholder and will be incorporated in the project implementation.

131. Additionally, the stories from women and marginalized groups will be collected, documented, and disseminated to a wider audience to spread the message that these groups can also combat climate change impacts if they are given equal opportunities. Several video documentaries will be documented and disseminated to wider audiences. Finally, the lesson-learned report will be prepared with a comprehensive of all the implemented activities with respect to the components

H. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Provide details on how the consultative process considered and addressed gender-based, economic and other inequalities and encouraged vulnerable and marginalized individuals to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions.

132. The development of this concept note has been a truly collaborative and locally led process, ensuring the proposal is co-designed and co-created through the bottom-up approach with the active participation and consensus of diverse stakeholders. Extensive consultations were held at the federal, provincial, and local levels, focusing on direct engagement with duty barriers and right holders and those most affected by climate change.

Moreover , at the local level, the project team conducted numerous meetings and in-depth discussions directly with communities and their representatives in the target municipalities of Manahari, Raksirang, Bakaiya, Bagmati, Parsagadhi, Pokhariya, and Thori. These engagements involved:

- Local farmers, who provided invaluable insights into climate impacts on agriculture and traditional coping strategies.
- Water user groups and forest user groups, sharing their experiences with natural resource management and specific adaptation needs related to water scarcity and forest degradation.
- Representatives from minor ethnic communities, including Chepang and other Indigenous and tribal communities, whose traditional knowledge and unique vulnerabilities were central to understanding localized risks and identifying appropriate solutions.
- Women's groups and youth representatives, ensuring that gender-based, age-specific, and intergenerational perspectives were integrated into the design.
- Other key community-based organizations such as cooperatives, as well as representatives from Parsa National Park, Buffer Zone Management Committee, Water and Sanitation Committees, and relevant local chapters of organizations like NEFIN.

133. Discussions at this grassroots level were instrumental in defining local challenges and needs related to climate adaptation, directly shaping the proposed interventions to be context-specific and truly demand-driven. This approach underscores the devolving of decision-making power to the lowest appropriate level, giving local institutions and communities a direct say in how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, and ultimately implemented, monitored, and evaluated.

Further consultations took place with relevant provincial ministries (such as the provincial environment ministries of Bagmati and Madhesh Provinces) and local governments (LGs) themselves, as well as federal-level stakeholders including concerned line ministries. This multi-level engagement ensured alignment with national and sub-national development and climate strategies, recognizing that local actions are part of a larger coherent framework.

The initial consultation process confirmed an urgent need for climate action and revealed strong local interest and ownership in utilizing traditional knowledge and low-cost, locally appropriate technologies for climate change adaptation. The willingness of local governments to integrate these locally led adaptation options into their planning and budgeting processes further solidifies the foundation for sustainable and effective interventions. The official consent letters from provincial and local government (Annex 1) along with the meeting minutes and their unofficial translation (Annex 2) gives further details.

In line with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy, a preliminary assessment rated the overall project as Category C, indicating that it does not causes on adverse environmental and social impact. This consultative approach proactively considered and addressed potential gender-based, economic, and other inequalities, encouraging vulnerable and marginalized individuals to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions. A detailed Gender Analysis and Action Plan will be developed during the preparation of the full proposal, building on this inclusive foundation.

I. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

134. The total Adaptation Fund of USD 5,000,000 will focus in supporting and empowering vulnerable population, including Indigenous people, women and marginalised communities across the selected highly vulnerable municipalities of Prasa and Makwanpur of Nepal, with the distribution of financing as follows:

Project Component	Description of activities	Component Budget (US $)
Component 1: Locally Led Risk Assessment & Adaptation Planning	Conducting VRAs and LAPAs integrating indigenous knowledge and climate data to enhance local understanding of climate risk and adaptation needs	277,010
Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening	Providing training to LGs, CSOs and CBOs on climate assessments, project management and compliance with environmental and social safeguards establishing local climate information system in coordination with the DHM	504,019
Component 3: Implementation of Locally Led Adaptation Initiatives (USPs)	Financing community-prioritized adaptation activities through transparent Call of Proposal (CFP) mechanism focusing on water resource management, climate smart agriculture, disaster risk reduction and forest and biodiversity conservation integrating Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) and GEDSI	2,986,115
Component 4: Sustainability and Innovative Financing	Mainstreaming LLA into local development plans, establishing community-led climate funds and O&M funds, and promoting risk transfer mechanism and accountability system to ensure long-term adaptation action	372,412
Component 5: Knowledge Management, Monitoring, and Learning	Establishing a robust MEL system documenting and disseminating best practices, and facilitating peer-to-peer learning through workshop and field school to inform policy and enable replication of successful adaptation practices	400636
Total Component : A		**4,540,192**
Fees for IE acting as part of EE(s) or project execution cost: 1.5% of Component A		**68,102**
Total project cost (C)= A+B		**4,608,295**
D=IE fee/ Oversight Cost (8.5% of total Budget i.e. 8.5%of C)		**391,705**
Grand Total		**5,000,000**

J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project / programme. In particular, describe how the project/programme supports long-term development of

local governance processes, and improves the capacity of local institutions (including through simpler access modalities), and how it can ensure that communities can effectively implement adaptation actions, facilitate and manage adaptation initiatives over the long term without being dependent on project-based donor funding.

135. The project aims to build climate resilience of local governments and communities, including Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable groups, through the identification and implementation of locally led and inclusive adaptation in priority sectors such as water resources, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, and disaster risk management. Sustainability is ensured through strong local ownership, people empowerment, and focused adaptation benefits to the poor and vulnerable groups such as women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous and marginalized people. It is in line with national priorities of the National Climate Change Policy, 2019, National Adaptation Plans 2021-2050 and Nationally Determined Contributions 3.0 of prioritizing the local adaptation plans of Action and locally led adaptation interventions. It will assist in achieving the NDC and NAP targets and integrating climate change into the process of local-level planning.

136. Institutional sustainability of the project would be assured by capacity building within the local government on adaptation to climate change in general, agriculture, water resource management, forestry and biodiversity and nature-based solutions and the building of a sustainable livelihood through participatory and inclusive development.

137. Furthermore, the technical support will also be provided to the local government in order to develop climate-informed policies and legislation such that the climate additionalities are addressed in the emerging policies that result in sectoral plans incorporation. In addition to this, local government and community members will be enabled to consolidate and implement in full the activities prioritized and identified in the respective LAPAs of the local government. The open display of LAPA activities will ensure climate sustainability in the institutions. The environment and disaster management committee of the local government will be strengthened to engage actively in the educating the local community on the impact of climate change and its adaptation strategy. Through capacity development, institutional strengthening, and participatory planning with local stakeholders, the project will mainstream Locally Led Adaptation into local and national climate policy and institutions. Federal, provincial, and local government engagement and harmonization with national approaches will bring institutional commitment and ownership.

138. Through capacity development, institutional strengthening, and participatory planning with local stakeholders, the project will mainstream Locally Led Adaptation into local and national climate policy and institutions. Federal, provincial, and local government engagement and harmonization with national approaches will bring institutional commitment and ownership.

139. The proposal targets the use of equalization grants and community resource mobilization such as local taxation, cooperatives, and adaptation funds. Risk transfer mechanisms in the areas of social protection and insurance will be framed, as well as community-led innovation.

140. Adaptive practices will be mainstreamed into local extension systems and expressed as knowledge products to be used sustainably in the long term. The project will also scale-up effective practices using small grants to vulnerable groups through revolving funds. Through the integration of adaptive action with inclusive governance, sustainable finance, and policy integration, the project is designed to guarantee that its interventions and impacts are sustained well beyond its implementation period.

K. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.

141. This project will adhere and comply with national and international laws (Principle 1: Compliance with Laws) which is a prerequisite for the “Risk of Environmental and Social Impacts” assessment. At the national level Nepal’s legal and policy framework identifies and addresses environmental and social impacts and risks relevant to projects and programmes through a combination of acts, regulations, and sectoral policies. The core instruments and their key provisions are summarized below.

- National Environment Policy, 2019 – Sets the national agenda for sustainable development, pollution control, biodiversity conservation, and climate change adaptation.
- Environment Protection Act, 2019 (EPA) – The primary law governing environmental protection in Nepal, requiring environmental assessments (IEE/EIA) for projects likely to have significant environmental and social impacts.
- Environment Protection Regulation, 2020 (EPR) – Provides detailed procedures for conducting environmental assessments, public consultations, and approval processes for project/programme activities.

142. A detailed Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed at the Full Proposal Stage, specifying risk management and monitoring arrangements

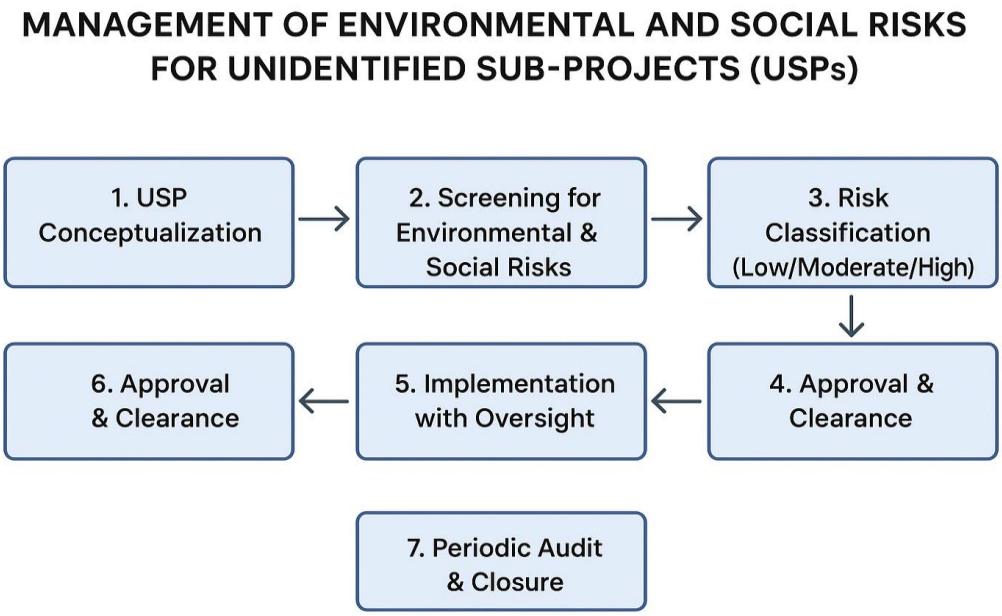
Environmental and Social Principle	Potential Risks Identified	Type of Risk	Estimated Risk Level
1. Compliance with the Law	Possibility of non-compliance with environmental, land-use, or construction standards if regular monitoring is not conducted.	Direct	Moderate

2. Access and Equity	Unequal access to project benefits or services due to social, gender, or geographic disparities.	Indirect	Moderate
3. Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups	Risk of exclusion or limited participation of women, Indigenous Peoples (e.g., Chepang), Dalits, and persons with disabilities in planning or benefit-sharing.	Indirect/ Cumulative	Moderate
4. Human Rights	Potential infringement on rights through inequitable benefit distribution, unequal labor cost or insufficient consultation with affected populations.	Indirect	Moderate
5. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	Risk of reinforcing existing gender roles, underrepresentation of women in decision-making, or gender-based discrimination.	Indirect	Moderate
6. Core Labor Rights	Potential non-compliance with national labor laws during construction or livelihood activities; risks of informal, unpaid, or unsafe labor conditions.	Direct	Moderate
7. Indigenous Peoples	The project doesn't anticipate activities related to violating IPs culture, tradition and rights rather it promotes good IPs practices, knowledge and traditions.	Direct/ Indirect	No Risk
8. Involuntary Resettlement	The Project doesn't anticipate resettlement activities		No Risk
9. Protection of Natural Habitats	The project doesn't anticipate resettlement activities.		No Risk
10. Conservation of Biological Diversity	The Project doesn't anticipate resettlement activities.		No Risk
11. Climate Change	Some activities may inadvertently increase GHG emissions (e.g., use of fossil fuel-powered equipment).	Indirect	Low
12. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	Localized air, soil, or water pollution from waste generation, agrochemical use, or inefficient resource use.	Direct/ Cumulative	Low
13. Public Health	Occupational health and safety risks for workers and communities; potential exposure to sanitation or waste hazards.	Direct	Moderate
14. Physical and Cultural Heritage	Accidental disturbance or damage to culturally or spiritually significant sites during physical works.	Direct	Low
15. Land and Soil Conservation	Risk of soil erosion, sedimentation, or slope instability in hilly areas such as Raksirang and Thori.	Direct/ Cumulative	Moderate

143. The project will establish an overarching Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) covering all USP. For each USP, the ESMS will require:

- a screening process at the time of USP definition to identify potential environmental and social risks (direct, indirect, cumulative) using standardized checklists.
- documentation and categorization of each USP's risk profile as low moderate and high impact prior to commencement of implementation.
- assignment of responsibilities and procedures to ensure that each USP obtains the required authorizations, clearances and compliance with national and Fund safeguards.
- integration of risk-management steps (screening, classification, monitoring, corrective action) into the project cycle from inception through implementation and closure.
- disclosure of USP risk assessments and opportunities for stakeholder consultations, including among marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- ongoing monitoring of each USP's implementation to verify adherence to the ESMS/ESMP, and periodic auditing to ensure that USPs are held to the same standard as identified sub-projects.

144. Although the exact USPs are not yet known, the project will use a standardized process incorporated in the ESMS to ensure that all USPs are screened, approved and managed for environmental and social risks in a consistent, transparent and accountable way.



Part III.A: **Alignment of Project Objectives/Outcomes with Adaptation Fund Results Framework**

Project Objective(s)[84]	**Project Objective Indicator(s)**	**Fund Outcome**	**Fund Outcome Indicator**	**Grant Amount (USD)**
Empower local governments and communities to lead climate adaptation planning and implementation by building institutional, technical, and leadership capabilities	#Number of local governments developing or updating LAPAs in-line with LLA principles #Number of institutions (local governments, CBOs, CSOs, youth club, women's group, cultural and traditional groups etc.,) capacitated on climate resilient practices. #Extent of community participation and engagement in planning and implementation process (representation from IPs, marginalized group, women, youth etc.,)	**Outcome 1**: Reduced exposure to climate related hazards and threats **Outcome 2:** Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses **Outcome 3:** Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction at local level	1.Relevant threat and hazard information generated and disseminated to stakeholders on a timely basis 2. 1 Capacity of staff to respond to, and mitigate impacts of climate related events from targeted institutions increased 3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses 3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses	**500000**
Implement adaptation measures focusing on Nature based solutions building on the LLA principles viz. climate-resilient infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable land and water management	#Number of adaptation interventions (climate-resilient infrastructure and alternative livelihood opportunities) identified and implemented #Area (Hectare) of ecosystem restored and rehabilitated #Number of climate-resilient infrastructures constructed or upgraded #Extent of community participation in planning and implementing NbS interventions, disaggregated by gender and vulnerable groups #Number of local adaptation plans integrating NbS approaches	**Outcome 5**: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress **Outcome 6:** Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas ***Outcome 8:*** Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies	5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress 6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets 6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods 6.2.1. Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario 8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level	**2750000**
Project Outcome(s)	**Project Outcome Indicator(s)**	**Fund Output**	**Fund Output Indicator**	**Grant Amount (USD)**
Component 1: Locally Led Risk and Need Assessment for Baseline Development and Adaptation Planning				
Local governments and communities, including IPs and marginalized groups,	# Number of trainings organized #Number of local governments demonstrating	***Output 1.1:*** Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated	No. of projects/programmes that conduct and update risk and vulnerability assessments (by sector and scale)	**250000**

[84] The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

are equipped/empowered to assess climate risks and co-develop inclusive and context-specific Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA)	improved ability to integrate climate information into local planning processes # Number/percentage of IPs, women, youth, and marginalized groups meaningfully participating in climate risk assessments and LAPA co-development processes # Number of LAPAs formally endorsed and adopted by local governments	***Output 1.2:*** Targeted population groups covered by adequate risk reduction systems	No. of early warning systems (by scale) and no. of beneficiaries covered 1.2.1 Percentage of target population covered by adequate risk-reduction systems	
Component 2: Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening				
Outcome 2: Communities, Local and provincial institutions have the skills, systems, and knowledge to lead, coordinate and implement effective climate governance and adaptation action	# Number/percentage of trained officials and community representatives # Number of coordination meetings on climate governance and adaptation carried out # Number/percentage of local governments implementing LAPA priorities using established systems and capacities #Number of local governments that institutionalize gender- and inclusion-responsive climate governance processes # Number of community-led or co-implemented adaptation actions initiated using strengthened systems and skills	***Output 2.1***: Strengthened capacity of national and sub-national centres and networks to respond rapidly to extreme weather events ***Output 2.2***: Increased readiness and capacity of national and sub-national entities to directly access and program adaptation finance ***Output 3.1***: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	2.1.1. No. of staff trained to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events (by gender) 2.1.2 No. of targeted institutions with increased capacity to minimize exposure to climate variability 2.2.1 No. of people benefitting from the direct access and enhanced direct access modality 3.1 No. of news outlets in the local press and media that have covered the topic	**390000**
Component 3: Implementation of LAPA Actions Aligned with NAP and NDCs				
Outcomes 3: Communities implement need-specific, locally led adaptation actions and nature-based solutions to enhance climate resilience	# Area (hectares) of ecosystems restored, protected, or sustainably managed through community-led NbS #Number of locally led adaptation actions and NbS implemented # Number/percentage of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups directly involved in designing and implementing LLA/NbS activities # Number of community-based groups (CFUGs, cooperatives, water user groups, IP organizations) leading adaptation actions # Number of community-led maintenance/monitoring	***Output 1.1:*** Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated ***Output 5:*** Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability ***Output 6:*** Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	1.2. No. of early warning systems (by scale) and no. of beneficiaries covered 5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale) 6.1.1. No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies 6.2.1. Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario	**2750000**

	mechanisms established for adaptation and NbS interventions # Number of adaptation actions incorporating Indigenous and local ecological knowledge	***Output 8:*** Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated	8.1. No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled up and/or replicated 8.2. No. of key findings on effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated	
Component 5: Knowledge Management , learning Sharing and Documentation)				
Outcomes 5: Enhanced learning, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making support adaptive management of climate action	# % of adaptation interventions tracked using standardized monitoring tools and indicators # Number of learning reviews (e.g., quarterly/annual reflection workshops) conducted at community and local government levels # Number of climate knowledge products developed (e.g., case studies, briefs, guidelines) # % of project report and information made publicly accessible through local government platforms, information boards, or community meetings # Number of public forums conducted # Number of best practices and lessons learned documented and disseminated nationally or regionally	***Output 3.2:*** Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2.1 No. of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge 3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders	**366000**

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

Record of endorsement on behalf of the government[1]

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate the date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials of all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (Nepal's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs), and Climate Change Policy 2019) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.

(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)	Date: *(Month, day, year)* *June 9, 2025*
Suman Subedi *Under Secretary* *Ministry of Forests and Environment*	

A. Implementing Entity certification

Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address.

Name & Signature: Dr. Naresh Subedi Implementing Entity Coordinator: Member Secretary, National Trust for Nature Conservation	
Date: *June 9, 2025*	Tel. and email: +977-01-5526571; nareshsubedi@gmail.com
Project Contact Person: Dr. Manish Raj Pandey, Head of Climate Change Department, National Trust for Nature Conservation	
Tel. And Email:977-9851038357; mrpandey70@gmail.com; mrpandey@ntnc.org.np	

[1] Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Forests and Environment

P.O. Box No. 3987
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Ref. No. 367

Letter of Endorsement by the Government of Nepal

Date: 30 June 2025

To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for **Empowering Local Climate Action: A Locally Led Adaptation Initiative for Resilience in the Bagmati and Madesh Provinces of Nepal**

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Nepal, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Nepal.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the National Trust for Nature Conservation and executed by the National Trust for Nature Conservation.

Sincerely,

30 June 2025

Mr. Suman Subedi
Under Secretary
Adaptation Section
Climate Change Management Division
Ministry of Forests and Environment
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu

Secretary :– 4211567 Fax:- 4211868

ADAPTATION FUND

Revised PFG Submission Form[1] (additions in red)

Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: November 27, 2025

Adaptation Fund Project ID:
Country/ies: Nepal
Title of Project/Programme: Empowering Local Climate Action: A Locally Led Adaptation Initiative for Resilience in the Bagmati and Madhesh Provinces of Nepal
Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): NIE
Implementing Entity: National Trust for Nature Conservation
Executing Entity/ies: National Trust for Nature Conservation

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	March 2026 (or immediately following endorsement of the concept note)
Completion date of PFG	October 2026

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities ($)

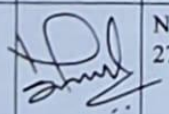
Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	Amount (US$)	**Budget note[2]**
Comprehensive Stakeholder Consultations and Workshops	Detailed stakeholder engagement plan and consultation reports, including inputs from women, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups	25,000	Covers local consultations, workshops, translation, and background materials
Gender and Environmental and Social Risk Analyses	Comprehensive ESMF and Gender Action Plan integrated into the full proposal	30,000	Supports ESMF, GAP, screening tools, and AF policy alignment

[1] As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.
[2] The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break- down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

Site-Specific Risk and Vulnerability Assessments	Risk and vulnerability assessments for seven municipalities	25,000	Supports localized assessments to strengthen project design
Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) Consultations	Documented FPIC processes and agreements with Indigenous Peoples	15,000	Culturally appropriate consultations aligned with AF ESP
Specific Analyses for Project Design	Technical reports: policy review, NbS cost-effectiveness, baseline inventories	20,000	Supports analyses including policy and cost-effectiveness studies
Development of M&E Plan and Indicators	Complete M&E plan with indicators, baselines, and targets	15,000	Supports participatory MEL system development
Assessment of Executing Partner Capacity	Capacity assessment report for local stakeholders	10,000	Ensures readiness of executing partners
Technical Consultancies for Project Development	Final full project proposal with activity plans, budget, risk mitigation	15,000	Covers consultancy inputs for NbS and value chain strategies
Administrative Cost		5,000	Administrative and logistical support
Total Project Formulation Grant		150,000	

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Dr. Naresh Subedi		November 27, 2025	Dr. Manish Raj Pandey	9779851038357	mrpandey70@gmail.com

Annex 1 Letter of Consent

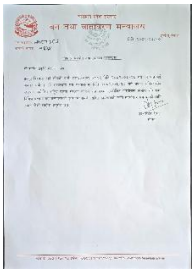


Figure 4 Consent letter from Bagmati Provincial government

Figure 5 Consent letter form the Madhesh Provincial government

Figure 6 Consent letter of Bagmati rural municipality

Figure 7 Consent letter form Bakaiya rural municipality

Figure 8 Consent letter from Manahari Rural Municipality

Figure 8 Consent letter from Raksirang Rural Municipality

Figure 9 Consent letter from Parsagadhi Municipality

Figure 10 Consent letter from Pokhariya Municipality

Figure 111 Consent letter from Thori Rural Municipality

Unofficial Translation of Provincial Consent Letter

From
MoFE, Bagmati (Refer to Figure 1)/Madhesh Province (Refer to Figure 2)

To,
National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
Khumaltar, Lalitpur

Subject: Cooperation and Coordination

As per letter Ref. No. 886/2081/82, dated June 20, 2025, from the National Trust for Nature Conservation regarding the project funded by the Adaptation Fund titled "Empowering Local Climate Action: A Locally Led Adaptation Initiative for Resilience in the Bagmati and Madhesh Province of Nepal", which aims to reduce climate change vulnerabilities in this region.

Bagmati/Madhesh Province assures its commitment to cooperate and coordinate in the necessary and relevant activities of the project throughout the entire project cycle.

Sincerely,
Secretary,
MoFE, Bagmati Province/Madhesh Province

Unofficial Translation of Consent Letters from Local Governments

From
Local Governments (Bagmati (Figure 3)/Bakaiya (Figure 4)/Manahari (Figure 5)/Raksirang (Figure 6)/Parsagadhi (Figure 7)/Pokhariya (Figure 8)/Thori (Figure 9))

To,
National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
Khumaltar, Lalitpur

Subject: Cooperation and Coordination

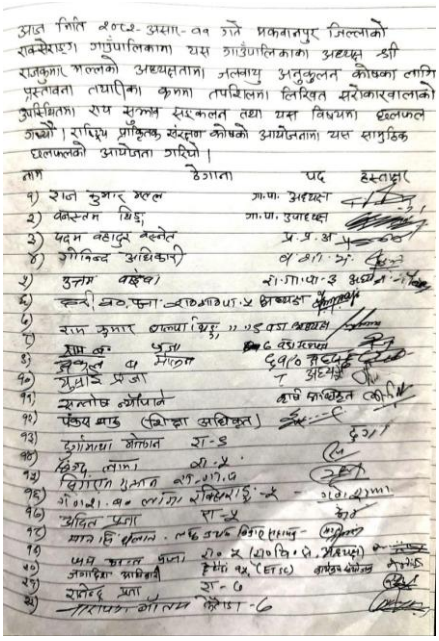
As per letter Ref. No. 886/2081/82, dated June 20, 2025, from the National Trust for Nature Conservation regarding the project funded by the Adaptation Fund titled "Empowering Local Climate Action: A Locally Led Adaptation Initiative for Resilience in the Bagmati and Madhesh Province of Nepal", which aims to reduce climate change vulnerabilities in this region.

This Rural Municipality/Municipality assures its commitment to cooperate and coordinate in the necessary and relevant activities of the project throughout the entire project cycle.

Sincerely,
Chairperson/Chief Administrative Officer
Local Governments

[Note: Due to the similarity in the content and structure of both Province and all Local Governments (Rural municipalities/Municipalities) Letters, this serves as an unofficial translation to all the consents received]

Annex 2 Minutes from Focal Group Discussion



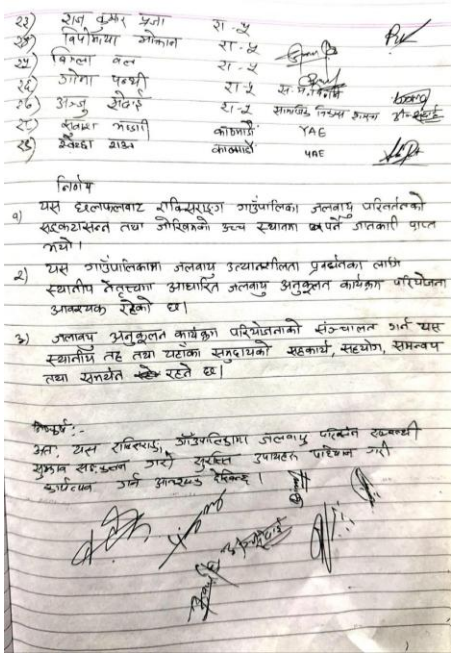
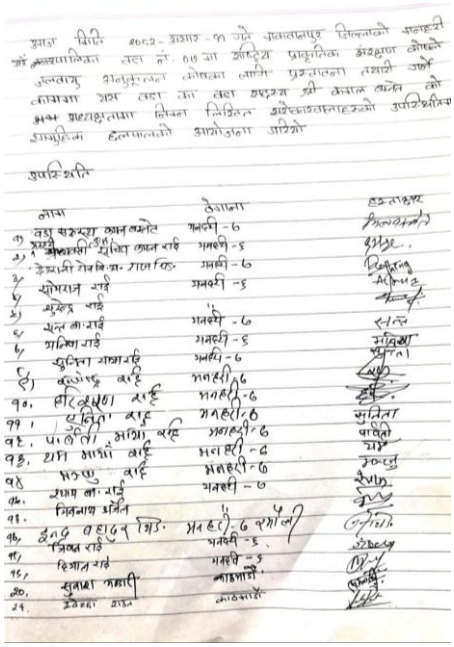


Figure 12 FGD minute from Raksirang Municipality



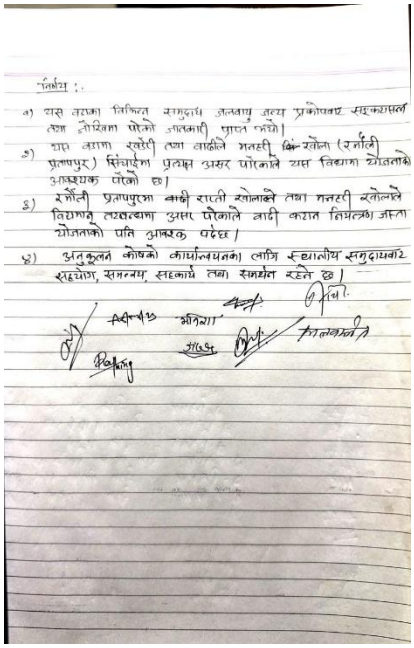


Figure 13 FGD minute from Manahari Municipality

Unofficial translation of the Raksirang FGD Minute (Figure 10)

On 2082 Asar 11 (25-Jun-2025 AD), a stakeholder consultation was held in Raksirang Rural Municipality, Makawanpur District, under the chairmanship of Mr. Rajkumar Malla, Chairperson of the Rural Municipality. The purpose of the meeting was to gather opinions in the preparation of the proposal of climate adaptation fund. This event was organized by the National Trust for Nature Conservation, with the participation of stakeholders as outlined in the attached details.

S.N.	Name	Address	Position
1	Raj Kumar Malla	Raksirang-08	Raksirang RM, Chairperson
2	Basantam Thing	Raksirang -05	Raksirang RM, Chairperson
3	Padam Bahadur Basnet	Raksirang-05	Chief Administrative Officer
4	Govinda Adhikari	Raksirang-05	
5	Uttam Waiba	Raksirang-03	
6	Dari Bdr Praja	Raksirang-05	Ward Chairperson
7	Ram Kumar Galpa Thing	Raksirang-09	Ward Chairpesron
8	Ram Bdr Praja	Raksirang-07	Ward Chairpesron
9	Akal Bahadur Moktan	Raksirang-06	Ward Chairperson
10	Yousai Praja	Raksirang-08	Ward Chairperson
11	Santosh Neupane	Raksirang	Agriculture Officer
12	Pankash Tharu	Raksirang	Education Officer
13	Durga Maya Moktan	Raksirang-09	Local
14	Angad Lama	Raksirang-05	Local
15	Singaram Moktan	Raksirang-05	Local
16	Ganesh Bahadur Lama	Raksirang-05	Local
17	Adit Praja	Raksirang-05	
18	Man Singh Ghalan	Raksirang-	Small Enterprise Development Assistant
19	Jay Kant Praja	Raksirang-05	
20	Jagadish Adhikari	Hetauda-15	Program Co-ordinator (ETSC)
21	Rajendra Praja	Raksirang-07	Local
22	Narayan Gautam	Hetauda-07	Local
23	Raj Kumar Praja	Raksirang-05	Local
24	BipiMaya Moktan	Raksirang-05	Local
25	Bimala Wal	Raksirang-05	Local
26	Goma Panthi	Raksirang-05	Social Development Department, Rakirang Municipality
27	Anju Sedhai	Raksirang-05	Municipality staff, 5th level
28	Suwash Bhandari	Kathmandu	Youth Alliance for Environment
29	Swecha Raut	Kathmandu	Youth Alliance for Environment

Decisions:

- From this discussion, it was learned that the Raksirang Rural Municipality is vulnerable to climate change and is at high risk.
- A locally led climate adaptation program is needed to promote climate resilience in this rural municipality.
- Strong commitment is assured to the implementation of the Climate Adaptation Program project, which will require the cooperation, assistance, coordination, and support of the local level and its community.

Unofficial translation of Manahari FGD Minute

On 2082 Asar 11 (25-Jun-2025 AD), a stakeholder consultation was held in Makawanpur District, Manahari Rural Municipality ward number 07, Ramauli, under the chairmanship of Mr. Kamal Bssnet, Ward Member of ward 07. The purpose of the meeting was to gather opinions in preparation for the Climate Adaptation Fund proposal. This event was organized by the National Trust for Nature Conservation, with the participation of stakeholders as outlined in the attached details.

S.N.	Name	Address	Position
1	Kamal Basnet	Manahari-07	Ward Secretary, 07
2	Kamal Rai	Manahari-06	Local
3	Raj Thing	Manahari-07	Deurali Tole Development, Chairperson
4	Somraj Rai	Manahri-06	Local
5	Surendra Rai	Manahri-06	Local
6	Santa Bahadur Rai	Manahri-07	Local
7	Manisha Rai	Manahari-06	Local
8	Sunita Yaya Rai	Manahri-07	Local
9	Rajendra Rai	Manahari-07	Local

10	Harisharan Rai	Manahari-07	Local
11	Sunita Rai	Manahri-07	Local
12	Parbati Maya Rai	Manahari-07	Local
13	Yam Maya Rai	Manahari-07	Local
14	Manju Rai	Manahari-07	Local
15	Shyam Bahadur Rai	Manahari-07	Local
16	Indra Bahadur Thing	Manahari-07	Local
17	Jiban Rai	Manahari-06	Local
18	Himal Rai	Manahari-06	Local
19	Suwash Bhandari	Kathmandu	YAE
20	Swecha Raut	Kathmandu	YAE

Decisions:

- Information was received about the climate-related hazards and vulnerable conditions of various communities in this ward.
- There is a need for a plan in this category, as drought and floods in this ward have directly affected the irrigation of Manahari Kin Khola (Roli Pratappur)
- In Rauli Pratappur, the flood caused by the Rapti River and the Manahari Rakhola has affected the existing embankment. A plan is also needed to control the erosion of the wadi.
- There will be local community-wide cooperation, coordination, collaboration, and support for the implementation of the Adaptation Fund.

Annex 3 Photographs

Figure 14 Consultation with the local government at Bagmati, Bakaiya, Raksirang Rural Municipality officials (Left to Right)

Figure 15 Focal Group Discussion with the locals at Manahari Rural Municipality

Figure 16 Focal Group Discussion with the locals Raksirang Rural Municipality