



Reliable Water Resources

The Building Climate Resilience of Watersheds in Mountain Eco-regions project (**BCRWME**) is the first component of Nepal's Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (**PPCR**) under the National Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (**SPCR**).

The overall objective of the SPCR is to build long-term climate resilience through an integrated water resource and ecosystem-based approach, and to yield lessons on how best to build resilience in vulnerable mountain regions.

BCRWME aims to provide access to more reliable water resources for domestic purposes and irrigation for communities living in the Lower West Seti and Budhi Ganga watersheds of the Karnali River basin which are significantly vulnerable to climate change.

Beneficiaries

BCRWME is executed by the Department of Soil Conservation and Water Management (DSCWM). It's Project Management Unit (PMU) in Dadeldhura oversees implementation of sub-projects through District Soil Conservation Offices (DSCO) in six districts of the Far Western Development Region of Nepal: Achham, Baitadi, Bajhang, Bajura, Dadeldhura and Doti.

In the six districts 108 Village Development Committee (VDCs) have been selected for phased implementation. The project provides support to all participating communities to develop and protect their water sources (springs and streams) and construct water storages to help sustain the use of limited water during the dry season.

By the end of the project in 2020, approximately 45,000 households are expected to benefit from improved water availability during the dry season to support domestic and agricultural uses. The spring or surface water sources are expected to become more reliable, and; the dry season water yield will either remain the same or increase.



Capacity Building

In addition the project supports both the communities and the government to manage water and land in an integrated and inclusive manner within watersheds. Implementation of subprojects particularly addresses water conservation in catchments and shortage issues.

It being a pilot project it is essential that key stakeholders adopt knowledge-based approaches for integrated water and land management and improved water reliability and accessibility in the wake of climate change.

Project implementation activities are designed to ensure that all beneficiaries (the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), DSCWM, PMU, DSCOs, and all participating communities in the six districts) are involved in a phased cycle of training and capacity building so that the knowledge they develop in integrated and inclusive watershed management can be used to apply best practice.

Research is conducted throughout the project on hydrological impacts of watershed management and interventions.

Knowledge Management

The institutions tasked with watershed management implementation will also use the lessons they learn to expand their programmes by scaling up and scaling out their activities based on best practice knowledge.

A Knowledge Management plan and Management Information System (MIS) facilitate gathering and documenting of case studies, tools, lessons learned, and other knowledge products.

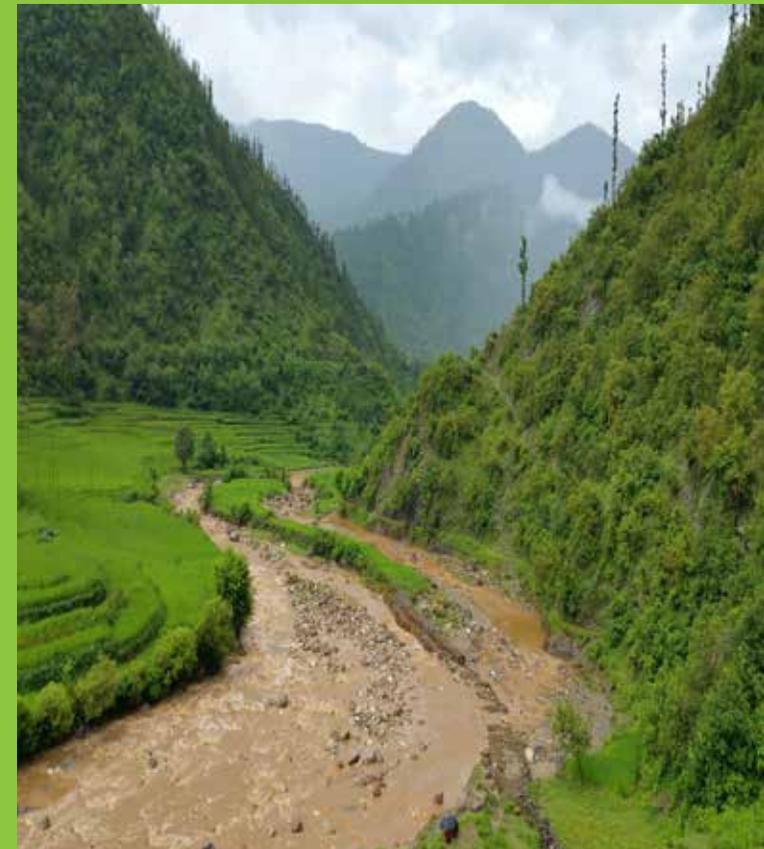
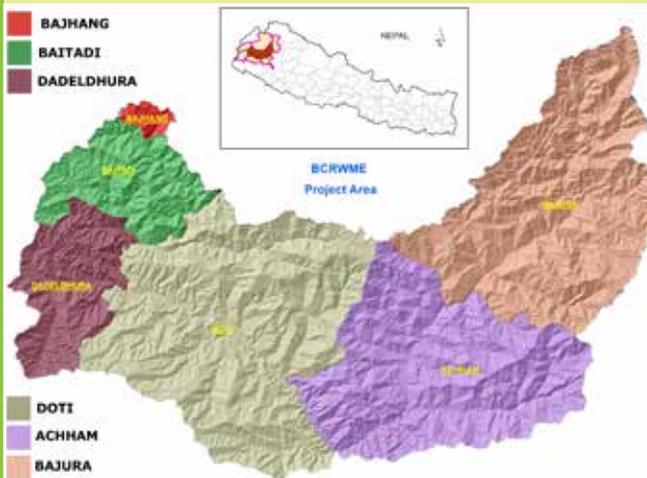
Support

The Climate Investment Fund (CIF) is the primary donor of the project, with the grant being administered by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Nepal Government provides both financial and in kind support. A parallel grant for technical assistance is provided by the Nordic Development Fund (NDF).



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