

RESILIENT MOUNTAIN SOLUTIONS IN THE HINDU KUSH HIMALAYA

The Resilient Mountain Solutions (RMS) approach combines economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development with climate change adaptation, resilience, and preparedness for future risks towards an integrated approach to resilient mountain development. It aims to equip communities with the tools and knowledge necessary to improve their resilience to change while fostering sustainable development.

The approach also contributes knowledge to the following sustainable development goals by providing relevant information for the implementation of goals, particularly in the mountain context.

SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS



PARTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS



The approach, developed at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), draws elements from the climate smart agriculture and climate smart villages approaches of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR). It is implemented jointly with local partners and district authorities to holistically build the resilience of mountain communities. A key aspect in RMS is the promotion of sustainable and adaptive farming practices using simple and affordable tools and technologies, and the development of value chains for niche mountain products and climate-resilient crops to promote sustainable development by increasing the incomes of rural populations, with a particular focus on women farmers.

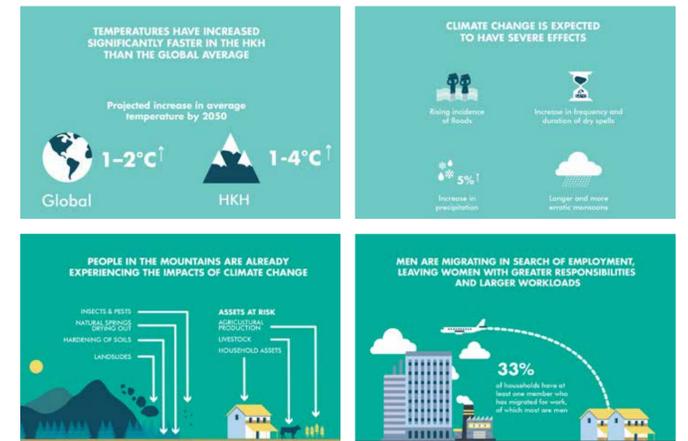
In Nepal, the approach is implemented jointly with the Center for Environment and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development (CEAPRED) as Resilient Mountain Villages (RMV) across eight villages in Kavre district.



KEY INTERVENTIONS UNDER RMS

INTERVENTION AREA	KEY INTERVENTIONS
CLIMATE RESILIENCE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved cropping practices Testing of suitability of crop varieties for different rainfall patterns and climatic conditions Promotion of home-made organic pesticide and fertilizer solution (<i>Jholmal</i>) Practices to reduce the amount of energy required for harvesting and tending land Harvesting of rain- and waste-water, and effective irrigation Management and restoration of local water springs Promotion of sustainable energy sources
SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value chain approach to add value to farm products and develop market linkages Improve women's access to knowledge, tools, and resources to sustainably manage households and farms Work for women's inclusion in community and local level decision making Link forest users' groups with farmers' groups to integrate agriculture and forestry Work closely with village and district level governments to institutionalize practices, ensure ownership, and improve service distribution Build capacity of farmers' and women's groups at the local level for collective action
FUTURE RESILIENCE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone-based crop and weather advisories to share information on weather and market prices Equip schools with meteorological stations Promote use of crop and livestock insurance Promote local insurance practices (financial and non-financial) contextualized to the mountains Capacity building for financial literacy skills—particularly for women Community-Based Flood Early Warning Systems to detect and respond to flood emergencies Capacity building for disaster preparedness at the household, local, and institutional levels

WHY RESILIENT MOUNTAIN SOLUTIONS IN THE HINDU KUSH HIMALAYA



KEY MILESTONES

- Ministry of Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, has proposed to scale up the RMV approach in 14 districts.
- RMV concept received DFID's Adaptation at Scale Award.
- Jholmal* – an organic homemade bio fertilizer and bio pesticide has been branded and made available in agrovet stores.

THE WAY FORWARD

Discussions are underway to scale up the RMS concept across other ICIMOD regional member countries.