



## **Accelerating Progress toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Nepal: A Joint Pilot Contributing to the Implementation of the Agricultural Development Strategy**

<b>Geographical Coverage:</b>	<b>Nepal (30 village development committees in 3 districts)</b>
<b>Thematic Area:</b>	<b>Women's Economic Empowerment</b>
<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Accelerating Progress toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Nepal: A Joint Pilot Contributing to Implementation of the Agricultural Development Strategy</b>
<b>Project Short Title:</b>	<b>RWEE Nepal</b>
<b>Expected Start Date:</b>	<b>January 2015</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	<b>1 year (January – December 2015)</b>
<b>Implementing Partners:</b>	<b>UN WOMEN, FAO, WFP, IFAD</b>
<b>Total budget:</b>	<b>\$ 1,042,774.00</b>

### **1. Background Information**

#### **1.1 Current Situation**

In Nepal, an overwhelming majority of the population (83 per cent) lives in rural areas, and 43.1 per cent of them are women.<sup>1</sup> Rural Nepalese women are at the heart of the rural economy. Of the economically active female population (age 10 and above), 72.8 per cent of females are engaged in agricultural work, compared to 60.2 per cent of men.<sup>2</sup> They make major contributions to their families and communities, as well as the country and national economy. Women perform multiple roles as mothers and spouses/partners, as well as farmers, workers, leaders, producers, entrepreneurs and service providers. They comprise approximately 65 per cent of the labour force in agricultural activities<sup>3</sup> and play a key role in food production, especially through subsistence farming. A study<sup>4</sup> that reviewed the impact of remittances on poverty reduction stated that women spend their income on family wellbeing, contributing to food and nutrition security.

Improved food security prevents people, particularly women, from resorting to potentially dangerous coping strategies such as unregulated migration.<sup>5</sup> Only 19.7 per cent of households report ownership of land, houses or both in the name of a female member.<sup>6</sup> Limited land ownership by women results

<sup>1</sup> Government of Nepal: Central Bureau of Statistics, 2012. National Population and Housing Census 2011. 83 percent counts those living in administratively designated VDCs as opposed to municipalities (where the urban population is situated).

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (2009). Selected Indicators of Nepalese Agriculture and Population.

<sup>3</sup> FAO, 2011. The State of Food and Agriculture 2010-11: Women in Agriculture; Closing the Gender Gap for Development. Rome: FAO.

<sup>4</sup> *International labour migration of Nepalese women: The impact of remittance on poverty reduction: Chandra Bhadra, 2007.*

<sup>5</sup> WFP, 2012. Draft Country Programme Nepal 200319 (2013-2017).

<sup>6</sup> Government of Nepal, Central Bureau of Statistics 2012. National Population and Housing Census 2011. Implementation of the joint titling and tax rebate policies (ranging from 20-40 percent on land registration fees for women) have led to almost 12 percentage points increase in female land ownership between 2001 and 2011. However, this change has had a bigger impact in urban areas and a limited impact in rural areas, particularly the Terai. See also Existing Provisions and Initiatives

in them not being listed as head of households. Moreover, although women significantly contribute to agricultural activities, they are not often viewed as farmers, and are rarely approached and consulted by agricultural extension service providers.<sup>7</sup> They also have limited access to markets, productive resources such as credit, water, seeds, fertiliser and technology.<sup>8</sup>

Food and nutrition security continues to be a major challenge in Nepal, with 15 per cent of the population considered to be food-insecure.<sup>9</sup> Increasing food prices is a major contributor to the high rates of inflation over the past few years, affecting food security and health outcomes<sup>10</sup> According to the Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2011, 36 per cent of rural women suffer from some degree of anaemia. It also states that 41 per cent of children under five years of age suffer from stunting, and 11 per cent of under-five children are wasted. Rural women are further confronted by a range of gender-specific constraints. Women in rural areas are working 1.4 hours for every one hour worked by men,<sup>11</sup> and stereotypical and discriminatory gendered attitudes lead to socially imposed limitations to women's mobility, productivity and overall ability to reach their full potential.

The challenges faced by rural women are further exacerbated by the combined impact of recent economic and financial crises, the volatile energy and food prices, and climate change. Globally, it is estimated that between 130 and 155 million people in the developing world fell into extreme poverty between 2007 and 2008, due to food and fuel price hikes. Participation of women in decision-making is still low, and legal frameworks and policies often do not sufficiently address their needs. The Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM), which captures gender inequality in participation and decision-making power in political and economic affairs as well as in control over economic resources, is low in Nepal at 0.431 and 0.456 for the Mid West Region (MWR) and Far West Region (FWR) respectively, compared to 0.496 for the country as a whole.<sup>12</sup>

## 1.2 Problem/Opportunity Analysis

A distinct opportunity for collective action among women is taking place, especially in the rural areas of Nepal, due to a combination of factors such as heightened personal, economic and political insecurity, the absence of locally elected bodies and officials, and ultimately the lack of employment opportunities. The decade-long internal conflict, which had a negative impact on Nepal's economic development, led to an absence of men as they either joined the armed forces of the Maoist movement, or migrated in search of better employment opportunities or to ensure their personal security. Thus women were left to fill the voids at home<sup>13</sup> and in their communities, which, combined with the government's provision for a minimum of 33 per cent representation of women in national and local-level decision-making structures, provided an opening for women's participation and leadership. These changes have begun transforming lives and the wider socio-economic fabric of Nepal.

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towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment, Nepal: A Mapping Exercise.

<sup>7</sup> UN Women, 2013. Strengthening Gender Equality and Social Inclusive Provisions in Nepal's Agricultural Development Strategy.

<sup>8</sup> UN Women, 2012. Joint Programme on: Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women, National Consultative Workshop - Workshop Report.

<sup>9</sup> WFP, 2012. Draft Country Programme Nepal 200319 (2013-2017). Original Source quoted as: WFP and the Nepal Khadya Surakshya Anugaman Pranali (Nepal Food Security Monitoring and Analysis System – NeKSAP). 2011, Nepal food security bulletins.

<sup>10</sup>The Impact of Food Inflation on Poverty in Nepal Min Bahadur Shrestha, Ph.D and Shashi Kant Chaudhary, Nepal Rastra Bank Economic Review October 2012 [www.nrb.org.np/.../NRB\\_Economic\\_Review--Vol\\_24-2](http://www.nrb.org.np/.../NRB_Economic_Review--Vol_24-2)

<sup>11</sup> Making Care Visible Women's unpaid care work in Nepal, Nigeria, Uganda and Kenya Action Aid 2013.

<sup>12</sup> UNDP Nepal (2009), *Nepal Human Development Report: State Transformation and Human Development*, available at [http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/national/asiathepacific/nepal/Nepal\\_NHDR\\_2009.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/national/asiathepacific/nepal/Nepal_NHDR_2009.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> According to the Population and Housing Census (2011), there was an increase in women-headed households from 19.6 per cent (2003/4) to 26.6 per cent (2009/10).

The Government of Nepal (GoN) has taken several steps in its commitment to enhance gender equality and empowerment of women. The GoN is signatory to various international conventions on gender equality and women's empowerment, including the CEDAW, the MDGs and the Beijing Platform of Action. It is in its final year of implementing its 20-year (1995-2015) Agriculture Perspective Plan (APP) that has focused on agriculture-led growth. The analysis of the impact of the APP on gender mainstreaming shows that the government has made an attempt to highlight gender, especially in improving women's access to credit, training, research and extension programmes etc. The analysis notes the capacity gaps of the concerned institutions and their failure to develop a clear gender strategy beyond working with and through women's groups, and their limited understanding of action needed beyond training for women. According to the analysis, women's participation in farmer groups is less than 40 per cent, and their roles in decision-making is low with only 23 per cent occupying positions in executive committees.

The final draft of the Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS), a 20-year strategy for agricultural development in Nepal, is committed to the inclusion of women, disadvantaged groups and geographically disadvantaged populations throughout the planning, implementation and monitoring of the strategy. The ADS includes a 10-year Plan of Action, which specifies the development of a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)<sup>14</sup> strategy. Development of the agricultural sector is a main concern within the local bodies' budgeting systems, where 15 per cent of local budgets are allocated to agriculture. The government started scaling up its efforts towards nutrition security in 2009 when it carried out the Nutrition Assessment and Gap Analysis (NAGA). The analysis recommended that Nepal create "nutrition architecture" to promote multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration, i.e. nutrition-related interventions in health, agriculture, education, local development, gender, social welfare and finance sectors. The GoN has launched Zero Hunger Challenge initiative in Nepal in 19 December, 2014. While some progress has been achieved, chronic under nutrition threatens to derail national social and economic development, and the achievement of the MDGs.

### **1.3 Government of Nepal's Priorities and Plans**

The Government of Nepal's 13th Plan 2013-2016 aims to reduce both economic and human poverty, and to improve the living standards of people by engaging them in productive employment. The Plan aims to achieve gender equality as a cross-cutting theme, with an overall goal to achieve employment-centric, inclusive and equitable economic growth. A targeted women's economic empowerment campaign will be launched throughout the nation in order to enhance the access of different women's groups and communities in economic resources.<sup>15</sup>

The government has also endorsed the Gender Equality Act and adopted gender-responsive budgeting principles. Within the last fiscal year, 21.7 per cent of government budget allocations have been classified as directly gender-responsive. The Ministry of Labour and Employment has adopted the Foreign Employment Policy 2012 and developed a National Plan of Action to address the use of remittance and social capital (knowledge and skill of returnee migrant workers bring back) for sustainable development. The Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFA&LD) has adopted a GESI policy, and allocated 35 per cent for targeted spending, out of which 10 per cent is specifically for women. The government continues to implement a tax rebate policy and joint land ownership scheme to encourage women's land ownership.

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<sup>14</sup> Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) is a concept that addresses unequal power relations between women and men and between different social groups. It focuses on the need for action to re-balance these power relations and ensure equal rights, opportunities and respect for all individuals regardless of their social identity.

<sup>15</sup> Government of Nepal: Budget speech of fiscal year 2014-15 - P.40 -

[http://www.mof.gov.np/uploads/cmsfiles/file/Budget%20Speech%20Final%20English\\_20140715100825.pdf](http://www.mof.gov.np/uploads/cmsfiles/file/Budget%20Speech%20Final%20English_20140715100825.pdf)

The proposed programme is in line with the GoN's Development Cooperation Policy 2014 and its vision to build a self-reliant economy through effective mobilisation of development cooperation, and to help transform Nepal into a prosperous and democratic country. The government has shown full ownership of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013-2017<sup>16</sup>, under which outcomes 1, 2 and 3 commit the country to supporting: 1) improved access to basic, essential social services and programmes in an equitable manner, 2) improved access to economic opportunities and adequate social protection and ensuring self-confidence, and 3) respect and dignity of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. Despite the positive changes, gender inequality still affects women's potential in all sectors. While provisions are in place, effective implementation remains an issue. There are concerns about effective and inclusive planning and budgeting, particularly at the Village Development Committee (VDC) and municipality levels (most relevant for supporting the social and economic empowerment of marginalised groups).<sup>17</sup> An evaluation of the Local Governance Community Development Plan (LGCDP) states that VDCs and municipalities use the budget allocation for other purposes, while claiming they do in fact serve women and disadvantaged groups. Gender budget audits, if used more widely and more effectively, could correct this.<sup>18</sup>

In its concluding observations, the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 2011 has also expressed concern about the situation of rural women, and recommended that the GoN encourage women's sustainable economic empowerment, including the promotion of women's access to land, credit, markets and alternative employment opportunities, as well as the promotion of training on micro-enterprise development and management, and ensuring equal access to resources and nutritious food by eliminating discriminatory practices.<sup>19</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in its November 2014 Concluding Observations expressed concern about the situation of women, in particular in the agricultural sector and also recommended that the Government adopt a comprehensive human rights-based strategy with a clear gender dimension to combat hunger and ensure food security for marginalized and disadvantaged individuals and groups.

#### 1.4 Rationale of the Project

Recognizing the existing challenges and opportunities regarding rural women's agency and rights, the four UN agencies – Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) – have come together with the aim to accelerate progress for the economic empowerment of rural women, and to assist rural women in lifting themselves out of poverty, while promoting equitable and inclusive growth in Nepal. The four agencies are working together for the first time to expand on innovative models and building on their respective strengths: **FAO's** policy assistance on agriculture and food security; **IFAD's** experience on rural investment programmes; **WFP's** food assistance and health and nutrition innovations; and **UN Women's** leadership and technical expertise on women's empowerment and gender responsive policies, and knowledge and expertise on foreign labour migration and reintegration.

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<sup>16</sup> UNCT Nepal (2011), *United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013-2017*, available at <http://un.org.np/reports/undaf-2013-2017>

<sup>17</sup> UN Women, 2013. Existing Provisions and Initiatives towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment, Nepal: A Mapping Exercise. A recent study commissioned by UN Women that assessed the local bodies investment in programmes related to women's economic development and reduction of GBV found that such resources had been spent more on infrastructure development rather than income generation and skill development interventions.

<sup>18</sup> Focused Evaluation, Local Governance & Community Development Programme (LGCDP), Draft, 31 July 2012.

<sup>19</sup> United Nations, 2011. Concluding Observations of the Committee of the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Nepal fourth and fifth report.

The Joint Programme (JP) has been designed as a follow up on commitments of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on “the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas”, in November 2011, which reiterated a focus on rural women’s economic empowerment. It is in line with the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and its follow up processes, which reaffirm the role of rural women in sustainable development and climate change. The programme also takes forward the commitments of the Istanbul Plan of Action (IPoA) – which the GoN played a leading role in developing – that calls for focused intervention on agriculture development with increased investments. Most poor people in the least developed countries depend on agriculture for living, and there have been calls for further resources for this area of MDG Goal 8.<sup>20</sup> The programme furthers the desired people-centred development policies, requiring governments to ensure sustainable livelihoods and uphold human rights and gender equality, which civil society actors have noted the IPoA falls short of addressing.

The design of the programme has been informed by a consultative process at the national level, which included a national consultative workshop and mapping study. The consultative workshop was attended by over a hundred participants, including representatives from the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD) and other line ministries, the National Planning Commission (NPC), the UN, Local Development Officers (LDO), Women and Children Development Officers (WCDO), women farmers from mountain, hill and Terai regions, and other concerned stakeholders.<sup>21</sup> The mapping study highlighted a range of good practices that the programme could build on. It also identified gaps in the on-going programmes and processes, as well as potential broad areas of synergies for the programme to address, also contributing to the ‘Strengthening Gender Equality and Social Inclusive Provisions in Nepal’s Agricultural Development Strategy’ report<sup>22</sup> prepared by UN Women. There was understanding with MoAD that the Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment Joint Programme could serve as a pilot contributing for the implementation of Nepal’s Agricultural Development Strategy which upon evaluation, demonstrating its effective results and impact, could be scaled up.

The inception phase and partial implementation phase of the programme for 2015 will be supported by the MPTF. For the remaining implementation phase of the programme covering the period 2016-2020, MPTF and other possible donor support will be explored.

The funds from the MPTF for 2015 will include situation analysis, base line survey, capacity assessments of partners and fine-tuning of the programme indicators and activities in consultation with the key stakeholders. It will develop a monitoring and evaluation framework and an information management system to support effective implementation. Few activities of the implementation phase, will also be initiated in 2015. As per the recommendation during the inception period consultations, the work plan will be revised and endorsed by the Programme Steering Committee.

The Performance Monitoring Framework (PMF) will comprise of a completed log-frame with targets and indicators for all outcomes and outputs and will detail collection methods and risks and assumptions. A monitoring framework for each of the selected districts will be developed during the inception period of the programme. The PMF will be aligned with the National Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines (2013).

## 2. Stakeholder Analysis

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<sup>20</sup> <http://www.spotlightnepal.com/News/Article/Linking-Istanbul-Plan-of-Action>

<sup>21</sup> Local Development Officers, Women Development Officers, experts, women farmers and leaders from various rural districts across the mountain, hill and Terai regions of the country

<sup>22</sup> TA 7762-NEP Preparation of the Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS). Prepared for the Government of Nepal with the support of ADB, IFAD, EU, FAO, SDC, JICA, USAID, DANIDA, WFP, World Bank, DfID, AusAID and UN Women. June 2013.

## 2.1 Beneficiaries

The JP is in line with the UNDAF for 2013-2017. The programme aims to cut across many of the vulnerable 'client groups' identified in the UNDAF, including: women of reproductive age; women subject to sexual abuse and exploitation; Dalits; undernourished children; rural landless and land-poor; migrant workers and their families; the illiterate; conflict-affected women; people from the lowest performing districts; people from areas especially vulnerable to climate change; and other disadvantaged women and girls. The programme will directly contribute to UNDAF outcomes as follows:

- Outcome 1: *Vulnerable and disadvantaged groups get improved access to basic essential social services and programmes in an equitable manner*, such as increased access and utilization of essential micronutrients.
- Outcome 2: *Vulnerable groups have improved access to economic opportunities and adequate social protection*, specifically related to access to productive assets, productive use of remittances and inclusive economic policies.
- Outcome 3: *Vulnerable groups experience greater self-confidence, respect and dignity*, by progressively engaging the vulnerable groups to challenge assumptions, understanding and practices that result in stigma and discrimination.
- Programming Principle: The environmental stability component of the programme aligns with the core UNDAF programming principles.<sup>23</sup>

## 2.2 Programme Implementing Body of the Government of Nepal

The lead agency responsible for executing the programme will be the MoAD, in partnership with UN Women, IFAD, FAO and WFP and other government and non-government stakeholders. The programme will be reflected in the national budgetary system of the GoN as 'technical assistance' in line with the Government's Development Cooperation Policy 2014.

The programme will be implemented in three districts of the Eastern and Central Regions (Terai and Hill), adopting a cluster approach. The district selection criteria will take into account vulnerability indicators identified in the UNDAF (2013-2017).

The MoAD, as the nodal ministry, will provide overall support and guidance for smooth implementation of the programme. It will support and facilitate the preparatory work to finalise the programme implementation modality, selection of programme districts and beneficiaries. The programme will also collaborate with other government agencies, civil society, women's and farmers' groups for the implementation of the programme activities.

A Programme Steering Committee (PSC) will be established at the MoAD. The PSC will be chaired by the Secretary of MoAD and the Joint Secretaries of NPC, MoAD, MoWCSW, MoF, MoFALD, MoLE and MoHP. Members will include the Director General (DG) of the Department of Agriculture (DoA), DG of the District Livestock Office, and a representative from a rural women's group. Furthermore, Heads of Agencies (HoAs) from the four respective UN agencies will also be members of the committee. A Programme Coordinator will be nominated by the MoAD and act both as a member of the PSC, and have the overall responsibility of facilitating the coordination between the government line ministries for the smooth implementation of the JP. The PSC will meet twice a year to review progress and to further guide the programme. The Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Section under the Food Security

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<sup>23</sup> Climate change and environment are also one of the seven priority areas of the government's Three Year Plan.

and Environment Division of the MoAD will act as the focal division at the MoAD. The programme office, located under UN Women, will serve as the secretariat for the committee. Under the PSC, a technical committee formed under the leadership of the joint-secretary of MoAD will provide technical backstopping to the PSC.

A mechanism will be established within partner organisations and groups to provide technical guidance for the programme implementation. The group will comprise of the four UN agencies and key government officials. UN Women as the lead agency will convene the meetings of the group. UN Women will take the lead role of managing and coordinating the programme and funds. The programme will thus be supported by the Economic Empowerment Unit of UN Women – under the overall guidance and direction of the Representative and supervision of the Deputy Representative. It will be responsible for coordinating with the UN Women headquarters and all UN partner agencies, and chairing and hosting review meetings and periodic workshops. It will provide the gender-related expertise required for the programme. UN Women will ensure progress reporting as per its internal requirements, and will also develop donor reports as required.

At the district level, overall coordination and guidance for the implementation of the programme will be provided by the District Agriculture Development Committee (DADC), chaired by the LDO. District line offices, such as DADO, District Livestock Services Office (DLSO), WCDO and District Public Health Offices (DPHOs), represented in DADC, will be responsible for approving work plans, and providing oversight of implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the district level interventions. Other line agencies represented at DADC, as well as representatives of rural women's groups, will be encouraged to coordinate and provide complementary support to the implementation of the specific programme components/activities. District level coordination will ensure a coordinated approach to avoid overlap and duplication of efforts.

A Multi-Partner Trust Fund on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women has also been initiated to support the global programme, through which Nepal has received financial support for the preparatory phase and will get support for the partial implementation period including the inception phase work for the period of one year 2015 from the MPTF.

### **3. Goals and Outcomes/Outputs (Five Year Programme)**

The overarching goal of the programme is to secure rural women empowerment and rights to promote their livelihoods in selected districts of Nepal, ensuring sustainable development in the post conflict context of Nepal.

To achieve this goal, four outcome areas have been provisionally identified based on context specific issues and potentials, and within the framework of the global programme. Within each outcome area, a number of outputs and indicative activities have been formulated that build specifically on identified needs and opportunities.

- Outcome 1 – Rural Nepalese women and their families have improved food and nutrition security
  - Output 1.1 – Rural women and families from vulnerable groups in selected VDCs have enhanced capacities for improved nutrition

- Output 1.2 - Rural women from food insecure Households (HHs) in selected VDCs have increased access to resources, sustainable assets and services critical for their food security
- Outcome 2 – Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods
  - Output 2.1 Rural women in selected VDCs have supportive environment to decrease drudgery at the HH level
  - Output 2.2 - Rural women in selected VDCs have enhanced technical skills on seeking employment and self-employment for improved livelihoods
  - Output 2.3 - Selected service delivery agencies at rural level have increased knowledge on gender responsive service delivery
- Outcome 3 – Rural women’s representation and leadership is strengthened in local communities for gender responsive governance
  - Output 3.1 - Institutional capacity and networks of rural women strengthened to take on leadership and decision-making opportunities
  - Output 3.2 - Increased capacities of local government functionaries for gender responsive programming and budgeting
  - Output 3.3 Enabling environments created to address cultural stereotypes and gender discriminatory customary practices
- Outcome 4 – A gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural Nepalese women
  - Output 4.1 - Evidence base generated for policy advocacy on the economic empowerment of rural women
  - Output 4.2 – Policy advocacy conducted on rural women’s economic empowerment

The initial implementation phase including inception period of RWEE Nepal will support to the finalisation of the 5-year evidence-based RWEE, targeting the economic and social empowerment of rural women in Nepal based on the consolidation of research, evidence-based practices and lessons learned from the field, and ownership from critical, local, national and regional stakeholders.

#### 4. Activities for the Implementation Phase Including Inception Period

**Project Title : Accelerating Progress Toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Nepal: Joint Pilot Contributing to Implementation of the Agricultural Development Strategy**

Preparatory Phase Work Plan (Year: 2015) Supported by Government of Norway												
Activities	Year 1											
	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Establish Programme Steering Committee and consultation on the programme implementation modality/district/VDCs coverage												



Develop framework for the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) strategy of the Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS)														
Develop TOR for situation analysis and baseline survey														
Conduct consultation workshops														
Capacity assessment of potential partners to take the programme activities forward														
Support MoAD to institutionalize and monitor gender responsiveness in ADS implementation GESI Unit														

**Implementation Phase Including Inception Period Work Plan  
(Year: 2015) Supported by SIDA**

Activities	Year 1												
	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Conduct situation analysis and baseline survey (field work will be completed by June)													
Conduct local level consultations													
Select households/beneficiaries													
Identify potential partners in the programme districts													
Finalize programme documents (work plan, operation modality, PMF and reporting template)													
Facilitate endorsement by the Programme Steering Committee													
Provide Supplemental, fortified blended food (Supercereal) to pregnant women and children 6-23 months including advocacy and raising awareness on Infant and Young Children Feeding practices (aligning with the IYCF National Strategy)													
Support rural women HHs with a provision of inputs such as kitchen garden kit (vegetable seeds, fertilizers and watering can), goats, piglets and chickens including specialized training to women, Farmer Field School (FFS) group on food safety and advocacy on right to food													
Support rural women's HHs through food assistance for assets activities aimed at strengthening resilience and improve food security.													
Support appropriate inputs (seed, fertilizer, breed, credit), and technology know-how to women farmer's groups and cooperatives													
Develop capacity (including drudgery reducing know how and tools) of rural women through Farmer Field School (FFS) and Life Schools													



including addressing the issue of violence against women and advocates for a gender responsive policy environment; thereby influencing the individual to the structural levels.

It will further women's active engagement and rights as farmers and contribute to enhancing gender responsiveness across the overarching objective of the ADS and its four major pillars: governance, productivity, competitiveness, and commercialisation.<sup>24</sup> The programmes will also contribute to the flagship programmes identified by the ADS, including the "Food and Nutrition Security", the "Value Chain Development Programme" and the "Innovation and Agro-entrepreneurship Programme".

The JP will build on **successful and innovative models** such as WFP's Livelihoods and Assets Creation and Mother-and-Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programmes, FAO-supported Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programme and its utilization of FFSs contain potential relevant practice for the programme. Similarly, IFAD supported projects have various good practices that can be upscale, such as community-based forest management programme in Leasehold Forestry and Livestock Programme (LFLP), GESI-focused value chain promotion programme targeting poor farmers in the High Value Agriculture Programme (HVAP) in hill and mountain areas, and community investment planning and trainings in Western Uplands Poverty Alleviation Fund (WUPAP). Moreover, UN Women's experience on enhancing leadership and participation of women, contributing to gender responsive policies, institutionalizing GRB, and localizing migration governance can be up scaled through the programme.

## 6. Deliverables

Expected outputs from the implementation phase including inception period work of RWEE Nepal includes:

- Situation analysis and baseline survey report
- Capacity assessment report of partners
- Draft gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) strategy to implement the Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)
- Theme , framework, methodology for GESI responsive agriculture research
- Statistics on rural women's economic empowerment
- Fact sheets on key thematic areas for policy advocacy on rural women's economic empowerment
- Pregnant and lactating women and children from vulnerable groups in selected VDCs have enhanced capacities for improved nutrition
- Rural women from food insecure households (HHs) in selected VDCs have increased access to resources, sustainable assets and services critical for their food security

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<sup>24</sup> *Strengthening Gender Equality and Social Inclusive Provisions in Nepal's Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS)*- Dr. Bimbika Sijapati Basnett, UN Women, Nepal, January 2013

## 7. Budget for Implementation Phase Including Inception Period Activities<sup>25</sup>

PROGRAMME BUDGET (amount requested this time)				
CATEGORY	PUNO1 UN Women	PUNO2 FAO	PUNO3 WFP	TOTAL (in US\$)
1. Staff and other personnel costs	62,800	42,000	41,000	145,800
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials*	7,000	226,013	42,478	275,491
3. Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	5,000	3,000	-	8,000
4. Contractual Services	181,607	-	25,254	206,861
5. Travel	-	4,000	15,460	19,460
6. Transfer and Grants Counterparts**	-	-	268,614	268,614
7. General Operating and Other Direct Costs	25,670	3,000	21,659	50,329
<b>Total Programme Costs</b>	<b>282,077</b>	<b>278,013</b>	<b>414,465</b>	<b>974,555</b>
8. Indirect Support Costs (UN Women + FAO + WFP)	19,745	19,461	29,013	68,219
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>301,822</b>	<b>297,474</b>	<b>443,478</b>	<b>1,042,774</b>

\*This include the cost of training also

\*\* This include cash transfer to the beneficiaries

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<sup>25</sup> UN Women as a lead agency will receive the budget on behalf of all agencies.

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Title: Representative

Date: 08 Jan 2015

Name: Somsak Pipoppinyo

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Name: Bashu Aryal

Title: Country Programme Coordinator

Date:

Name: Pippa Bradford

Title: Representative/Country Director

Date: 8-1-2015

**Piet Vochten**  
Deputy Country Director

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