ICIMOD

Resilient Mountain Solutions annual partners' workshop

28–31 January 2020
Kathmandu, Nepal

Acknowledgements

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Executive summary

Resilient Mountain Solutions (RMS) is an initiative under the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development's (ICIMOD's) RP1 – Adaptation and Resilience Building that offers to explore new and innovative as well as outscale/up-scale tested and proven context-specific solutions for resilience building. These solutions were developed through research pilots and field implementation experiences as part of ICIMOD's Adaptation to Change Programme during MTAP III (2013–2017), particularly, from the learnings of the Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Programme (HICAP), Rural Livelihoods and Climate Change Adaptation in the Himalayas (Himalica), and AdaptHimal. The RMS initiative largely proposes to focus on: i) outscaling/up-scaling the existing resilient solutions that are simple, affordable, replicable, and sustainable; and ii) develop new knowledge and solutions through collaborative research, pilots, and field demonstrations. It also intends to develop partnerships with research institutions who are interested in applying scientific knowledge in developing and assessing the effectiveness of resilience-building solutions. The RMS approach combines the social, economic, and environmental facets of sustainable development principles in order to adapt, build resilience, and prepare for the future risks of climate change impacts.

RMS hosts a partners' workshop annually, and on 28–31 January 2020, it held its second partners' workshop at the ICIMOD headquarters in Kathmandu, Nepal. Around 39 key professionals from various partner organizations and related institutions from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Norway, and Pakistan were in attendance. The workshop was opened by David Molden, Director General of ICIMOD. The four-day exercise included a series of plenary sessions, expert panel discussions, discussion sessions conducted in breakout groups, and field visits. The detailed agenda of the workshop can be found here.

The main objectives of the workshop were the following: to share the key results of the deliberations that took place in 2019 with all the partners; develop the scaling, monitoring, and communication approach; design an action plan for 2020 by integrating gender and social inclusion into the agenda; and to validate the resilience markers, including monitoring, evaluation, and learning.

During the opening session, Maheshwor Dhakal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, stated: "The mountain solutions of ICIMOD are ideal for Nepal and other HKH countries, and the most important component is nature-based solutions." Similarly, Solveig Andresen, from the Royal Norwegian Embassy, said: "It is extremely important that the local people and government bodies take ownership of the interventions, and it is key that we test solutions on the ground."

The workshop presented a unique opportunity for local, national, and regional partners to hear from each other, draw lessons from each other's experiences and collaboratively map out the future course of action. Each partner organization presented the collaborative work that it has been doing on RMS so far. The partners presented some thought-provoking perspectives on real scenarios on the ground, the issues and challenges existing in their unique contexts, and on the major achievements and bottlenecks. The later sessions dug deep into these issues and it was highlighted that since there are a lot of commonalities on the nature of work that the partners have been doing despite geographical diversity, a good narrative for each solution could be jointly developed. Additionally, it was noted that country-specific strategies on adaptation and resilience building should be aligned to national priorities. It was brought to everyone's attention that despite having good policies in the region, things were not playing out as desired because of weak implementation on the ground.

Some of the key observations from the partners during the field visit to Kavre were that there is a need to optimize jholmal on a country site-specific basis and that climate-resilient food options and crops should be adopted to increase the variety of crops. The partners were keen on replicating a similar climate-smart village back home and insisted that establishing such learning hubs and demonstration sites can make a huge impact. They stated that local solutions or traditional knowledge do work as local knowledge is adaptable and at times, simple solutions/ interventions can make a big difference. Everyone agreed that efforts should be made towards improved linkages across borders using academia, researchers, entrepreneurs, and the media. Upon witnessing the wave of change that the women farmers have brought in Kavre, the partners reconfirmed that engagement of women can definitely lead to economic upliftment and improved livelihoods. It was also stated that attempts should be made towards replicating best solutions across the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region.

Eklabya Sharma, Deputy Director General, ICIMOD underlined that RMS has a long-term vision. He then spoke about the importance of concentrating on the following aspects: adopting an integrated approach; finding integrated community solutions; making relevant policy; institutional intervention; updating technology; encouraging entrepreneurs; and providing financial support. He also said that as a knowledge generation institute, ICIMOD should give priority to solid evidence before implementing any solutions.

Nand Kishor Agrawal, Programme Coordinator, RMS, ICIMOD, provided the closing remarks with key action points and the way forward. .

The key action points from the partners' workshop were:

- Strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem through a strong mentorship programme in Bhutan

- Building resilience in enterprise at each node of the vegetable/dairy/fruit or bamboo value chain through product diversification, linkages with ICT, and network building in Nepal and Myanmar

- Engagement with global organizations working on promoting green entrepreneurship

- Innovative ICT-based and women-friendly solutions to be further integrated

- The narrative of the learning hubs to be backed up by robust evidence generated through systematic monitoring, evaluation, learning, cross-learning, and by communicating the results to policymakers and practitioners

- Strengthening learning hubs with strong community and government connect across Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and Myanmar, or through scaling

- Solutions to be made more resilient by analysing climate change scenarios and learning from collaborative research on resilience markers

The workshop presented a unique opportunity for local, national, and regional partners to hear from each other, draw lessons from each other's experiences and collaboratively map out the future course of action.

Background

Introduction

The second annual partners' workshop of the RMS programme was held on 28–31 January 2020. The workshop was conducted at the ICIMOD headquarters in Kathmandu, Nepal. This document is the summary of the events of the workshop which saw presentations, plenary, group work sessions, and field visits. The agenda can be accessed here.

Participants

A total of 39 participants from 23 organizations attended the four-day event. Among them, 11 were RMS's partner organizations and the rest were potential partners. The workshop presented a great opportunity to bring partners from diverse backgrounds on a common platform and share/learn from each other. Hence, emphasis was laid on maximizing the sharing of experiences among the participants and on conducting a joint planning process. Please visit the online event page to view the list of participants and workshop photographs.

Workshop goals

The overall objective of the workshop was to review and reflect on the progress, achievements, and challenges faced by ICIMOD and its partners since 2019, and plan for RMS 2020. Specifically, the workshop aimed at:

- Sharing the key achievements from 2019 with the partners

- Developing an RMS scaling, monitoring, and communication approach

- Designing an action plan for 2020 integrating gender and social inclusion

- Validating resilience markers, including monitoring, evaluating, and learning

Sessions

Session 1: Inauguration and overview

Pratigya Silwal, Programme Officer of RMS, ICIMOD, extended a warm welcome to all the participants. The workshop was opened by David Molden, Director General, ICIMOD. In the opening speech, he stated that the challenges in the mountains and hills of the HKH are far more acute due to higher poverty rates, malnutrition, outmigration, and environmental degradation that are occurring in the context of change due to globalization and climate change. He emphasized on focusing on the solutions that would help the HKH's population adapt to changes and build the resilience needed to thrive. As for keys to creating successful interventions in the HKH, he underlined the need to keep innovating solutions and tailoring them to specific contexts. Aspects such as resilience markers and communication will be essential to getting the knowledge across to the communities and policymakers, he said. He also stated that rapid upscaling/outscaling and partnerships are extremely important in this scenario.

Eklabya Sharma, Deputy Director General, ICIMOD, presented an overview of the solutions approach. He explained that due to the diverse geography of the HKH region, the context keeps changing. In order to build the resilience of the HKH's populations, he stressed on the need to first internalize the diverse contexts prevalent in the HKH. Difficult situations, poverty, and other variables need to be taken into account, he said. He also pointed out that resilience does not get built in isolation and that it has to take into consideration all types of geographies, practices, resources, understanding of rangelands, and different types of farming systems such as cash-crop farming and shifting cultivation, as well as livestock. It is necessary to create an integrated and transdisciplinary approach, he said. Stating that while the solutions have been implemented well, he said the main challenge remains in upscaling. The focus should be on upscaling enterprises by helping them adopt technology and digital tools, he said.

Solveig Andresen of the Royal Norwegian Embassy said that the people in the HKH are dealing with many challenges. She conveyed her appreciation about the work done on behalf of the vulnerable, the excluded, women, and so on. Expressing her

happiness over ICIMOD's focus on upscaling, she said it was extremely important that the local people and government bodies take ownership of the interventions. She also stressed that it was really important to test solutions on the ground.

Maheshwor Dhakal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, expressed his satisfaction over the solutions being offered by ICIMOD and said that they are ideal for Nepal and the other HKH countries. He said that in Nepal's climate change policy, the most important component is nature-based solutions. The policy, he said, has identified eight dimensions that include food security, biodiversity, water security, urbanization, and how climate change is affecting industries such as tourism. Integrating rural infrastructure development and gender aspects in these interventions is also important, he stated. But, for more meaningful work on all these issues, especially outscaling, he said the emphasize should be on in-depth field research.

Nanki Kaur, Regional Programme Manager, Adaptation and Resilience Building Programme, ICIMOD, stated that while Nepal has been a leader in climate action, all the eight member countries of ICIMOD have been concerted in their approach on climate action, especially with regard to COP26. In this context, she expressed her satisfaction about all the partners coming together to reflect on the work that is being done, to learn from each other, and to continue working on the ground.

Nand Kishor Agrawal, ICIMOD, briefed about RMS activities and said that it is a small programme in the big global fight against inequality. He expressed his firm resolve that all the partners would continue to work together to reduce poverty and vulnerability in the HKH and improve the region's ecosystem.

Session 2: RMS review – progress, achievements, and challenges

Sanjeev Bhuchar, Theme Leader, Water and Air, ICIMOD, made a presentation about the Theory of Change strategies and approaches being adopted in Bhutan, Myanmar, and Nepal. He dwelt on three main aspects: upscaling, mainstreaming, and strengthening. During this session, the partner organizations gave an update on their collaborative work and the kind of activities they have been carrying out under the RMS umbrella.

KIRAN BHUSAL, CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH, EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT (CEAPRED), NEPAL

Briefing farmers at the pilot sites (Kavre, Dadeldhura, and Rasuwa) about simple and local technologies

Training and demonstrations on pest management, soil fertility testing, and fertilizer improvement methods

Training and exposure to climate-resilient technologies and integrated pest management (IPM) tools

Training on jholmal, agroforestry, nursery management, biogas, and insurance

Spring revival activities in collaboration with ICIMOD

Women and those from other marginalized communities are taking the lead in these activities

The challenges are in the areas of structural partnerships, bureaucratic mechanisms, and integration of various RMS activities

JOERN KRISTENSEN, MYANMAR INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT (MIID), MYANMAR

MIID works towards the inclusion of disadvantaged groups in the development activities in upland regions and rural areas

The focus is on strengthening community–government connect in resilience building

The thematic focus is on capacity building, skill building, and enterprise and value chain development

The capacity building activities are carried out through exposure and cross-cutting learning visits, trainings and workshops for government officials, and by supporting governmental and other institutions in the planning and implementation of activities

Skill building training for integrated home gardening, water harvesting solution, off-farm vocational training and programme on water security (with an integrated design)

Scaling training for government officials; training in community forestry; contributing to the

implementation of the Pa-O Development Plan; conducting stakeholder meetings; developing the Himalica Project area as a learning hub; and setting up a bamboo value chain business

Activities in the area of gender and social inclusion: setting up four women's savings groups (120 women are members); training in loan and credit; and coordinating with local departments for conducting vocational training programmes

Challenges: delays due to unclear planning; problems like shortage of water; difficulty in mainstreaming gender issues in traditional societies; and the issues surrounding the reduction of chemicals in agriculture work

TSHERING ZAM, NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAMME (NOP), BHUTAN

NOP is a flagship programme promoting organic practices in agriculture, livestock, and small and cottage industries

Farmers' training on organic agricultural technologies used at Haa Dzongkhag; attending BIOFACH, world's leading trade fair for organic food; National Organic Farming Programme (NOFP) representatives and Haa Dzongkhag staff visit to Sikkim Organic Mission; and taking part in a regional organic symposiumFarmers' training – with majority participation from women farmers; a work planning workshop at Longpa/Nobgang; holding a regional organic symposium attended by government representatives, civil society organizations, the private sector, and development partners

Challenges: financial reporting complexities; and involvement of different stakeholders with different interests

In the area of communication, monitoring, and evaluation of RMS, the Information and Communication Technology Division (ICTD) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MoAF) has been proactive. It has helped set up an RMS group; the MoAF website carries introductory information on RMS (a database is also being developed). The ICTD is also actively involved in RMS coverage: with documentation of farmers' training and training of trainers programmes; preparing press releases on the regional organic symposium; coordinating media coverage; and the use of banners as publicity material. A finance team from Nepal also visited the relevant agencies in Bhutan and a one-day training programme was conducted on the financial aspects

TSHERING DEM, DEPARTMENT OF COTTAGE AND SMALL INDUSTRIES (DCSI), BHUTAN

The progress report of the DCSI lists out the following: holding of the CSI (Cottage and Small Industries) Expo supported by ICIMOD through RMS during the BEFIT (Bhutan Economic Forum for Innovative Transformation) Summit; workshop conducted on vision setting and strategic plan for a start-up centre; workshop/ knowledge sharing platform organized for strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystem; workshop held on mentorship curriculum development; holding of annual CSI fair supported by ICIMOD; conducting of a business health evaluation programme; preparation of a draft operational model; and the organization of a regional symposium on organic agriculture.

ROBIN AMATYA, SAARC BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF HOME BASED WORKERS (SABAH) NEPAL

Sabah is working on a market access and enterprise development pilot site; value addition; market linkages; product packaging; branding and capacity development for sustainable business promotion; and supporting the Sindhuka brand

Resilience building with value chain development

Linkages with local stakeholders, the private sector and like-minded organizations

Networking with the private sector, farmers, markets, and cooperative businesses

Promoting safe and healthy foods/vegetables through the SABAH village chain

Linking to the mainstream market with technology/ digital wallet

Hand-holding by organizing business-to-business learning events, business counselling sessions, and family counselling sessions

Developing a mobile app for SABAH Nepal

Identified 650 project beneficiaries; three product lines: Fruits processing, dairy value chain processing, vegetable processing

Challenges: lack of diverse products; limited product range versus market need; market linkages through agents; and limited knowledge in value addition

For communication, monitoring, and evaluation: regular follow-up with the beneficiaries; preparing a crop calendar; and coordinating with the relevant local department

RAJAN BAJRACHARYA, GEOKRISHI, NEPAL

GeoKrishi is set to establish a digital agriculture platform

While the inception workshop is over, content development and system customization are ongoing

In the area of systemic components, planning, advisories, and market linkages are involved

In terms of scaling, the following elements are to be accounted for: precision agriculture; digital farm management; evidence-based advisory service; and virtual market

One of the challenges lies in getting people to adapt to the use of mobile apps and the internet

For communication, monitoring and evaluation: customized agriculture information on 15 crops and enabling of an advisory service; digitization of 500 farms and farmers' profile; and the establishment of Municipal Agriculture Information Centre

MUHAMMAD NURUL ALAM, KRISHI GOBESHONA FOUNDATION (KGF), BANGLADESH

The Krishi Gobeshona Foundation is involved in agricultural research and development

Gender and social inclusion: most of the agricultural labour are women; around 60–90 per cent participation of women has been recorded in training programmes, which is gradually brining about a change in their lifestyle.

Session 3: Synergies, collaborations, and opportunities around solutions

This session was facilitated jointly by Sanjeev Bhuchar and Anu Joshi Shrestha from ICIMOD. The participants were divided into three groups, country-wise – Bhutan, Myanmar, and Nepal. The facilitators explained to the groups about how this session should be carried out; the areas that were to be focused upon were the following: synergy and collaborations among partners; identifying the key challenges, gaps, and strategies; scaling; gender and social inclusion;, communication; monitoring and evaluation; and opportunities to be harnessed.

CEAPRED, Namobuddha municipality (Kavre district), SABAH Nepal, and GeoKrishi Nepal are the four partners in Nepal who are working in collaboration with each other. CEAPRED facilitates

farmer-target programmes which help to build the capacity of farmers through trainings. It also mobilizes farmers for production. It provides technical assistance and tools for projects related to agriculture and cooperatives, while supporting the development and transfer of new evidence and technology. It performs field-based work in coordination with the local, provincial, and central governments. It also facilitates goodwill. It is closely working with Namobuddha municipality (Kavre district). The municipality has the authority to use or allocate the budget and resources yearly for various sectors such as agriculture and marketing. It also helps in the branding of products. For instance, Sindhuka is a brand operated by the Namobuddha municipality with the help of the local farmers. The municipality is also helping in the transportation of the products to the market, while SABAH helps in developing market networks. SABAH creates a portfolio for agricultural products, apart from facilitating community-based enterprises which follow gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) principles. Like the municipality, SABAH too helps in the branding of products.

Session 4: New opportunities and collaborations

Abid Hussain, ICIMOD, facilitated the panel discussion with the potential collaborators of the RMS initiative in order to explore new opportunities and joint interests for future partnerships. The panel members gave a brief outline about their institutional priorities and about the kind of work they are doing on research and development in order to seek synergies with RMS work.

GRID ARENDAL, NORWAY

Gird Arendal is a Norway-based NGO and a collaborative centre to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It has expertise in designing and developing publications specific to the target groups at community and policy levels.

Grid Arendal can bring its expertise to position RMS better and link science to policy communication in order to influence policymakers. It can provide high visual impacts through the use of cartography, pictures, and media engagement to disseminate the right message to the right target group.

Furthermore, its connection with the UNEP can be also tapped by RMS for knowledge networking.

SOUTHASIA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES (SIAS), NEPAL

SIAS is a Kathmandu-based policy research institute engaged in research work related to economic development, natural resource management, the food–water–energy nexus, climate change and livelihood, and urban resilience building.

Its collaboration with RMS can be on research to understand resilience. SIAS is keen on evidence-based solutions contributing to resilience building and so can play a crucial role in generating such evidence to influence governance and up-scale/outscale solutions.

BAIF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INDIA

BAIF works with small and marginalized communities across 13 states in India, particularly on climate change adaptation, understanding vulnerabilities, livestock development programmes, and natural resource management.

BAIF is implementing climate change adaptation programmes in Uttarakhand state and is interested in potential collaboration with the RMS initiative on evidence generation and research.

BAIF can bring in its expertise on livestock value chain development, indigenous breed conservation, agro-biodiversity conservation, and seed production.

There are common issues across the HKH region – like human–wildlife conflict, migration, small landholdings, land abandonment, and the feminization of agriculture – which need cross-border attention wherein ICIMOD can play the role of a facilitator, putting to use its regional experiences and learnings.

AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (AKRSP), PAKISTAN

AKRSP is a non-profit private organization with a major focus on poverty alleviation. Its core priorities lie in developing economic infrastructure (e.g. roads, irrigation, and land development projects), promoting agricultural productivity, and improving farming skills.

Currently, it's working on agricultural inputs, disaster risk reduction, market development, and hydropower. So, experience sharing with RMS might have mutual benefits to both.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, FAISALABAD, PAKISTAN

The university conducts several kinds of research on crop science, particularly on developing resistant crop varieties, and weed management. Its research also focuses on economic analysis and inclusion of the gender aspect in decision-making.

ICLEI SOUTH ASIA, DELHI, INDIA

ICLEI is a knowledge network that attempts to fill the gap between knowledge producers and decision makers.

It has five pathways relevant to its areas of interest: resilience building; low carbon development; nature-based solutions; biodiversity conservation; and circular economy.

In Nepal and Bangladesh, there are Climate and Development Knowledge Networks (CDKNs) to create knowledge and so there can be collaboration opportunities in developing and disseminating knowledge products.

OPEN DISCUSSION KEY POINTS

Despite geographical differences, there are lots of commonalities in the nature of works that the partners have been carrying out. So, a good narrative for each solution has to be jointly thought out.

Before offering solutions, there is a need to understand the aspects of vulnerability and risk from the farmers' perspective, and know about their existing coping mechanisms in order to develop contingency planning which can also integrate traditional knowledge. Such planning should capture sustainability aspects to build resilience.

The country-specific strategies on adaptation and resilience building should be aligned to national priorities.

The market usually determines crop production, so there needs to be access to road and infrastructure, along with real-time agricultural zoning (as published by FAO) where farming communities know what to grow, how, and when.

RMS seems to focus more on adaptation and less on mitigation, but solutions should be crosscutting. For example, the actual emissions data from the agriculture sector in the HKH region may not be available, but it is necessary to reduce emissions from farming systems and look for mitigation options.

There are good policies in the region, but weak implementation on the ground. So, while developing frameworks and strategies, it is important to have communication and dissemination as a monitoring and evaluation tool.

Session 5: Gender and social inclusion in RMS

Suman Bisht, Senior Gender Specialist, ICIMOD, made a presentation on gender and social inclusion and the key gender objectives of RMS. She said that solutions and capacity building are based on evidence that's generated through research in order to find customized solutions in the context of the HKH region. Talking about the multiple barriers that women face, she said their entrepreneurship skills have to be enhanced and that there is a need for active agents of change in the value chain in terms of gender. Any discussion on enterprise development, she said, should talk about increasing women's participation. She also dwelt on customization of services and the tools that are essential to address issues specific to different places. She further spoke about the Global Atlas which indicates an acute gender gap in the HKH region. . She then talked of how most women in the region depended on agriculture for their livelihood. As for the socio-economic constraints that women face, she said this weakens their power to mitigate climate change risks and manage resources sustainably. She also presented results from HICAP's Poverty and Vulnerability Assessment (PVA) which show that despite women's increasing role in the management of risks and resources, only 11 per cent of the households are headed by women, only 8 per cent of women have exclusive landownership and that only 0.06 per cent hectare is women's average landholding. She further spoke about the two key bottlenecks in terms of gender equality: limited land availability for production; and outmigration of men for employment purposes.

DISCUSSIONS

Q. 1. What are the key gender issues that need to be addressed while implementing the solutions that have been identified?

Myanmar: Women's participation in training is less compared to men due to excessive workload, household duties, and social norms. That is why the skill level of women is low. The tools given to women to improve livelihoods are not women friendly, so they have difficulty in operating the technologies.

Nepal: Outmigration of men has increased the workload of women. Lack of ownership of land has also resulted in women being ignored when it comes to decision-making.

Bhutan: There is a lack of conducive environment for women in the area of social entrepreneurship. Cultural and religious restrictions hamper women's participation in leadership roles and entrepreneurship.

Q. 2. What are the challenges in integrating gender within the solutions?

Myanmar: Women are not involved in the decision-making process, both at institutional and community levels. The isolation and remoteness of the uplands add to the difficulties of women. There are less economic opportunities and even if some opportunities are introduced in the villages, the men will be the ones to apply; moreover, it is the women who would push the men forward. Although the number of women involved in politics is high, they are rarely the decision makers.

Nepal: One of the main challenges for women in Nepal is lack of education. The reason women hesitate to freely participate in the decision-making process has to do with the cultural and traditional boundaries drawn by the society.

Bhutan: There is immense workload for women which has resulted in a lack of women's leadership. The social norms and constructs are also a barrier for women to get involved in the decision-making process.

Q. 3. What are the opportunities for integrating gender within the solutions?

Myanmar: Awareness can be created through the social media and audio-visuals. With the support of women, knowledge banks can be created. Exposure visits for women will enable them to witness first-hand how technology is developed. Efficient women's groups should be formed for entrepreneurship and savings where women are the decision makers.

Nepal: With 33 per cent of the positions being reserved for women at the local and municipal levels, the women can act on the challenges they are facing. Women should see the outmigration of men as an opportunity to step up and become decision makers in the household as well as at the community level.

Bhutan: Introducing microfinance specifically for women so that they are conscious about handling finances. Increasing asset ownership for women can lead to giving them a sense of power. Technologically

equipping women to make them more independent. Building their capacity building through exposure visits and vocational trainings.

Q. 4. What skills and capacities need to be built?

Myanmar: Increase the outreach of the extension services for women and raise awareness through the media. Women role models and their contributions should be highlighted and given prominence.

Nepal: There should be more awareness programmes for women. Technologies that are friendly in terms of gender and social inclusion should be introduced, and more emphasis should be laid on skill building training.

Bhutan: Providing training on entrepreneurship is very important. There needs to be adoption of information and communication technology (ICT) as well as integration of gender and social inclusion at the policy level.

Session 6: Scaling up the RMS approach

Hem Raj Bist, Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forest and Environment, Dhangadi, Nepal, made a presentation on "Experience and road map of scaling the RMS approach in Sudurpaschim Province and further scope of collaboration in Nepal". He spoke about the current governmental activities and engagements with ICIMOD in the province

with examples from the Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KSLCDI) and Climate Smart Villages. He also talked about the possibilities for future support and engagement in sectors like non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and tourism.

Dhrupad Choudhury, Chief Scaling Operations and Tashi Dorji, Senior Ecosystem Specialist,ICIMOD, jointly facilitated the session on scaling up the RMS approach. They provided an introductory background to the group work on scaling up the RMS approach and clarified about what scaling is.

Outscaling: Adoption at a geographical scale through replication and/or customization/modification of solutions. Outscaling can also happen if a project is replicated by other projects. For example, the solutions piloted by MIID, Myanmar, could be replicated by other agencies. But as these interventions are project-bound, they may not have sustainability.

Upscaling: As soon as interventions are streamlined and find a place in the budget and plans of the Government through a policy uptake, then it is called "upscaling". When the government designs a programme at the country level, it is owned and funded by the government.

The group work was guided by a set of questions: Scaling what? Why? For whom? With whom? And how? The answers are Table 1.

TABLE 1	HIGHLIGHTS FROM GROUP WORK		
Questions	**Bhutan**	**Myanmar**	**Nepal**
WHAT?	Enterprise development Livestock development	Water harvesting technologies	Climate-smart village Digital agriculture
WHY?	For enhancing livelihoods	To address policy gaps that is focused more on lowlands	Safe food production, easy access to information and income
FOR WHOM?	Women and youth	Communities, the Rural Development Department, NGOs, local authorities in highlands	Marginalized groups, farmers, and agro-based enterprises
WITH WHOM?	Government – extension units, NGOs, financial institutions, private sector, and ICIMOD	Environmental Conservation Department, Forest Department, and Water Department	Align to GoN programmes, municipalities (AKC, CSI, forest), FNCCI, NGOs, private sector, Financial institutions
HOW?	Capacity building, use of digital technology, institutional linkages, alignment to 12th 5-year Plan, flagship programmes, curriculum development	Evidence-based findings at policy forums, videos, brochures, HIMALICA pilot as learning hub, align to government plan for replication	Leveraging of funds, joint planning, developing a package of practice guidelines

Session 7: Research and evidence for RMS

The session focused on two specific subjects: resilience building, gender and climate services; and resilience building through markers' study. Arabinda Mishra, Theme leader, livelihoods, ICIMOD, made a presentation on research and evidence and their linkage with the Theory of Change. He spoke about how the knowledge generated by research can be used for policy uptake in order to achieve the identified pathways. "Generating evidences must focus on identifying resilience markers, developing women-centric climate services and technologies, and understanding ecosystem services," he said. He described 2020 as the "Partners' Year". According to him, partners should be able to feed on new knowledge generation. In addition, he said that partners should be able to reflect on areas where they require knowledge generation and ICIMOD can help develop meaningful knowledge products for better policy engagement in 2020. Talking further about resilience, he described how resilience is defined in numerous ways by numerous organizations. As for the definition of resilience that has been adopted by ICIMOD in terms of the mountain context, he said it has been generated from a HIMAP study which was carried out from a socio-ecological perspective. He defined "resilience" as the ability of systems to prepare for shocks, recover, and create transformative changes for a better state. He then explained that the "markers" approach is different from the existing concept of resilience as it is mostly a top-down approach and unpacks resilience in terms of either attributes or outcomes. He stated that markers go much deeper in trying to identify interlinkages among the factors that are critical to the "resilience behaviour" of systems. He said, "By bringing in systems thinking, the ICIMOD resilience building approach looks at a specific context in terms of structure (elements), interlinkages, and behaviour which is very important to understand whether a system is functioning in a resilient manner." He also described resilience markers as a flagship study for the RMS initiative. As for the plans for 2020, he said they involved conducting more case studies with larger data sets, and developing an MEL (monitoring, evaluation, and learning) framework and a decision support system.

Geeta Bhattarai Bastakoti, Gender and Climate Analyst, ICIMOD, spoke about women-centric climate services. Climate services, she said, is one of the most tested and promoted solutions which has improved the state of preparedness of farmers and other people concerned. She said that resilience capacity is influenced by the differential access to and utilization of climate services. She also stated that gender aspects in climate service provisioning and utilization are less discussed and that a knowledge gap persists. She explained about the conceptual framework and methodology of a research study that is to be conducted on climate services. The research, she said, will mainly focus on climate service information provisioning and utilizing the information provided by women and men across the community. It will take into consideration, she said, gender facets in terms of access, use, barriers, and challenges on the user side (demand) and the provisioning side (supply). The research, she informed, will be conducted in Bhutan, Myanmar, and Nepal. The outcomes from the study, she stated, will help in developing a guideline and framework for gender-inclusive climate services. It will also, she said, recommend pathways and strategies towards establishing gender-transformative climate services with RMS interventions.

Suman Bisht, Senior Gender Specialist and Subha Khanal, Intern - Gender, ICIMOD, made a presentation on gender and technologies. As women are involved in farming activities that are more time consuming, they said, there's a need to reduce their drudgery through women-friendly tools, technologies, and services. They listed out some of the issues that farm women face: as they are not recognized as productive farmers, they rarely receive appropriate farming inputs, extension services, and training or benefit from new agricultural research and technologies; there's no focus on women, or discussions or preconsultations with them on project implementations; there's a lack of proper financial services – often the tools and technologies are expensive; there's a lack of maintenance or service providers for the operation; and outmigration has increased the workload in agriculture. That said, they said, these barriers are an opportunity too – they have enabled women to become active decision makers in the field of agriculture. The opportunities, they said, are in the form of new interventions in tools, technologies, and services related to women-friendly agriculture – an example would be of power tillers for ploughing the fields. The presenters also talked about the effectiveness of forming women's groups. This session was concluded by presenting the RMS plans to carry out need assessments of the technologies that are women friendly. The plans involve an inventory of women-friendly technologies, creating an online network for all the stakeholders, and introducing standards and certification through advocacy and awareness.

Session 8: Cross-thematic areas for RMS

Ayushma Basnyat Rana, Programme Officer, SPME, ICIMOD, made a presentation on the survey website that was created for the participants related to monitoring and evaluation. The participants gave the answers either through their mobile phones or laptops.

Lalu Maya Kadel, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, ICIMOD, stated that the session's objective was to be on the same page in terms of monitoring and evaluation required for RMS. She briefed on the basic concept of monitoring and evaluation (M&E): input-activities-outputs-outcomes-impact and emphasized on output and impact. The outcome, she said, could be divided into two: project outcome and partner outcome. The key functions of M&E she stated, are accountability, learning, and management decisions. Talking about ICIMOD's approach to participatory monitoring and evaluation, she said it involved the Theory of Change and participatory impact pathways analysis (PIPA). Both the products and processes, she said, are equally important. The MEL plan includes indicators, baseline and target (format available), and a data collection plan along with an MEL activity plan.

Laurie Vasily and Sushil Pandey, from the Knowledge Management and Communication team, ICIMOD, made a presentation on the communication approach. They said that communicating science was a big challenge and that building a narrative through key messages by all RMS partners was crucial. The attributes of the key messages, they said, should be simple, short, and clear. They went on to say that the communications approach starts off by identifying the target audience, and depending on the audience, the approach differs. They also informed that RMS was planning to launch a "website on solutions". Challenges and issues were also highlighted. Vasily stated that the focus should be on context-specific solutions, and impact and uptake. The speakers concluded by seeking inputs and content from the partners.

Santosh Raj Pathak, Programme Officer, SCU, ICIMOD, outlined the partnership approach. Talking about the challenges in building effective partnerships, he said that there are both visible and invisible challenges. He then explained about ICIMOD's partnership approach and its cycle: scoping and building partnerships; formalizing partnerships; partnership execution and management; partnership review; partnership closure; and partnership for value addition and collaborative relationships.

Session 9 (a): Validation of resilience markers

Erica Udas, Ecosystem Analyst, ICIMOD, made a presentation on the validation of resilience markers in Bhutan. She, along with a representative from the Department of Livestock (Haa district), spoke in detail about the conceptual models developed in the dairy value chain of cattle and yak husbandry in order to validate the cause and effect variables. During the discussions, it was felt necessary to differentiate the dairy value chain depending on seasonality since, for example, during summer, milk production is higher compared to winter, and thus different strategies and interventions have to be planned accordingly. Some future policy scenarios were also discussed which might be relevant for future scenario projections for the dairy value chain. The policy scenario changes that impact the dairy sector include:

In 2018, the government banned the import of cross-breed cows to Bhutan. The government is developing certain breeding programmes to improve the cattle breed.

From 2021, all the youths in Bhutan have to attend a training programme on agriculture, forest, pasture management, and improved technologies. This is to get the youths interested in these sectors, thereby minimizing the migration to urban areas.

At the national level, milk processing units (MPUs) in Bhutan are obliged to supply dairy products to schools as part of a programme on child nutrition. An agreement in this regard was signed in 2020 between the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, the Ministry of Health, and state-owned MPUs.

In the context of climate change, if incidences of disease and pest attacks in cattle increase, then government subsidy alone may not be adequate to address the issue. So, there may be policy changes regarding private veterinary clinics whose services now come at a high cost, affecting household incomes.

Samikchhya Kafle, Energy Research Associate, ICIMOD presented her research on the validation of energy access and ICTs, income diversity, innovation, and energy security in Myanmar. Lipy Adhikari presented her research on the validation of

resilience markers in Dadeldhura, Nepal, involving farmland Conversion – switching from traditional cereals to vegetables.

DISCUSSIONS

Question: Why aren't people using clean energy?

Answer: The upland communities (Himalica pilot site) do not have access either to the public grid or to clean cooking technologies.

Session 9 (b): Plan and outlook for 2020 and beyond

The work plan and outlook for 2020 delineated by the partners from Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, India, and Nepal are attached in the annex – tables 2.1, 2.2., 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 6.1 and 6.2.

Session 10: Closing

Nand Kishor Agrawal, ICIMOD, made a presentation on the key action points and the way forward. The overall goal of ICIMOD, he said, is to reduce poverty and vulnerability, and improve ecosystems. He focused on the widespread adoption of RMS by following the three pathways: generating evidence; arriving at inclusive solutions and strengthening capabilities; and scaling. The partners, he said, are expected to generate evidence by conducting resilience marker case studies, which involve building scenarios, climate services, and using augmented reality technology. That would then, he said, pave way for inclusive solutions such as village learning hubs. He also touched upon entrepreneurship, food and nutrition, the state of springs, as well as the need for women-friendly technologies. Aspects such as scaling of national projects, cross-learning, and gender mainstreaming were also part of his observations. At the regional level, he said, evidence should be generated by the synthesis of monitoring and evaluation tools on women-responsive climate services. He also talked about expos showcasing multi-country application solutions, the role of the media, the need for policy forums, the utilization of HKH networks, and the preparation of briefs and solution atlases. At the global scale, he said the evidence should be gathered through research results at global forums such as the GCA, UNFCCC, and IPCC, as well as through books, journals, exhibits, and videos.

The key action points from the partners' meet were:

Strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem through a strong mentorship programme in Bhutan

Building resilience in enterprise at each node of vegetable/dairy/fruits or bamboo value chain through product diversification, linkages with ICT, and network building in Nepal and Myanmar

Engagement with global organizations working on promoting green entrepreneurship

Innovative ICT-based and women-friendly solutions to be further integrated

The narrative of the learning hubs to be backed up by robust evidence generated through systematic monitoring, evaluation, learning, cross-learning, and by communicating the results to policymakers and practitioners

Strengthening learning hubs with strong community and government connect across Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Myanmar, or through scaling.

Solutions to be made more resilient by analysing climate change scenarios and learning from collaborative research on resilience markers.

Nanki Kaur, ICIMOD, summarized the overall perspective of RMS and also described the way ahead. In terms of the solutions, she said they have all been put together nicely; but she added that none of them are new since a lot of countries have been using them. She laid firm stress on giving priority to the work plans of 2020 and also on learning from other countries. She assured that ICIMOD is strongly committed to achieving the goals. She stated that 2020 is a year to work globally and explore how solutions can be packaged. The immediate focus, she said, should be on: entrepreneurship across institutions;; bringing people together to fast track learning and innovation; and scaling up access to finance and markets.

Eklabya Sharma underlined that RMS has a long-term vision. He suggested focusing more on nature-based solutions without neglecting the ecosystem. The tenure of Solutions, he said, could be divided into three – short term, medium term and long term – and all have their values. He then spoke about the importance of concentrating on the following aspects: adopting an integrated approach; finding integrated community solutions; making relevant policy; institutional intervention; updating technology; encouraging entrepreneurs;

and providing financial support. He also said that as a knowledge generation institute, ICIMOD should give priority to solid evidence before implementing any solutions.. He also stressed on the importance of scaling, and underlined the importance of resilience markers as they bind all the partners to work together. He concluded by emphasizing that the search for solutions must be kept up as it will help in the development of institutions, the growth of youth, and the overall progress of mountain areas.

Pratigya Silwal, ICIMOD, thanked all the partners from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Norway, and Pakistan for their high level and quality of participation. She also thanked all the guests and participants who attended the meet from the Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, and the Royal Norwegian Embassy. Finally, she acknowledged the dedication and support shown by the ICIMOD team all through the workshop.

Some of the key observations from the partners during the field visit to Kavre were that there is a need to optimize jholmal on a country site-specific basis and that climate-resilient food options and crops should be adopted to increase the variety of crops.

Participant observations

Field visits to Khalchebesi, Dhulikhel, and Chaurangefedi in Kavre

Among the main learning points the participants gathered were:

Q.1 What were the take-home messages from the field visits?

Waste water utilization and the use of jholmal for organic agriculture

Saving water for crops and animals

Upscaling/horizontal scaling of local resources

Giving time for the project to succeed (four years)

Replication of the organic village model

Cohesiveness of the village community

Establishing display and demonstration hubs for integrated technologies

Women empowerment and active engagement of women can lead to economic upliftment and improved livelihoods

Local solutions/traditional knowledge do work as local knowledge is adaptable

Simple solutions/simple interventions can also make a big difference

Best solutions must be replicated and up-scaled/outscaled across the HKH region

Q.2 What were the things relevant to the context?

Jholmal can be easily replicated

Need to optimize jholmal on site-specific basis

Evident drawbacks of high usage of chemical fertilizers

Health and environmental awareness a must

Good markets

The water–food–energy nexus

Importance accorded to organic farming

Need for knowledge parks

Creation of a village technology package

Rooftop water harvesting and home gardening

Collection of water in a soil cement structure can be used for crop production

Linkage of research with action

Mixing traditions and cultures with technology can really work

Phenomenon-based IPM intervention in mountain ecosystems

Fully aligned to the IPM approach and to the ecological need of the area

Women-led cooperatives through capacity building

Technology dissemination/documentation and practising low-cost technology

Catchment-level water resource management

Agroforestry (focusing on broom grass, NTFPs, and others)

Q.3 What suggestions and feedback were given by the participants?

Impact assessment for the use of jholmal for crop production

Pamphlets to disseminate information from the field

Improving sanitation

A broader space for integrated technologies; they should be in use at the level of community-based organizations too

Robust methodology

Identify ways to link women and men in field activities

Improving linkages across the board, using academia, researchers, entrepreneurs, and the media

Optimizing scientific, adaptable technologies for the stakeholders

ICT-based market access in the less-privileged mountain areas

Value addition of crop/animal products

Replicating water harvesting strategies

Climate-resilient food options and crops should be adopted

Increasing the variety of crops/components (horticulture/mushrooms)

Helping communities to get a higher price in the market

Importance of replication/communication of success (e.g. by word of mouth)

Assessment should be carried out at the institutional level; solutions/technologies should be scientifically assessed

Institutionalization of systems and integration of sectors and methodologies

Technologies should be assessed based on national/international standards so that they can replicated more effectively and can be adopted by other countries/cities as well

Interlinking this project with community forestry

Visiting the farmers in the non-project sites as well

Additional event information and materials are available at:
https://www.icimod.org/event/resilient-mountain-solutions-annual-partners-workshop/

File links:
Training schedule
List of participants

Annex : Plan and outlook for 2020 and beyond

TABLE 2.1 COUNTRY WORK PLAN 2020: BANGLADESH

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Who	Where	Work plan			Upscaling/ Outscaling	When	Support required
					How					
					Process	Gender	Communication			
Research	Impact assessment of improved management of mango and litchi orchards	KGF	National Agricultural Research System (NARS)institutes	CHT	Through questionnaires, surveys, and focused group discussions	Determine the role of women's participation in the process	TBD	TBD	September 2020	Experts needed for the development of impact assessment tools
Solutions	Promotion of organic agriculture	KGF	NARS and National Agriculture Extension Systems (NAES) organizations	CHT	• Learning from other places (Sikkim and Bhutan) • Creating learning hubs/models (together with other organizations) • KGF has resources • Building on the past work (research and development) • NARS institutes • Local wisdom	• Involving men, women, and youth in the planning process • Women-friendly technologies for women farmers • Women-led groups/enterprise groups	• Contract farming through entrepreneurs • Extension department and NGOs • Department of Agriculture Extension • Communicating with the entrepreneurs • Educate the farmers (using 11 dialects in videos-without text)	Capacity building of extensions Upscaling can be done through existing KGF mechanisms	April 2020	• To facilitate cross-learning and provide resource experts on the subject matter (organic farming, value chain) • ICIMOD personnel to cover their own cost
	Spring shed water management (rooftop rainwater harvesting, low water demanding crops	KGF	NARS institutes; Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board (CHTDB); NAES	CTH	With ICIMOD's expertise, equip the local implementing partners	Reducing women's drudgery: • Saves time • Can get engaged in productive work • Home gardening	Organizing workshops; field visits; cross-learning with farmers and stakeholders	National extension agriculture systems Institute organizations; CHTDB, NGOs	April 2020	Expert support from ICIMOD
	Effectiveness and acceptance of Jholmal	KGF	Department of Agriculture Extension Services and NGOs	CHT	Guidelines from ICIMOD	Involving both women and men in the production process	Through trainings and adaptability trails	Outscaling through ICIMOD's existing mechanisms	April 2020	Relevant technical support from ICIMOD

TABLE 2.2 FOCUS AREAS: GENDER AND COMMUNICATIONS

	What	Who (Lead)	Where	How	Support
Gender	Planning for the development of gender-friendly tools, technologies, and services for agriculture	KGF	NARs institutes	Needs assessment with the women farmers	ICIMOD – more information on technologies needed Connecting the women farmers to experts, institutes
Communication	Training in project proposal writing	ICIMOD and KGF	CHT	3–5 days of training/workshop Capacity building	ICIMOD experts

TABLE 3.1 COUNTRY WORK PLAN 2020: BHUTAN

Work plan

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	How				When	Support required
				Process	Gender	Commu-nication	Upscaling/ Outscaling		
Research	Impact assessment of going organic	NOFP	National Level	Multi-stakeholder engagement	Gender segregated			1st Q	RMS
Solutions	Develop Nobgang/ Longpa as organic village	ARDC-Yusipang	Nobgang/ Longpa, Haa	Multi-stakeholder engagement	Ensure inclusion of women at all levels			2nd Q	NOFP/RMS
	Scaling of model to other villages in Haa and beyond	ARDC-Yusipang	Haa		Gender inclusion lessons are included in upscaling/ outscaling				RMS/ HOFPS
	Strengthening Haa information centre	DCSI-Start-up centre/Haa Dzongkhag Administration	Haa		Access to information centre; outreach to women in Haa				RMS

Work plan

What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	How				When	Support required
			Process	**Gender**	**Commu-nication**	**Upscaling/ Outscaling**		
On-station demonstrations and research on effectiveness of organic technologies	ARDC-Yusipang			Woman-friendly technologies			1/2nd Q	RMS/CNR
ICT platform for RMS	DCSI/ICTD-MoAF	Thimphu	• CSI technology database and website/digital platform • Audiovisual ads/ pamphlets/posters • Organic database	Information sharing mechanism to be women friendly Gender segregated data				RMS
M&E framework for RMS Bhutan	M&E ICIMOD		APA/12 FYP/Flagship blueprints/PMO	Gender indicators				NOFP/ ARDC-Yusipang
Dairy and Yak Value Chain (cooperatives, value addition, technology transfer)	DoL	Haa	Link with NDDB and BAIF	Women participation in cooperatives, decision-making bodies; access to technology transfer.				RMS
Strengthen NWFP (orchids) through cross-learning visits	UWICE, Sub-centre Darla			Ensure 30– 40% women participation				RMS
To support and strengthen start-up centre	DCSI- start-up centre	Thimphu-start-up centre	• Linking with entrepreneurship support institutions • Start-up centre as an autonomous entity	Women-friendly infrastructure, including childcare facilities			1)1Q 2)2Q	RMS
To institutionalize mentorship programme at start-up centre	DCS- start up centre	Thimphu/Haa	• Develop mentorship curriculum/framework • Conduct regional mentors' meet • Linkages with institutions and start-up centres	Enough women mentors			1Q	RMS

TABLE 3.2 **FOCUS AREAS: GENDER, COMMUNICATIONS, AND UPSCALING**

	What	Who (Lead)	Where	How	Support
Gender	Promote women's leadership in enterprise	DCSI/ARDC-Yusipang	Ministry/Department	Workshop/Training	RMS/NCWC/BAOWE
	Identify pool of women mentors	DCSI	Ministry/Department	Mentors' meet	RMS
Communication	Dissemination of information on woman entrepreneurship through start-up centre	DCSI	National	AVS/documentary/television programme – panel discussions	RMS
	RMS participation during Royal Flower Exhibition at Haa to showcase organic products/technologies/models	ARDC-Yusipang	Haa	Exhibition	RMS/Haa Dzongkhag/DCSI
Upscaling	Capacity building in organic technologies, dairy, and entrepreneurship	DCSI/ARDC-Yusipang	National/Regional	Training/Exposure visit/ Technical backstopping/Mentoring	RMS
	Replication of RMS technology in other three ARDCs	ARDC-Yusipang/Other ARDCs	Regional ARDCs	Demonstration	RMS/NOFP
	Replication of start-up centre concept/best practices in other regions	DCSI/	Other regions	Establish start-up centre	MoEA

Work plan

TABLE 4.1 **COUNTRY WORK PLAN 2020: INDIA**

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	How — Process	How — Gender	How — Communication	How — Upscaling/outscaling	When	Support required
Research	Validation and application of resilience marker	With ICIMOD	Champavat	Yes					
	Research on women-centric climate services and on community forestry	With ICIMOD	Champavat		Yes				
Solutions	Community forestry and the role of women	Exposure visit, cross-learning, and sharing with Myanmar team	Champavat				Yes		
	Dairy value chain backward linkages	For Bhutan RMS, cross-learning and exchange visits	Champavat				Yes		
	Nature-based solutions			Yes					
	Resilient enterprises			Yes					RMS
	Regional learning hub, best practices around spring rejuvenation, community forestry, agro-biodiversity and enterprises, and institution building		Champavat			Yes			

TABLE 4.2 FOCUS AREAS: COMMUNICATIONS, AND UPSCALING

	What	Who (Lead)	Where	How	Support
Communication	CGA model promotion in the Himalayan context	BAIF	Northwestern Himalaya	Innovative publications and social networking sites	Need communication team's inputs
	Best practices and solutions that have emerged from the project				
Upscaling	National-level knowledge workshop to sensitize stakeholders on climate change issues in Northwestern Himalaya	BAIF	Dehradun	Joint workshop involving multiple stakeholders	Collaboration to achieve the objective

TABLE 5.1 **COUNTRY WORK PLAN 2020: MYANMAR**

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	Work plan — Process	How — Gender	Communication	Upscaling/ Outscaling	When	Support required
Research	Energy resilience marker	ICIMOD	Himalica site – MM						
	Non-chemical agriculture – resilience marker?	MIID-ICIMOD – DOA	RMS	Connection with DANA project and Arabinda for resilience marker	Role of women in agriculture				Arabinda Mishra for markers
	Water supply in uplands	MIID-ICIMOD	Himalica site - MM/RMS	Comparative study - connection with policies (ECD, FD, DRD)					
	Integrated HG	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS						
Solutions	Women's Saving Groups	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Share guidelines and material from ICIMOD with MIID - implementation and piloting – evaluation - cross-learning visits	Guidelines	Knowledge material and communication	Outscaling to other villages		Guidelines from ICIMOD's business literacy programme
	Community Forestry (FD)	MIID - ICIMOD – FD	RMS	• Connect with REDD+ project • Discuss with Pa-O leading body • Cross-learning visit to India • Revision of FD Shan plan			Government policy		
	Community Forestry (Village)	MIID	RMS	• Set up village nurseries • Informal management of forest areas	• Include women in decision making • Accessibility of the area • Cost • Household (medication, food)	Video on good practices in forest management (Pa-O local language); media			

Work plan

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	Process	Gender	Communication	Upscaling/ Outscaling	When	Support required
				Process	**Gender**				
Solutions	Water access	MIID - ICIMOD		Inclusive water management plan and implementation of key activities (i.e. well recharge)			Research - check		
	Bamboo value chain	MIID	Himalica - RMS	Skill building and market linkage (HIM) - Capacity building (RMS)	Customized tools and trainings, and market linkage		Networking with market - participation in events		
	Farming system			Seed bank demonstrative plots			Outscaling to other villages		
	Trainings for FD in GIS/RS	ICIMOD – MIID	FD Shan	Capacity building events with FD			Adoption by FD of GIS/RS		
	Integrated HG	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Management techniques (fencing), trainings, irrigation info boards			Outscaling to other villages		
	M&E	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Prepare and update M&E plan	Gender resilience markers				

TABLE 5.2 FOCUS AREAS: GENDER, COMMUNICATION, AND UPSCALING

	What	Who (Lead)	Where	How	Support
Gender	Agriculture involvement	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Research	
	Community Forestry	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	• Include women in decision making • Accessibility of the area • Cost • Household (medication, food) • Inclusion of job opportunities targeting women	Guidelines and trainings from ICIMOD
	Women's Saving Groups	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Set-up, training (guidelines, business, women empowerment, gender equality), exposure visits	Support from ICIMOD in development of a gender action plan
	Water User Groups	MIID	RMS	Women executive members, gender action plan	
	Bamboo value chain	MIID-ICIMOD	Himalica - RMS	Customized tools and trainings plus market linkage, access to finance	
Communication	Water supply in uplands	MIID-ICIMOD	Himalica	Studying production	
	Success story compilation (bamboo value chain, post-production)	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Collecting info	Template from ICIMOD
	Himalica learning hub	MIID	Himalica	Exchange visits and promotional material	
	CF videos	MIID-ICIMOD	RMS	Video of good practices	
	Integrated HG promotional material	MIID	RMS	Boards, manual	
Upscaling	Water supply in uplands	MIID-ICIMOD - DRD	Uplands (Shan and Chin states)	Study, connecting with policies and master plans	Support in conducting studies
	GIS/RS for FD	MIID-ICIMOD - FD	Shan FD	Trainings for GIS/RS	Training from ICIMOD
	Community forestry	MIID-ICIMOD - FD	Shan	• Connect with REDD+ project • Discuss with Pa-O leading body • Cross-learning visit to India • Revision of FD Shan plan	Support for visits, REDD+, expertise in CF

TABLE 6.1   COUNTRY WORK PLAN 2020: NEPAL

Work plan

	What (objective)	Who (lead)	Where	How			Upscaling/ outscaling	When	Support required
				Process	Gender	Communi-cation			
Research	Identify critical springs	Municipality	Dhulikhel and Namobuddha	Hydrogeological study Action research	Identify women leaders to lead local committee	Study report	Extend the study to adjoining villages Influence policy	May (before monsoon)	Information from municipality Technical support from ICIMOD
Solutions	To strengthen the regional hub	CEAPRED Municipality Private Sector	Kavre Dadeldhura Rasuwa	Identification of gaps in plans and progress – Municipality; Environment, IT, resource mobilization – HR, gender trainings, exposure visits	Identify women leaders to lead local committee Influence women-friendly policies to be implemented at local level	Animation products, videos	Nursery establishment/ development		Technical support for nursery Municipality strategy development
	IT advisory service	GeoKrishi CEAPRED Municipality	Kavre	Information on crop disease, market rates,		Information display board at municipality			
	Promote Sindhuka brand and PGS	CEAPRED Municipality SABAH	Kavre	Train farmers' group, committee, inspector on PGS Packaging, marketing Organic outlet Cold storage facility		Certification Involvement of cooperatives	Upscaling to adjoining districts		Linkage with relevant organizations
	Strengthen farmers in organic products and marketing			Training/ Awareness on certification					
	Develop entrepreneurship	SABAH, CEAPRED	Kavre	Capacity building of intervening group Product diversification, cold storage facility	Women's group formation	Organic outlet, marketing, promotion, linkage with media			Technical support - ICIMOD
	Spring shed management	Municipality, CEAPRED	Namobuddha, Dhulikhel	Group formation, training Implementation – recharge structure				May (before monsoon)	ICIMOD technical support
Monitoring & Evaluation	Develop M&E framework	CEAPRED							

TABLE 6.2   **FOCUS AREAS: GENDER, COMMUNICATION, AND UPSCALING**

	What	Who (Lead)	Where	How	Support
Gender	Promotion of women-friendly technologies	ICIMOD	National	Research and demonstration	
	Collaborative development of standards on women-friendly technologies				
Communication	Promotion of research findings on solutions at national and regional scales	CEAPRED and ICIMOD	Conferences	Papers, posters, leaflets,	
	Knowledge products on resilience building through entrepreneurship development	SABAH and ICIMOD		Publications, videos, animation	
	Video/knowledge product on solution for Sagarmatha Sambad	ICIMOD and partners	Conferences	Publications, videos, animation	
Upscaling	Awareness building at national, local government levels – nature-based solutions (issues DRR)	ICIMOD and government		Exposure visits	
	Embed spring shed policy at national level	ICIMOD and government		Evidence-based reports	

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