

JOINT PROGRAMME ON:
Accelerating Progress towards the
Economic Empowerment of Rural Women



Country programme workplan in (Nepal)
February 2017

Total budget requested

Beneficiaries to be assisted with the contribution

US\$ 400,000

Direct Beneficiaries:

3,597 rural women in 25 Village Development Committees (VDCs) in Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts

Indirect beneficiaries:

15,467 family members of 3,597 rural women farmers¹
10,000 community members (including community leaders, policy makers, men and boys)

Duration of project:

April 2017 – December 2017

1. Background Information

In Nepal, the majority of the population (83 per cent) lives in rural areas, and 43 per cent of them are women.² Rural Nepalese 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 activities³ and play a key role in food production, especially through subsistence farming. The decade-long internal conflict, left women to fill the void at home⁴ and in their communities which, combined with the Government's provision for a minimum of 33 per cent representation in national and local-level decision-making structures, provided an opening for women's participation and leadership.

Over the last decade, due to increased outmigration of men and youth, the agricultural sector experienced a severe shortage of labour, and has become increasingly dependent on the labour of women, older people and vulnerable social groups. With increasing male out-migration for work outside of rural areas, women have stepped into more meaningful leadership roles and also have become a caretaker of their family. Women's empowerment is a key to overall economic productivity, given women's large presence (67 per cent) in the agricultural workforce. Nepal is in the process of implementing the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and empowerment of rural women is vital to the success of the SDGs: from the goal to end poverty and hunger, improve food security and nutrition, promote sustainable agriculture and, achieve gender equality and women's empowerment.

The Agriculture 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 vision of the ADS is a self-reliant, sustainable, competitive and inclusive agricultural sector that drives economic growth and contributes to improved livelihood

¹ The average size of a household in Nepal is 5.3 persons per house hold. The number of indirect beneficiaries was calculated by multiplying 3,597 direct beneficiaries by 5.3 and subtracting 3,597.

² Government of Nepal: Central Bureau of Statistics, 2012. National Population and Housing Census 2011. 83 per cent counts those living in administratively designated VDCs as opposed to municipalities (where the urban population is situated).

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

⁴ 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)



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and nutrition security.

In this context, “Accelerating Progress Towards Economic Empowerment of Rural Women” joint programme (RWEЕ JP), initiated in 2015, is a joint pilot initiative of four UN agencies – UN Women, FAO, IFAD and WFP – to support the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD) for the gender responsive implementation of the ADS. The main goal of the RWEЕ JP is to empower rural women through enhancement of their nutrition and food security, livelihoods and capacities for meaningful participation in local, regional and national forums, and to strengthen the capacity of government institutions to address women’s rights and participation as provisioned in national and international normative frameworks, including the recently adopted ADS.

Priority of the implementation in 2016:

The rollout of the field-level interventions of the RWEЕ JP was significantly delayed in 2015 due to the devastating earthquakes and political instability related to the widespread discontent with the new constitution. This delay left the RWEЕ JP in Nepal with the concentrated implementation within a short period of time with only one crop production cycle. In order to catch up with the progress towards the RWEЕ results, the priority of the field works in 2016 was specifically given to **Outcome 1: Improved food and nutrition security**, and **Outcome 2: Increased income for sustainable livelihoods**, which both require a certain period of time upfront to complete the foundation work to produce results and have requirements in terms of the timing of respective intervention such as a seasonal cultivation cycle of crop production, avoidance of the monsoon season and peak of farm works when constructing community assets, etc. At the national level, the RWEЕ JP continued its support to the MoAD to draft a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) strategy of the ADS (**Outcome 4**).

Summary of results made in 2016:

The full-fledged implementation of the RWEЕ JP in Nepal began from the end of February in 2016. The programme is being piloted in the three districts (Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat) of the Central Development Region under the leadership of the MoAD, Government of Nepal. During the one year reporting period, RWEЕ JP covered 25 Village Development Committee (VDCs) of the three districts (10 in Sindhuli 7 in Sindhuli and 8 in Rautahat). In total, 3,597 rural women were covered and 157 rural women groups were formed (62 in Sindhuli, 48 in Sarlahi and 47 in Rautahat) in the three districts. The composition of group members is: Janajati 37.95 per cent; Madhesi 26.88 per cent; Brahmin/Chhetri 21.85 per cent; Dalit 8.39 per cent and Muslim 4.93 per cent.

The RWEЕ JP provided the rural women farmers with technical, material and awareness raising support to improve food and nutrition security and increase opportunities for livelihoods. It also strengthened rural women’s capacity for local level leadership and representation. The key achievements in 2016 include: 3,597⁵ rural women improved their food and nutrition security through kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production; 12 rural women groups (out of 157 formed) registered at District Agriculture Development Office (DADO) and are directly benefitting from the government’s programme on agriculture development; 2,068 rural women earned USD 50,468 from selling vegetables in the market; 2,006 rural women benefitted from drudgery reduction farm implements; 1,837 rural women were provided with short term employment through various cash for assets activities; 602 rural women enhanced their knowledge and understanding on women’s human rights and GESI responsive approaches and are able to raise their voice against the gender based discrimination in their communities and a GESI strategy was drafted for the gender responsive implementation of the ADS. Detail results by indicator are listed under milestones achieved in 2016 in **Annex 1: Logical framework**.

Overall, as per the prioritized implementation, significant contributions were made to the achievement of Outcome

⁵ This is the total number of rural women supported through the RWEЕ JP. However, many rural women participated in more than two support components for example (cereal production, kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production). The total number of rural women benefitted is 5,869. The breakdown of the 5,869 rural women benefitted is as follows: 2,277 (1,092 in Sarlahi and 1,185 in Rautahat) from cereal production, 3,328 (1,181 in Sindhuli, 1,042 in Sarlahi and 1,105 in Rautahat) from kitchen gardening and 264 (111 in Sindhuli, 78 in Sarlahi and 75 in Rautahat) from commercial fresh vegetable production. The cereal production support was provided in only two districts based on climate and geographical conditions.



1 and Outcome 2 on which the most of relevant result indicators were achieved or showed the distinct progress at both outcome- and output-levels. On the other hand, results under **Outcome 3: Enhanced leadership and participation of rural women**, remained at a limited scale at the output-level and the outcome-level progress and contribution were yet to be measured. On Outcome 4, the final draft of the GESI strategy of the ADS is an important milestone to ensure the government to materialize its commitments to the gender responsive and inclusive agricultural development.

Priority of the implementation in 2017 and way forward:

With an analysis of the results achieved and not achieved in 2016, the RWEE JP in Nepal will focus on the followings in the work plan for 2017:

- Prioritized intervention for Outcome 3 by providing combined support to rural women farmers for continued learning, advocacy, networking and leadership development.
- Selected support to internalize and sustain results achieved under Outcome 1 and 2.
- Policy advocacy to facilitate the endorsement of the GESI strategy and ensure the continuous attention and support from the Government to issues of rural women farmers.
- Awareness raising in families and community to address social norms and to create more supportive environment for rural women's economic empowerment.

More descriptions of proposed interventions are provided in the section 3 on "Description of activities by component" and Annex 1: Logical framework.

2. Project area and target groups

The RWEE JP has been implemented in Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts of the Central Development Region. In 2017, the RWEE JP team in Nepal will continue working in the same three districts. There will be 3,597 rural women beneficiaries (Janajati 37.95 per cent; Madhesi 26.88 per cent; Brahmin/Chhetri 21.85 per cent; Dalit 8.39 per cent and Muslim 4.93 per cent) in 25 VDCs. They are common beneficiaries of all four components.

3. Description of activities by component

Outcome 1 and Outcome 2:

A focus of the planned intervention for Outcome 1 and 2 is to sustain results achieved by leveraging learning and technical capacity of rural women farmers developed in 2016. The follow-up technical and material support will be provided on agricultural production in order to help rural women internalize skills, use of technologies and equipment and knowledge acquired in 2016. With the continued support in an additional crop production cycle, rural women farmers can practice their learning results, building on the initial investment and gains made in 2016, and receive supplementary support to complete the internalization. Equipment, facilities and community assets such as irrigations and Community Agriculture Extension Service Centres (CAESCs) invested and constructed in 2016, have also laid a foundation for the sustained increase in agriculture production. The expected sales revenue from the surplus agriculture production will contribute to generation of income and creation of agro-based self-employment with rural women farmers.

To sustain improved and diversified food consumption patterns and dietary practices in rural women's households for nutrition security, community-level advocacy and awareness raising activities with continued learning support has been planned as a part of the advocacy campaign package under Outcome 3. From the support of supplemental nutrition directly provided to rural women farmers' households in 2016, the focus for 2017 will be shifted to awareness raising and encouragement of diversified nutrition intake from vegetables and other food materials produced or purchased as a result of the increased agriculture production.

Outcome 3:



The proposed advocacy campaign is a package of combined interventions on community awareness raising, collective learning and sharing, and networking and leadership strengthening for participation and representation in local governance and decision-making processes. This effort will focus on bringing about positive changes in social norms and practices in families and community, and thus, eventually encouraging and supporting women's leadership and participation by creating a more conducive and inclusive local environment for rural women's economic empowerment, bringing men and boys in the loop as well. It will also leverage the Government of Nepal's ongoing initiative on the right to information (RTI) for gender equality and women's empowerment, especially to increase awareness of available basic social services (health, nutrition, education, agriculture), government's schemes on safety nets and livelihoods opportunities, and how rural women can access them including informing women about locally available programmes and resources such as saving schemes etc.

Planned awareness raising support will be delivered not only through media and other communication channels, but also through direct interaction with rural women farmers and leaders and members of the community including men and boys to be engaged through the HeforShe campaign. It will secure opportunities to share learnings and provide a platform/mechanism for dialogue among rural women farmers and other community influencers and stakeholders building on the RWEE results of 2016. The advocacy and awareness raising interventions will also enhance the collective capacity of rural women farmers to participate in local decision-making processes such as various village- or ward-level committees to address their specific issues. The community-level advocacy campaign and awareness raising efforts will also help rural women farmers link with relevant sectoral associations as well as local-level political forums.

The advocacy campaign will also aim to influence policy makers, senior officials of relevant ministries and key government offices, civil society organizations, development partners and private sector stakeholders to ensure sustained and continued support to rural women's economic empowerment.

Follow-up support will be also provided to formally register women's groups established in 2016 with the support of the RWEE JP in relevant local government offices. The registration will help strengthen an institutional base of women's group and make them eligible to receive various economic and livelihoods development support through government schemes.

Outcome 4:

Technical and coordination support at the policy level will continue to support the MoAD and mobilize other relevant line ministries and government offices to facilitate the endorsement of the GESI strategy of the ADS. Planned activities include provision of expert and coordination support, including translation of the GESI strategy in Nepali, to the MoAD and policy advocacy through the advocacy campaign packaged for Outcome 3. The advocacy campaign will aim to influence the policy agenda of the Government of Nepal for continuous attention and commitments to issues related to rural women's economic empowerment and leadership in agriculture. Evidences and cases of the best practices will be also collected to influence effective policy advocacy.

The table below summarizes planned activities by component and other information:

Activity Description	Place of implementation	Number of beneficiaries (women/men)	Activity cost In USD	Lead Agency
Outcome 1: Improved food and nutrition security and Outcome 2: Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods				
1. Agriculture production support for kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable with fully operational CAESCs blended with income generation and leadership development with rural women farmers	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	3,597 rural women	96,722	FAO (WFP)



Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes				
2. Advocacy campaign combined with leadership development and increased representation of rural women farmers. <u>Note:</u> The proposed advocacy campaign will be implemented at various levels (e.g. national, community, etc.) and expected to contribute to results under Outcome 1 and Outcome 4 as well.	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	3,597 rural women and 10,000 community people	225,000	UN Women (WFP)
3. Registration of rural women's groups in the District Agriculture Development Office	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	100 rural women's groups for registration	30,000	FAO
Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women				
4. Support the MoAD for the endorsement of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion strategy (GESI) of the ADS through technical, coordination and advocacy support.	National wide	Nation wide	5,000	UN Women

4. Implementation approach

The RWEE JP implementation approach will consider both the national and district level programme implementation. At the national level, the RWEE JP team will work in close partnership with the MoAD. The Programme Steering Committee (PSC), chaired by the Secretary of the MoAD will be a national level mechanism responsible for providing the strategic guidance and monitoring for the overall programme implementation. At the districts, the RWEE JP will be implemented in close partnership with the government and non-government agencies such as District Agriculture Development Office (DADO), District Livestock Support Office (DLSO), Women and Children Office (WCO), District Health Office (DHO) and relevant civil society organization/private companies respectively.

In 2017, the implementation of programme activities will be led by FAO and UN Women with active engagement of WFP. WFP will continue to provide technical inputs to programme implementation as well as contribution to the joint coordination, communication and monitoring related activities. WFP will play a key role to continue the support to rural women farmers in enhancing their knowledge about food security and nutrition at household and community level (Outcome 1), particularly focusing on maternal, infant and young child feeding practices as well as diet diversification. Expert support and quality assurance will be provided in designing, planning and monitoring the advocacy campaign package. It will also help outreach of the RWEE JP by mobilizing district-level partners.

While IFAD is and will remain an institutional and technical partner of the JP RWEE, it will not take part in implementation and management of activities.

The established WG of four UN agencies will hold meeting regularly to provide guidance on programme implementation and to support the PSC. The WG is led by UN Women and meets regularly to discuss progress of the RWEE JP and to discuss and address emerging issues and challenges.



In the districts, there will be three district-level technical experts to facilitate and support the implementation of the RWEE JP. The preference will be given to those who already worked in the programme in 2016. These technical experts are agriculture experts and were also trained on GESI responsive concepts and approaches on programme management and monitoring. They are well versed on women's human rights, women's leadership and participation related agenda. The RWEE JP team will utilize their expertise in the field. The three technical experts will report programme implementation and monitoring status to the National Coordinator on a monthly basis. To monitor the advocacy campaign, frequent follow ups in the districts to see its impact on rural women and their families will be conducted on a regular basis. Apart from it, a qualitative perception survey and impact evaluation methods will be adopted to ensure campaign's reach and effectiveness in the three districts.

5. Justification for the intervention

Over the one-year period of the full-fledged implementation, the RWEE JP supported rural women on agriculture production through kitchen gardening, commercial fresh vegetable production, livestock development, construction of community assets and capacity strengthening through the leadership trainings. At the policy level, the RWEE JP also supported the MoAD to formulate a draft GESI strategy of the ADS. Within this short period of time, these initiatives have brought positive changes in the lives of rural women in the programme VDCs in the three districts. The women are now economically empowered and confident in earning their livelihoods and raising their voices on their rights at the local level. These changes have also benefitted their families in meeting day-to-day basic needs. The RWEE JP was also able to mobilize and engage family members in the programme implementation.

However, those skills, technologies and knowledge need to be utilized in order to sustain gains earned and further advance the economic empowerment of rural women. Confidence and leadership roles exercised by rural women at the local level should also be backed up with their enhanced economic capacity, bringing about changes in traditional norms and discriminatory practices. In this context, the RWEE JP in Nepal strongly believes that by the proposed interventions can make tangible contributions towards the real transformative change in the lives of rural women, and rural women in the working VDCs will be further empowered and live their life independently with dignity and respect.

6. Sustainability

In 2017, the RWEE JP will continue its support to the same beneficiaries who were supported in 2016 to ensure the sustainability of the results achieved in 2016. The RWEE JP will also focus on a comprehensive advocacy campaign targeting rural communities as well as the national and local level government agencies and political leaders in order to challenge the existing social norms and practices to create an enabling environment for rural women farmers. For this purpose, a few key priority activities were identified for 2017-2018 on the basis of the need and relevancy in the communities which have been supported by the RWEE JP. The proposed interventions were also designed to either advance rural women's skills and knowledge acquired in 2016 or fill the identified gaps.

The proposed priority activities 1,2 and 3 will directly benefit rural women and their families. The activity 2 will also target to influence community members and government stakeholders both at national and local levels and activity 4 will benefit both the national and local level relevant government agencies. With the follow-up support to enhance their skills and establish a linkage with the market, rural women can fully internalize, exercise and utilize skills and knowledge on agriculture production and secure access to means of income generation.

Fully operational three CAESCs and official hand over of the CAESCs to the Government of Nepal will support rural women to receive the government's services related to agriculture and livestock through the CAESCs in their districts. A space for rural women will be created in the CAESCs to discuss and raise issues about their rights and responsibilities. An income generating opportunity is also possible by renting out the meeting halls to community members for other relevant meetings, which will help build institutional capacity of women's groups as well as sustain the operation of the CAESCs. Institutional sustainability of women's groups can be also strengthened by



formalizing them with the registration at DADO. It will also help rural women access the Government support on agricultural development.

The advocacy campaign will reach out to larger groups and by bringing the voices of rural women beneficiaries for changing traditional norms. It will focus on the challenges of structural barriers and stereotypical intergenerational socialization patterns that hinders the promotion of women's participation and leadership roles in agriculture related economic activities. The campaign will raise awareness on gender-based discrimination and structural barriers hindering women's leadership roles in economic activities in relation to agriculture sector in the local context and; bring about policy changes that are sensitive to the needs of rural women by advocating strongly for gender sensitive agriculture related plans and policies.

On the policy support, the support to the MoAD for the formal endorsement of GESI strategy by the end of 2017 is essential to ensure the enabling policy environment for the gender responsive implementation of the ADS nationwide.

Overall sustainability strategy of the RWEE JP in Nepal:

The Government of Nepal has recognized the RWEE JP in Nepal as a pilot initiative for the implementation of the ADS, a 20-year strategy for the agriculture development, and demonstrated a strong ownership over the programme and its implementation. It is expected that results and lessons learned from the RWEE JP will inform the MoAD for the full-fledged implementation of the ADS once the GESI Strategy which was drafted under the RWEE JP's support is endorsed. A strong linkage and contribution of the RWEE JP to the implementation of the ADS are strongly presented to the Government and therefore the sustainability of the RWEE JP results of the RWEE JP will be further ensured under the overall framework of the ADS.



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7. Budget


PROGRAMME BUDGET					
Requested at this time (USD 400,000)					
CATEGORY	FAO	IFAD	WFP	UN WOMEN	TOTAL
1. Staff and Other Personnel Cost	35,000				35,000
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	35,000			2,110	37,110
3. Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation					
4. Contractual Services	36,722			230,000	266,722
5. Travel	10,000			6,000	16,000
6. Transfers and Grants Counterparts					
7. General Operating and Other Direct Costs	10,000			9,000	19,000
Total Programme Costs	126,722			247,110	373,832
8. Indirect Support Costs (not exceeding 7%)	8,870			17,298	26,168
TOTAL	135,592			264,408	400,000




8. Names and signatures of participating UN organizations


 (On behalf of IFAD)


Name: LAKSHMI MOOLA
 Title: COUNTRY PROGRAMME MANAGER
 Date: MARCH 28, 2017


 (On behalf of UN WOMEN)

Name: Wenny Kusuma
 Title: Representative
 Date: MARCH 21, 2017


 (On behalf of WFP)

Name: Pippa Bradford
 Title: Representative & Country Director
 Date: 21 March, 2017


 (On behalf of FAO)

Name: SOMSAK PIPOPPINYO
 Title: Representative
 Date: 21 March 2017



ANNEX I: Logical framework

	Indicators baselines/ targets	Milestones			Remarks
		2015	2016	2017	
Outcome 1: Rural women have improved food and nutrition security					
Indicator 1.1: % of increase in agriculture production of women farmers	<p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food crops 1,337 kg/HH - Vegetables 234 kg/HH <p>Target by 2017: 145 % increase in food production</p>		-129 % increase in food production (food crops and vegetable production)	Target: 145 % increase in vegetable production	The initial targets were fully achieved in 2016. The RWEE JP in Nepal will continue to support agriculture production in 2017 with the updated target (cumulative from the baseline).
Indicator 1.2: Women's dietary diversity or HHs food consumption patterns (% increase over baseline)	<p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 62.2% of HHs (with kitchen gardening) surveyed with sufficient quantity and frequency of vegetable consumption - 72.4% of HHs surveyed have minimum acceptable diet (MAD) - Food Consumption Score of HHs surveyed is 6.73% - Coping Strategy Index (CSI) <p>Target by 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50% increase by quantity and frequency in vegetable consumption of kitchen garden - At least 85% of the total HHs supported have minimum acceptable diet (MAD) (5,610 HHs in five years, and 2,890 HHs as of December 2016) - 80% of the total HHs supported improve Food Consumption Score (FCS), CSI (5,280 HHs in five years and 2,720 HHs as of December 2016) 		-99 % of 3,597 HHs with kitchen gardening have sufficient quantity and frequency of vegetable consumption -93 % of 3,597 HHs supported have minimum acceptable diet. -60 % of 3,597 HHs have Improved Food Consumption Score. -80 % of 3,597 HHs have improved Coping Strategy.	N/A (Achieved results to be sustained)	The initial targets were achieved except for HH Food Consumption Score ⁶ (85% by 2016). In 2017, no direct activity is planned for this indicator. However, the RWEE JP in Nepal will continue to work with rural women farmers to sustain and further improve food consumption patterns with their HHs through advocacy.

⁶ Food consumption score is designed to reflect the quantity and quality of people's diet. It is the measure of dietary diversity, food frequency, and relative nutritional importance of the food consumed.

<p>Output 1.1: Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security</p>	<p>Indicator: 1.1.1: Number of rural women's groups/cooperatives accessing credit</p> <p>Baseline: 30 women's groups have access to credit within their own groups and from cooperatives outside</p> <p>Target by 2017: In total, 157 rural women's groups have access to credits within their own groups and at least 10 rural women's groups accessing credits from cooperatives</p>	<p>-155 rural women's groups (Sindhuli 62, Sarlahi 48 and Rautahat 45 which include 3,537 rural women members) have access to credits within their own groups</p>	<p>Target: In total, 157 (two additional) rural women's groups have access to credits within their own groups and at least 10 rural women's groups accessing credits from cooperatives</p>	<p><u>The initial targets were achieved in 2016.</u></p> <p>The RWEE JP in Nepal will continue the support in 2017 to make access to credit available within all 157 rural women farmers' groups which were formed with the support of the programme (the target is cumulative from the baseline).</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1.2: Number of rural women accessing integrated agriculture nutrition services</p> <p>1.1.2a nutritious food</p> <p>1.1.2 b tonnage of super cereal distribution</p> <p>1.1.2c number of community assets created</p> <p>1.1.2d amount of cash distributed</p> <p>1.1.2e areas of land irrigated</p> <p>1.1.2 f number of rural women access to the assets</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.1.2 a nutritious food: N/A - 1.1.2b tonnage of super cereal distribution: N/A - 1.1.2c number of community assets created: N/A - 1.1.2d amount of cash distributed: N/A - 1.1.2 e areas of land irrigated: 0.8430 ha 1.1.2f number of rural women access to the assets: 134 HHs (12.2%) <p>Target by 2017:</p> <p>1.1.2c Completion of the set-up of 3 CAESCs</p>	<p>-3,534 rural women HHs accessed and benefitted from integrated agriculture nutrition services</p> <p>-3,534 rural women HHs benefitted from super cereal distribution</p> <p>-74 irrigation schemes, 17 fish ponds; and 3 CAESCs constructed</p> <p>-1,837 rural women HHs received 30 workdays of employment</p> <p>-490 hectares of lands of both kitchen garden and commercial fresh vegetable production irrigated</p> <p>-1,837 rural women HHs have access to community</p>	<p>Target: 3 fully functional CAESC in the three districts</p>	<p><u>The initial targets were fully achieved or almost achieved in 2016 except for rural women's access to community assets including CAESCs (3,500 rural women HHs with access to community assets by 2016).</u></p> <p>In 2017, the RWEE JP will complete the set-up of the 3 CAESCs by equipping facilities, and support rural women farmers for their active use of available community assets through advocacy and mobilization.</p>	

	<p>Indicator 1.1.3: Number of rural women utilizing improved production techniques</p> <p>Baseline: 287 HHs with 574 rural women farmers</p> <p>Target by 2016: 3,400 rural women utilizing improved production techniques</p>	<p>assets</p> <p>3,576 rural women (Sindhuli 1,292, Sarlahi 1,120 and Rautahat 1,164) utilizing improved production techniques in agriculture learnt through orientation and trainings on agricultural production (623 % increased)</p>	<p>N/A (Achieved results to be sustained)</p>	<p><u>The initial target was fully achieved in 2016.</u></p> <p>In 2017, the RWEE JP will follow-up on rural women's agricultural production techniques through agriculture production support.</p>
<p>Output 1.2</p> <p>Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2.1: Number of women-led and managed local food security reserves</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.2: Number of rural women accessing innovative food processing plants</p> <p>Baseline: N/A</p> <p>Target: N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>For Output 1.1:</p> <p>2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct situation analysis and baseline survey - Recruitment of consultant and field staff - 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 - Formation of rural women's groups in the three districts - Support rural women HHs with a provision of inputs such as kitchen garden kit (vegetable seeds, fertilizers and watering can), goats and chickens including specialized training to women 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 - Provide Supplemental, fortified blended food (Super cereal) to pregnant women and children 6-23 months including advocacy and raising awareness on Infant and Young Children Feeding practices 				

- Support appropriate inputs (seed, fertilizer, breed, credit), and technology know-how to women farmer's groups
- 2017**
- Kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production support using 'improved technical package of production' to 3,597 rural women farmers blended with development of leadership and institutional capacity of rural women's groups.
 - Community-based awareness raising on diversified and improved dietary pattern for nutrition security with rural women and their HHs.
 - Finalization of the operational guideline for the full operations of the CAESC
 - Fully furnished CAESCs in the three districts

Outcome 2: Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods			
	Indicator 2.1: Variation of women/women groups/cooperatives income generated from their sales markets Baseline: 49 rural women farmers Target by 2016: 1,320 rural women generated income from their sales market	2,068 rural women (Sindhuli 861, Sarlahi 756 and Rautahat 451) generated income from their sales market 1,957 from kitchen garden, 111 from commercial fresh vegetable production, sold 194 metric ton and generated income equivalent to USD 50,468 N/A	N/A (Achieved results to be sustained) The initial target was fully achieved in 2016. In 2017, no direct activity is planned to aim at higher targets. However, the generation of the certain level of income is expected as a result of the continued support on agricultural production (Outcome 1).
	Indicator 2.2: Proportion of rural women with empowerment in the income domain of the "women's empowerment agriculture index" WEA1 (control over use of income) Baseline: N/A Planned Target: N/A	N/A	The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.
Output 2.1 Rural women have enhanced entrepreneurship skills and value chains to access markets for their products	Indicator 2.1.1: Number of rural women's cooperatives procuring agricultural products and home grown school meals through WFP programmes Baseline: N/A Planned Target: N/A	N/A	The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.
	Indicator 2.1.2: Number of rural women accessing mechanization schemes Baseline: 21 rural women have access to mechanization	2,006 rural women (Sindhuli 670, Sarlahi 696 and Rautahat 640) accessing women's	The target was achieved in 2016. In 2017, no activity is planned to aim at higher targets for this

<p>Output 2.2 Rural women have increased access to decent wage employment opportunities</p>	<p>schemes Target by 2016: 1,320 rural women accessing mechanization schemes</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.1: Number of women employed who entered the formal labour market or initiated self-employment activities Baseline: 922 rural women Target by 2017: 3,576 rural women initiated or sustained self-employment activities through selling of vegetables with better market access</p>	<p>friendly drudgery reduction mechanization schemes (955% increased)</p> <p>3,645 rural women initiated self-employment activities through selling of vegetables and poultry production (this also include 24 trained VAHWs who are providing services at the local level) (395.33% increased)</p>	<p>Target: 3,576 rural women⁷ initiated self-employment activities through selling of vegetables with better market access (387.85% increase)</p>	<p>indicator. However, the RWEE JP will continue its support to rural women to access and utilize mechanization schemes with the continued support on agriculture production (Outcome 1). The initial target was fully achieved in 2016. The WREE JP in Nepal will continue the support to engage rural women farmers in agro-based self-employment activities with selected support packages combined with agriculture production (Outcome 1). Therefore, the total target number of beneficiaries will be decreased from 2016.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>For Output 2.1: 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop capacity (including drudgery reducing know how and tools) of rural women through trainings - Provide drudgery reduction mechanization schemes to rural women farmers - Advocate for reduction of household drudgery <p>2017 No stand-alone activity has been planned for Outcome 2. Indirect contribution to the results under Outcome 2 will be made through the implementation of activities planned under Outcome 1.</p> <p>For Output 2.2: 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production support using 'improved technical package of production' to rural women farmers 				

⁷ In 2017, the RWEE JP will focus on supporting rural women farmers who received support to vegetable farming and poultry production only, and, therefore, the total number of women benefitted under this output is slightly less than 2016.

2017

Kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production support using 'improved technical package of production' with better market linkages for self-employment opportunities for rural women in the three districts

Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes				
	Indicator:	No targets	Target:	In 2016, there was no contribution/progress measured against the Outcome-level indicators as field-level interventions in 2016 were mainly focused on food and nutrition security and sustainable livelihoods.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of rural women elected as representatives at the local level committees - % of rural women who are members of land committees - % of producers' organizations (POs) led by women <p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19% of rural women selected as representatives of local level committees - 0.9% of rural women who are members of land committees - 2.9% of POs led by women <p>Target by 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5% increase (against the baseline) of rural women's representation in local committees. - 10% increase (against the baseline) in the participation of rural women in land committees - 5% increase (against the baseline) in rural women's leadership in POs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 % increase (against the baseline) of rural women's representation in local committees. - 10 % increase (against the baseline) in the participation in rural women's leadership in POs 	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal will prioritize its implementation in 2017 for contribution to, especially, the Outcome-level results under Outcome 3.</p>
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1: Proportion of girls enrolled in secondary education Baseline: N/A Target: N/A	N/A	N/A	The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> including young women have enhanced confidence and leadership skills to participate in local governance 	Indicator 3.1.2: Number of women candidates in rural council elections Baseline: N/A Target: N/A	N/A	N/A	The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.
	Indicator 3.1.3: Number of rural women farmers	No progress reported	Target:	This Nepal-specific indicator was

<p>Output 3.2 Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into POs, cooperatives and unions</p>	<p>participated in local planning meetings and other decision-making processes in various local level committees</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target for 2017: 10% of 3,597 rural women supported</p>	<p>in 2016.</p>	<p>10% of 3,597 rural women supported</p>	<p>newly added to measure the level of rural women's participation in local governance.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.1: Number of rural women's groups which join formally registered cooperatives</p> <p>Baseline: 14 women's groups joined cooperatives in the three districts</p> <p>Target by 2016: 3 more rural women's groups which joined or formally registered as cooperatives</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.1: Number of rural women's groups which join formally registered cooperatives</p> <p>Baseline: 14 women's groups joined cooperatives in the three districts</p> <p>Target by 2016: 3 more rural women's groups which joined or formally registered as cooperatives</p>	<p>209 rural women of 17 rural women's groups (Sindhuli 5, Rautahat 5 and Sarlahi 7) joined cooperatives (121 % increased)</p>	<p>N/A (Achieved results to be sustained)</p>	<p><u>The initial target was fully achieved in 2016.</u></p> <p>In 2017, no direct activity is planned to aim at higher targets for this indicator. However, through advocacy and opportunity for shared learnings, the RWEE JP in Nepal will encourage registration of other rural women groups.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.2: Number of cooperatives that adopt a gender policy/strategy and/or a women's quota for their board</p> <p>Baseline: 14 cooperatives have adopted gender policy in the three districts</p> <p>Target: 5 more women groups/cooperatives adopted a gender policy/strategy and/or a women's quota for their board</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.2: Number of cooperatives that adopt a gender policy/strategy and/or a women's quota for their board</p> <p>Baseline: 14 cooperatives have adopted gender policy in the three districts</p> <p>Target: 5 more women groups/cooperatives adopted a gender policy/strategy and/or a women's quota for their board</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.3: Registration of rural women's group in relevant government offices</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target by 2017: Registration of at least 100 in total rural women's groups in the DADO</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.3: Registration of rural women's group in relevant government offices</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target by 2017: Registration of at least 100 in total rural women's groups in the DADO</p>	<p>12 rural women's groups registered in the DADO in 2016</p>	<p>Target: In total 100 rural women's groups registered in the DADO in the three districts</p>	<p>This Nepal-specific indicator was recently added to measure formalization processes of women's groups.</p>

<p>Output 3.3 Rural women, including young women, have increased capacity to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels</p>	<p>Indicator 3.3.1: % of rural women's coalitions adopt common positions to influence national and regional policy forums on the new SDGs and Rio+20 Baseline: N/A Target: N/A</p> <p>Indicator 3.3.2: Number of POs, cooperatives and unions that adopt a gender policy/strategy and/or a women's quota for their board Baseline: N/A Planned Target: N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.</p> <p>The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.</p>
<p>Output 3.4 Rural women, including young women have enhanced awareness on their rights in a more supportive community/local environment.</p>	<p>Indicator 3.4.1: % of rural women are aware of women's human rights and GESI responsive approaches Baseline: 6 rural women (0.54% of the surveyed) Target by 2017: 2,877 (80% of 3,597 rural women supported through the RWEE JP)</p>	<p>602 rural women (17% of the rural women supported) enhanced their knowledge and understanding on women's human rights and GESI responsive approaches</p>	<p>Target: 2,877 (80% of 3,597 rural women supported through the RWEE JP) enhanced their awareness</p>	<p>The initial target (15%) was achieved in 2016. However, as the scale of awareness raising in 2016 was small, the RWEE JP will prioritize its efforts in further awareness raising and advocacy for women's rights, leadership and economic empowerment. These efforts will create an enabling environment in the community.</p> <p>This Nepal-specific indicator was added as an alternative indicator to measure the level of awareness.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>For Output 3.2:</p> <p>2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No separate activities were conducted under indicator 3.2.1 under Output 3.2, the RWEE JP's support to rural women on kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production supported in achieving the indicator 3.2.1 result <p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable production support using 'improved technical package of production' to 3,597 rural women farmers blended with the leadership strengthening of rural women on GESI concepts and approaches in the three districts 				

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record keeping of the rural women's participation in the different committees (land, Producers Organizations) at the local level - Registration of the rural women's groups in the DADO for the sustainability of the RWEE JP 		<p>For Output 3.4: 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 5-day ToT to DTOs on GESI responsive programme management and monitoring in the districts - Capacity development trainings to rural women on women's human rights, women's leadership and GESI responsive approaches 	<p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity development training and learning activities to 2,877 rural women on women's human rights, women's leadership and GESI responsive approaches by DTOs in the three districts (activities will be conducted as a part of the advocacy campaign). 		<p>Indicator: % of government budgets and donor funding (on budget) allocated to programme benefitting rural women</p> <p>Baseline: 5%</p> <p>Target by 2019: 20% of government budgets and donor funding (on budget) allocated to programmes benefitting rural women</p>	<p>13.4% (82 billion) out of the total government budgets 612 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/17 are allocated to programme benefitting rural women's economic development. Out of the 82 billion (13.4%) allocated budgets, 76.8% is government's fund and 23.3% external fund (12.81% grant and 10.4% loan)⁸</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A (Results to be sustained)</p>	<p>In 2017, no direct activity is planned for this indicator and no annual target was set. However, the RWEE JP in Nepal will contribute to the further improvement through a large-scale advocacy campaign which includes mobilization and engagement of policy makers and government officials and advocacy for compliance of the gender responsive budget principles by the Ministry of Finance.</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal doesn't have specific activity for this indicator</p>
Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women									
<p>Output 4.1 Policy makers and parliamentarians</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.1: Extent to which national land, food, nutrition, agricultural and rural development policies and laws make provisions for gender equality and</p>	<p>- A draft GESI strategy of the ADS was developed</p> <p>- Endorsement of the ADS</p>	<p>Target: The GESI Strategy of the ADS endorsed by</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal doesn't have specific activity for this indicator</p>			

<p>have enhanced capacities to effectively mainstream gender into land, food, agriculture, nutrition and rural employment policies, laws and budgets</p>	<p>women's empowerment</p> <p>Baseline: 61 land, food, nutrition, agricultural and rural development policies and laws make provisions for gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Target by 2017: The GESI Strategy of the ADS endorsed by the MoAD by 2017</p>	<p>in 2015</p>	<p>the MoAD by 2017</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.1.2: Number of knowledge products, evidence base and policy briefs on rural women's economic empowerment produced</p> <p>Baseline: No</p> <p>Target by 2017: Collection of at least 8 success cases of rural women farmers for advocacy and awareness raising on norm change also linking it with the engagement of men and boys</p>	<p>- 3 desk reviews on "women's role in decision-making in farm operation", "drudgery reduction of women in the agriculture sector" and "work load distribution between men and women in the agriculture sector" completed</p> <p>-A fact sheet on "women's land ownership" is being finalized</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>- 3 desk reviews on "women's role in decision-making in farm operation", "drudgery reduction of women in the agriculture sector" and "work load distribution between men and women in the agriculture sector" completed</p> <p>-A fact sheet on "women's land ownership" is being finalized</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Baseline: No/0</p> <p>Target: Collection of at least 8 success cases of rural women farmers for advocacy and awareness raising also linking it with engagement of men and boys</p>	<p>The RWEE JP in Nepal does not have specific activities for this indicator.</p>
<p>Output 4.2 Greater availability of tools and data to track progress in the economic empowerment of rural women</p>	<p>Indicator 4.2.1: Number of countries where the "women's empowerment agriculture index" (WEAI) is piloted or mainstreamed in national statistics</p> <p>Baseline: N/A</p> <p>Planned Target: N/A</p>	<p>3 national level consultations were organized to discuss the draft GESI strategy of the ADS</p>	<p>Target: 2 more national-level dialogues held on agriculture, rural development and land</p>	
<p>Output 4.3 An enabling environment is promoted to reflect rural women's</p>	<p>Indicator 4.3.1: Number of national/regional/global dialogues mechanisms on agriculture, rural development and land that involve rural women's groups</p> <p>Baseline: 26 (including women's networks and socio-</p>			

<p>priorities in regional policy processes.</p>	<p>political associations) Target by 2017: 2 more national-level dialogues held on agriculture, rural development and land that involve rural women's groups</p>		<p>that involve rural women's groups</p>	
<p>Activities</p> <p>For Output 4.1:</p> <p>2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a draft GESI strategy of the ADS - Support the National Agriculture Research Council (NARC) to conduct GESI responsive agricultural research <p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the MoAD for endorsement of the GESI strategy of the ADS - Collect success cases of the rural women farmers linking it with men and boys in the three districts - Conduct advocacy and awareness raising campaign by highlighting successful cases <p>For Output 4.3:</p> <p>2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize 3 national-level consultations on the development of the GESI strategy for the ADS <p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize 2 additional national-level dialogues on agriculture, rural development and land that involve rural women's groups 				

ANNEX II: Workplan

JP RWEE Country Workplan and Budget

Country name: Nepal Lead Agency: UN Women

This Costed Country Action Plan (CCAP) for (add country) details activities that the JP RWEE Country Team can implement within the timeframe of the Joint Programme.

In the table below, each priority activity is associated with the cost and the period planned for implementation taking into account the seasonality of agriculture, availability of partners and foreseen socio economic events. For each activity a Lead Agency has been identified in the Country Programme document based on the comparative advantage and specialization.

Activity Description	Place of Implementation	Expected Impact or outcome	Number of beneficiaries (women/men)	Implementing Partners	Starting Date	Ending Date	Activity Cost (In USD)	Lead Agency
Activities proposed for (2017)								
Agriculture production support for kitchen gardening and commercial fresh vegetable with fully operational CAESCs blended with income generation and leadership development with rural women farmers	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	Improved food and nutrition security of the beneficiaries with strengthened local level leadership	3,597 rural women	MoAD, DADO and WCO	April 2017	December 2017	96,722	FAO
Registration of rural women's groups in the District Agriculture Development Office	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	Rural women directly benefitted from Government's agriculture development programmes and operating CAESCs	100 rural women's groups for registration and 3,597 for CAESCs	MoAD, DADO	April 2017	December 2017	30,000	FAO
Support the MoAD for the endorsement of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion strategy (GESI) of the ADS through technical, coordination	National level	The GESI strategy endorsed by	All rural women in the country	MoAD	April 2017	December 2017	5,000	UN Women

and advocacy support. Advocacy campaign combined with leadership development and increased representation of rural women farmers.	Sindhuli, Sarlahi and Rautahat districts	the MoAD Voices of rural women farmers brought into the public domain for wider level awareness on rural women's issues	3,597 rural women and 10,000 community people	MoAD, DADO, WCO, DHO, DLSO	April 2017	December 2017	225,000	UN Women
Joint programming, communication, monitoring and reporting							17,110	
Total programme costs for (add dates)							373,832	
Indirect support costs (cannot exceed 7%)							26,168	
Total							400,000	