

Mapping NEPAL CENSUS INDICATORS 2001 & TRENDS



CBS/HMGN



Referring development organization

about the organisations

ICIMOD

The **International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development** (ICIMOD) is an independent 'Mountain Learning and Knowledge Centre' serving the eight countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas – Afghanistan 🇦🇫, Bangladesh 🇬🇧, Bhutan 🇧🇹, China 🇨🇳, India 🇮🇳, Myanmar 🇲🇲, Nepal 🇳🇵, and Pakistan 🇵🇰 – and the global mountain community. Founded in 1983, ICIMOD is based in Kathmandu, Nepal, and brings together a partnership of regional member countries, partner institutions, and donors with a commitment for development action to secure the future of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. The primary objective of the Centre is to promote the development of economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystems and to improve the living standards of mountain populations. The Mountain Environment and Natural Resources Information Systems (MENRIS), a part of the Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) Programme, serves as a hub for the HKH region, promoting geo-information technology (Geo-IT) at ICIMOD and among its partner institutions and strengthening their capacity to apply it to mountain specific problems for the purpose of improving planning and decision-making in sustainable mountain development.

CBS

The **Central Bureau of Statistics** (CBS) is a government organisation located within the National Planning Commission Secretariat of His Majesty's Government of Nepal. The CBS is charged with preparing different types of socioeconomic data as needed by the government for the formulation of policies and plans, and development work. The Bureau has been conducting population, agriculture, and manufacturing establishment censuses, at intervals of 10 and 5 years respectively, since 1911 (population) and the early sixties (agriculture and manufacturing). It also conducts various statistical surveys like the Nepal Living Standard Survey (NLSS), Nepal Labour Force Survey (LFS), and Nepal Multiple Indicators Surveillance (NMIS).

SNV

The Netherlands Development Organisation, **SNV-Nepal**'s mission is to build the capacity of intermediate level organizations and local capacity builders to alleviate poverty and improve governance. SNV does not implement development projects; instead, it works through local organizations and government bodies. In Nepal, SNV provides advice and management expertise to strengthen the capacity of Nepali partner organizations, working with its partner organizations to identify where support is most needed, and also facilitates access to funding for these organizations. By focusing on strengthening the capacity of organizations at the intermediate level in society, SNV aims to build a better link between the problems of poverty in communities and the government policies at the national level. It makes commitments to long term cooperation and coordinates its efforts with other development organizations. As such, SNV ensures that problems are approached in an integrated way and at different levels concurrently.

Mapping Nepal Census Indicators 2001 and Trends

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Editorial Team

Isabella Bassignana Khadka (Consultant Editor)
A. Beatrice Murray (Editor)
Dharma R. Maharjan (Technical Support & Layout)

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The Study Team

ICIMOD

Basanta Shrestha, Division Head, MENRIS
Birendra Bajracharya, GIS Analyst
Sushil Pradhan, GIS Analyst
Gauri Shanker Dangol, Graphics / Multimedia Designer

CBS

Rabi Prasad Kayastha, Deputy Director
Mahesh Chand Pradhan, Statistical Officer
Shailendra Ghimire, Statistical Officer

Foreword

Access to information is the key to sustainable decision-making; social and economic information, in particular, play a vital role in development planning. The socioeconomic conditions of a country, and their change over time, can be evaluated from regular assessments based on systematic collection and generation of data and information. This provides the basis for evaluating the current situation, monitoring progress, and directing the future course of actions.

In Nepal, social and economic information is captured through the ten-yearly national population census. The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), under the National Planning Commission Secretariat of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, is the government organisation authorised to collect and process socioeconomic data according to the needs of the country for formulating policies and carrying out planning and development work. CBS conducted the tenth National Population Census of Nepal in June 2001. In this census, special attention was paid to gender issues, mass media approaches, and increasing census awareness, with more concentration on women, children, and the disabled.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) serves as a mountain learning and knowledge centre with a focus on making mountain information and knowledge accessible and usable to partners, policy makers, and development practitioners. As a part of this, ICIMOD has been focusing on the use of information systems in general, and geographic information systems (GIS) in particular, to improve the overall information infrastructure as well as presentation of this information at local, national, and regional levels. Technologies such as GIS enable information to be captured, updated, integrated, mapped, and exchanged easily and cost effectively. Overall, the whole new generation of scientific tools provides ways of displaying data and information that enable them to be understood more easily and thus become truly policy relevant.

Recently ICIMOD has started to look at improved ways of handling and displaying socioeconomic data in order to facilitate the integration of such information in planning and decision-making processes. The Centre has started to forge partnerships with census bureaus in the region to develop and display socioeconomic indicators for use at the district/provincial level using GIS tools. The present study is the outcome of a fruitful collaboration between ICIMOD and CBS Nepal. The main objective was to develop an atlas of socioeconomic indicators, mapped district-wise, using past and current census data to aid policy makers, development practitioners, and the public at large. Further, trend analyses based on the census data from four consecutive censuses provide a way of visualising and grasping the changes over a forty-year period. A multimedia CD-ROM being prepared as a companion to this volume will provide flexibility and versatility for users to compute their own indicators, prepare different graphical representations, and visualise data using simple GIS functionalities. Furthermore, using the CD-ROM it will be possible to superimpose indicator maps with different GIS layers (physical parameters) allowing the user to visualise complex spatial relationships.

We are grateful to SNV-Nepal for providing a part of the means necessary to carry out this work and for their support for this important endeavour, and we very much appreciate the excellent efforts of the joint study team in bringing this volume to fruition. We hope that this publication will prove useful to the many people working at district and national level in policy making, planning, and development who need to use socioeconomic indicators in their work, as well as to development practitioners in general, researchers and students, and the public large, and we ask readers to provide us with the comments and feedback that will enable us to further improve later editions of this volume.

Binayak Bhadra
Director of Programmes
ICIMOD

Tunga Shiromani Bastola
Director General
CBS, HMG/Nepal

Jan de Witte
Country Director
SNV-Nepal

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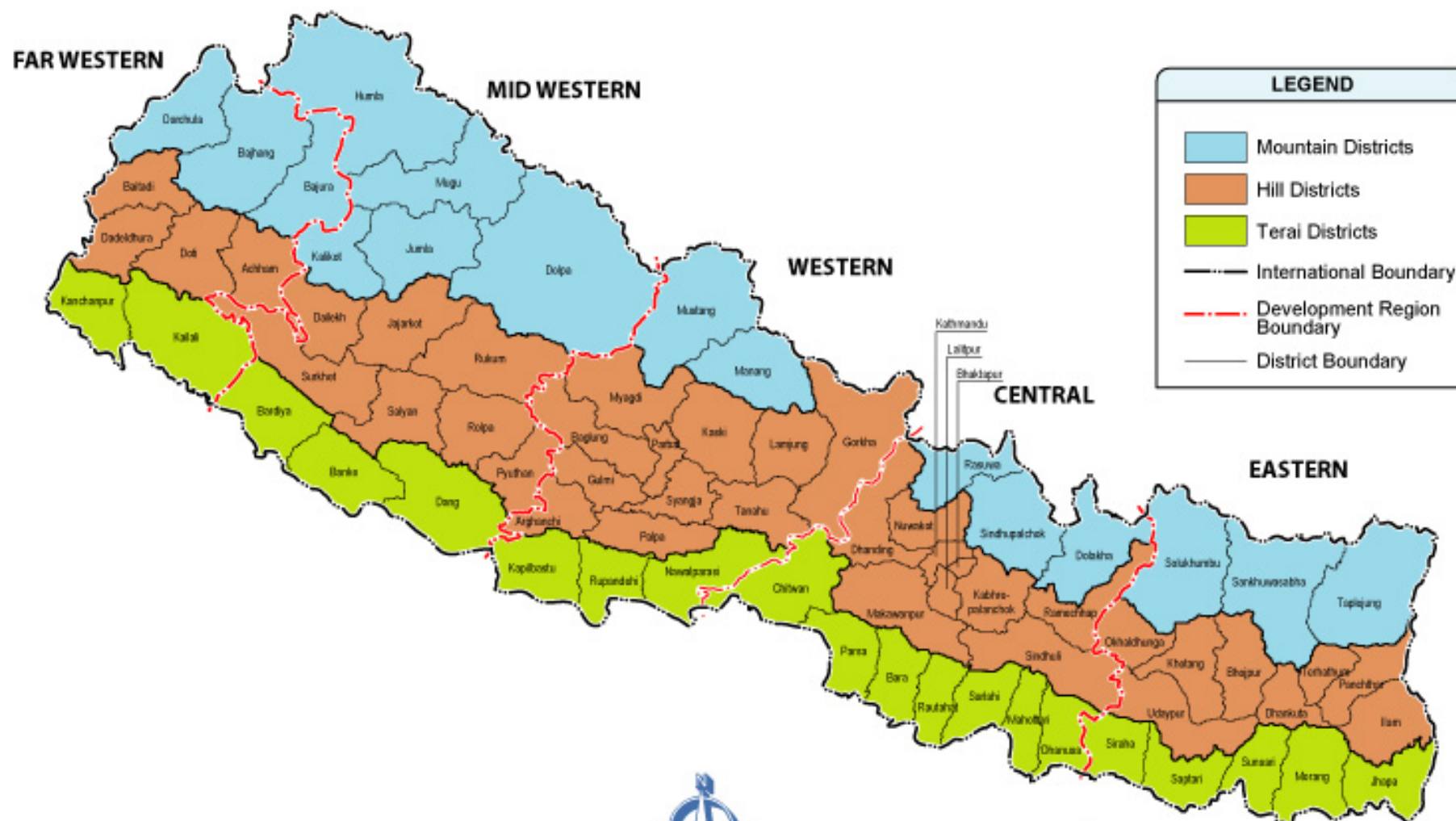
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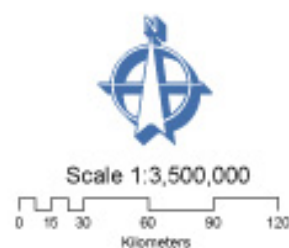
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Administrative Map of Nepal



Base Map: Topographical Zonal Map (1:250,000),
Department of Survey, 1968



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