DISTRICTS OF NEPAL

INDICATORS OF DEVELOPMENT

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Cover Page:

Top left Subsistence agriculture and limited livestock holdings keep people going
Bottom Left Planting rice - she is doing the work, so give her a voice
Top right Building a bamboo bridge - an indigenous method of providing infrastructure
Bottom Right Paddy fields amidst forest lands

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Districts of Nepal - Indicators of Development

Prepared by
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
In collaboration with SNV/Nepal

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FOREWORD

ICIMOD Project Team

Dr. Mahesh Banskota, Economist, Deputy Director General
Dr. Pitamber Sharma, Regional Planner
Dr. S. Zahir Sadeque, Social Scientist, Study Coordinator
Mr. Birendra Bajracharya, GIS Analyst

Consultants

Dr. Devendra Chhetry, Department of Statistics, Tribhuvan University, Database Consultant
Mr. Narendra Khanal, Lecturer, Dept. of Geography, Tribhuvan University, Consultant Socioeconomist

FOREWORD

In Nepal, as in most other countries of the world, many considerations contribute to the decisions that are made by HMG and donors in allocating funds for development to particular districts or regions. Over the years, several of these considerations may increase or decrease in importance.

However, when SNV Nepal started to review and re-assess the choice of priority districts for future collaboration, it was felt that present information on key issues of relevance to SNV's strategic objectives were not easily available. ICIMOD was asked to develop a methodology for ranking districts on the basis of an overall (composite) development index that would incorporate key indicators for sustainable development, to be identified jointly.

As a result, the present document provides a unique assessment of the development status of each of Nepal's 75 districts in relation to 39 indicators of development.

Although the study was prepared specifically for SNV Nepal's needs, the outcome is likely to be of great interest to HMG of Nepal and other development institutions and organisations involved in decentralised development planning and support. We are therefore happy to share the results of the present study with others in the present format. The original study, which has additional chapters on cluster analysis and short descriptions on Dolpa, Dailekh, Bajura, Doti, Bardiya, Bajhang, Mugu, Humla, Jumla, Kalikot, Jajarkot, Surkhet, Baidadi, Dadeldhura, Darchula, Kailali, Banke, Kanchanpur, and Achham districts, is available from SNV Nepal.

It is hoped that the present document will be of assistance to development policy- and decision-makers and aid agencies working in Nepal to channel their resources in such a way as to overcome the regional inequities that have become so apparent from this work.

We are grateful to the study team for their meticulous work and timely presentation of the results.

Tom Derksen
Director
SNV Nepal

Egbert Pelinck
Director General
ICIMOD

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