



## OUTCOME HARVESTING REPORT

### Systems-level Impact Evaluation of SAMARTHYA Project



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## Acronyms and abbreviations

3C	Co-existence, Co-operation and Co-ordination
3D	3D Research and Development Solutions
ANAJ	Association of Nepal Agriculture Journalists
CEN	Clean Energy Nepal
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSRC	Community Self-reliant Centre
CUSA	CARE USA
DLRF	District Land Right Forum
DMEL	Design Monitoring Evaluation and Learning
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FID	Farmers Identity Crad
FYM	Farm Yard Management
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
ILKA	Impact, Learning, Knowledge & Accountability (ILKA)
IVR	Identification, Verification and Recording
KII	Key Informant Interview
KM	Knowledge Management
LGOA	Local Government Operation Act
LIBIRD	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development
LIRC	Land Issues Resolving Committee
LIRIS	Land Issues Resolving Information System
MLRF	Municipal Land Right Forum
MoALD	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
MoLMCPA	Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NARMIN	National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal
NEFEJ	Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists
NFGF	National Farmers Group Federations
NLC	National Land Commission
NLRC	National Land Reformation Committee
NLRF	National Land Rights Forum
NPC	National Planning Commission
PCA	Participatory Capacity Assessment
SROI	Social Return on Investment
SSI	Semi-Structured Interview
TLRF	Tole Land Right Forum
ToC	Theory of Change

## Acknowledgements

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## Executive Summary

CARE Nepal implemented the project 'SAMARTHYA', meaning **strong ability**, to promote inclusive governance and resilience for the Right to Food' in Nepal for the period of 2018-2021. The project was implemented by local partners- Community Self-reliance Center (CSRC), National Farmers Groups Federation (NFGF), National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) and 2 resource partners i.e. Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LIBIRD), Clean Energy Nepal (CEN) and phase out in December 2021.

CARE Nepal conducted a systems-level evaluation of the project using the outcomes harvesting methodology to understand the system level changes that the SAMARTHYA produced, together with an external consultant- 3D Research and Development Solutions during May-June 2022. CARE Nepal anticipated that both the process of participating in the evaluation as well as the findings themselves would contribute to the learning of CARE Nepal, its SAMARTHYA partners and CARE Global, particularly on the project's achievements in achieving systems-level change and supporting land less and marginalized farmers to ensure their requirements of rights to food and hold duty-bearers accountable for responding to those requirements.

The evaluation process followed the six steps of the outcome harvesting approach. Outcome Harvesting, an approach to monitoring and evaluation inspired by Outcome Mapping, uses the following definition of outcome: a change in the behavior i.e. relationships, activities, or actions of the people, groups, and organizations with whom a program works directly.<sup>1</sup> The evaluation harvested data on SAMARTHYA outcomes and the contributions of the project to the outcomes according to the specifications of Outcome Harvesting – that is with sufficient specificity to make them verifiable, significance and contribution.

Data sources of the evaluation were the change agents, boundary partners and the beneficiaries. The evaluation applied a participatory mixed methods approach. A total of 82 key informant interviews (KII), 23 Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) and 23 field observations took place during the engagements with the informants along with 105 HHs survey through Kobo tools.

### Findings

13 outcomes were harvested. Out of 13, four outcomes were merged into two based on the suggestions of the participants during the subsidization process and evaluators' own realization. Thus, total 11 outcomes were identified as actual outcomes. The key findings of the harvesting are presented in line with the system level pathways as follows:

#### *Supporting Social Movements*

1. SAMARTHYA succeeded in strengthening and expanding the outreach of its strategic partners-NLRF and NFGF in line with federated state structures. NLRF outreached to 60 districts, 152 Palikas, 253 Wards and 1859 Toles involving 89706 members and NFGF to seven province, 63 district, 415 municipal levels and 2075 ward levels. The government had formally registered and owned the new structures.
2. Because of the project, organized landless, women, marginalized farmers, and their networks were better able to represent and vibrate the advocacy agendas to receive land certificates from the government. 17,669 HHs had received temporary land certificates (Nissa) and file scanning of 7988 HHs was

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian International Development Research Center

completed in Kankai, Belaka and Dhangadhimai municipalities. Distribution of the land certificate is in other local levels was in process being facilitated by NLRP beyond the project.

3. The system of categorized FID established in Belaka, Siddhicharan, Sakhuanankarkatti and Bhagawanpur has benefitted landless and marginal farmers in receiving 100% subsidized production inputs, small farmers 75% and that of medium farmers 50%. This system contributed not only to access the input subsidy; rather, it created the identity of the farmers and motivated them to graduate their intervention towards semi-commercial or semi commercial scale.
4. IVR, Localized insurance, and climate resilient leasehold farming practices were among the most effective and relevant interventions of the project to address the needs of landless, women and marginalized farmers. Models-FID, Leasehold Farming, and Localized Insurance were clearly attributable to SAMARTHYA project.
5. Alliyship built among likeminded CSOs to advance movement in land, agriculture, food security and climate change related issues.

### ***Advocacy to Influence Policies and Programs***

6. Agriculture Act and Land Act, and their relevant policies, regulations and programs were formulated/amended at three layers of the government--federal, provincial and local level due to increased capacity, representativeness, inclusiveness and governance of the strategic partners through inside and outside lobby and advocacy. The findings prevails that
  - o Local levels: Sunkoshi RM formulated Agriculture Act in 2021, Siddhicharan Municipality formulated Krishi Byabastha Prabartan Act 2075 (2018) and FID Act in 2021, Belaka Municipality Launched Land Act in 2076 (2019) and Land Use Plan in 2078 (2021), Agro-Met Advisory Services Guideline, Climate Resilient Home Garden Guideline, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), Local Seeds System Improvement Guideline in 2021. Likewise, Bhagawanpur RM and Dhangadhamai Municipality had drafted Land Act and Agriculture Act in 2021 and Land Act and Agriculture Act in Chaudandigadhi Municipality was drafting process.
  - o Province level: Madesh Province incorporated the project demonstrated climate resilient agriculture model in their annual budget of FY 2078/79 (2021/22) with a focus on vulnerable communities.
  - o Federal level: Federal government amended land policy 2019, Land Act 1964 (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> amendment) endorsed in 11st February 2021 and Land Use Act 2019 endorsed in 23rd August 2019. Likewise, the federal government increased subsidy in agriculture insurance to 80%. Similarly, SAMARTHYA partners engaged in NDC and NAP formulation process, collected issues of climate vulnerable smallholder and landless and ensure to integrate those.

### ***Promoting Social Norms Change***

7. Women and marginalized group of people showed remarkable change in the leadership and social norms called barriers for economic and social transformation. SAMARTHYA adapted 'organized diffusion' approach for this change integrating with the proven models (FID, leasehold farming, Agro-met advisory services and Community based land management) and enabled them to increase their meaningful participation in planning and decision making process as community leader and a change agent public and municipal forums to claim their rights. As a result, caste discrimination has reduced due to increased awareness.
8. There has been a significant change at HH level in gender relations, which influenced in the individual lives of women who were at least priority in access to resources and decision-making. The movements

of the project, partners and farmers groups and their network played an influential role in achieving this change.

9. The empowerment of women, landless and marginalized farmers in life skills, leadership development, social mobilization and participation in decision making process with the integration of proven models of the project have enhanced their technical skills to continue climate resilient scalable models of land and agriculture, generate income and thereby support food and nutrition security.

### ***System Strengthening***

10. Project partners strengthened their own systems and social accountability, organizing farmers and landless into groups and their networks and then mobilizing to claim for their constitutional rights to food and its sovereignty which ensured to receive subsidized production inputs like seed fertilizer; access to production resources like land, water, agriculture and transfer risk through insurance, and minimum support price for their product.
11. The system in service delivery mechanism within the duty bearers found changed in such a way that the service providers became responsive to demand of landless people, women and marginalized farmers in terms of quality and quantity with tangible arrangement, enhanced reliability, responsiveness, assurance and empathy.

### ***Scaling and Adopting Proven Models***

12. A strong culture of co-creation among the duty bearers and right holders increased in planning, implementing and scaling up of the climate resilient models developed by SAMARTHYA. The local levels also shared budget for implementation of the models.
13. The National Land Commission adopted the IVR model and developed LIRIS system to collect, verify and record of landless and informal settlers overthrowing traditional paper based system. This was adapted by the local government to lead the IVR processes for village block land distribution. This was due to a pilot success by the project in Belaka Municipality in 2019 together with CSO partners.
14. 82% of the project-supported farmers knew about low cost climate resilient agriculture farming technologies. Up to eight technologies were found practiced in the home gardens in Belaka Municipality. LIBIRD and CEN together with NLRP and NFGF facilitated the implementation of this model.
15. 'One ward one technician' approach of the Agro-Met Service Model ensured reliable agro meteorological information services to the farmers in the project communities in terms of technical knowledge and supplies.
16. There has been a significant improvement in health of women and children due to consumption of diversified food and the incidents of low birth weight of a new-born child in her birthing center were reduced.

### **Lessons learned**

- When the project intervention is highly relevant to real needs of impact groups, it remains effective to produce outcomes. The interventions i.e. FID, localized insurance, leasehold farming, IVR, climate resilient local seed system were relevant to the needs of landless and marginalized farmers.
- Changes in landless, marginalized and socially left behind communities is possible when the change movements is integrated with the tangible benefits such as FID, IVR, localized insurance, accessing to land, CSA practices etc.

- Enhanced credibility of CSOs among the communities and the state structures contributes to share resources jointly for the project intervention. NLRG and NFGFs' have a high credibility in the project communities and are able to continue the interventions beyond the project period.
- Another learning comprises that promotion of climate resilient farmer friendly technologies at community level are more effective and adoptive in the face of climate risks.
- Established linkages by SAMARTHYA among NLRG, NGFG, CSRC, NLC, local governments and other networks are functional in transforming the agendas.
- A great lesson of the outcome harvesting is that suitability and acceptance of the interventions are central to sustainability, which are applied in the project context by both the rights holders and the duty bearers.
- When gender equality and social inclusion is ensured in the project interventions, the result in outcome and impact is visible. The program approach is absolutely gendered and inclusive not only in nature; rather it was reflected in the community with visible results.

## Recommendations

Recommendations are made based on the analysis of the findings as grouped into four categories as follows:

### Outcome Harvesting Methodology

- In the process of the outcome harvesting, it would be much better if the outcome descriptions had been structured in three different categories as 1) Institutional capacities 2) Program with its proven model, and 3) The pathways for change.
- Outcome harvesting needs to be conducted immediately after the project end to get the fresh understanding and experience from the stakeholders.

### Program Design

- The project outcomes need to be sustained in the long-run. There are some cases where the climate resilient activities were initiated just nine months before the project was phased out. This situation demands robust institutional linkages with local level government for the needful assistance right from the project-designing phase.
- The strategic partners/CSOs involved in the project should have the same spirit in understanding the contexts. CARE Nepal could develop combined knowledge products and disseminate among them right from the very beginning of the project on a periodic basis on who is doing what, where and how.
- Database system established at Belaka Municipality (Production control system) seems highly relevant to ensure fair distribution of benefits and services among the landless and marginalized farmers. CARE Nepal could include this system in the program design in other projects.

### Program Implementation

- The project needs to enhance the collaboration with national level federation of elected members/local levels (for example, NARMIN in Nepal) to scale out in mass scale across the country.
- CARE Nepal through its strategic partners still need to influence the local levels with new representatives who have not endorsed the agriculture and land related acts and policies.

- Feasibility study and business plan for the contract farming, mostly in groups based intervention, provides the users a clear way forward to be actively involved in the farming mitigating the internal conflict. This needs to be at the forefront of the intervention.
- The project needs to think about the continuation of the models where local levels are yet to endorse the acts and policies. This situation clearly demands a way forward with very clear roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders working in those local levels to be established before phasing out.
- Active involvement of the government promotes ownership and accountability among them and their federated structures. The project needs to generate evidence-based knowledge products/policy briefs to stimulate them to be active in program implementation.

#### Program Sustainability

- Without a strong mechanism, renewal and continuation of localized insurance may not be sustainable. Some evidence of the group members who had not renewed their insurance clearly demands this provision.
- There is still an acute shortage of technical human resources in the local levels to support the climate resilient models in the long run. The project could think about developing few farmers as TVET graduates with a three-four months tailor-made course representing each ward of the intervention. This contributes to employment opportunities in one hand and retains the intervention of the project in the other.
- Farmers groups should have the members of almost the same features in terms of culture, poverty level, understanding etc. A mix group with elite members may have some conflict in the long run. The project and the CSOs need to account the features during the course of group formation.
- The project could support local levels to air agro-met advisory services and successful cases of the intervention through local FMs/Radios establishing a mechanism on a regular basis to support sustainability of the interventions.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background of the evaluation

CARE Nepal has been working with the most vulnerable communities of Nepal to address the issues of poverty and social injustice, along with challenging harmful practices, building capacities and empowering livelihoods for almost four decades. Today CARE Nepal works to address systemic and structural causes of poverty and social injustice like gender, caste, class, ethnicity or geography based discrimination. CARE also supports humanitarian actions to address vulnerabilities from climate change and natural disasters. CARE works with marginalized women and adolescent girls to ensure their empowerment, wellbeing and dignity through social transformation and access to quality social and economic services in Nepal.

CARE Nepal implemented ‘SAMARTHYA: Promoting Inclusive Governance and Resilience for the Right to Food’ project in across country with Udayapur, Siraha and Okhaldhunga districts as piloting area for the period of 2018 - 2021 which was supported by CARE-Denmark. The project phase has ended and CARE Nepal aims to conduct the final evaluation.

## 1.2 Introduction of the Project

### 1.2.1 Overview of the project

The project-‘SAMARTHYA: Promoting Inclusive Governance and Resilience for the Right to Food’ was implemented in Udayapur, Siraha and Okhaldhunga districts comprising six Palikas (local levels) namely Molung and Sunkoshi (Okhaldhunga), Belaka and Chaudhandigadhi (Udayapur) and Bhagawanpur and Dhangadhimai (Siraha) for the period of July 2018 - June 2022. The project was implemented by the local partners i.e. CSRC, National Farmers Groups Federation (NFGF), National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) and 2 resource partners i.e. Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LIBIRD), Clean Energy Nepal (CEN).

The project focused on developing climate resilient scalable models in land and agriculture, and strengthening peoples' organizations to become more effective in engaging with government at all levels in the given areas. Adapting shared learning and reflection; and collaborative efforts with local government and other tiers of government as per the 3Cs principle (Co-existence, Co-operation and Co-ordination) of the federalization process, it aimed to give momentum to the work that started in Right to Food (RtF) project making it more contextualized, concrete, and systematic. The project SAMARTHYA employs a number of system-level pathways to affect change, particularly supporting social movements, social accountability, advocacy for policy change and systems strengthening.

### 1.2.2 Impact stakeholder and group of the project

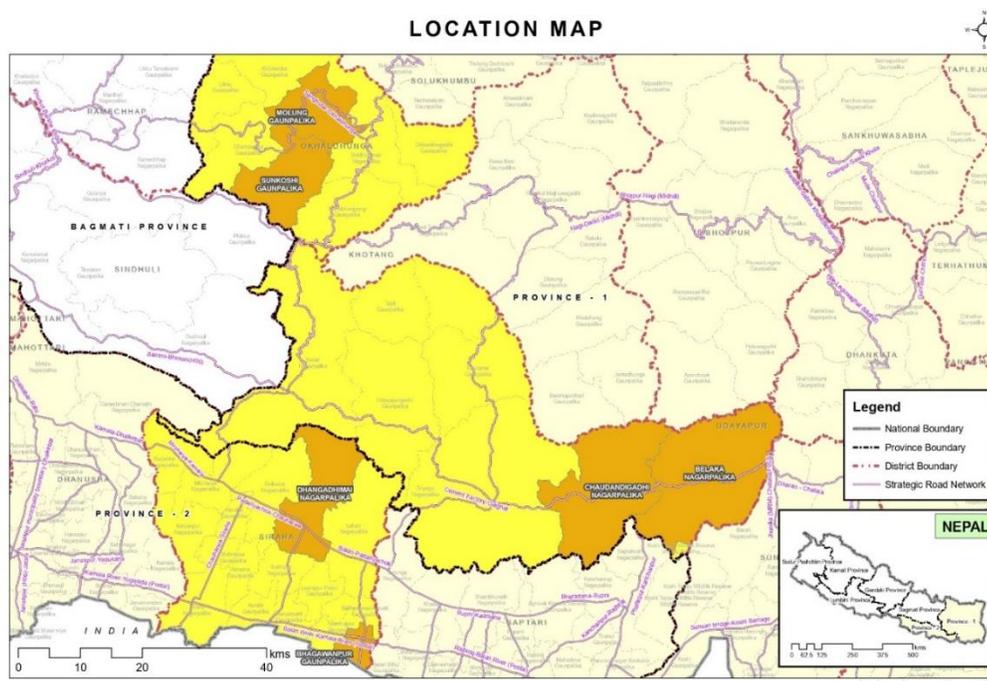
The project engaged with local and provincial government for the creation of new laws related to land, agriculture, food security and change related policies, acts, regulations and other policy frameworks. It also engaged with government stakeholders to strengthen their systems and mechanisms. The project further engaged with CSOs and NGOs to mobilise them for advocacy and policy change and to hold duty bearers accountable. In addition, a critical component of the project’s engagement with these CSOs was to strengthen their own internal systems and capacity, supporting them to become more established and sustainable.

In terms of the project impact population, SAMARTHYA engaged a total of 3,111 small holder farmers, 3,387 landless people, 151 farmers group and 80 Tole Land Rights Forum. The impact population are poor, vulnerable and socially excluded women and adolescent girls with a particular focus on those who are

- Smallholders, tenants, marginal and landless farmer households, laborers
- Natural resource dependent communities.
- Differentially impacted groups from climate change and disasters
  - People living in geographically remote areas and in poverty pockets

### 1.2.3 Project coverage and location

The project-‘SAMARTHYA: Promoting Inclusive Governance and Resilience for the Right to Food’ is implemented in Udayapur, Siraha and Okhaldhunga districts comprising six Palikas (local levels) namely Molung and Sunkoshi (Okhaldhunga), Belaka and Chaudhandigadhi (Udayapur) and Bhagawanpur and Dhangadhimai (Siraha) as piloting area for the period of July 2018 - December 2021. The proposed location could be seen in the map below:



Outcome Harvesting area of SAMARTHYA Project, CARE Nepal

Figure 1: Map of evaluation local levels

### 1.2.4 Project theory of change

**Theory of Change (ToC)** turns around the three domains which informed the systems-level evaluation. The ToC intends to result in economically empowered communities, resilient communities and safe communities to ensure right to food.

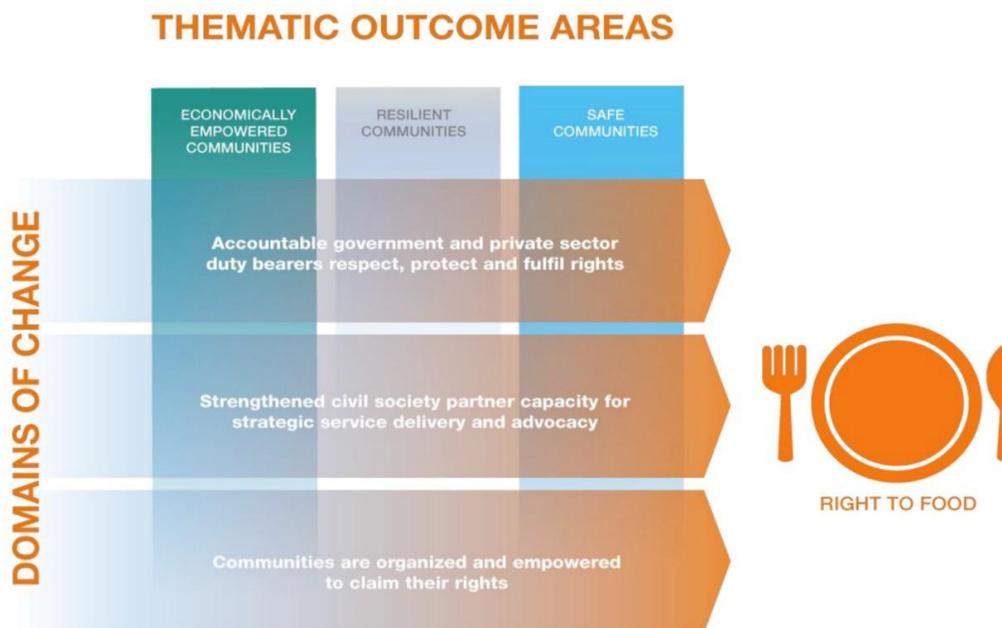


Figure 2: Theory of Change

Source: CARE Nepal, ToR, 2022

**Impact Goal:** Representative people’s organizations have individually and in alliances or networks contributed to the realization of the right to food for the benefit of the impact groups in partnership with local, provincial and federal governments.

**Domain 1:** The local, district and provincial federations of strategic partners representing the impact group mobilize & empower communities, expand knowledge, and improve their capacities to work jointly with decentralized governments in developing & implementing inclusive solutions around issues of land rights, food, agriculture and resilience to climate change and disasters.

**Domain 2:** Strategic partners representing impact group have increased their own representativeness, inclusiveness and governance and are capable of influencing policy formulation and implementation at local, provincial and federal levels around agriculture, food, land rights and resilience to climate change.

**Domain 3:** Government and other duty bearers, at federal, provincial and local levels, are responsive and engage with civil society organizations to implement land, food, agriculture, climate change adaptation policies and plans taking into account the needs of the impact groups.

### 1.3 Introduction to CARE’s systems-level change approach

CARE’s ten-year strategy **Vision 2030** seeks to increase the focus on systems-level change and impact to support the organization’s mission to save lives, defeat poverty and achieve social justice. Systems-level change goes beyond the individual-level to achieve positive shifts in the underlying structures and supporting mechanisms which make interpersonal, community, organizational, institutional, corporate and other systems operate in a particular way. CARE achieves systems-level change through the cumulative effect of its own and its partners’ programs and actions across multiple systems-level “pathways to scale”:

- 1) Advocacy to influence policies, programs and budgets of governments and other power holders; 2)

Supporting and advancing social and gender norms change; 3) Supporting social movements to take collective action for change; 4) Systems (service) strengthening and social accountability; 5) Inclusive market-based approaches for economic and environmental sustainability; and 6) Scaling and adapting proven models through CARE and our partners, and indirectly with governments, private sector or social sector. CARE conceptualizes systems-level impact as the changes people experience in their lives because of effective systems-level change.

#### 1.4 Purpose of the Evaluation/Specific Objective of the evaluation

The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the systems and structural changes achieved by the project, against CARE's pathways of systems-level change. The results of the evaluation will inform CARE Nepal's organizational framework and strategy for measuring systems-level change and impact, and support the organization's ability to design, fund, and implement strategies for systems-level change and impact.

The objective of the systems level evaluation is to:

- To systematically assess the effect of this program on systems and structures change
- To capture and assess how those changes in systems and structures have resulted in potential impacts in people's individual lives.

The leading harvesting questions

Process:

1. What did the program do and how were the systems-level pathways integrated across those activities?
2. What extent the changes, outcomes and achievements have taken place due to the project intervention?
3. What were the implementation successes and challenges? What adaptations were made? Why?
4. Who did what differently (other contributors to impact) and how did it contribute to the change(s)?

Systems and structural change:

5. What systems changes through scaling and adopting proven models were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
6. What systems changes through advocacy to influence policy and programs were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
7. What systems changes through promoting social norms change were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
8. What systems changes through systems strengthening and social accountability were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
9. What systems changes through supporting social movements were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
10. What systems changes through supporting inclusive markets were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?
11. How were those changes achieved?
12. How did the systems-level changes across these pathways reinforce or support each other in achieving those changes?

Impact:

13. How did those systems-level changes result in changes in individual level impacts on people's lives?

## 1.5 Ethical Considerations

The harvesting team carefully considered the ethical consideration during the entire process. To protect the dignity, rights and welfare of participants and respondents, the evaluation team fully complied with the research ethics and principles.<sup>2</sup> Special attention was provided to comply with the ethics of involving women and marginalized communities. All members of the evaluation team and facilitators were invited to a harvest-designing workshop organized on 25<sup>th</sup> of May and were oriented on all aspects of the research ethics on the onset of the harvesting. During that orientation workshop the objectives, purpose and most importantly the spirit of the evaluation exercise were explained to them. They were oriented on experiential learning methods (role-play, case study, FGD, survey) to refresh and enhance their knowledge and skill on participatory evaluation process that would fit to the project community context. Moreover, the evaluation team and facilitators were provided orientation about the use of proper language, non-verbal communication, body language, eye contacts, and attitude and behavior. Each team member were oriented to introduce her/his professional identity in relation to the evaluation action. Another approach oriented to have ‘INFORMED CONSENT’ of the respondents by explaining the background, objective, purpose of data gathering, use of data, how the data will be shared with whom, needed time to be given by the respondents voluntarily, provisions of documenting their responses, and their right to participate and withdrawal from the engagement. The team also obtained parental permission to discussion with their minors following the consent process. The participant’s consent in sharing their ideas and views were taken while collecting data and information from them. The time and place of consultation was decided in full agreement with the participants and local facilitators. For sensitive information, CONFIDENTIALITY of the responses of the respondents was shared to be strictly maintained by not using their name and photograph without their permission.

Even during the substantiation, participants were asked not to put their name on the substantiation sheet.

The harvesting team fully took into account the Covid 19 situation and followed the government of Nepal’s existing directives during the course. All the evaluators were given the first aid toolkit box with safety supplies to be maintained during the whole course of the mission. During the FGD and in-person interview, physical distance was maintained with the use of masks and sanitizers.

## 2. Methodology and Evaluation Design

The Outcome Harvesting (OH) approach was utilized to identify the system and structural changes and used desk review, KIIs, and secondary data to answer questions around the process, systems change, impact, and sustainability. Outcome, in this methodology, is defined as a change in the behavior, relationships, actions, activities, policies, or practices of an individual, group, community, organization, or institution. Through a series of steps, Outcome Harvesting allows CARE Nepal to document how the SAMARTHYA project has contributed to verifiable outcomes, positive or negative, intended or unintended.<sup>3</sup>

### 2.1 Research questions, data source and actors of Outcome Harvesting

The evaluators together with CARE Nepal and CSO actors identified data sources, pathways to explore and actors to consult based on the research questions, which are presented in the Table below:

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<sup>2</sup> William D. Crano, Marilyn B. Brewer and Andrew Lac (2015). Principles and Methods of Social Research. Routledge. London

<sup>3</sup> Wilson-Grau, R and Britt, H (2013). Outcome Harvesting. Ford Foundation, November 2013.

Table 1: Research questions, data sources and actors

Research questions	Data source	Pathways to explore	Relevant OH actors
<p><i>Systems and structural change</i></p> <p>- What systems changes through scaling and adopting proven models were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>	<p>Outcome harvest</p> <p>-Six steps of OH</p> <p>-IDI/KII with relevant actors</p> <p>-FGD with relevant stakeholders</p>	<p>Scaling and adapting proven models</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, LIBIRD, CEN, CSRC, NARMIN, CARE Nepal, Consultant, Local Levels</p>
<p>- What systems changes through advocacy to influence policy and programs were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>		<p>Advocacy for policy change (Influencing changes in government (or other) policies, programs and budgets)</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, Local levels, Province level (Madhesh), MoLMCPA, Kishan Aayog</p>
<p>- What systems changes through promoting social norms change were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>		<p>Promoting social norms change (Helping address discriminatory and harmful social norms)</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, Local levels, CSOs, Farmers groups, TLRF, CARE Nepal, Consultant</p>
<p>- What systems changes through systems strengthening and social accountability were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>		<p>Systems strengthening and social accountability (Transforming institutions, increasing their capacity)</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, Local levels, NARMIN, CARE Nepal, Consultant</p>
<p>- What systems changes through supporting social movements were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>		<p>Supporting social movements as convener, ally-ship, resource partner and amplifier/connectors</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, Local levels, CSOs, Farmers groups, TLRF, CARE Nepal, Consultant</p>
<p>- What systems changes through supporting inclusive markets were achieved or not achieved by the project, including unexpected changes?</p>		<p>Strengthening inclusive market based approach</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, Local levels, CSA, Farmers groups, TLRF, CARE Nepal, Consultant, Cooperatives</p>
<p>- How were those changes achieved?</p>		<p>Systems strengthening and social accountability</p>	<p>NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, Local levels, CSA, Farmers groups, TLRF, CARE Nepal, Consultant,</p>
<p>- How did the systems-level changes across these pathways reinforce or support each other in achieving those changes?</p>		<p>(Transforming institutions, increasing their capacity)</p>	
<p><i>Impacts</i></p>	<p>-SAMARTHYA project documents</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>How did those systems-level changes result in changes in individual level impacts on people's lives?</i></li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Case stories</li> </ul>		
<p><i>Sustainability</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>How sustainable was the systems-level effect?</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KII with change agents and social actors</li> <li>-Documents review</li> <li>-Observation of activities today</li> </ul>		

Outcome Harvesting requires engaging a variety of actors in a participatory manner such as the change agent<sup>4</sup> (CARE Nepal, CSRC, NLRF, and NFGF Executive Committees), social actor<sup>5</sup> (CSRC, NLRF, NFGF-Ward, Municipal, Province and District Level, TLRF, CSOs, Agriculture Cooperatives, Local Government etc.) and harvest user<sup>6</sup> (CARE Nepal and CARE Global).

## 2.2 Background of Outcome Harvesting

The system-level impact study was planned by CO Nepal jointly with the CUSA ILKA unit. The program team has decided to be part of this study to assess Nepal program contributions in line with the CUSA system-level impact pathway. The program team had a meeting to decide to pick a project for the study. During this process, the list of more than 20 relevant projects, which were implemented in the last 3-4 years, was prepared. Similarly, their ToC, Logical Framework, and Results Framework were also analyzed. All the program teams critically reviewed those projects in terms of their contribution to the system-level pathways and selected top three projects from the list. SAMARTHYA project was taken from among the three projects for the system-level impact study based on its nature to work with landless and marginalized farmers with climate-smart technologies, their institutional development, engagement with different layers of the government for policy advocacy for systematic change. The project team dug out all periodic reports, publication, outcome mapping journals, database, change stories, model acts & guidelines, and the event-wise progress report and compiled for the study.

The system-level impact study team was formed led by the DMEL & KM team consisting of team members from the program and flagship focal point. The study team prepared a brief study protocol in the form of ToR to outsource the external capacity to support this process. 3D Research and Development Solutions (3D) was been selected through the competitive procurement process. Similarly, the ILKA team contributed to outcome harvesting methodology to capture the system-level change-pieces of evidence organizing several capacity-building sessions on outcome harvesting and CUSA system-level impact pathway. These capacity-building sessions were very useful for the Nepal team to have more clarity on the system-level impact pathways and the outcome harvesting tools. CARE Nepal organized an outcome description formulation meeting and set the draft outcome descriptions. The outcome descriptions were further reviewed sharpened and mapped it with the CUSA system level impact pathways.

<sup>4</sup>Individual or organization that influences an outcome.

<sup>5</sup> Individual, group, community, organization, or institution that changes as a result of a change agent intervention.

<sup>6</sup> Individual(s) who require the findings of an Outcome Harvest to make decisions or take action.

After the mapping, CARE Nepal organized the outcome harvesting design workshop participating the harvesters (Consultant team and CARE Nepal staff, change agents, and social actors i.e. Community Self-reliant Centre (CSRC, National Farmers Group Federations (NFGF), National Land Right Forums (NLRF) and independent facilitators who were familiar with the project activities with an early draft of the outcome descriptions. The workshop provided inputs to outcome descriptions and evaluation questions in line with the system-level impact pathways. The outcome descriptions describe the understanding of the outcome-who changed what, when, and where it took place, and how the change agent contributed to that outcome. The workshop also identified the stakeholders to be consulted and the source of data collection along with finalizing the evaluation schedule. The outcome harvesting workshop led the development of inception report by the consultant. The report highlighted the SAMARTHYA project ToC, study objectives, topline research/study question, methodology, time frame, and draft tool questionnaire. The inception report was thoroughly reviewed by the ILKA team and finalized. The study questionnaire/tools were further sharpened having several round of discussions and separated for relevant stakeholders. The individual HHs level change assessment-related questionnaires were further digitalized in KOBO for data collection. Finally, 3D team organized field visits to be engaged with the informants.

## 2.3 Outcome Harvesting Steps

This OH evaluation, reflecting the standard use of this method, comprised six steps as follows:

### 1. Design the outcome harvest

This step asks the harvest users and harvesters to identify useful questions to guide the harvest. Both users and harvesters agree on what information is to be collected and included in the outcome description as well as on the changes in the social actors and how the change agent influenced them.

CARE Nepal organized the outcome harvesting design workshop on May 25, 2022 participating the harvesters (Consultant team and CARE Nepal staffs, change agents and social actors i.e. Community Self-reliant Centre (CSRC, National Farmers Group Federations (NFGF), National Land Right Forums (NLRF) and independent facilitators who were familiar with the project activities. The workshop was in two parts. The first half focused on finalising the design, and the second half supported the beginning of the harvest itself (see step 2 below). During the first half, the workshop provided an overview of CARE's systems-level impact concept, and built common understanding on outcome harvesting. It also identified the stakeholders to be consulted and source of data collection along with finalizing the evaluation schedule.

#### **Different Outcome Harvest stakeholders' roles related to SAMARTHYA**

- **Harvester** (evaluator): 3D Research & Development Solutions,
- **Change agents** (who influenced outcomes): CARE Nepal, CSRC, NLRF, NFGF
- **Social actors** (who experienced change due to change agents): NFGF, NLRF (Tole, Ward, Municipal, Provincial and National level), farmers groups, Local level-six Palikas, MoLMCPA, MoALD, NLC
- **Users** (who will use the results): CARE Country Office, CARE Global, NLRF, NFGF, CSRC

### 2. Gather data and draft outcome descriptions

Step two was supported by the second half of the workshop on May 25, 2022, which provided inputs to draft outcome descriptions and useful questions in line with the system level impact pathway evaluation questions, to be used as part of step 3 below. The outcome descriptions describe the understanding of the outcome-who changed what, when and where it took place and how the change agent contributed to that outcome.

In step two the evaluating team also reviewed project documents to gain information about changes that had occurred in impact stakeholders<sup>7</sup> and groups<sup>8</sup> of SAMARTHYA and how CARE Nepal contributed to these changes. The evaluation team collected the information from different sources including from the following sources:

- SAMARTHYA project documents, Project Completion Report
- Representation, Inclusion, Legitimacy, Transparency, Accountability and Synergy (RILTAS) report
- NFGF and NLRG Annual Report and their Position paper to demand and claim their rights in local planning process
- Case stories
- Partners Capacity Assessment (PCA)
- Due Diligence Assessment (DDA)
- Local Government formulated Agriculture Act
- Local Land Act and *policy and procedural guideline*
- *Land use plan*
- Local Agricultural Act
- Operating guidelines
- Advocacy Capacity Assessment (ACA) Report
- Joint Advocacy Plan
- Policy briefs
- Model documents (Eight documents produced by the project)
- Model outcome documentation
- Community Land Management Procedure Act and Practice Guideline

For the systems-level and individual impact changes, SAMARTHYA project documents along with project site documents and other publication were exclusively appraised and cross checked at community to see changes in individual level impacts on people's lives. Individual women and marginalized communities benefitted by the project interventions were interviewed along with collection of their stories of change in different forms i.e. change in leadership roles in making households decisions, community and municipal level decisions. Likewise, the harvesters collected information regarding the change in HH income status, health and nutrition.

### **3. Engage with informants: social actors and change agents**

The evaluation team organized intensive consultation with the different stakeholders at the federal to the community level stakeholders being engaged in collecting the information from the informants based on the outcome descriptions at this stage. This data collection was guided by the useful questions to review or complete the outcomes or to collect more outcomes. The team organized field visits [June 08-June 17, 2022] to the proposed evaluation sites<sup>9</sup> and consulted with the different stakeholders and groups as follows:

- HHs with stories of change
- NFGF (Ward, Municipal, District, Province and Federal Level)
- NLRG (Tole, Ward, Municipal, District, Province Level and Federal Level)
- CSRC (Federal level)

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<sup>7</sup> Local and provincial governments, strategic and resource partners.

<sup>8</sup> Poor, vulnerable and socially excluded women and adolescent girls with a particular focus on those who are smallholders, tenants, marginal and landless farmer households, labourers; natural resource dependent communities and differentially impacted groups from climate change and disasters

<sup>9</sup> Molung and Sunkoshi of Okhaldhunga district, Belaka and Chaudhandigadhi of Udayapur district and Bhagawanpur and Dhangadhimai of Siraha district along with their respective agencies at province level and national level.

- Project supported six local levels of Okhaldhunga, Udayapur and Sihara
- Scalable model beneficiaries at community level
- Chief Executive Officer of six Palikas, Ex-Local Level representatives (Mayors/Chairs)
- NLR Executive Committee
- Resource partners-LIBIRD and CEN
- Managing Director and Information Officer: National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN)
- CARE Staff
- NRC (District and Municipal level)
- Joint Secretary: Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation (Nepal)
- Senior Livestock Development Officer: Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation (Nepal)

Questions developed in reference to the defined outcome descriptions were asked to the relevant stakeholders, simplifying the descriptions in local language, and in many cases the statements of the outcome descriptions were shared particularly with the boundary partners to ensure that if the outcomes described were relevant to the project contexts. This process also explored the significance and contribution of the outcomes. The respondents suggested to slightly change the language for three outcome descriptions and merge two outcome descriptions under 'Promoting Social Norms Change' pathway. The harvesters accordingly incorporated the suggested changes and further discussed and agreed in the meeting organized for substantiation on June 25, 2022 in Kathmandu.

#### **4. Substantiation**

The evaluation team substantiated the outcome descriptions with the independent individuals, community leaders and agencies having understanding about the project interventions and outcomes (but independent of the project). The substantiation was organized in all visited Palika after finalizing consultations and addressing suggested changes in the outcome descriptions. All original 13 outcome descriptions, transplanted in local language, were formatted in a five point Likert Scale and asked to the substantiators to scale their understanding. Different outcome descriptions were asked to the different stakeholders relevant to them. The stakeholders were asked to provide their justification for their highest or lowest measurement of the outcome description.

The responses of the substantiators are in the table below

The substantiation was done with a mixed method approach. For example, the evaluators organized a meeting in Belaka Municipality whereas it took on an individual basis in other five Palikas. This was basically due to heavy rain during the field which created problem in gathering people and organizing the meeting.

The evaluators found that there few cases of each outcome descriptions where substantiators knew well about the project but could not recall much about the specific outcomes delivered due to the project intervention. Those substantiators were community leaders and local political leaders and in some case local NGOs. The substantiators who strongly or partially agreed on the outcome descriptions said that their level of agreement was based on the evidences they had in the project communities in developing and implementing the land and agriculture related acts and policies and introduction of climate adaptive models.

The Substantiation done in the field was further discussed in the meeting in Kathmandu and finally agreed on the produced outcomes. Refer: Annex I

#### **5. Analyse and interpret**

At this stage, harvesters had reorganized outcome descriptions to make sense of them, analysed and interpreted the data, and provided evidence-based answers to the useful harvesting questions.

The evaluation team further aligned the findings with the five ‘pathways’ to make them verifiable and show credible contribution of the project to the identified outcomes.

The final 11 outcomes, including the description, significance and contribution, can be found in annex VII

## 6. Support use of findings

Drawing on the evidence-based, actionable answers to the useful questions, harvesters proposed points for discussion to harvest users, including how the users might make use of findings. The harvesters also wrapped up their contribution by accompanying or facilitating the discussion.

The evaluation team shared the findings with CARE Nepal team for further designing, funding, and implementing strategies for systems-level change and impact.

### 2.4 Data sources for Outcome harvesting

The data sources for the outcome harvesting include SAMARTHYA project documents, Project Completion Report, RILTAS report. Likewise, the evaluators studied NFGF and NLRF Annual Reports and their Position paper to demand and claim their rights in local planning process. Case studies, Partners Capacity Assessment (PCA), Due Diligence Assessment (DDA), Local Government formulated Agriculture Act and Operating Guidelines, Local Land Act and *policy and procedural guideline, Land use plan, Advocacy Capacity Assessment ACA*) report, Joint Advocacy Plan, Policy briefs, Model documents (Eight documents produced by the project), Community Land Management Procedure Act and Practice Guideline were also taken as evaluation reference. For the primary source of data, Qualitative survey, selection HHs visits and substantiation meeting were organized.

### 2.5 Evaluation Tools for outcome harvesting

The evaluators applied a mixed methods approach for data collection tools. HHs survey questionnaire, questionnaire, checklists and guidelines for FGD and KII were used as evaluation tools. Substantiation meeting and workshop in the field and in Kathmandu were also taken as tools for the evaluation.

## 3. Outcome Harvesting Findings

### 3.1 The Process

*What did the program do and how were the system-level pathways were integrated across those pathways?*

SAMARTHYA, meaning-**strong ability**, envisioned the impact groups to be **strong and able** capacitating them to be able to demand and settle their issues by themselves. The project adopted three domains of ToC to influence the change in the system pathways-making duty bearers accountable to respect, protect and fulfill rights, strengthening capacity of CSOs for service delivery and advocacy and organizing and empowering communities to claim rights. The project commenced partnership with the CSOs of the impact groups-NRLF and NFGF and strengthened their institutional capacity in expanding their presence in line with federated state structure with enhanced skills in organizational management, governance, lobby and advocacy.



The project adopted five different pathways to influence the activities related to land and agriculture for the impact groups. The project partners-NLRF, NFGF and CSRC implemented the activities on land rights and agriculture making the duty bearers accountable to respect, protect and fulfill rights at federal, provincial and local levels and organized and empowered impact communities through their federated structures to municipal, ward and Tole levels whereas LIBIRD and CEN contributed to implement the climate resilient agriculture activities. The following figures guided the process to reach changes in the system.

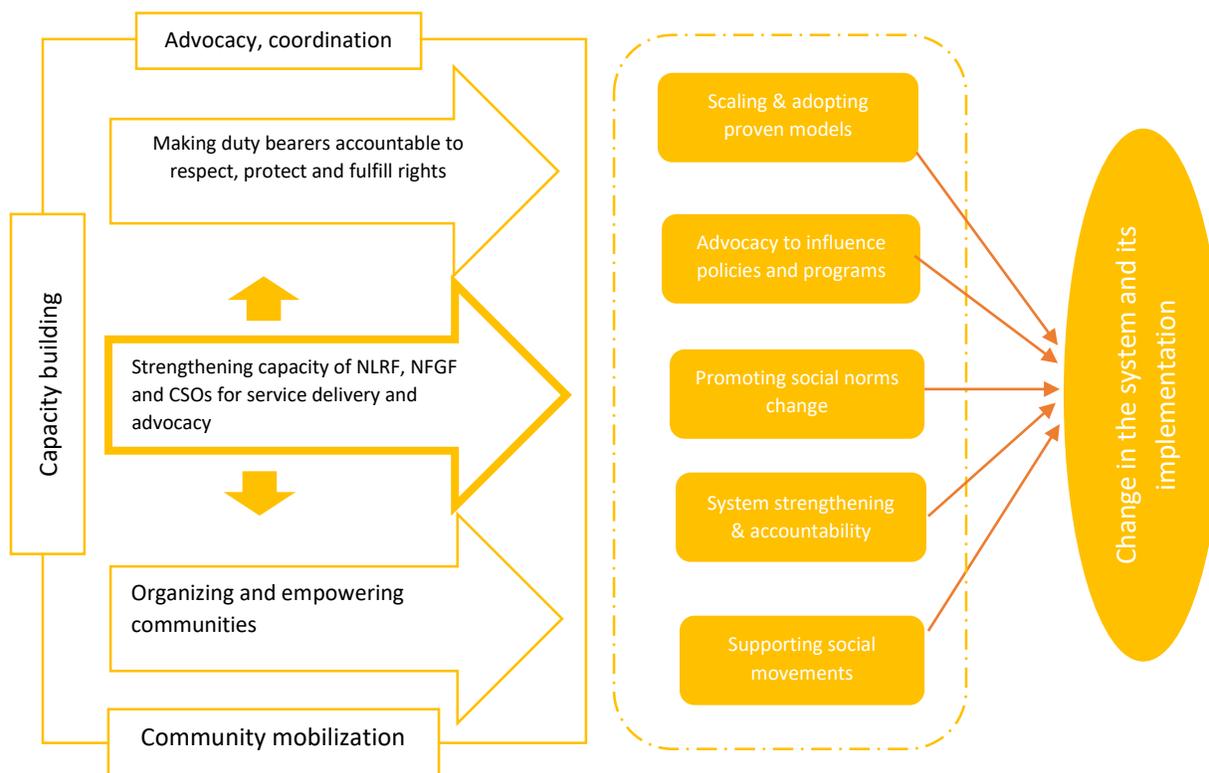


Figure 3: System changes process

Engagement with the duty bearers resonated to scaling and adopting proven models and empowerment of impact communities with proven models changed harmful social and gender norms developing their confidence to be able to approach services and demand their rights, needs and concerns. The capacity of constituencies of NLRF and NFGF comprising the representation of empowered landless and marginalized people organized lobby and advocacy campaigns to influence policy and programs resulting in the formulation/amendment of land and agriculture related acts and policies and programs at federal, provincial and local levels and thereby social movements in the relevant national platforms amplifying their voices in local, provincial and federal level of the government.

The project strived to strengthen the government structures collaborating, representing, and participating with the local, provincial and federal level to influence for policy formulation and implementation. Additionally, the project linked the stakeholders with the line agencies, built their capacity in system strengthening and social accountability providing better and quality services. Thus the ToC converted into the change into the system and its implementation to ensure rights to food.

*What extent the changes, outcomes and achievements have taken place due to the project intervention?*

The project intervention has achieved outcomes and achievements to a great extent. The project has become to establish a strong presence of impact groups' organizations-NLRF and NFGF at three tiers of the governments which has paved the way to vibrate the land rights and agriculture movements. Introduction and amendment of land act, agriculture act and relevant policies at federal and local levels incorporating the proven models introduced by the project are great achievement of the project, which have secured the rights of the impact groups in one hand and impact groups, and their networks are able to resonate the issues in the other. As a result, the project has been able to achieve 11 outcomes through five system level impact pathways. Establishment of a culture of co-creation for joint advocacy, planning and implementation of climate resilient scalable models with state structures is another key achievement of the project.

*What were the implementation success and challenges? What adaptation were made and why?*

The implementation successes comprise structural change of NLRF (five tiers-federal, province, district, municipal and ward/Tole levels) and NFGF (four tiers-federal, province, district and municipal level), introduction/amendment of new land acts and agriculture acts and piloting and scaling climate resilient models with ownership local level governments. The success is evidenced by the adaptation of changes in the acts and policies and scaling the models across thro country. CSO partners, representatives from the state structures and landless, women and marginalized farmers participated in SAMARTHYA movements, built strong and strategic partnership and learned about the need of changes in the system, which led the process to change through a series of activities reflected in the outcome achievements. The evaluators observed the federated structures of NLRF and NFGF at local, district and provincial levels to be able to continue the project interventions beyond the project period, which is central to success the project mission.

The challenges faced during the project intervention were

- Dissemination of piloting proven models among the project local levels put pressure on other local levels to adopt and expand the models. This situation required additional budget and human resources within the interested local levels. CARE Nepal coordinated with DRR and GiE team to extend its support to project areas.
- Availability of production inputs to the marginalized family having contract farming who lost their income due to market closure was another challenge during the covid pandemic as the government priority was changed to addressing the covid crisis.
- The dissolution of LIRC delayed the speed of land management work and created an emotional backlash within the landless people. However, due to continuous advocacy of the people's organization and civil society organizations, the National Land Commission was formed and resumed the previous efforts.
- Another challenge that the evaluators found is the renewal of the localized insurance. Most of the farmers who had no experience of loss were found not renewing the insurance. Low level of financial literacy among farmers group had impeded renewal and claim process. Claims process is still tedious which demands a lot of documentation process. Taking accurate pictures of dead animal, verifying certificate of death and long waiting to receive claim are among the demotivating factors behind this.

*Who did what differently (other contributors to impact) and how did it contribute to the change?*

After being acknowledged about the movement of NLRF and NFGF, and the essence of the needs of landless, women and marginalized communities, MoLMCPA and MoALD at the central level, Provincial government in Madhesh province and 24 local level governments realized the need to formulate/amend land acts, agriculture acts and relevant policies incorporating the scalable climate resilient models developed by the project. NARMIN, an influential umbrella federation of municipalities in Nepal comprehended the project intervention.

The project through NLRF and NFGF built the capacity of the government structures. This realization contributed to introduce new and amend the existing land and agriculture acts and policies at all government levels resulting in the implementation of the project models in practice at local levels because without change in the said policies and programs, it was not possible to address the real needs of landless, women and marginalized farmers in the communities.

Farmer Commission supported NFGF providing different platform, moral support and guidance on the issues related to food security and agriculture. Previous Land Issues Resolution Commission (LIRC) reformed as National Land Commission (NLC) provided proper space to NLRF hearing their voices. The LIC also included SAMARTHYA's land related model in its approach of land related problem solving.

Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN) and Right Food Network came to UN Food System Dialogue Platform led by NFGF. This ally-ship was effective in organizing different dialogue on policy localization, collecting ground issues related to sustainable food system. Those issues were documented in the form of policy references and submitted to NPC- (the focal point for UNFSS dialoge in Nepal).

Both Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ) and Association of Nepal Agriculture Journalists (ANAJ) supported to externalize the issues and best practices of SAMARTHYA project. NEFEJ documented SAMARTHYA's model and best CSA practices and shared among larger audience.

## 3.2 Outcome Descriptions

### 1) Supporting social movements pathway

**A1: The NFGF was strengthened to expand its outreach from 48 to 63 districts and the NLRF from 53 to 60 districts, aligning with new federal structure. This has support to increase their constituency for advancing their movement on land and agriculture. This has also facilitated promoting their legacy, recognition, participation among allies and policy makers.**

The evaluation prevails the most important change in improved institutional capacity and expanded structures of NLRF and NFGF across the district and local levels in line with federated state structures. NLRF was being supported by CSRC since its establishment in 2004. CARE Nepal established partnership with NLRF in 2012 with a small grant and enhanced it through SAMARTHYA project from July 2018 as an independent organization. NLRF expanded its institutional outreach to 60 districts, 152 Palikas, 253 Wards and 1859 Toles involving 89706 members and NFGF to seven province, 63 district, 415 municipal levels and 2075 ward levels after being affiliated with CARE Nepal.

**Contribution of the project:** SAMARTHYA strengthened the capacity to expand the structures of NFGF and NLRF to reach landless and smallholder farmers with enhanced advocacy and organization capacity development. The project organized a series of formative events, capacity building workshops and exercises. This arrangement made possible to strengthen and expand the institutional presence of NFGF and NLRF across the province and district level which created an opportunity to widen their constituency in advancing the land and agriculture related movements on issue based discussion, supporting governments for landless and small and marginalized farmers' friendly policy amendment process. For institutional strengthening, the project applied different tools to empower the organizations i.e. Social Audit, Participatory Capacity Assessment (PCA), Advocacy Capacity Assessment (ACA), RILTAS tools (Representation, Inclusion, Legitimacy, transparency, Accountability & Synergy). This measures also contributed to widening and deepening geographical coverage and membership among the impact groups.

Unexpected change the evaluators observed is the enhanced credibility of NLRF and NFGF among the landless and marginalized people, CSOs and state structures from federal to the local levels. The credibility is enhanced due to their involvement in joint campaigning with the community people, contribution to state structures in identifying the land rights and agriculture related issues and formulating the acts, policy and programs at provincial, local and federal level.

**Why is this significant?** Before the expansion, the presence of NFGF was limited to 48 districts and that of NLRF was in 53 districts. Provincial, municipal and ward level structures were not in existence. Both the organization had narrowed access to advance their movement in land and agriculture given that their presence was crucial across the country. From among many CSOs, CARE Nepal selected NLRF and NFGF accounting their strong hold in raising and voicing the issues of land and agricultures related agenda for a long time. The changes in the structures broadened the scope of the organizations to influence the policy and programs at federal, provincial and local level governments.

The expansion of the organization increased their constituency and recognition among the allies and policy makers at different levels. The change is, thus, highly significant as it had paved the way for advocacy even at Tole/farmers group level hearing the voice of landless and marginalized communities.

**A2: Land-less people are organized in the groups and its network, mobilize to claim their land rights, and succeed to receive land certificates from the government.**

The harvested and verified outcome provides evidences of a significant change in creating structures and networks organizing the landless people to claim their land rights and receive land certificates from the government. The change become possible through a systematic and structured process involving the representatives of landless people in the groups and network from settlement to the federal level. Settlement/Toles of the landless and marginalized people (including Haliya, Harucharuwa, Kamaiya, Kamlari, Raute, Chepang, and Musahar) were identified and organized into group led by a five member Tole Land Right Forum (TLRF) as an executive body. TLRFs were formally registered at ward level of the municipality, Municipal Land Right Forums (MLRF) at district level, District Land Right Forum (DLRF) at province level and Provincial Land Right Forum (PLRF) were registered at federal level. Those groups did advocacy at their respective constituency. TLRF vibrated the issues based movement related to different sub-thematic area of land right such as Village Blok, unregistered settlement etc. whereas DLRF, MLRF and NLRF raised the common issues.

The organization of the groups and networks brought significant change in advocacy skills and receiving land certificates. While asked about the change they perceived, TLRF members at Sugyare, Udapapur said that they were equipped with capacity building, advocacy skills and networking skills and used to be invited to the municipal meeting discussing about land and agriculture issues. Another change they perceived was that three members of their group had received the temporary land certificate/Nissa and that of others was in the process. In Okhaldhunga, 107 HHs received joint land ownership certificate in collaboration with Land Revenue Office from among 160 distributed including three from Molung RM. Man Kumatir BK from Molung said that she was extremely happy after receiving the land certificate.

The harvested outcome also prevails that survey of village block land in Bhagwanpur is completed and legal procedures were on-going with a plan to distribute land certificate from July 2022 whereas landless people of Nainpur, Chainpur, Fulkahakatti, Hanuman Nagar and Bhawanipur villages of Dhangadhimai Municipality had got village block land certificates. Village block land distribution for remaining HHs in Dhangadhimai are planned to be completed within this year according to Survey Office Lahan.

Another evidence prevails that Land Reform Commission had completed the identification, verification, registration and distribution of Nissa<sup>10</sup> in 9 wards of Dhangadhimai Municipality for settlement. Out of 14wards, ward # 1,4,9,11,12 are in the process. (Coordinator, Dhangadhimai Land Commission)

**Contribution of the project:** Receiving the land certificates was initiated by a pilot model by SMARTHYA through an IVR model (Identification, Verification and Recording) in Ward no-3, Belaka Municipality. An agreement was done among CSRC, NLRF, NFGF, UN-HABITAT, CARE Nepal to settle the alarming issues of landless and informal settlers by providing land certificate to them.

As per the agreement UN-Habitat supported for the installment of a software called Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) in Belaka Municipality and CSRC, NLRF, NFGF finalized a set of questionnaire and trained local enumerators for data collection, data entry and verification of necessary information. The then Land Issues Resolving Commission (LIRC) and current National Land Commission adopted the model and developed LIRIS system to collect, verify and record of landless and informal settlers. This model developed new digital system to identify, verify and record the landless and informal settlers overthrowing traditional paper based system. This was adapted by the local government to lead the IVR processes for village block land distribution.

The achievement in SAMARTHYA focused districts is reflected in the Table below:

Table 2: Achievement of project focused districts

District	Municipality	Progress Till December, 2021						
		Household Data Collection			Data Entry	Parcels Mapped/Hect or	Nissa Distribution	File Scanning
		Landless	Informal Settlers	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Jhapa	Kankai M	3089	4254	7343	6089	3555	7343	0
Udayapur	Belaka M	3314	10749	14063	1231	2359	8533	5815
Siraha	Dhangadimai M	1284	1345	2629	130	296	1793	2173
<b>Total</b>		7687	16348	24035	7450	6210	17669	7988

Source: CSRC's database 2021

The evaluators observed unexpected change for this outcome. Women participants said that they felt dignified and respected in the community with increased social status as they were invited to the community and social events and their voices were heard. (FGD at Belaka-1, Udayapur and Bhagawanpur-3, Siraha). Feeling of dignified life is one of the brilliant examples of unexpected change. Similarly, empowerment among the family member in making HHs decisions, their involvement in social and ritual activities and leadership role in small community conflicts provide the evidence of unexpected change.

**What is the significance?** Doing lobby and advocacy among the change agents and boundary partners, NLRF facilitated in receiving individual land ownership certificates during the project period that were surveyed in block, named as ‘village block’ certificate that had collective ownership. In 1990s the government's Survey

<sup>10</sup> Temporary land certificate receiving card provided by the government. Based on this, the individual households get the valid land ownership certificate once the procedures get completed.

Office had a wholesome survey of the village and they were ‘village block’ residents. These resident had right to use the land but they were unable to use it for other transaction purposes.

Though Joint Land Ownership (JLO) was initiated by CSRC as mother organization of NLRF, they further continued with the collective effort by doing advocacy and lobby. Large numbers of people shared in the field that they had strived for individual land ownership before being a member of NLRF but it was never materialized. The force of federation made it possible.

The change brought by this outcome is highly significant as most of land less people left behind of getting land certificate before the project intervention received land certificates and remaining are in the process of receiving it. Federated structures of NLRF an NFGF at provincial, district and local levels were found facilitating the landless and marginalized communities, their groups and networks to continue their land rights movements after the phasing out of SAMARTHYA. This provides an additional significance, which ensures sustainability of the intervention. Before the project intervention, most of the farmers were unorganized and had very less social and state recognition. They remained busy in labor work in the local market or in the landlord's farm to cope with their daily livelihoods and had no idea on how to ensure land rights and get the land certificates, even of the unregistered land they had for years.

**A3: Farmers' groups and their networks have better institutional capacity and are mobilized to claim their constitutional rights on food and its sovereignty and were successful to receive subsidized production input, access to production land and water and agriculture insurance product.**

The most influential change that the evaluators found is the ability of the farmers groups and networks increased to access constitutional rights to food, subsidized production inputs, agriculture land and water and agriculture insurance. NFGF organized fragmented farmers into groups and registered them at local level within the jurisdiction of local government through a series of capacity building activities in lobby and advocacy to make them able claim their constitutional rights on food and its sovereignty. Once the institutional recognition was established, they demanded for their rights bringing changes in local level programs and policies. The outcome demonstrates that farmers used different strategies and tactics (Regular meeting/issue based discussion/Annual action planning/demand submission /discussion with local level, mass campaign, procession etc.) to support their demands. For example, they demanded for a local insurance agent to be selected by community itself who is all the time available as needed in Belaka, Okhaldhunga in 2019. They applied an innovative farming practices such as lemon farming and turmeric farming in follow land and pond protection with fish farming. Likewise, landless farmers in Chaudandigadhi Municipality-2, Udayapur leased in 3 bigha of land from school and cultivated lemon plants and farmers of the same municipality ward no 6 have utilized an irrigation pound with fish farming. In Belaka-6, Udayapur (Ghumne Tarakari Group), collaboration between farmers group, private land owners, municipality, NFGF, NLRF, LIBIRD and CEN contributed to a landless community receiving FID, solar lift irrigation, contract farming with climate resilient farming technologies.

We can talk to our Mayor and table our agenda now. Even we can talk to the Prime Minister of Nepal if got a chance.  
See the changes in our community: FID in process, availability of agriculture inputs from municipality, contract farming and irrigation facilities. - Chair, Ghumne Tarakari Utpadan Women Agriculture Group, Belaka, Udayapur

**Contribution of project:** SAMARTHYA jointly with NFGF increased the capacity of farmers groups and networks, about their constitutional rights and entitlements, leadership and communication skills, group dynamics, confidence building and identification of the service providers and duty bearers at different local levels.

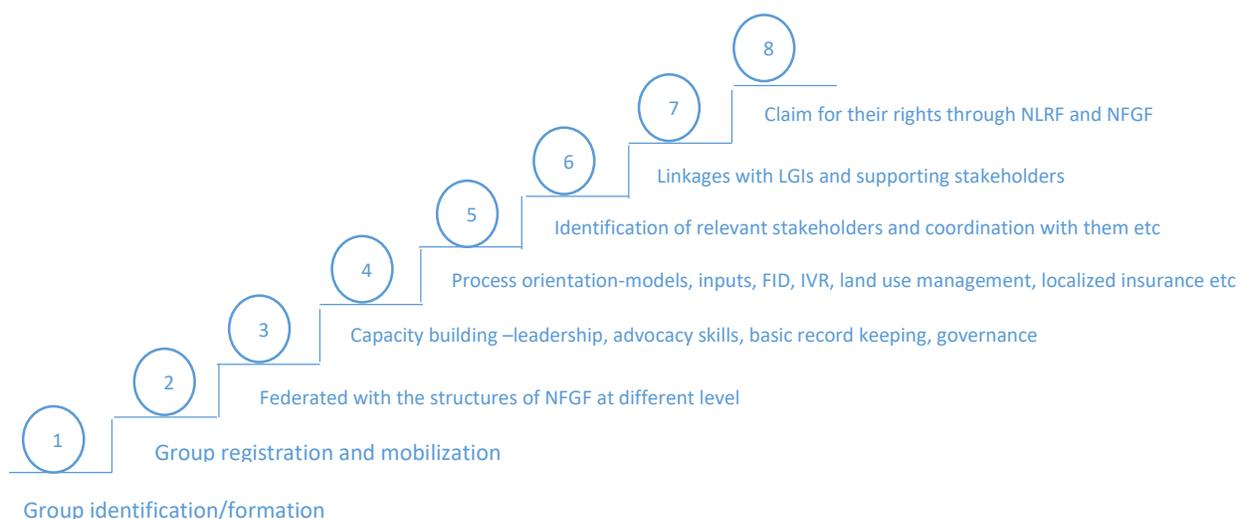


Figure 4: Step by step process of contribution to NFGF

Similarly, a total of 232 farmers group (5191 HHs) represented by 63% women developed networks within NFGF, CSO and local level governments. They are engaged in 7-step planning process of National Planning Commission (NPC) Nepal<sup>11</sup> independently and influence their agenda with different duty bearers. (Ref: NFGF)

The changes are reflected in group governance as evidenced by the regular meeting, savings, transparency, equality in benefits sharing. Farmers in Dudhkhola, felt that SAMARTHYA built their capacity to be able to enhance coordination and collaboration between themselves, duty bearers and CSOs by facilitating workshops, meetings and multi-stakeholder dialogue (Kisan Chautari) platform to claim their food security rights.

Farmers groups were found to be able to pull resources from the local governments. For example, six local government shared US \$ 20,500 in 2020 for contract farming. Likewise, 104 TLRFs who had developed the climate change adaptation plans were able to access US \$ 55,000 in year 2020 and US \$ 95,000 in year 2021 from the local governments to implement their 24 schemes (including drinking water, irrigation channels, culvert, embankments, electric lines, access roads, gravel, farm and livestock training, building community house, leasehold farming and forestation plans) benefitting 1069 HHs.

The Farmers Groups were also able to collaborate with other CSOs to intensify their movements. For example, Human Rights and Environment Development Center in Udayapur and WOREC Nepal and Dalit Jan Kalyan in Sihara jointly worked as facilitator for NFGF, NLRF, CSRC and Land Reform Commission which could be taken as unexpected change the strategic partners were able to widen their scope of collaboration.

**What is the significance?** The change is shaped significantly in favor of landless and marginalized people to access land and production inputs (irrigation for cultivation, subsidized production inputs-seeds and saplings). Additionally, insurance companies reluctant to go to the village earlier are providing insurance services at local

<sup>11</sup> Step-1: Pre-budget preparatory work (submission of forecasted income and expenditure to federal government& receiving budget ceiling from province and federal government); Step-2: Resource estimation and budget ceiling at local level; Step-3: Selection of plans and program from Tole/settlements; Step-4: Ward level prioritization of plans and programs; Step-5: Budget and program formulation; Step-6: Approval of budget and program from RM/Municipal executive body; Step-7: Approval of budget and program from RM/Municipal council

level in the presence of locally hired insurance agent. As a result, farmers are motivated to scale up livestock farming and are able to recover their loss of animal death and continue their livelihoods with less risk. Before the project intervention, small and marginalized farmers had very less access to subsidized production inputs and agriculture land. The insurance companies were limited to the urban cities and more accessible places. This change is therefore highly significant in terms of building the capacity of farmers groups and their networks to access their constitutional rights.

**A4. NLRF and NFGF have improved management, institutional governance, legitimacy and accountability systems to ensure inclusive and diverse/meaningful representation at their all-level structure and are accountable to their constituencies and related stakeholders.**

The evaluators found the most important change in developing context friendly policies, guidelines and manuals to lead the improvement management and institutional governance within NLRF and NFG. Formation and amendment of internal policies and guidelines helped them to contextualize overall management system which included improvement in human resources-right person in the right place with gender equality and social inclusion and their capacity building; and administrative management- changes in policies, documentation, compliance handling, filing, record keeping, logistic management, and office operation. This change put them on track to maintain the transparency, gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) in human resources, legitimacy and accountability.

**Contribution of the Project:**

- I. The project contributed to change the management system to contextualize the movement of NLRF and NFGF in different forms. It helped in capacity building and reshaping existing and introducing new administrative approach with the following inputs:

*Table 3: Project inputs to NLRF & NFGF in capacity building*

NLRF	NFGF
- Financial and technical support in developing digital platform	- Support in HR management process.
- Financial support for human resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, recording.	- Support in documentation, compliance handling, filing, record keeping, logistic management, and office operation.
- Support in staffs management at district level.	- Support in issues identification, policy analysis, advocacy agenda setting, lobbying and advocacy
- Support in policy formulation and amendment.	
- Enhanced advocacy in ACA, PCA, and DDA.	
- Support in essential equipment i.e. laptop, computer, camera, photocopy machine, projector, motorbike etc.	
Training in financial management and internal audit and	

- II. The project itself and through CSRC, CEN and LIBIRD supported NLRF and NFGF to develop new and amend the existing policies and manuals through various training and capacity building activities. As a result, NLRF and NFGF prepared various knowledge products, policies and communication tools, which successfully improved the governance and organizational system.

### Policies and guidelines of NFGF

- Good governance and accountability policy
- Amendment of Administrative and Financial policy
- Amendment of personnel (regular and long term activists) mobilization manual
- Formulation of issue-based advocacy policy
- Cost sharing policy for management cost
- Volunteer mobilization policy
- Partnership policy
- Management governance policy

### Publications by NLRF

- Sangathan Nirman Tathaa Parichalan Sahayogi Pustika
- Collection of policy and directives on land settlement
- Photo-report on transformative movement and good practices
- Action-guide on community land management
- Brochure on land rights movements

Box 2: Policies, guidelines and publications-NLRF, NFGF

NLRF also published and disseminated various materials for advocacy. Similarly, NLRF relied on social media and digital technology to influence legitimacy and accountability.

For example, as a part of adaptive management, NLRF reached out its structures even during the Covid pandemic through zoom and in-person meetings organizing periodic review meetings and issue based orientation activities. NLRF updated website and FB page in line with the changed state structures which established a system to regularly exchange the communication among forums and representatives to address the issues of landless and marginalized communities. Land rights facilitation group created in the FB greatly helped to share the progress and issues within the NLRF structures from TLRF to NLRF.

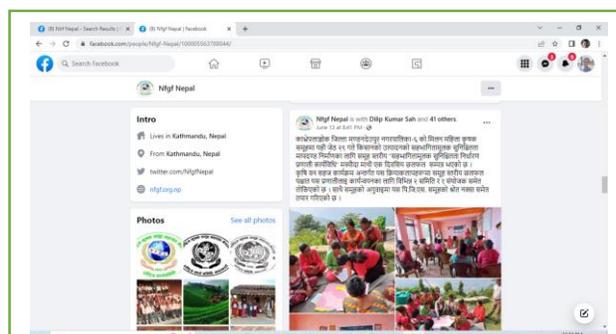
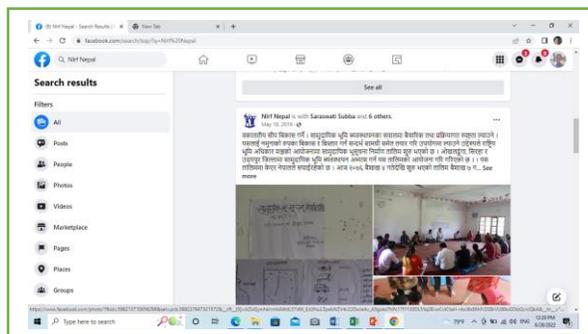


Figure 5: FB page of NLRF & NFGF

III. The project helped NFGF to improve their governance and practices within their structures. The followings are changed practices:

- Policies are developed and updated
- Organizational capacity, system strengthening, and institutional governance i.e.; Social Audit, PCA, ACA, and RILTAS are the evidence.
- Inclusive provision and practice in different structures have been established such as; 51% of women participation, General assembly, national assembly etc.

Table 4: Examples of project contribution to change the policy at NFGF

1. Constitution (revision)	9. Group mobilization Policy revision)
2. 5 years strategic plan (revision)	10. GESI Policy revision)

3. Code of conduct of NFGF revision)	11. Entrust policy revision)
4. Aviyenta selection and Mobilization revision)	12. Feedback mechanism
5. PSEA guideline (making)	13. Zero tolerance policy (making)
6. Human resource mobilization policy revision)	14. Cost shared policy (making)
7. Financial policy revision)	15. Federation Election Guideline revision)
8. Federation Regulation Guideline revision)	

NFGF has been practicing social audit, external audit, tax clearance, annual assembly/council participating government and non-government stakeholders as accountability tools. Joint monitoring and exposure trips also contributed to be more accountable for NFGF.

**What is the significance?** The change in the management and institutional governance of NLRF and NFGF improved whole organizational management system with enhanced skills, amended policies and guild lines. NFGF developed/amended 8 policy and guidelines and that of NLRF did 15. This change contributed to organizational system to be fully functional with more legitimacy and accountability. This change also established upward accountability within the organization. Women participation at different level structures of the organizations increased to above 51%. Digital platforms were created to exchange their issues and strategies. This changes increased their credibility resulting in their participation in crucial policies, plan and program formulation process related to land organized by the governments at different levels. The change observed in the organization is highly significant as both the organization have contextual policies in practices after the project contribution.

**A5: NLRF and NFGF have increased capacities in programmatic area (strategic planning, policy analysis, model policy formulations and advocacy and influence, gender, social inclusion and diversity, Campaign management) and technical area (agriculture, livelihoods, climate change adaption measures, KM & MEL proceedings).**

SAMARTHYA contributed to enhance the capacity in programmatic area of NLRF and NFGF. This change sharpened their capacity for impactful implementation of proven models in the designated communities. Again, partners improved their strategic, technical and management areas that built strong foundations in the project area. The harvesters explored the results of this outcome harvesting in reference to how NLRF and NFGF increased their capacity in different area. The evaluation team collected the evidences to support change in the area from both the organizations at different level as follows:

Table 5: Project contribution in Programmatic and technical sector of NLRF and NFGF

NLRF	
Programmatic sector	Technical sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training to prepare alternative based advocacy model with questionnaire and format</li> <li>• Guidance in preparation of periodic plan and action plan</li> <li>• Training in identifying key agenda/issues, legal opportunities and institutional development</li> <li>• Financial and strategic support to work in coordination with different networks and forums</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation in land ownership and climate resilient agriculture practices.</li> <li>• Training to NLRF activists in planning and implementation of climate friendly approach.</li> <li>• Facilitation in preparing HR selection measures to implement the models.</li> <li>• Indicator development to monitor the climate friendly activities.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated to include gender participation and social inclusion related issues in policies and guidelines.</li> </ul>	
<b>NFGF</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project supported to 10 different model policies formation/reformations.</li> <li>Strategic plan formulation and revision.</li> <li>Supported to institutional capacity assessment in annual basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical support in agriculture policy-making to local government.</li> <li>Mobilization and technical support in diverse livelihood components at farmer level.</li> <li>Mobilization and technical support- CVCA and adaptation plan and implementation to farmer level.</li> <li>The skills have improved in event report and annual report, project report, and social media handling.</li> </ul>

Additionally, PCA and ACA, RILTAS have been institutionalized and organized in annual basis at NFGF and NLRF which measure the capacity of different six organizational areas and support to fill the gaps.

After the contribution in different thematic areas, NLRF and NFGF were able to implement the strategic plan and guidelines policies being able to identify and influence the real issues for the implementation of programmatic and technical activities. They were able to facilitate climate resilient scalable models across the project communities and meet the organizational needs to influence implementation of programs and models. Furthermore, the legitimacy of NLRF and NFGF have been strengthened resulting in a strong organization for advocacy in an organized and systematic manner, ensuring internal governance.

**Contribution of the project:** SAMARTHYA contributed in various trainings to build the capacity of NLRF and NFGF in strategic and management sector. It supported in the development of operational and technical guidelines, networking capacity and strategic program formulation and revision. The project built the technical capacity of NLRF and NFGF through LIBIRD, CEN, and CSRC particularly in climate resilient agriculture, leasehold farming and home garden management-climate resilient model practices with demonstration.

**What is significance?** Both NLRF and NFGF are able to develop and implement gendered and inclusive plans and model practices. Active participation of women and marginalized people in programs of both the organizations has increased. Further, they are able to facilitate climate resilient agriculture adaptation practices through a robust organizational mechanism at ward, Tole and HHs level. Before the project intervention, they had their own capacity to advance their movements. They had very less experience in climate resilient farming practices.

## 2) Advocacy to influence policies and programs

**A6. NLRF, CSRC and NFGF strengthened policies and budgets, in three tiers of the government including local levels, related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security in Nepal through developing clear advocacy agendas (Policy brief, model act) and pursuing collective actions by their structure of different level by applying Insider and outsider advocacy approach to incorporate the priorities landless and marginalized communities (alliance and coalition building, campaign, mass gathering, lobby, dialogue meeting with parliamentary members, women empowerment in agriculture (contribution in decision making process at family and community, dignity at family level).**

The outcome description contributed to achieve one of the sub-objectives of SAMARTHYA- Strategic partners representing impact group have increased their own representativeness, inclusiveness and governance and are capable of influencing policy formulation and implementation at local, state and federal levels around agriculture, food, land rights and resilience to climate change. NLRG and NFGF set their advocacy agenda with policy briefs and model acts and pursued collective actions through their structures at different levels applying insider and outsider advocacy approach.

The outcome description prevails the change of NLRG and NFGF in knowledge products and knowledge management solutions to influence policies and practices. SAMARTHYA capacitated them to identify, raise the issues and influence the policies through knowledge products and dissemination. As a result, the partners independently prepared lobby and advocacy agenda related to land and agriculture within given rights of Local Government Operation Act (LGOA), 2018. Tailored lobby and advocacy tools were prepared to fit target authority to table issues faced by the landless and marginalized farmers. Partners also acted as ally to empower groups with local elected members and learned about appropriate stakeholders and socially influential persons. These form of ally put pressure on the authority for changing policies, social norms and customs which were barriers to claim rights of landless and marginal farmers as well as excluding community.

**Contribution of the project:** The project through NLRG and NFGF conducted the following movements to reach the outcome:

- Advocacy campaigns i.e. several rallies, miking, meetings/discussion, strike, alliance and coalition building, campaigning, mass gathering, lobby and advocacy meeting with elected members at federal, provincial and local levels.
- Capacity building of institutional structures of NLRG and NFGF at province, district, Palika, ward and Tole level in lobby and advocacy related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security.
- Empowerment of farmers' groups, women and marginalized farmers through a series of trainings and advocacy skills to claim their rights related to land, agriculture, and climate change and food security.

Table 6: The evidences of the formal movements made by NLRG and NFGF

Evidence of NLRG movement	Evidence of NFGF movement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Worked with high level NLRC as a member in 2065 (2008).</li> <li>- Participated in high level Scientific Land Reform Commission in 2066 (2009).</li> <li>- Participated in Land Reform Action Plan Committee as a member in 2068 (2011).</li> <li>- Participated in National Land Policy Formulation Steering Committee as member in 2069 (2012).</li> <li>- Discussion with and suggestion provided to parliamentarians and political leaders at federal level in line with constitutional rights to land in 2072 (2015).</li> <li>- Organized formal and informal campaigns on Food to rights and Food Sovereignty Act, Settlement Right related Act, Land Utilization Act, Land Act (8th edition) and provided suggestion during 2075-76 (2018/19).</li> <li>- Meeting with NLRC on 12 Srawan 2077 (2020), discussed on roles of and measures to be taken into</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2078/0819, the ministry of forest and environment have invited to NFGF to discuss on the NAP planning process-ref letter 234.</li> <li>- In 2078/12/8, the ministry of agriculture and livestock development, Bagmati province have requested to review and recommendation to the policies; <i>Bidyayak</i> made to make arrangements for state agricultural development, ref letter 2036.</li> </ul> <p>Most influential tools for change in policy applied</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence based advocacy</li> <li>• Jasakao sawal usako netrottwo</li> </ul>

- 
- account by local level governments to address the land related needs of landless Dalits and unmanaged settlements.
  - Meeting with NLC on Falgun 10, 2078 (Feb 2022), discussed about Land Act and management of landless Dalits and other people and unmanaged settlements. Decision made to follow systematic and well managed identification process.
  - Discussed with National Inclusion Commission and National Farmers' Commission about land management at local level, rights of marginalized community and environment friendly development on Falgun 2078 (Feb 2022).
- Resources sharing with local governments
- 

### **Evidences of the results due to project contribution:**

#### Evidence at Local Level:

- Local government formulated Agriculture Act, Land Act including operating guidelines on leasehold farming, agro met advisory service, seed policy, Participatory Guarantee System as evidenced by
  - Sunkoshi RM formulated Agriculture Act in 2021.11.16 and Siddhicharan Municipality formulated Krishi Byabastha Prabartan Act 2075 and FID Act in 2021.09.08. Likewise, Belaka Municipality Launched Land Act in 2076 and Land Use Plan in 2078 in collaboration with CSRC, NFGF and NLRF. Land vision paper prepared and endorsed.
  - Belaka Municipality also formulated Agro-met advisory services guideline with 'One Technician One Ward' slogan, Climate resilient home garden guideline, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), Local seeds system improvement guideline as supported technically by NFGF and LIBIRD (facilitation).
  - LIBIRD and NFGF jointly supported to prepare the municipality periodic plan of Belaka (+CSRC) and Bhagwanpur in which climate resilient perspectives are included. Probable climate adversities and resiliency measures against adversities were strictly considered during the plan preparation process
  - Bhagawanpur RM and Dhangadhamai Municipality had drafted Land Act and Agriculture Act in 2021 which were under the validation process. Dhangadhamai had endorsed Climate resilient home garden guideline which is in practice in the municipality.
  - The process of drafting the Land Act and Agriculture Act in Chaudandigadhi Municipality will take place by newly elected representatives (Furti Man Rai, District Coordinator, DLRF).

#### Evidence at Province Level

Madesh Province has incorporated the project demonstrated climate resilient agriculture model in their annual budget of FY 2078/79 (2021/22) with a focus on vulnerable communities as facilitated by NLRF, NFGF. Provincial government consulted with NFGF and NLRF in different activities i.e. Policy and programs, planning process,

## Evidence at Federal Level in influencing policy and program

- NLRG and NFGF participated as an invitee member in the agriculture development subcommittee to incorporate agriculture agendas in the annual policy, plan, and budget formulation process. (Madhesh)
- CSRC, NLRG and NFGF created various networks on their own lead and also joined the advocacy effort led by the NGO federation to pressurize the government to adopt progressive policy and legal instruments to govern CSOs in Nepal in the context of federalism.
- In the response of NFGF's demand to raise to budget for the agriculture sector and submission of position paper in fiscal year 2077/78 (2020/21), the provincial government (Madhesh and Lumbini province) included these missing programs including a budget increment. Some of the activities were included in the final budget of the fiscal year. (shift to province level)
- NFGF, CSRC and NLRG engaged heavily with different levels of government in order to ensure that the issues of landless, smallholders, climate vulnerable communities' women were included in different policies. As a result, impact groups' needs and concern are included in policies such as the amended land policy 2019<sup>12</sup> endorsed in 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019<sup>13</sup>, Land Act 1964 (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> amendment)<sup>14</sup> endorsed in 11<sup>st</sup> February 2021 and Land Use Act 2019 endorsed in 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019.
- The federal government reduced subsidy in agriculture insurance from 75% to 50%. NFGF along with National Farmers' Commission, Agriculture Journalist Association for Nepal, National Farmers' Collation and other organization in agriculture sector did advocacy to rectify this change. As a result government provisioned 80% subsidy rate.
- National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN) cooperated to review existing local level policies related to land and agriculture. The model land and agriculture acts have been harmonized and shared to all 460 rural municipalities by NARMIN, partially related to FID, Localized insurance and leasehold farming.

Unexpected changes occurred due the intervention is that number of local levels other than the project supported are adopting the Land Acts and Agriculture Acts with models developed which was not expected to this scale. Further, NARMIN was not expected to this level to do advocacy to take up the proven models across the country.

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<sup>12</sup> **Major recommendations included:** The Land Policy addresses land administration and land management reforms under six key pillars - security of tenure; access to land; land use; land valuation; taxation and land market; land acquisition; and modernization of land administration services. The National Land Policy is underpinned by an inclusive agenda that covers the land rights of women and vulnerable groups, including rehabilitation of the landless, squatters and informal tenure-holders for improved housing; access to land and security of tenure; tenure security for landless peasants for farming; women's access to land ownership; and the optimum use of land for sustainable housing.

<sup>13</sup> **Major recommendations included:** Land reform act introduced first time in 1964 and amendment 8th time in 2019. The revised land act recognized the land rights of landless and informal settlers. The revised act is underpinned by an inclusive agenda that covers the land rights of women and vulnerable groups, including rehabilitation of the landless, squatters and informal tenure-holders for improved housing; access to land and security of tenure; tenure security for landless peasants for farming etc. Clause 52 (1) & (2) Landless Dalit, landless and informal settlers are provided land for one time. For the overall procedures of land registration in the name of landless Dalit, landless and informal settlers a commission will be formed.

<sup>14</sup> **Major recommendations included:** The Land Use Act 2019 among others seeks to manage land in a sustainable manner by developing a specific land use system through Land Use Plans (LUPs). Its aim is to ease the process of land classification, proper utilization, and effective management of the land resources including identifying risk zones. Clause 4 of Land Use Act 2019 has provision of the categorization of land into 10 different types including others category. The land which is categorized for one purpose cannot be used for other. Chapter 7 of the act has the provision of federal level land use council, province level land use council and local level land use council. This act has provided authority to local governments to formulate land use plan.



**राष्ट्रिय भूमि आयोग**  
ताहाचल, काठमाडौं  
फोन नं. ०१-५३१२३६/५३१३२३२

**राष्ट्रिय भूमि आयोगको अत्यन्त जरुरी सूचना ।**

नेपाल सरकारको निर्णय बमोजिम विगतमा गठन भएका विभिन्न आयोग, जग्गा दर्ता समिति वा कार्यदलले काम सुरु गरी सम्पन्न हुन बाँकी काम तथा वितरण गरेका जग्गाहरूको स्वामित्व वा दर्ता श्रेस्ता वा नबसा प्रमाणित लगायतका विषयमा भएका समस्या समाधान गर्न राष्ट्रिय भूमि आयोगले कार्यविधि तर्जुमा गर्ने क्रममा रहेकाले यस सम्बन्धमा कुनै समस्या तथा सुझाव भए प्रत्यक्ष रूपमा आयोग, जिल्ला समितिमा वा आयोगको इमेल info@nlc.gov.np वा bhumiaayog@gmail.com मोबाइल नं. ९८५१२७४८०९ मा sms, viber वा whatsapp मार्फत ७ (सात) दिनभित्र लिखित जानकारी गराई आयोगको काम कारवाहीमा सहयोग पुऱ्याउनु हुन सरोकारवाला व्यक्ति, स्थानीय तहहरू लगायत सबैलाई अनुरोध गरिन्छ ।

7 days public announcement of National Land Commission in resolving the problem related to land ownership, temporary land certificate (Nissa), and endorsement of land map

**What is the significance?** This change is highly significant as the land and agriculture related policies, guidelines and procedures are formulated and owned by the local governments and scaled out in different municipalities. The changed/introduced policies and guidelines have the provision of addressing the models introduced by the project i.e. FID, localized insurance, contract farming etc. The changes brought in the acts, policies and programs enabled NLRG, CSRC and NFGF to implement their agendas in a more influential and systematic way which were heard and implemented by the three tiers of governments. Agriculture and land related annual plans and programs at the local levels are guided by these policies and guidelines benefitting the farmers. This change made the duty bearers and service providers to be more accountable to the right holders at different level.

Before the project intervention, policies and practices were applied on a common basis. Priorities and needs of the small and marginalized farmers were less considered in the plans and budgets. Instead, there was unfair distribution of resources among the elite and impact groups.

### 3) Promoting Social Norm Change

**A7: The women and marginalized group of people associated in NFGF and NLRG ward level group and network have better stake in HHs and community level planning and decision making forum; play meaningful role in the decision making process due to change in power relation. The proven models like Farmers ID Cards, Leasehold Farming, IVR, Agro-met Advisory Services and Community Based Land Management has initiated to transform existing GESI norms and practices in land and agriculture sectors. They also have better access to government services and resources.**

The outcome describes a change in the structures -promoting social norms change in gender and social inclusion with diversity, in technical areas i.e. agriculture, livelihoods, climate change adaption measures and improved institutional governance and accountability to ensure inclusive and diverse representation at their all level and are accountable towards their constituency and related stakeholders.

The outcome description describes changing to ‘non-traditional genders role’ and “displacing harmful social norms” which could play in influencing norms that shape the ability of women and marginalized communities to be involved in decision making process. The harvesters also examined how “organized transformation process”<sup>15</sup> can be a fruitful strategy to increase participation in community level planning and decisions, ultimately helping interventions achieve effective gender and social norms change. The women and marginalized community-led gender transformative processes resulted in normative change empowering the communities in technical areas i.e. agriculture, livelihoods, climate change adaption measures and improved institutional governance and accountability to ensure inclusive and diverse physical representation at their all levels.

**Contribution of the project:** The project organized women and marginalized farmers of the remote communities, federated them into wards, municipal, district, province to federal level of structures. The two strategic partners of CARE Nepal, NLRF and NFGF played a vital role to empower women and marginalized people into their federations for network for collective action for the benefit of the target group. The organizations collaborating with local government, line agencies and working with others to maximize the impact of the programs, built alliances and partnerships with those who offered complementary approaches and were able to scale up effective solutions, and/or had responsibility to fulfil rights and reduce climate hazards in the local level through policy change and implementation.

The project developed climate resilient scalable models on land and agriculture contributing to CARE’s mission towards fulfilling the rights to Food and Nutrition Security for women, landless and marginalized farmers and accordingly facilitated NLRF and NFGF to amend the organizational policies and guidelines. NFGF and NLRF established gendered and inclusive approach at each steps of the transformation process. This provision significantly changed in the structure as observed by the harvesters, as the women and marginalized farmers were found confident in the transformative process.

### **The process Includes,**

- NLRF and NFGF formulated policy ensuring representation of women in five key positions in their respective committees, such as chairperson, secretary and treasurer at the national, provincial and local level federations. The groups (TLRF and Farmer Groups) at local level strictly implemented the policy including even up to 60% women representation against their minimum 50% in leading positions which enhanced the confidence of women.
- The categorization based Farmers’ Identity Card was mainly focused towards women headed households and women farmers. This categorization practice is linked with social service provisions and government’s subsidy schemes.
- The project in support of the Revenue office organized Joint Land Ownership Certificate (JLO) camps. A women of Molung shared that she had two daughters and her husband had expectation of baby boy, she was regularly nagged by her husband but after receiving JLO, her husband stopped harassing her. JLO helped her reproductive right and property right that led to equality. It was found more significant in those couple who had male dominated and abusive relationships.
- Participating in women's day, movements against gender violence, has increased awareness among the women about their fundamental rights, laws and entitlements.

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<sup>15</sup> The process through which practitioners encourage participants to share new knowledge with their social networks to motivate social change

- The project had a special focus on activities that are directed towards the benefit of women, and marginalized communities. The project had also prioritized gender friendly climate adaptation technologies which could also be used by male counterparts. They were multipurpose irrigation (drinking, irrigation, and fishponds), plastic mulching, water harvesting, soak pits, nutrition garden that helped to increase their income and benefit in nutritional part that was more explicit in the Mushahar communities though it was one of the largely adopted activities in the project area. Malnutrition had been widely reduced as evidenced by two malnourished children who recovered after the family had created kitchen garden in Bhagawanpur, Siraha.
  - Many women and landless and marginalized farmers gradually developed farm and a significant numbers of women and men registered vegetable farm, produced the products and started selling in the weekly markets. Women increased their confidence level generating income. A women of Sunkoshi RM who registered a vegetable farm sold her products in the weekly market. She is socio- economically empowered. This is not only a story, there are significant numbers of women in project area who are empowered together with the project interventions.
  - Awareness raising on women issues and activities organized by NLRF and NFGF groups in the community level actively participate in the women day celebration and 16 days of Activism against Gender – based violence in an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December and Human Rights Day. It had impacted the awareness of women in a positive way.
  - It was evident that both daughter and daughter in-laws started treating equally, the authorial behavior to women in general and especially daughter in-laws are changed (Sunkoshi, Okhaldhunga).
  - The traditional practice of restriction to women have changed, they have more freedom in terms of mobility, decision making in financial matters and issues of violence against women.
  - The Project worked with the Mushahar communities<sup>16</sup> of Nepal in Bhagawanpur RM of Siraha district. Mushahar community is an under privileged marginalized community of Nepal with lower financial and food security as compared to other strata of society, their occupations used to be labor. There was a community-'Sada' where the outsider never visited due to the filthy environment that experienced from long distance with bad smelling. NFGF started contract farming model in Mushahar communities and after sometimes they had been changed as recalled by one of the local leaders. Many of them changed their identity and their dignity as vegetable farmer and entrepreneur. This transformation led the neighboring members' obliged to change their perspective status towards Mushahar Community.
- In collaboration of the local government and stakeholders, like Ward Palika and duty bearers and private stakeholders, review/ update meeting were organized. NLRF represented in the local landless commissions whereas NFGF represented in the agriculture subcommittee provisioned in Agriculture Act 2077 (2020) in Sunkoshi, Agriculture Act 2076 (2019) in Belakha. The groups influenced in budgeting and subsidies for the poor and women. Matching funds were allocated by the RMs. This led the landless and marginalized farmers and women into structure change position. Building good rapport with the line agency/ duty bearers, they opened the avenues of resources and services like livestock office, agriculture office, Survey office, Revenue office, Insurance office etc. They learned approach, procedures to get the services and resources. Establishing a relationship with line agencies, active

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<sup>16</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musahar>

participation in implementation of the constitutional right to food, agriculture acts, laws and entitlements were established

Women and marginalized communities were the principal beneficiaries of the project whose active participation in leasehold Farming, IVR, agro-met advisory services and community based land management is mandatory. This mechanism increased the access of those groups to income. Increased income contributed to influence their role in decision-making. The evaluators found them to be the active planners and decision makers at household and community level, and even in municipal level.

Case of Okahdhunga: NFGF supported Janakalyan Agricultural Group Sukkoshi-8, Okhaldhunga to be formed with women members and started finding social issues and causes related to agriculture and speak out on the findings. Most of the members of the group were suffered from poverty and were eager to start income generating schemes according to their experiences, knowledge and potentiality. The group started regular meeting at their convenient times (every 10th day of each month), started collecting their ideas, innovations and plans.

Gradually they were eager to know about what local government could offer to them. After the intervention of localized livestock insurance, with the support from project facilitator, members of the groups discussed benefit of insurance scheme, processed insurance and finally claimed the loss who had suffered. In the regular meeting and discussion, they also talked about other social harmful practices, which impeded their day-to-day life. Members of the group shared that they jointly started to map existing social norms. Formation of group provided tools for diagnosing the situation by finding the structural features of the relations in the group. The group helped guide the best interventions and social norms for responding to those structural features within given social circumstances and complexities. These forms of changes contributed to model implementation and scaling.

Case of Bhagawanpur: There was an untouchability culture among the so-called upper caste and Mushahar community. NLRF raised the awareness among the communities and made them realize their roles as a human being during the course of leasehold farming activities. The community started meeting together on a regular basis. The evaluators found an interesting evidence that the community organized even a joint cooking and eating event coinciding it with international women' day where, tactfully, Mushahar people were asked to serve food to the other participants. This realization had contributed to significantly change the case discrimination among the community. FGD participants at Mushahar community said that the untouchability with them had decreased by 80% in their community, and the remaining 20% were the older generation people.

Case of Udayapur: One of the female members in IVR model group in Belaka Udayapur said that her group would blow the ear of the government if the remaining distribution of the land certificate did not take place soon, where IVR of 29 farmers had been completed and distribution of the certificate is in the process. Likewise, another women member in pond protection with fish farming scheme in Chaudandigadhi, Udayapur said that next Chair of the group should be female, saying that the pond was contracted for a particular marginalized group but was contract out to one of the group members in a nominal price (NRs. 80,000 [US \$ 640]/four year). The pond was protected by CARE Nepal with NRs. 163,000 (US \$ 1304) financial support and facilitated by NLRF.

**What is Significance?** The change is significantly high as this had built their capacity to receive the services they need influencing the state structures. Before the project, the women and marginalized farmers were usually hesitated to gather in a meeting and felt uncomfortable to speak up and share their feelings and difficulties and social discrimination was rampant in the communities. The participation of women and marginalized community in the public events was not in the priority given that the Constitution of Nepal-2015 [Article 84 (8)] had

The HHs survey (n=105) prevails that the involvement of both male and female stands at 55.66% and that of female alone and male alone stands at 13.21% and 9.43% respectively in the decision making process on the application of climate resilient farming technologies at HH level. (Source: HHs survey).

provisioned 33% participation of women in state structures. They were unaware about their constitutional rights and entitlements. They were left behind of the opportunities i.e. quality education, capacity building, and access to land and agriculture resources. Even they were not aware about their duty bearers about who does what and how. Changes achieved in the community seemed highly significant compared to the aforesaid scenario as the women and marginalized communities of the project communities had established a strong hold to access land and agriculture related entitlements after being empowered by NLRF, NFGF, CSRC.

#### 4) Systems strengthening and social accountability

### **A8: Local government delivers quality services related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security incorporating NFGF, NLRF, CSRC and other CSO partners and citizens demands in their local plan, policy formulation and implementation process.**

The most important change brought through this outcome was that it had linked systems strengthening and social accountability, organizing farmers into groups and their networks, mobilize to claim their constitutional rights to food and its sovereignty which ensured to receive subsidized production input, access to production land and water, agriculture insurance, and minimum support price for their product. The change contributed to service delivery mechanism in such a way that the services provided meet the requirement of landless people, women and marginalized farmers.

The evaluators examined the provisions established at the local governments to ensure quality services related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security with five aspects-Tangibles<sup>17</sup>, Reliability<sup>18</sup>, Responsiveness<sup>19</sup>, Assurance<sup>20</sup> and Empathy<sup>21</sup> towards the impact groups. Out of the three FGDs the evaluation proposed to assess these aspects, the evaluators were successful to organize the assessment discussion in two groups, one in Belaka Municipality, Udayapur and the other in Bhagawanpur RM, Siraha. One group proposed in Sunkoshi, RM Okhaldhunga could not take place due to absence of the required number of participants in the FGD during the rain.

The evaluators asked the FGD participants simply to raise hands if they agreed that the level of service they were receiving was good, stand up if it was satisfactory and stay silent if it was unsatisfactory. The majority of the farmers in both the groups expressed their experience to be good except in one in Bhagawanpur in timely communication and time related issues. This exercise done in both the groups shows that the farmers were getting good quality services in the following forms:

- Tangible arrangement in the service center units of local levels with required inputs, communication materials related to land, agriculture and climate smart technologies.
- Enhanced reliability with the provision of designated staffs, timely inputs with updated farmers record at local levels.
- Responsiveness reflected in the provision of timely communication with the farmers, willingness of the staffs to help and flexibility to farmers' input needs in Belaka as good and in Bhagawanpur as satisfactory.
- Assurance reflected with the credibility of the staffs and farmer friendly time arrangement among the farmers.

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<sup>17</sup> Service counters are well equipped at the local levels with the provision of materials and information associated to land, agriculture and climate smart technologies.

<sup>18</sup> Reliability of the staffs assigned, timely inputs with updated farmers record at local levels

<sup>19</sup> Timely communication with the farmers, willingness of the staffs to help and flexible to farmers' input needs

<sup>20</sup> Credibility of the staffs and farmer friendly time arrangement

<sup>21</sup> Consideration of issues of each farmers, satisfaction of the farmers' needs, convenient service distribution points.

- Empathy reflected in considering the issues of each farmers, satisfaction of the farmers' needs and convenient service distribution points.

The Table below shows the frequency of quality services they perceived:

Table 7: Farmers' perception on quality services

Quality aspects	Belaka Municipality Dudhkhola Home garden (n=14)			Bhagawanpur RM Maa Bhagawati-Leasehold farming (n=20)		
	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Service counters are well equipped at the local levels with the provision of materials and information associated to land, agriculture and climate smart technologies	X (n=9)	X (5)		X (n=13)	X (n=7)	
Reliability of the staffs assigned, timely inputs with updated farmers record at local levels	X (n=13)	X (n=1)		X (n=12)	X (n=8)	
Timely communication with the farmers, willingness of the staffs to help and flexible to farmers' input needs	X (n=10)	X (n=4)		X (n=7)	X (n=13)	
Credibility of the staffs and farmer friendly time arrangement	X (n=11)	X (n=3)		X (n=14)	X (n=6)	
Consideration of issues of each farmers, satisfaction of the farmers' needs, convenient service distribution points	X (n=7)	X (N=7)		X (n=15)	X (n=5)	

The evaluators also observed one of the systems established at Belaka Municipality-production control system related to farmer details and production input subsidy compliances. The evaluators observed agriculture technology related posters, pamphlets, calendars and brochures developed for mass dissemination at Municipal Office in Belaka, Chaudandigadi and Bhawanpur Municipality. These materials were also found at farmers' group level during the focus group discussion.

These service provisions were taken into account in the program planning and budgeting in the local levels.

**Contribution of the project:** SAMARTHYA strengthened the capacity of strategic and resource partners to ensure quality services in land, agriculture, climate change and food security services (poster, leaflets etc), delivery of quality seeds and supplies, availability and willingness of technical human resources as needed,

timing of the service delivery. One of the most important contributions made by the project is the facilitation to arrange 'One Ward One Technician' which is in practice at Belaka Municipality.

It is demonstrated by:

- Ward Sunkoshi 8 scaled up insurance program in its own initiative in the second year of the program.
- Farmers are organized in the groups and their networks; mobilize to claim their constitutional rights on food and its sovereignty. There are evidences that they could claim for their rights linking with the RM for subsidies, service provider like insurance company banks, duty bearers of the line agencies like Land Revenue Office, Survey office and District **Landless Squatters' Problems Resolution Commission**.
- Presence of community, Tole, ward, municipality and district level committees in operation in all districts, which ensures the joint action and planning.
- NFGF district committee Molung, Okhaldhunga had received a room at the municipality office, another evident for system strengthening.
- The immediate past Palika Mayors and Chairs of all the Palikas have commitment to further continue the issues.
- Sunkoshi RM executive officer, immediate ward chair and new ward chair of sunkoshi 9 are both committed.

**What is significance?** Women, landless and marginalized farmers are receiving good services compared to pre- project period. They have access to localized insurance, local seeds and different production technologies. They are also receiving different services like inputs in climate resilient agriculture, home/nutrition garden. They have technical information at hand and good access to government staffs even at ward level. This change has contributed to food and nutrition security of the impact groups. Before the project intervention, there were hardly one or two staffs in the then municipality who were responsible for the entire municipality with limited resources.

## 5) Scaling and adopting proven models

**A9: Local government jointly with CSOs partners co-create (joint planning, piloting and proof of concept) and scale up climate resilient land and agriculture practices and plans taking into account in-building in their periodic plan, policy and program.**

The outcome description provides changed results in co-creation and scaling up of the climate resilient models<sup>22</sup> developed by SAMARTHYA. The most noticeable change made by the project is the establishment of a strong coordination between local governments and CSOs in placing the models in the centre. The harvesters found that local levels and CSOs in Sunkoshi of Okhaldhunga and Belaka of Udayapur jointly planned and implemented the climate resilient land and agriculture practices reflecting in their annual work plans and programs. For example, localized insurance in Sunkishi RM is included in the annual work plan of the Palika and wards. Ward Secretary of Sunkishi-8 said they had NRs. 50,000 (US \$ 400) allocated for insurance in the current FY. Likewise, Ex-Chair of ward no 9 of the same RM said that they had been implementing this practice for two years. The evaluators found that four governments had shared a total of NRs. 2.8 million (UD \$27,000) for the implementation of FID model in the year 2020.

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<sup>22</sup> Models include: 1) Climate Resilient Household Farming Practices 2) Farmers' Identity Card with Categorization 3) Localized Agriculture Insurance 4) Identification, verification and Recording of Landless and Unplanned settlers 5) Formulation of Participatory Land Use Plan at Municipality 6) Community Based Land Management Practice 7) Agr-Met advisory Services and 8) Climate Resilient Local Seed Model System.

Molung RM of Okhaldhunga jointly piloted the community land management practices in collaboration with NLRF and other CSO. The community cultivated turmeric benefitting the marginalized farmers. Likewise, Ex-Mayor of Chaudandigadhi Udayapur had a good experience of joint planning and implementing lemon farming in the school garden in ward no 2 and pond protection and fish farming in ward no 6 since 2019. Dhangadhimai Municipality jointly with NLRF implemented the community land management practices for landless and marginalized farmers. This practices is replicated in Pancheshwor RM of Baitadi, Bagamati Municipality of Makawanpur, Sahid Lekhnath RM of Gorkha, and Chaukune RM of Surkhet in 2020 whereas Bagmati Municipality of Sarlahi, Kohalpur Municipality of Banke, Dhangadhi Sub-metropolitan of Kailai and Suklaphata Municipality of Kanchanpur practiced in this model in 2021.

As per the agreement, UN-Habitat supported for the installment of a software called Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) in Belaka Municipality and CSRC, NLRF, NFGF finalized a set of questionnaire and trained local enumerators for data collection, data entry and verification of necessary information. The then Land Issues Resolving Commission (LIRC) and current National Land Commission adopted the model and developed LIRIS system to collect, verify and record of landless and informal settlers. This model developed new digital system to identify, verify and record the landless and informal settlers overthrowing traditional paper based system. This was adapted by the local government to lead the IVR processes for village block land distribution.

**Contribution of the project:** The project ignited the collaboration culture by piloting the different proven models in collaboration with the local levels through its partners (NLRF, NFGF, CSRC, LIBIRD and CEN). One of the piloted models was 'Identification, Verification and Recording of Landless and Informal Settlers' in ward no-3 of Belaka Municipality in 2019 as based on the agreement among CSRC, NLRF, UN-Habitat, CARE Nepal, and NFGF to settle the contentious issues of landless and informal settlers by providing land certificate to them. To upscale the model SAMARTHYA team had a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Belaka Municipality and MoLMCPA in 2019.

Ex-Mayor and Chief of Agriculture Section in Belaka said that the municipality piloted FID<sup>23</sup> jointly with NFGF and IVR with CSRC, NLRF, UN-Habitat, and NFGF in 2019. Leasehold farming piloted in Bhagawanpur, Sihara is jointly replicated with the local levels in Belaka and Katari Municipality of Udayapur in 2021, Golbazar Municipality and Sakhuwanankarkatti RM of Siraha in 2021 and Sarawal RM of Parasi in 2022.

The project enhanced coordination with NARMIN to scale out the models in municipalities across the country particularly in planning and implementing localized insurance, leasehold farming and FID as effective models. As a result this mechanism contributed to own and materialize the models in other local levels through Agriculture and Land Acts.

The evaluators observed that the project established a wonderful culture of collaboration among CSOs and local level government where the representatives of CSOs are invited to planning and program monitoring. This change in the planning had ensured the inclusion of the priorities of land less and marginalized communities in plans and programs.

Evidences comprise that NFGF and NLRF are facilitating their target groups/forum with the intervention of climate resilient leasehold farming in Bhagwanpur Rural Municipality of Siraha, Farmer's ID card with categorization of farmer and climate resilient local seed system in Belaka Rural Municipality Udayapur,

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<sup>23</sup> The piloted FID in Belaka is replicated jointly with the local level and CSO in Siranchok RM Gorkha (2020), Bhagwanpur RM, Siraha (2021), Sakhuwanankarkatti RM, Siraha (2020), Krishnapur Municipality, Kanchanpur (2022), Godawari Municipality, Kailali (2022), Sarawal RM, Parashi (2021), Bijayanagar RM, Kapilvastu (2021), Katari Municipality, Udayapur (2021), Siddicharan Mun, Okhaldhunga 2021) Sunkoshi RM, Okhaldhunga (2021)

Localized Agriculture Insurance Scheme in Sidhicharan municipality Okhaldhunga, formulation of participatory land use plan at municipality level, community based land management practices, Identification, verification and recording of landless and unplanned settlers in Dhangadhimai municipality. Side by side intervention of Agro-met advisory service is in initial stage in both municipality of Udayapur and Siraha district.

**What is significance:** The changes in the co-creation approach by the project has drastically reduced the bureaucratic approach to program planning and implementation within the local government levels. This new arrangement has addressed the issues of landless and marginalized communities in the plan and services mechanism they provide through joint action. Even the landless people, women and marginalized farmers are able to pull financial resources from the local level governments. Before the project intervention, the municipal bodies mostly formulated the plans by themselves without any formal coordination with the CSOs and right holders.

**A10: Small land holder farmers are adopting climate resilient land and agriculture models and Climate Smart Agricultural ( CSA) practices in subsistence, nutritional gardening, lease-hold and semi-commercial farming. in subsistence, nutritional gardening lease hold and semi-commercial farming.**

SAMARTHYA introduced climate resilient models in partnership with LIBIRD. LIBIRD strengthened the capacity of and provided technical support to NLRG and NFGF. The evaluation also provides evidences of facilitating the local level governments to adopt climate smart approach in their policies and plans to support small landholder farmers. For example, Agro-met advisory services, which basically includes the advices to and information sharing among the marginalized farmers about appropriate agriculture inputs, climate risks and climate smart technologies, markets, breed, seed and saplings. This also collects information for further improvement. The model piloted in Belaka, Udayapur had provisioned 'One Ward One Technician' contributing to climate resilient diversified home gardens established at HHs level of the designated groups with the improvement of local seeds systems. Agriculture Section Chief in Balaka Municipality said that their periodic plan had included the climate smart agriculture practices.

Demonstration and scaling up of the agro-met advisory services in Bhagawanpur and Dhangadhimai Municipality of Siraha district, Belaka Municipality of Udayapur district had resulted in promotion of diversified home garden for food and nutrition security and income through semi-commercial farming.

I earned Rs 60,000 in year selling cucumber and tomatoes. I have liquid manure, compost manure, FYM, improved goat shed, small fish farming and other vegetables in the home garden.

Bishnu Devi Chaudhari, HG owner, Belaka -1 Udayapur

Demonstration and scaling up of the agro-met advisory services had established the home gardens in Sakhuwanankarkati and Bishnupur RM of Siraha district, Katari Municipality of Udayapur district and Raptisonari RM of Banke district.

Climate resilient local seed system in Dhangadhimai and Bhagawanpur of Sihara and Belaka of Udayapur contributed to supply locally produced climate adaptive seed to the farmers and home garden entrepreneurs as when needed.



Figure 6: Technologies in home gardens

Climate resilient leasehold farming model replicated in and managed by a group<sup>24</sup> in Bhagawanpur-3 covered 1 hectare of land and that of another group<sup>25</sup> in ward 1 Abhayanagar, covered 2.67 hectare with diversified vegetables and fish farming.

The evaluators also found it replicated in other groups of Bhagwanpur Rural Municipality i.e. Bajarangi Baba Mahila Krishak Samuha Bhagwanpur-2, Ramjanaki Mix krishak Samuha Bhagwanpur -2, Pragatishil TLRF Dhangadhimai -1, Jai Bajarangbali LRTF Dhangadhimai-6. All these farms had vegetables and small ponds with climate resilient technologies.

Another interesting climate resilient adaptation measure benefitted to the marginalized communities is pond protection with fish farming in Dhangadhimai-4 supported by Dinabhadri TLRF, Simara of Sihara under the Community Land Management Model where 35 females and 16 males protected one hectare of land and cultivated fish farming. The TRLF Chair said that they had consumed more than 1.10 tons of fish and sold the remaining for NRs 150,000 (US \$ 1200) which was deposited in the bank.

The harvester observed vegetables growing in the home gardens of each community members along with some chicken, goats and pigs. All the group members said they their food habit had changed significantly due to knowledge they gained during the model application and training.

The harvesters also analysed the application of climate change adaptation practices at HHs level. The survey was conducted in 105 HHs across six Palikas of Okhaldhunga, Udayapur and Sihara.

Out of 105 HHs surveyed, 81.13% said that they knew about climate change and of the total, 82% said that they knew about climate change agriculture by SAMARTHYA and its partners. Before the project, 96% of them said

<sup>24</sup> Maa Bhagwati Mahila Krishak Samuha with 21 members

<sup>25</sup> Dalit Mahila Samuha with 40 members

that they had crop loss or low production. Responding to a question- have you ever applied any climate resilient/adaptive practice on land, crop and livestock production to cope with the effect of climate change?- 96% of those who knew about climate change said that they had adapted different kind of climate friendly technologies. Some evidences include

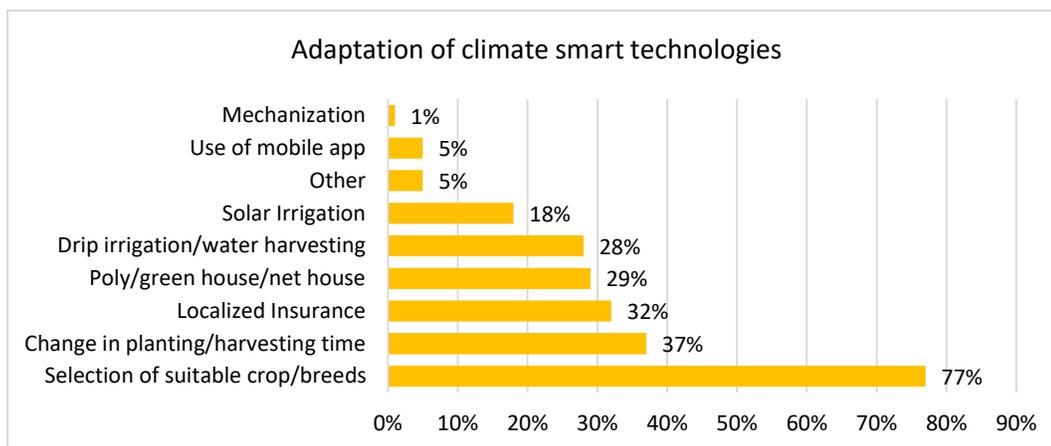


Figure 7: Adaptation scale of climate smart technologies

Source: HHs Survey

The harvested outcome provides a space to claim that the impact farmers are adapting climate resilient models and are able to join their hands and month on a subsistence basis with nutritional food intake and in some cases, save money for future needs.

Unintended change for this outcome description is that there had been a significant improvement in health of women and children. One of the female leasehold farmers at Chaudagnadhi, Udayapur said that she had not noticed even a single case of low birth weight of a newborn child in her birthing center for two years. The

**Contribution of the project:** The project mobilized its resource partner-LIBIRD to pilot and disseminate the climate resilient agriculture practices in the impact communities involving NLRF and NFGF together. The project made the impact communities realize the contribution of the climate adoptive technologies in farming.

**What is significance?** The changes in the farming system and technologies had reduced the climate vulnerabilities among the impact groups and communities with the introduction of climate adaptive strategies. Marginalized farmers are able to harvest even three slots of crops in a year. They are able to grow and consume vegetable year round. Production input cost is reduced with the application of low cost technologies.

Before the model application, they had no idea of what was being happened looking at the crop loss, low productivity and production even in their own small piece of land and *blamed the god to be dishonest on them*. They had no idea of climate smart approaches i.e. leasehold farming practices, community land management, agro-met advisory services. Even they didn't know about the significance of their local seeds compared to imported hybrid seeds. Thus, the change brought by the project is highly significant, as it had founded the base of climate adaptive farming technologies across the project communities.

**A11: Four targeted local governments (Belaka, Siddicharan, Sakhunankar katti, Bhagawanpur) have adopted the categorization-based ID cards model piloted/demonstrated by National Farmers Groups Federation (NFGF) and CARE Nepal. Farmers have received categorization-based ID cards, and production inputs based on the FID card category.**

The outcome resulted in materializing the National Agriculture Policy 2004<sup>26</sup> developed by the government of Nepal. Due to lack of an influential advocacy, this policy was not materialized for years despite the continuation of the commitment of the governments. NFGF and CARE Nepal in collaboration with Belaka Municipality, Udayapur brought change in materializing the concept of FID<sup>27</sup> particularly targeting the landless, marginalized and small farmers through a series of advocacy and dialogue. As a result, the Belaka Municipality formulated the Agriculture Act incorporating the FID in 2019. The FID model is digitized and incorporated with 'Production Control System Software' of the municipality, which provides the details of the farmers to be benefitted with production inputs and services by the municipality without any discrimination and conflict among the farmers.

The harvesters found that FID piloted in Belaka, Okhaldhunga in 2019 was replicated in Bhagawanpur, Sihara (2021), Sakhunankarkatti RM, Siraha (2020) and Siddicharan Mun, Okhaldhunga (2021). The FID was institutionalized being incorporated in the Agriculture Act. The FID operational guideline had developed clear categorization measures. For example, Balaka and Sakhunankarkatt had the following categorisation of farmers:

## Ensuring accountability at local level

Seven additional local governments had also initiated the implementation of FID, after it evolved from Belaka municipality and was proven as a scalable model. So far, information collection and validation of 52,000 HHs have been completed by these local governments. For entire process of FID distribution, the local governments shared 50-80% of the cost and the remaining cost was covered by the project. While the project covered technical support for overall process, the local governments covered administrative and information collection related cost. A total amount of US \$ 25,300 was shared by the seven local governments in 2021.



Figure 8: Evidence of accountability at local level

<sup>26</sup> This policy was developed to identify and categorize the farmers and provide them required facilities to enhance their agriculture production and productivity and contribute to food and nutrition security.

<sup>27</sup> FID categorized the farmers into four categories i.e. 1. Commercial/large farmers 2. Medium farmers 3. Small farmers and 4. Landless and marginalized farmers.

Table 8: Example of categorized based FID

Municipalities	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	
	Commercial F	Medium Farmers	Small farmers	Marginalized farmers	Landless
Belaka	2	30	1836	5349	975
Sakhuwanankarkatti	3	20	533	2000	1909

The FID had some noticeable unintended changes that the evaluators observed. Instances prevail in the form of transformation of livelihoods, gender and social inclusion, recognition of farmers and enhanced accountability at local level government.

**Contribution of the project:** The project differently contributed to FID system of the GoN, establishing a categorization based FID system by SAMARTHYA is setting clear norms for different category of farmers on who gets how much production input services and benefits. This provision compelled the government to revise its subsidy provision in view of the specific requirements of different categories of farmers and ensured the subsidies to reach those who really need them the most. For example, the categorized FID had established a provision of 100% production inputs subsidy for landless and marginalized farmers, 75% for small farmers, and 50% for medium farmers and that of 25% for commercial farmers. This model also significantly contributed to the local governments in agriculture policy making, programming and planning process with the availability of detailed household inventories.

The model is also replicated in Siranchok RM, Gorkha (2020), Krishnapur Municipality, Kanchanpur (2022), Godawari Municipality, Kailali (2022), Sarawal RM, Parashi (2021), Bijayanagar RM, Kapilvastu (2021), Katari Municipality, Udayapur (2021), and Sunkoshi RM, Okhaldhunga (2021).

**What is the significance?** The evaluators found it to be magnificent intervention as it ensured the access of small and marginalized farmers to government resources. Small farmers (category 4) started getting 100% subsidized production inputs from the local levels. One of the Dalit Women in Belaka said that she received a playhouse for vegetable production worth NRs 22,000 (US \$ 176). Other women of the groups had also received different inputs i.e. plastic drums, sprayers, seeds and fruit saplings. The process follows the submission of application with group decision with annexed FID copy.

*This change had established a dignified identity of farmers, mostly the small and marginalized one. There is no need of further queries for the distribution of subsidized production inputs to the farmers once they receive the categorized FID and are recorded in the municipal digital system. The system itself makes the decision about.* -Agriculture and Livestock Section Chief, Belaka M, Udayapur.

The most significant change emerged due to the project intervention is that farmers were grouped into four categories for their identity. This is a different approach compared to the materialization of earlier policy. Before the project intervention, Agriculture Act (2004) had a provision of farmers' categorization but was not materialized. All farmers were put in a single basket, which left behind the landless and marginalized farmers from accessing the services benefitting even non-farmers.

### 3.3 Individual impact due to systems-change

Question: *How did those systems-level changes result in changes in individual level impacts on people's lives?*

The evaluation identified seven outcomes (A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A10 and A11) that directly described changes in individual level impacts on people lives. The observed outcomes involved ensuring rights to access land and agricultural services and enhanced capacity to maintain the accessibility among the individual landless and marginalized farmers.

SAMARTHYA mainly focused on marginalized landless, Dalit, women, vulnerable communities through strategic and resource partners (CSRC, NLRC, NFGF, LIBIRD and CEN) bringing changes in the systems which established Acts, Policies and guidelines in favor of impact groups. The changes in the system allowed farmers to enjoy the opportunities created. The harvested outcomes provide many evidences of the potential impacts at individual level. During the HHs visits and FGD with farmers, the evaluators asked about the level of their satisfaction individual and community level impacts. Of total (n=206), 82% farmers said that the individual and community level impacts they experienced due to changes in the systems were highly satisfactory and that of 18% said-satisfactory. These evidences provide a space to the evaluators to claim that the individual level impacts were highly significant. The respondent's reflections are in the Table below:

Table 9: Evidence of individual/community level impact

Project contexts	Least satisfactory	Partially satisfactory	Satisfactory	Highly satisfactory
The systems-level changes have resulted in individual- and/or community-level impact.			18%	82%

The harvesters unfolded the impacts as follows

#### Impact in leadership development:

The project equipped the impact groups and individuals with life skills, capacity building and leadership skills to claim for their rights. They participate in family decisions, they participate in community decisions and they ALSO participate in municipal level decisions as invited and are able to address the issues of land rights and agriculture. Changes in the social norms and supporting social movements contributed them be able to influence their groups and individual level demands.

#### Impact in economic development:

Impact group members are economically empowered in the project communities. They are involved in agriculture production in leasehold farm and utilizing community lands with climate resilient technologies. They gained experience in agriculture and are increasing land area under cultivation through individual contracting which resulted in large production.



They are selling their production in nearby market and generating income. They have their saving in the groups or in cooperatives and spend it by themselves in family or agriculture supplies. They are gradually stepping up towards semi-commercial scale from the subsistence level. This change has created a feeling of dignified life along with FID and land certificates. The evaluators found it very hard to measure the scale of happiness of the individual farmers who were landless before and had the land certificates after the project intervention.

An interesting economic impact in women is that their ability has increased to participate equally in HHs level small trade, local markets, their access to and control over productive resources and increased voice, and meaningful participation in economic decision-making at HHs and municipal level. They have registered their vegetable farm, produced the products and sell in the weekly markets. This change has rather increased their empowerment.

#### Impact in social norms-Gender and social inclusion:

The individual impacts in social norms are reflected through the changes in gender and social inclusion in the project communities. Women enjoyed dignified life, managing the money they earn for their livelihood, planning and decision making in house hold and family matters, access to the community, local government and line agencies services, subsidies and resources. The major impact observed is that they talk about social norms and harmful practices in the regular meeting and follow it up on day-to-day life. The social norms has changed even in Mushahar community in Siraha reducing caste and gender discrimination who are well recognized by other community and state structures at the moment.

The individual impact is also reflected in the assurance of reproductive rights of woman. A woman of Molung shared that she had two daughters and her husband had expectation of baby boy, her husband regularly nagged her but after receiving JLO, her husband stopped harassing her. JLO helped her reproductive right and property right that led to equality.



Mushar community, known as Sada is an **under privileged marginalized community of Nepal** with lower financial and food security as compared to other strata of society. Their occupations used to be mostly the agriculture labour and were not aware about the government supports and subsidy program provisioned for marginalised and excluded communities.

In the other hand the socio cultural, sanitation and hygiene status of the Mushar are generally filthy, one could experience from long distance with bad smelling due to open defecation. GOs and NGOs hardly visit or they avoid visiting them due to these multiple problems including communication. During the implementation of SAMARTHYA project, CARE Strategic partner NFGF selected one of the registered Mushar women's group that was formed by District Agriculture Development Office (DADO) in 2014. It was 25 members of land less women's group. The project reformed and added few more members to 40. The project implemented contract farming model in the community. Initially, the group got 80 katthas (2.67 ha) of land in lease from two landowners and that was divided among 40 members of the group by 2 katthas (0.06 ha) for each member. They cultivated rice and vegetables on that field. It was first time in their life that they had cultivated in their own land. The members of the group felt proud, as they were able to produce crops of their own in life. For the first time in their life, individual farmer saved NP Rs.10000 to 16000 from 2 katthas from the leasehold land. This first attempt of farming built their confidence. All the members of the group added additional land up to 60 katthas including Gauri Devi Sada/Rambilash Sada.

Consequently, this leasehold farming led to food and nutrition security, improvement in personal and HHs sanitation with ODF environment, which increased their social status. They are schooling their children. They are engaged in income generation activities. Social discrimination in the community has reduced. The community people are invited in social functions and equally treated as other higher cast. Many of them have changed their identity and dignity as a vegetable farmer/entrepreneur. This transformation is gradually replicated to the other Musahar communities residing near by the village.

### Impact in household food security and nutrition

The implementation of climate resilient models such as leasehold farming, nutrition garden and fish farming has significantly influenced the individual farmers. The farmers are at less risk of climate vulnerabilities. They have been able to produce crops and vegetables in their garden throughout the year. Food habit of vegetable

#### *Box 3: Case study of Musahar community*

consumption has increased. Individual farmers are able to cultivate three crops in a year replacing two slots (e.g. Rice and maize-> Rice, Maize, and Vegetables). Farmers are able to increase the production and productivity and thereby generate income with the change in the system. The harvesters in Udayapur found a woman saying that she had not seen even a single case of a newborn child with low birth weight for two years. Another interesting impact in Bhagawanpur of Siraha is that two malnourished children were recovered due to healthy food intake from their home garden. There are many instances of the impacts on individual level in HHs food and nutrition security.

### Impact in technical skills:

There is seemingly a great change in the technical skills among the individual farmers re climate change agriculture farming systems. Farmers are able to practice compost manure, FYM, liquid manure, bio mulching and cultivate both seasonal and off season vegetables. Agro-met service model has further contributed to this impact as farmers are closely linked with the technicians provisioned in each ward of the system. Leader Farmers in the project communities are able to construct even poly house by themselves. Technical brochures and leaflets produced by LIBIRD, CEN and CARE Nepal have contributed to maintain the technical recall and continuation of the skills.

## 3.4 System Level Impact Pathways

System change pathways started with the inputs to and actions of strategic partners (NFGF and LFGF). These two strategic partner organizations expanded their structures in line with federated government structures for enhanced access, coordination and collaboration. The evidences prevail that the project together through the

strategic partners strengthened the government structures collaborating, physically representing and participating in the local, provincial and federal structures to influence harmonization, implementation plan and policies in a pro- poor friendly approach.

The strategic partners having layered constituencies up to community level proved a cost effective, efficient, and an appropriate mechanism to reach to larger communities with climate resilient models and innovations. The federation at each level engaged with respective layers of government, collaborated and confronted to adopt new models with resource sharing. This resulted in key success factors in model scaling and dissemination in Nepal incorporating those provisions in the land and agriculture related acts, policies and programs.

The project succeeded in implementing five system level pathways with 12 harvested outcomes. The pathways-scaling and adopting proven models, advocacy to influence policy and programs, promoting social norms change, system strengthening and accountability and supporting social movements as convener- contributed to impact the system and produce desired outcomes.

### ***Scaling and Adopting Proven Models***

Formulation and amendment of land and agriculture related acts and policies incorporating the proven models introduced by the project at local levels are the implementation successes. The success is evidenced by the adaptation of changes in the acts and policies and scaling the models. The models triggered the local government to share resources and jointly implement the models as a part of their plans, policy and programs. This was achieved due to a strong and strategic partnership among change agents and boundary partners. Outcomes harvested demonstrate a dynamic process to contribute to this changes in adapting climate resilient land and agriculture practices by land less and marginalized farmers by themselves with a wonderful collaboration among farmers, strategic and resource partners and local level governments.

The categorized based FID unfolding the farmers into four groups is another system impact created by the project. The system helped the local level governments identify the real farmers and access them to subsidized production inputs and services, which enabled the small farmers to receive 100% production subsidy and social security schemes. This system contributed not only to access the input subsidy; rather, it created the identity of the farmers and motivated them to graduate their intervention towards semi-commercial or semi commercial scale.

### ***Advocacy to Influence Policies and Programs***

The pathway contributed to bring the changes in Agriculture Act, Land Act, policy, regulations and programs at three layers of the government-Federal, provincial and local level. Increased capacity, representativeness, inclusiveness and governance of the strategic partners contributed to influence the system at all levels through inside and outside lobby and advocacy across all the state structures. Changes in knowledge products and knowledge management of the partners further contributed to establish the system.

Major intervention of SAMARTHYA to bring this change was enabling the strategic partners in identifying, raising and articulating the agenda to influence the policy. Based on the jurisdiction of LGOA 2018, the partners independently prepared lobby and advocacy agenda of landless and marginalized farmers, acted as ally to empower groups with local elected members and learned about the stakeholder they should consult to. This form of ally put pressure on the duty bearers for changing policies and practices which were barriers before.

The systems established include Agriculture Acts, Krishi Byabasthappan Prabardhan Act, FID Act, Land Act, Land Use Plan, Agro-Met Advisory Services and Climate Resilient Home Garden Guidelines at local levels. The Acts and Plans have incorporated the models developed by SAMARTHYA. Provincial Government in Madhesh Pradesh started to budget for climate resilient agriculture model from FY 2021/22 as a part of their flagship program.

The pathway contributed to amend the acts and policies at federal level. The movement of the strategic partners compelled the federal government to amend the Land Policy and Land Use Act in 2019 and Land Act in 2021.

The new provision of the Land Policy at Federal defines and address the real issues-'security of tenure; access to land; land use; land valuation; taxation and land market; land acquisition; and modernization of land administration services. Likewise, the provision secured land rights of women and vulnerable groups, including rehabilitation of the landless, squatters and informal tenure-holders for improved housing; access to land and security of tenure; tenure security for landless peasants for farming. Women's access to land ownership and the optimum use of land for sustainable housing along with one time provision of land distribution to landless Dalit, landless and informal settlers are also provisioned in the Land Policy. The provision of formation of the Commission is also made for the overall procedures of land registration in the name of landless Dalit, landless and informal settlers.

### ***Promoting Social Norms Change***

The pathway contributed to bring change in social norms called barriers for economic and social transformation. The project had paid a great attention to change this system taking into account that 'social norms' could play in influencing norms that shape the ability of women and marginalized communities to be involved in decision making process. SAMARTHYA through its strategic partners adapted 'organized diffusion'<sup>28</sup> approach to establish the system for this change enabled the WOMEN and men and marginalized farmers to increase their meaningful participation in planning and decision making process at household level and public forums. The women and marginalized community-led diffusion processes resulted in normative change transforming them as a HH leader, community leader and a change agent, particularly in the case of women.

The change in the system had established standardized norms to access government services through gendered and inclusive mechanism which were also reflected in acts, policies and programs. Models like FID, leasehold farming, agro-met advisory services, and community based land management practices had further contributed to this change with the empowerment of women and marginalized communities to claim for their rights to land and agricultural rights participating in public forums and decision making process. The pathway contributed to establish this system through formal institution and structures (state policy, strategic partners and farmers groups), informal forums (mass gathering, campaigns, meeting etc.) and individual consultations. The changed system significantly reduced gender and caste discrimination, discrimination in resource sharing and increased their status at HH and public forums.

### ***System Strengthening***

The pathways contributes to develop the acts and policies and thereby provide quality services to the impact groups. The pathway helped local levels develop the farmer friendly acts and its implementation in farmer friendly manner. The pathway linked the rights holders and the duty bearer for quality services in climate resilient practices which arrangement had made the duty bearers more accountable to the impact groups. Introduction and replication of localized insurance system, FID and leasehold farming systems are apparently attributable to the contribution of this pathway.

### ***Supporting Social Movements as Convener, Ally-Ship, Resource Partners and Amplifier***

The pathway contributed to establish strategic partners as a strong organization in terms of institutional strength in quality and outreach across the country which neared the accessibility of the impact groups and duty bearers

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<sup>28</sup> The process through which practitioners encourage participants to share new knowledge with their social networks to motivate social change

with them to vibrate the land and agriculture related agenda and benefits. The change in the system contributed to organize farmers and their networks and strengthen them to be able to claim for their rights and succeed to receive land certificates and constitutional rights to food and its sovereignty accessing subsidized production inputs, production land, insurance, and water and irrigation facilities.

Changes in increased institutional governance and capacity of the strategic partners had contributed to ensure their presence at local levels and made them more accountable towards their constituency and stakeholders. The system had empowered them in strategic planning, model formulation, gender and social inclusion and in technical matters to facilitate agriculture, livelihoods and climate change adaptation measures as a part of their movement.

Present any findings on how the systems-level changes across these pathways reinforce or support each other in achieving changes (relating to this evaluation question in the inception report)

### 3.5 Sustainability of System Level Effects

The evaluators critically analyzed the system level effects to sustain the system level impact pathways identifying the key five domains of the project interventions to influence the system and keep the functional. Five domains of the project interventions to sustain the system include 1) capacity building of CSOs 2) CSOs gain legitimacy and advocacy skills on issues 3) Generation of climate resilient models passing through innovation cycle 4) scaling proven models with proof concept and evidence generation and 5) policy re/formation and implementation due to CSOs' influence.

The emanation started with the capacity building of the CSOs mainly NLRF and NFGF which enhanced their institutional capacity to graduate their strength in system strengthening. The graduated capacity enabled them to realize the duty bearers at three tiers of the government to re/formulate new systems-acts, policy, program and guidelines. Generation of climate resilient proven models with innovation cycles further contributed to system change movements connecting the duty bearers and the right holders together. The innovated relevant and accepted models by both the duty bearers and the right holders are central to sustainability of the system level effects. The proof of concept and evidence generation through the proven models ignited the duty bearers to formulate new acts and amend the existing acts, policy, program and guidelines for institutionalizing the models and best practices.

The above background of systematic cycle of the project interventions applied during the system level change process contributes to the sustainability of system level effects. System level change is an outcome level change achieved through the deliberate process by CARE Nepal and partners, which eventually leads to impact on people's lives. The system level changes included- change in a policy or practice; positive change in social norms (towards more gender equitable norms, away from gender-harmful norms); strengthened systems and service delivery, greater social accountability, stronger social movements; and more inclusive markets. CARE's sustainable systems- level approaches go beyond the individual agency level but also support to influence change at relations and structures level.

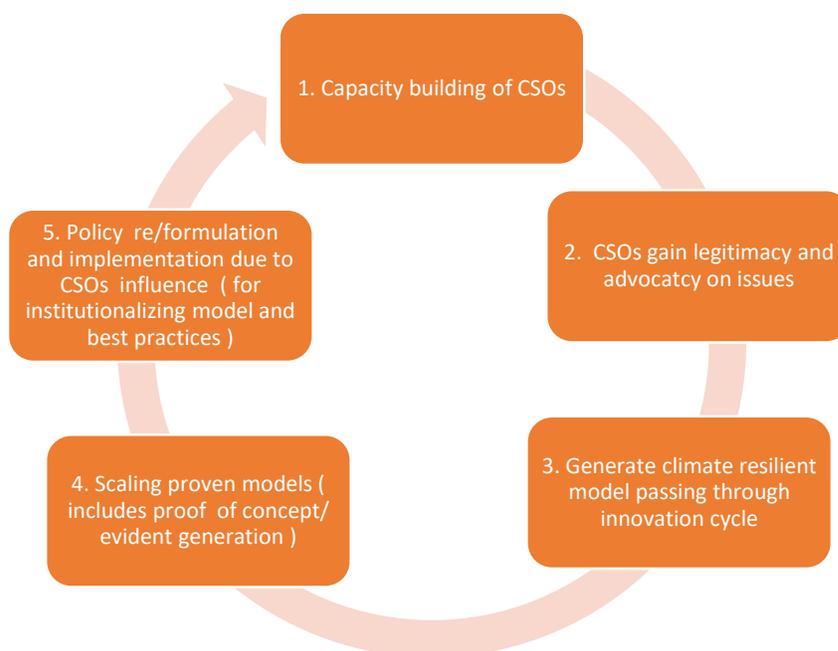


Figure 9: Sustainability of system level impacts

## 4. Limitations and Challenges

- The first limitation comprises the timeline proposed for the outcome harvesting that too during the rainy season and Fiscal Year closing time. The consultant team did many efforts to meet the concerned stakeholders. Consulted stakeholders had also limited time to spend for the interview during the busy season. The rain continued throughout the field visit, which deteriorated the interior roads.
- The outcome harvesting took place almost after five months of the project end. This was another limitation to get the fresh understanding and experience from the stakeholders.
- The project designed climate resilience models, scaled up and scaled out working in partnership with local governments. The resilience building practices were implemented in a series of stages through horizontal exchanges, learning, and replicated by the local federations of the strategic partners. The harvesters observed at Belaka that the nutrition garden did not complete even a cycle that is just an example. Changing the system working with CSOs for such an innovative models with a given period was obvious that the time was a key limitation to complete and graduate as a proven model, scaling up, scaling out and replication.
- Working with CSOs as a legitimate organization is an effective and sustainable approach but it was both challenging and had its own limitation on building their capacities simultaneously-the new organization, especially NLRF. NLRF initially created and supported by the Community Self Reliance Center (CSRC), had first time worked and functioned as an independent national federation.
- Retaining the demonstrated models without endorsing them in the local level acts, policies and practices is impossible. In the Palikas, where the acts are yet to be endorsed, sustainability of the intervention could be a challenge as newly elected body may have different priorities.

- Some of the models like FID, localized insurance and climate resilient leasehold farming are highly demanded in other local levels across the country. Meeting all these demands could be a challenge for CARE Nepal with the existing resources.
- NLRF and NFGF have limited resources to amplify their federated structures to meet the increases demands of scaling the models.
- Retention of the localized insurance could be another challenge without a robust mechanism for the renewal scheme within the group and in the respective local levels.
- Sustainability of the intervention, mostly climate resilient leasehold farming, nutrition garden and vegetable production could be a challenge in the absence of technical human resource at local levels.
- Group dynamics in the contract farming is another challenge in the absence of a clear business plan and procedures.
- Developing farmers as a seed producer is another challenge as its needs an extensive efforts and capacity building.

## 5. Conclusions and Lessons Learned

SAMARTHYA built the capacity of NLRF and NFGF and through them, organized landless, women, marginalized farmers, and their frontline leaders, federated them into tole, ward, municipal and province level of state structures. The project brought change in the systems contributing to the state structures at different levels resulting in formulation and amendment of landless and farmers' friendly land and agricultural related acts and policies in collaboration with change agents and boundary partners along with state structures. The change is reflected in the strengthened and institutionalized presence of NLRF and NFGF across the federated structures, enhanced institutional capacity of the farmers and their network for land rights and agriculture movements [A1-A5].

The project followed five system level pathways to bring change in the systems and attain the outcomes. Scaling and adapting proven models contributed to co-create and scale up climate resilient models-outcome description [A10] enabling marginalized farmers to practice the models for their livelihoods support [A11]. The most significant change of the project intervention was the model piloting and replication of categorized FID cards among the local levels other than the core project area [A12].

The project attained the outcome of developing and amending the Land Acts, Agriculture Acts and relevant policies and guideline at federal, provincial and local levels through the pathway-advocacy to influence policy and program. As a result, land less and marginalized farmers are enjoying the services they were intended to do [A6].

The evaluators found a drastic changes in social norms in the project communities which graduated the awareness among and leadership skills of the impact groups and made them able influence the decision making process at local level governments for their entitlements transforming prevailing discriminative social norms [A7].

Outcome description A8 & A9 resulted in the development of agriculture acts in six Palikas, its endorsement and delivery of quality services to the impact groups. This change ensured continuous and need-based services to the communities which provide an evidence of system strengthening and accountability.

The abstract of the harvested outcomes prevails that SAMARTHYA remained successful to influence the system through five designed system level pathways. The project empowered landless, small and marginalized farmers

by building the capacities of the federated structures at all level, developing women and pro- poor communities imparting knowledge and skills on land rights and climate resilient technologies together with confidence and leadership building abilities which made them able claim for their entitlements and services from local government, line agencies and boundary partners. Further, federated and institutionalized structures of impact groups' organizations (NLRF and NFGF) are able to independently provide the services in the long run.

The harvesters obtained some lessons during the evaluation course. Major lessons learned comprise

- Most important lesson for the outcome harvesting is that it needs to be conducted immediately after the project phase. Delayed harvesting time limits the space to get fresh understanding and experience from the stakeholders.
- When the project intervention is highly relevant to real needs of impact groups, it remains effective to produce outcomes. The interventions i.e. FID, localized insurance, leasehold farming, IVR, climate resilient local seed system were relevant to the needs of landless and marginalized farmers.
- Changes in landless, marginalized and socially left behind communities is possible when the change movements is integrated with the tangible benefits such as FID, IVR, localized insurance, accessing to land, CSA practices etc.
- One of the key lessons is that the scaling of the models is more effective when the piloted one is documented and disseminated with evidences.
- Enhanced credibility of CSOs among the communities and the state structures contributes to share resources jointly for the project intervention. NLRF and NFGFs' have a high credibility in the project communities and are able to continue the interventions beyond the project period.
- Another learning comprises that promotion of climate resilient farmer friendly technologies at community level are more effective and adoptive in the face of climate risks.
- Established linkages by SAMARTHYA among NLRF, NGFG, CSRC, NLC, local governments and other networks are functional in transforming the agendas.
- A great lesson of the outcome harvesting is that suitability and acceptance of the interventions are central to sustainability, which are applied in the project context by both the rights holders and the duty bearers.
- Localized insurance, FID, IVR, climate resilient farming models have proven to be the most effective models in the communities.
- Another lesson spells out that organized and formally registered farmers groups have more strength to influence policy and practices.
- When gender equality and social inclusion is ensured in the project interventions, the result in outcome and impact is visible. The program approach is absolutely gendered and inclusive not only in nature; rather it was reflected in the community with visible results.

## 6. Recommendations

Recommendations are made based on the analysis of the findings as grouped into four categories as follows:

### Outcome Harvesting Methodology

- In the process of the outcome harvesting, it would be much better if the outcome descriptions had been structured in three different categories as 1) Institutional capacities 2) Program with its proven model, and 3) the pathways for change.
- Outcome harvesting needs to be conducted immediately after the project end to get the fresh understanding and experience from the stakeholders.

## Program Design

- The project outcomes need to be sustained in the long-run. There are some cases where the climate resilient activities were initiated just nine months before the project was phased out. This situation demands robust institutional linkages with local level government for the needful assistance right from the project-designing phase.
- The strategic partners/CSOs involved in the project should have the same spirit in understanding the contexts. CARE Nepal could develop combined knowledge products and disseminate among them right from the very beginning of the project on a periodic basis on who is doing what, where and how.
- Database system established at Belaka Municipality (Production control system) seems highly relevant to ensure fair distribution of benefits and services among the landless and marginalized farmers. CARE Nepal could include this system in the program design in other projects.

## Program Implementation

- The project needs to enhance the collaboration with national level federation of elected members/local levels (for example, NARMIN in Nepal) to scale out in mass scale across the country.
- CARE Nepal through its strategic partners still need to influence the local levels with new representatives who have not endorsed the agriculture and land related acts and policies.
- Feasibility study and business plan for the contract farming, mostly in groups based intervention, provides the users a clear way forward to be actively involved in the farming mitigating the internal conflict. This needs to be at the forefront of the intervention.
- The project needs to think about the continuation of the models where local levels are yet to endorse the acts and policies. This situation clearly demands a way forward with very clear roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders working in those local levels to be established before phasing out.
- Active involvement of the government promotes ownership and accountability among them and their federated structures. The project needs to generate evidence-based knowledge products/policy briefs to stimulate them to be active in program implementation.

## Program Sustainability

- Without a strong mechanism, renewal and continuation of localized insurance may not be sustainable. Some evidence of the group members who had not renewed their insurance clearly demands this provision.
- There is still an acute shortage of technical human resources in the local levels to support the climate resilient models in the long run. The project could think about developing few farmers as TVET graduates with a three-four months tailor-made course representing each ward of the intervention. This contributes to employment opportunities in one hand and retains the intervention of the project in the other.
- Farmers groups should have the members of almost the same features in terms of culture, poverty level, understanding etc. A mix group with elite members may have some conflict in the long run. The project and the CSOs need to account the features during the course of group formation.

- The project could support local levels to air agro-met advisory services and successful cases of the intervention through local FMs/Radios establishing a mechanism on a regular basis to support sustainability of the interventions.

## Annex I: References

(to be inserted here)

## Annex II Substantiation of outcome descriptions

Outcome descriptions-Code (5-strongly agree, 4-particly agree, 3-don't know, 2-partially disagree, 1-strongly disagree)		Substantiator's ; response					N
		5	4	3	2	1	
A1	Strengthen and expansion of institutional structure of NFGF (local government, 48 to 63 districts, and 7 Provincial structural) and NLRF (53 to 60) by aligning with new federal structure. This has support to increase their constituency for advancing their movement on land and agriculture. This has also support to promote their legacy, recognition, participation among allies and policy makers.  Note: Local government : municipal/rural, ward, farmers group, tole group	7	5	3			15
A2	Land rights movement- Land-less people are organized in the groups and its network, mobilize to claim their land rights, and succeed to receive land certificates from the government.	4	3	3			10
A3	Farmer's movement- Farmers groups and their networks have <i>better institutional capacity</i> , mobilize to claim their constitutional rights on food and its sovereignty and were successful to receive subsidized production input, access to production land and water, agriculture insurance, and minimum support price for their product from <i>accountable local government</i> . Note: Institutional capacity (claim, claim process, aware on 7 step planning process, engage in local planning process, source identification and resource mobilization.	7	7	1			15
A4	NLRF and NFGF have improved institutional governance, legitimacy and accountability system to ensure inclusive and diverse/meaningful representation at their all level structure and are accountable toward their constituency and related stakeholders. Note: Legitimacy of the organization increased, meaningful representation (voice and issues reflection) connection with other stakeholders, acceptance from other.	7	5	5			17
A5	<i>NLRF and NFGF have increased institutional capacity on strategic areas (strategic planning, policy analysis, model policy formulations and advocacy and influence, Gender, social inclusion and diversity), technical areas (agriculture, livelihoods, climate change adaption measures, KM &amp;MEL proceedings), management area (HR management, administrative management, campaign management) to advance their moment.</i>	8	7				15
A6	NLRF and NFGF are capable of setting their advocacy agendas (Policy brief, model act), pursue collective actions by their structure of different level by applying Insider and outsider advocacy approach (alliance and coalition building, campaign, mass gathering, lobby, dialogue meeting with parliamentary members, women empowerment in agriculture (contribution in decision making process at family and community,	6	8				14

	dignity at family level) to ensure their agendas in policies related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security.					
A7	The women and marginalized group people associated in NFGF and NLRF ward level group and network have better stake in HHs and community level planning and decision making forum; play meaningful role in the decision making process due to change in power relation. They also have better access to government services and resources.	6	4	4		14
A8	Local government jointly with CSOs partners co-create (joint planning, piloting and proof of concept) and scale up climate resilient land and agriculture practices and plans taking into account in-building in their periodic plan, policy and program.	5	4	1		10
A9	All six targeted Palika have developed local agricultural acts and endorsed by its assembly. All annual plans and programs are designed based on the Ag act provisions and priorities. Agricultural acts and Scale out at 37 Palika- agricultural act, Land act endorsed: Babai (Dang), Dangisaran(Dang), Panchpokhari (Sindhu), Gurbakot (surkhet), Pancheswor(Baitadi), Kankai, Scale up through NARMIN	4	8	3		15
A10	Local government deliver quality services related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security incorporating NFGF, NLRF, CSRC and other CSO partners and citizens demands in their local plan, policy formulation and implementation process.	3	4	3		10
A11	Climate Resilient Model: Small land holder farmers are adopting climate resilient land and agriculture practise in subsistence, nutritional gardening lease hold and semi-commercial farming.	5	6	3		14
A12	Four targeted local governments (Belaka, Siddicharan, Sakhunankar katti, Bhagawanpur) have adopted the categorization-based ID cards model piloted/demonstrated by National Farmers Groups Federation (NFGF) and CARE Nepal. Farmers have received categorization-based ID cards, production inputs and social security schemes based on the FID card category.	4	7	3		14
A13	The proven models like Farmers ID Cards, Leasehold Farming, Agro-met Advisory Services and Community Based Land Management has initiated to mitigate existing GESI norms and practices in land and agriculture sector. Furthermore it has contributed to increase the government's accountability towards improving and delivering services to women and marginalized communities and to safeguard the rights to Food and Nutrition Security for women and small scale farmers.	9	6	2		17

A7 & 13 and 6 & 9 were suggested to merge and the evaluators did accordingly.

## Annex III: System level pathways evaluation questions

System Level Impact Pathways	Evaluation Question
<i>Scaling and adopting proven models (1)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the climate smart resilient models on land and agriculture contribute towards the empowerment of marginalized and small-holder farmers?</li> <li>• How those models were further scale up/out and institutionalized in the various levels of government? What are the key, challenges and learnings?</li> <li>• How climate resilient demonstrated model contributed to address the local problem and its contribution in local level policy and program and its benefit in individual level?</li> </ul>
<i>Advocacy to influence policies and programs (2)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What were the major model policies, programs and budget on land and agriculture introduced/formulated/endorsed as a result of the project interventions? How it become part of the local government plan, policy and guideline?</li> <li>• How local government inbuilt those in their policies and programs?</li> <li>• How these policies and programs contributed towards ensuring the right to land and agriculture of small-holder and marginalized farmers?</li> </ul>
Promoting Social Norms Change (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the project use harmful social and gender norms change approach to ensure strengthened gender-equitable norms at household and community levels?</li> <li>• What were the major challenges and learnings while using this approach to transform gender norms and relations?</li> <li>• What was the different interventions that has support to contribute to change social norms/relationship?</li> <li>• Does it support to social norms related bring change in the decision maker? What are the key evidences?</li> </ul>
Systems strengthening and social accountability (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the project contribute towards enhanced capacities of institutions, effective service delivery and social accountability?</li> <li>• What are the mechanisms, strategies, tools and approaches used for ensuring system strengthening and social accountability? (Six building block)</li> <li>• What are the sustainability measures that these initiatives of system strengthening and social accountability be further institutionalized after phase of intervention/project?</li> </ul>
<i>Supporting Social Movements as Convener, ally-ship, resource partner and amplifier/connector (5)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How were the different groups of impact populations (farmers' groups, land rights groups) organized and the institutional structures of NFGF and NLRP expanded in the new federal structure to advance their movement to advocate for land rights and/or right to food? How has this supported to promote their legacy, recognition, participation among allies and policy makers?</li> <li>• What were the major challenges, achievements to further strengthen and extend/expand the movement?</li> </ul>
Strengthening Inclusive Market Based Approach (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the project engage with markets to make them more inclusive, rights-based and sustainable?</li> <li>• What were the major successful inclusive market based approaches used?</li> <li>• What were the major challenges and learnings while engaging with the markets?</li> </ul>

## Annex IV: Outcome description questionnaire-all stakeholders (KII/IDI & FGD)

### 1. KII-with Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation

1. What are good lessons of the climate resilient scalable models that the SAMARTHYA has produced and how are they relevant to the national context-policies and practices?
2. What are the un-intended results that the SAMARTHYA has produced and realized by MoALD and how could they be mainstreamed into the GoN policies and programs?
3. Which of the climate resilient scalable models are attributable to SAMARTHYA and how are they incorporated into the MoALD policies?
4. Which of the models developed by SAMARTHYA are effectively adaptable and scalable in terms of the compliance of the GoN policies and programs and why?
5. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?

### 2. Interview questionnaire for CARE Nepal project team-national level

1. What are good lessons of the climate resilient scalable models which could be relevant in the national context-policies and practices?
2. Have there been any negative or unexpected outcomes as a result of project activities and if so, what are they and how can project learn from these outcomes.
3. What are the un-intended results that the SAMARTHYA has produced and realized by the project, partners, paliks and beneficiaries and how they were produced?
4. How did you build the capacity of partner organizations, particularly-NFGF and NLRF to make them able to address the land right issues of the marginalized communities?
5. Which of the models developed by SAMARTHYA are effectively adaptable and scalable in terms of the compliance of the GoN policies and programs and why?
6. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?

### 3. Interview questionnaire for CSRC project team-national level

OD-Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How did you initiate the climate resilient land model scaling and achievement and for whom?</li> <li>2. Which of the models were more successful and why?</li> <li>3. How did you implement the model “Identification, Verification and Recording (IVR) of Landless and Unplanned Settlers” and why?</li> <li>4. How was Adoption of municipal level Land Use Plan Guideline developed and why and when?</li> <li>5. How was Climatic risk integrated land-related polices formulated and whim whom?</li> <li>6. What is model scaling strategy adapted and how it takes place?</li> <li>7. What did CSRC do for NLRF and NFGF to make them influence land, agriculture, climate change and food security related policies?</li> <li>8. What are the unintended results/gaps you have experienced and what could be taken up for better performance and how?</li> <li>9. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	

#### 4. Interview questionnaire for NLRF and NFGF executive committee, Provincial and national level

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How were the institutional structures of NLRF strengthened and expanded and who did it?</li> <li>2. How has the change contributed to advance movement on land and when?</li> <li>3. What are the evidences of change?</li> <li>4. Have your organization consulted by government while formulating sector specific policies and programs</li> <li>5. What are the unintended results/gaps you have experienced and what could be taken up for better performance and how?</li> <li>6. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	
A2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. How were the landless people organized into groups and why?</li> <li>8. What and when were the changes achieved by organizing the people into groups?</li> <li>9. What are the evidences of changes, for example land certificates etc and who did it?</li> </ol>	
A4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. How was an institutional governance of NFGF &amp; NLRF improved and who did it?</li> <li>11. How was accountability improved, with what tools and who did it?</li> <li>12. What are the evidences of changes in institutional governance and accountability?</li> </ol>	
A5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. How has NLRF and NFGF increased capacity and who did it?</li> <li>14. What were the most influential method adapted in increasing the capacity and why?</li> <li>15. What are the evidences of increased institutional capacity of BLRF and NFGF?</li> </ol>	
A6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16. How has these policies incorporated the issues of landless and smallholder? What was the contribution of NFGF and NLRF in policy formulation process How has Madhesh Province incorporated the demonstrated model in their annual work plan and why?</li> <li>17. What are the evidences of which approaches remained influential in doing advocacy and who did it?</li> <li>18. How the agriculture agenda is heard in agriculture plans and program (NFGF related) and how did it?</li> </ol>	
A10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19. How do local government deliver quality services related to land and to whom?</li> <li>20. How does local government deliver quality services related to climate change and to whom?</li> <li>21. Who influenced the government to deliver the quality services?</li> <li>22. What are the evidences of changes? (citizen satisfaction, localized policy and plan in place)</li> </ol>	

#### 5. Interview questionnaire for local government stakeholder (municipality, province level) ; Ex-Palika and newly elected representatives

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How have local governments formulated Agriculture Act, Land Act, Operational Guideline (lease land, agro met advisory service, seed, Participatory Guarantee System-PGS), when and why?</li> </ol>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. How has Madhesh Province incorporated the demonstrated model in their annual work plan and why?</li> <li>3. What are the evidences of which approaches remained influential in doing advocacy and who did it?</li> <li>4. How the agriculture agenda is heard in agriculture plans and program (NFGF related) and how did it?</li> <li>5. What were the good lessons learnt from the project intervention?</li> <li>6. How constituencies of CSOs engage in policy formulation process? What were core agendas they put?</li> <li>7. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	
A8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. How have the climate resilient land and agriculture practices and plans scaling and who did it?</li> <li>9. What are the evidences of coordination and scaling up and how they would be resulted in long term?</li> <li>10. How have the climate resilient land and agriculture design, piloted and deepened? Who took initiation</li> <li>11. What change did the model fostered in local government system and impact group</li> </ol>	
A9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How were the Agriculture Acts developed in Palikas and why? (this seems a bit duplicated with one above)</li> <li>2. Who contributed in developing the Agriculture Acts in the Palikaa?</li> <li>3. Is this agricultural act relevant in existing local government context, if so, how?</li> </ol>	
A10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. How does local government deliver quality services related to land and to whom?</li> <li>5. Who influenced the government to deliver the quality services?</li> <li>6. What are the evidences of changes? (citizen satisfaction, localized policy and plan in place)</li> <li>7. What issues of CSOs related to land, agriculture and climate change are addressed in policy and plan?</li> </ol>	
A12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. How have local governments adapted categorization based ID Card and to whom?</li> <li>9. Who did influence the adaptation of the FID and how?</li> <li>10. How FID changed local government system? Which category of farmers mostly benefited by instituting FID?</li> <li>11.</li> </ol>	

**6. KII questionnaire Local Government Ward Office and Service Centers (Agriculture and Livestock unit)**

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How is climate resilient land and agriculture practices and plans coordinated and who did it?</li> <li>2. How does Palika/ward provide agriculture and livestock services to the beneficiaries?</li> <li>3. How does localized insurance function and how long does it take to be materialized?</li> <li>4. What are the evidences of changes supporting mechanism?</li> <li>5. What was the NFGF and NLRf contribution in the process?</li> <li>6. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	

A9	7. How were the Agriculture Acts developed in Palikas and why? 8. Who contributed in developing the Agriculture Acts in the Palika and when? 9. Is the agriculture act relevant in local context	
A10	10. How does local government deliver quality services related to land and to whom? 11. Who influenced the government to deliver the quality services? 12. What are the evidences of changes? (citizen satisfaction, localized policy and plan in place)	
A12	13. How have four local governments adapted categorization based ID Card and for whom? 14. Who did influence the adaptation of the FID and how? 15. How FID changed local government system? Which category of farmers mostly benefited by instituting FID?	

### 7. KII questionnaire for community level frontline leader (NFGF/NLRF or based on the models-8)

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A2	1. How were the landless people organized into groups and why? 2. What and when were the changes achieved by organizing the people into groups? 3. What are the evidences of changes, for example land certificates etc and who did it? 4. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?	
A4	5. How was an institutional governance improved at community level and who did it? 6. How was accountability improved and what the tools applied? 7. What are the evidences of institutional governance and accountability maintained at community level?	
A5	8. How have NLRF and NFGF increased capacity at community level and who did it? 9. What were the most influential approaches adapted in increasing the capacity and why? 10. What are the evidences of increased institutional capacity of NLRFRF and NFGF at community level?	
A6	11. How have local governments formulated Agriculture Act, Land Act, Operational Guideline (lease land, agro met advisory service, seed, Participatory Guarantee System-PGS), when and why? 12. What are the evidences of which approaches remained influential in doing advocacy and who did it? 13. How the agriculture agenda heard in agriculture plans and program at local level (NFGF related)?	
A10	14. How does the leaders influence the local government for quality services? 15. What are the evidences of changes? (Citizen Satisfaction, localized policy and plan in place)?	

### 8. Interview questionnaire for Land rights group in community (ward level)

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes

<b>A2</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How were you organized into groups and why?</li> <li>2. How did you get the land and who facilitated this initiation and when?</li> <li>3. What and when were the changes achieved by organizing the people into groups?</li> <li>4. What are the evidences of changes, for example land certificates etc and who did it?</li> <li>5. What collective actions were carried out by the group</li> <li>6. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	
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#### 9. KII questionnaire for Local Facilitation Committee on Land Issues formulated by Palika

<b>OD Code</b>	<b>Evaluation questions</b>	<b>Key notes</b>
A1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does Local Facilitation Committee on Land Issues ensure representation of communities in land related information validation process?</li> <li>2. How does the participation of the communities influence in land issues related decision making?</li> </ol>	

#### 10. In-Depth interview with Supply chain actors available in the project communities

<b>OD Code</b>	<b>Evaluation questions</b>	<b>Key notes</b>
A3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the most climate resilient interventions you see in agriculture sector and who introduced it?</li> <li>2. How do you provide services/agro-inputs to the farmers and who facilitates it?</li> <li>3. What is lending procedures to lend on agriculture and livestock?</li> <li>4. How does market function?</li> </ol>	

#### 11. FGD-Agro-met advisory service beneficiaries

<b>OD Code</b>	<b>Evaluation questions</b>	<b>Key notes</b>
A3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do you seek for agro-met services and when?</li> <li>2. What are the services you get from agro-met services?</li> <li>3. Who gets more benefits from the services and how?</li> <li>4. Do you pay for the services on what basis?</li> </ol>	

#### 12. FGD-Climate Resilient Leasehold Farming beneficiaries-FGD

<b>OD Code</b>	<b>Evaluation questions</b>	<b>Key notes</b>
A11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the climate resilient practices and who influenced it?</li> <li>2. What is the implementation mechanism in managing the leasehold farming system and who initiated this?</li> <li>3. Who are mostly benefitted from the leasehold farming and how?</li> <li>4. How has leasehold farming practice changed the social status of target population?</li> <li>5. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	

### 13. FGD-Localized insurance beneficiaries-FGD

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. How do you proceed for insurance claim and who facilitates this (NFGF)?</li> <li>7. Do you get the claim on what basis and when?</li> <li>8. Who are mostly benefitted from the localized insurance?</li> <li>9. What is the difference between the claim for livestock and crop insurance?</li> <li>10. How has this model contributed to reduce the climate vulnerability of impact population?</li> <li>11. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	

### 14. Interview questionnaire for Farmers Group in community (ward level)

OD Code	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How were the landless people organized into groups and why?</li> <li>2. What and when were the changes achieved by organizing the people into groups?</li> <li>3. What are the evidences of changes, for example land certificates etc. and who did it?</li> <li>4. What were key success factors? What changes it brought in lives of small holders?</li> <li>5. What is a significant change compared to before the project intervention and why is this important?</li> </ol>	
A3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. How were the farmers organized into groups and why?</li> <li>7. Who did what differently to make farmers' claim for their constitutional rights?</li> <li>8. What were the evidences of change in accessing the resources?</li> <li>9. What were the most effective approaches used by key resource partner to bring change?</li> <li>10. How the changes become possible? What was key success factor?</li> <li>11. What changes it brought in lives of small holder?</li> </ol>	
A7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. How were the women and marginalized groups able to participate in planning and decision making forums and who influenced them so?</li> <li>13. What are the evidence of change in power relation and how was it established?</li> <li>14. What are the evidences of access to government resources?</li> <li>15. What changes happen in women representation, decision making etc.?</li> <li>16. What are the changes at household level and how brought this?</li> </ol>	
A10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. How do you get the services related to land from local government?</li> <li>18. What are climate resilient models you have and how do you practice and implement them related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security i</li> <li>19. What new provision related to land, agriculture and climate change have been made in new local policies and practices and how?</li> </ol>	

## 15. Interview questionnaire for Farmers Group in community (ward level)

Code	Outcome Description	Evaluation questions	Key notes
A13	<p>The proven models like Farmers ID Cards, Leasehold Farming, Agro-met Advisory Services and Community Based Land Management has initiated to mitigate existing GESI norms and practices in land and agriculture sector. Furthermore it has contributed to increase the government's accountability towards improving and delivering services to women and marginalized communities and to safeguard the rights to Food and Nutrition Security for women and small scale farmers.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How did the project use harmful social and gender norms change approach to ensure strengthened gender-equitable norms at household and community levels?</li> <li>2. How the confidence and capacity of women and marginalized people enhanced?</li> <li>3. How were the women and landless people organized into groups in the land right movement?</li> <li>4. What were the major challenges and learnings while using this approach to transform gender norms and relations?</li> <li>5. What were the different interventions that has support to contribute to change social norms/relationship?</li> </ol>	

## Annex V: Substantiation to outcome descriptions

Outcome descriptions-Code (5-strongly agree, 4-particly agree, 3-don't know, 2-partially disagree, 1-strongly disagree)	Substantiator's ; response					Justificat ion to given value	Contributory/ Hinderin g	Recomme ndations
	5	4	3	2	1			
A1								
A2								
A3								
A4								
A5								
A6								
A7								
A8								

*All the description are translated into local/Nepali language and are placed in respective code in the format developed for substantiation.*

Additional notes:

1. ....  
.....
2. ....  
.....
3. ....  
.....

## Annex VI: HH level survey questionnaire-climate change adaptation

(HHs will be purposefully selected having success case stories, climate change adaptation practices)

### Household Profile: Outcome harvesting evaluation

Identity of the Interviewee	
Name of Interviewee	
Village	
Municipality	
District	
Province	
Date	

**Respondents should be Head of Household or the Spouse of the Household Head**

Greetings! (Namaskar),

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am working for the Survey Team of the CARE Nepal. The information you provide will help your government and international organizations design and monitor projects that will improve the existing sanitation conditions in your area. Your honest and responsible answer will enrich the planners and decision makers of Nepal to plan more effective water and sanitation intervention for the benefit of thousands of villages in Nepal. Because of time limitation, all households in this village will not be included in the survey. This survey questionnaire precisely is directed to the heads of the households (husband/wife). It is expected that head of the household/spouse will cooperate in carrying out the survey smoothly. We assure you that any information you provide will remain confidential and will not be used for any reason other than this study. Should you choose to participate, please remember that there are no correct or wrong answers? if you are not comfortable to answer a few questions you could always skip them. However, we would greatly appreciate your cooperation in responding to this questionnaire. We would only like you to give us your honest opinion. The survey will be over in 30 minutes

Thank you.

- 1 Are you willing to participate in our study? 1. Yes 0. No If 'No' Switch to next participants

### A. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF THE HOUSEHOLD

1. Please tell us about yourself and the members of your family

Name	Gender (M/ F/T )	Telephone

1. Caste ( Please consider teri case ie Madhesi, Muslim, Terail Dalit

Janjati	Dalit	Non Dalits-Terai	Others

2. Household Asset

House and its type	Agricultural land	Livestock	Machinery/equipment	Other (specify) Pond ( fish pond, irrigation ietc) Forest land Barren land etc
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3. Main three livelihoods options of HHs and sources of income

1	2	3	4	5	6	6		
Wages ( on farm and off farm)	Subsistence farming	commercial farming	Small Business( market base operation including business,	Employment	Dependent on Remittance	Other specify Self-employment/ enterprise	Social security	Rent

4. Approximate average monthly income ranges of the HH (in Thousand Rs.)

NA	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	Above 20
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5. Approximate Average Monthly Expenditure Range of the HH (In Thousand Rs.)

NA	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	Above 20
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6. In case of deficit monthly income of the family what are the support mechanisms?

- Free shelter/accommodation with basic sanitation facility
- Shelter without basic sanitation facility
- Remittance of money
- Essential support (food, medicine etc.) as and when required
- Support during illness and health emergency
- Loan with interest or without interest
- Support against free labor

**B. Common Questions related to climate adaptation practices**

- Are you aware about the climate change
  - yes
  - No
- If yes how did you know?
  - CARE partners
  - Local Governments
  - Other partners
- What do you know about climate change? (MC)
  - This is a changing situation in the climate
  - It is uncertain
  - It affects crops and overall livelihoods
  - All above
- Its impact in land and agriculture? Yes                      No
- What climatic hazards do you experience since last 5 years? (MC)
  - Drought
  - Flood
  - Unusual rainfall
  - Foggy weather
  - Extreme hot
  - Extreme cold
  - Disease/insect infestation increased
  - landslide
- Is there any crop/livestock failure due to climatic hazards in the past 5 years? Yes      No

7. Have you ever applied any climate resilient/adaptive practice on land, crop and livestock production to cope with the effect of climate change?      Yes                      No
8. If yes, what are they? (MC)
  - a) Drip irrigation/water harvesting
  - b) Selection of suitable crop/breeds
  - c) Localized Insurance
  - d) Change in planting/harvesting time
  - e) Poly/green house/net house
  - f) Mechanization
  - g) Use of mobile app
  - h) Cold storage/chilling vat
  - i) Solar Irrigation
  - j) other specify ...
9. If yes, who often use/decide those technologies/ practices?    a) Male                      b) Female                      c) Both
10. Who taught you adopting such technologies?
  - a) Other farmers/neighbour    b) Government staff    c) CARE Nepal and partners    d) Other I/NGO staffd)                      Mass media
11. What are climate change agenda that you discuss in your group meeting ? (MC)
  - a) hazards and its effect in agriculture
  - b) Adaptation measures that are in practice
  - c) New adaptation measures
  - d) Way of seeking resources to implement adaptation plan
  - e) Other
12. Do you have prepared group level adaptation plan?  
Yes /No
13. If yes, who had a lead role to prepare it?
  - a) Samarthya staff
  - b) Government staff
  - c) Self by group
  - d) Other agencies
14. What are major adaptation practices you have planned in your group adaptation plan? (MC)
  - Improved crop variety
  - Irrigation system
  - River training
  - Climate smart agriculture practices
  - other (spacity...)
15. Have you implemented group level adaptation plan ?
  - a) Yes                      b) No
16. How effective is your group adaptation plan is effective to cope with current climate risk?
  - a) Effective    b) Vey effective    c) Some how effective    d) not effective
17. Where did you access resource to implement activities listed in plan
  - a) Local government
  - b) Province government
  - c) Community collection
  - d) Samarthya
  - e) Other I/NGOs

## Models

### *Climate resilient Leasehold Farming*

18. If you are member of leasehold farming group? Is it in practice at the moment?
  - a) Yes    b) No
19. Are you satisfied with the leasehold farming?      a) Yes, b) No

.....

20. What are the technologies (any three) you have adapted in practice leasehold farming? (MC)  
Solar irrigation system, Soil cement tanks, Plastic tanks, Nutrition garden, Jhole mal  
Other.....
21. Are you benefitted from those technologies? a) yes b) No
22. If yes, how do you maintain the system when the problem occurs?  
a) With the help of project technician  
b) With the help of Palika technician  
c) We have our own technician/maintenance worker trained who maintains as needed  
d) No maintenance needed so far, the system is running  
e) No maintenance at all, the system is collapsed
23. What are your suggestions (any three) to improve the climate resilient farming systems?  
a) ..... b) ..... c) .....

#### **Localized Insurance**

24. If you are beneficiary of localized agriculture schemes? is it in practice at the moment?
25. When did you start insurance  
a) Before 3 years, b) 2 years before, c) one year before, d) Just starting
26. How did you get to know? (MC)  
a) From local government, b) Samarthya staff c) Insurance company d) from media e) other I/NGOs
27. Which crops/ animals are insured?  
a. Cereal crop, b. Vegetable, c. Fruits, d. large livestock, e. small livestock
28. How much did you pay for premium?  
a) 50% of premium amount b) 25% of premium amount c) 20% of premium amount d) 10% of premium amount e) free of cost
29. Have you renewed insurance this year too?  
b) Yes b) No
30. If not, why  
a) Not interested to renew b) No money to renew, c) Don't get the insurance claim
31. Was there any loss of insured crop/ livestock for last 12 months?  
a. Cereal crop, Yes/No; b. Vegetable, Yes/No, c. Fruits, Yes/No  
b. Large livestock, Yes/No  
c. Small livestock, Yes/no
32. What cause loss?  
a. Disease and pest b. natural disaster c, accident
33. Did you claim of loss  
a) Yes b) No
34. If yes how much?  
Claimed amount NRS.....
35. Did you get returned  
a) Yes b) No (If Not why?.....)
36. Do you think this introduced insurance model is appropriate for small holder and landless?  
a) Yes b) No
37. Any suggestions for the insurance service improvement?  
a) ..... b) ..... c) .....

#### **Agro-met advisory services**

38. Is agro-met service is in practice at the moment?  
a) Yes b) No
39. When was introduced in your group?  
a) Before 3 years b) 2 years before c) one year before, d) Just starting
40. Who supported to introduce?  
i. From local government b) Samarthya staff c) Insurance company, d) from media d) other I/NGOs
41. What benefit did you get? (MC)  
a) Weather anticipation b) protecting crop from climatic hazards c) climate change awareness d) other
42. Is this appropriate method to improve anticipatory (foresee climatic risk) for farmer?

Yes/No

43. How could this be more useful-any three suggestions?  
 a) .....b).....c) .....

**Seed Model**

44. Is seed model in practice at the moment? a) yes b) No  
 45. When was this introduced in your group?  
 a) Before 3 years, b) 2 years before, c) one year before, d) Just starting  
 46. Who supported to introduce this model?  
 a. From local government , b. Samarthy staff c. Insurance company, d. from media d. other I/NGOs  
 47. What benefit did you get? (MC)  
 a) Knew about improved seed b) access with trustworthy seed and other production input  
 c) aware on improved production practices , d) easy access to sell produced seed  
 48. Are you still connected with agro-vet/seed company to buy and sell seed?  
 a) yes b) No  
 49. Were seeds available from agro-vet / Seed Company trustworthy?  
 a) Yes No)  
 50. What types of seed did you buy? (MC)  
 a) Vegetable seed ,  
 b) fruit seed  
 c) Cereal crop seed ,  
 d) other production inputs  
 51. What you sold with company? (MC)  
 a) Vegetable seed b) fruit seed c) Cereal crop seed d) other production inputs  
 52. Is this appropriate method to improve anticipatory (foresee climatic risk) for farmer?  
 a) Yes b) No  
 53. How could this be more useful-any three suggestions?  
 .....

**Participatory land management model**

54. When was this model initiated ?  
 a) Before 3 years, b) 2 years before, c) one year before, d) Just starting  
 55. Who supported to introduce  
 a) From local government , b) Samarthy staff c) Insurance company, d) From media d) Other I/NGOs  
 56. What benefits did you get? (MC)  
 a. Communal action to solve problem  
 b. Access to pond  
 c. Access to land for temporary use  
 d. Access to land for permanent use  
 e. Knowledge and skill related to climate adaptive production practices  
 f. Other livelihood opportunity  
 57. What issues do you discuss in the group? (MC)  
 a) Land or pond access b). Benefits from land and pond management c). Permanent land access d) Harmfull social norms  
 e) Climate change adaptation f. other  
 58. What production resources you accessed through this practice ?  
 a) Pond b) Public land for production c) Land certificate d) Materials for livelihoods e) others  
 59. Who leads the management for production , maintenance and benefit distribution?  
 b) Group-self b) Landlord c) Samarthy staff d) Local government d) No one  
 60. What are the changes (any four) it brought to your lives and livelihoods by this practice land management model?  
 a) .....b).....c).....d).....  
 61. How could this be more useful-any three recommendation if any?  
 a) .....b) .....c) .....

***Thank you for your valuable time!***

## Annex VII: Table on Outcome Descriptions, Significance and Contribution

Outcome descriptions	Significance	Contribution
<b>Supporting social movements pathway</b>		
A1: The NFGF was strengthened to expand its outreach from 48 to 63 districts and the NLRF from 53 to 60 districts, aligning with new federal structure. This has support to increase their constituency for advancing their movement on land and agriculture. This has also facilitated promoting their legacy, recognition, participation among allies and policy makers.	Before the expansion, the presence of NFGF was limited to 48 districts and that of NLRF was in 53 districts. Provincial, municipal and ward level structures were not in existence. Both the organization had narrowed access to advance their movement in land and agriculture given that their presence was crucial across the country. The expansion of the organization increased their constituency and recognition among the allies and policy makers at different level. The change is, thus, highly significant as it had paved the way for advocacy even at Tole/farmers group level hearing the voice of landless and marginalized communities.	SAMARTHYA strengthened the capacity of NFGF and NLRF in identifying, raising and localizing the issues of landless and smallholder farmers with enhanced advocacy and organization capacity development. The project organized a series of formative events, capacity building workshops and exercise. This arrangement made possible to expand and strengthen the institutional structures of NFGF and NLRF across the province and district level which created an opportunity to widen their constituency in advancing the land and agriculture related movements on issue based discussion, supporting governments for landless and small and marginalized farmers' friendly policy amendment process.
A2: Land-less people are organized in the groups and its network, mobilize to claim their land rights, and succeed to receive land certificates from the government.	The change brought by this outcome is highly significant as most of land less people left behind of getting land certificate before the project intervention received land certificates and remaining are in the process of receiving it. Before the project intervention, most of the farmers were unorganized and had very less social and state recognition. They remained busy in busy in labor work in the local market or in the land lord's farm to cope with their daily livelihoods and had no idea on how to ensure land rights and get the land certificates, even of the unregistered land they had for years	SAMARTHYA organized farmers and piloted IVR model in Ward no-3, Belaka Municipality. CSRC, NLRF, NFGF, CARE Nepal and local levels scaled up and scaled out the model.
A3: Farmers' groups and their networks have better institutional capacity and are mobilized to claim their constitutional rights on food and its sovereignty and were successful to receive subsidized production input, access to production land and water and agriculture insurance product.	The change is shaped significantly in favor of landless and marginalized people to access land and production inputs (irrigation for cultivation, subsidized production inputs-seeds and saplings). Additionally, insurance companies reluctant to go to the village earlier are providing insurance services at local level in the presence of locally	SAMARTHYA jointly with NFGF increased the capacity of farmers groups and networks, about their constitutional rights and entitlements, leadership and communication skills, group dynamics, confidence building and identification of the service providers and duty bearers at different

	hired insurance agent. Before the project intervention, small and marginalized farmers had very less access to subsidized production inputs and agriculture land. The insurance companies were limited to the urban cities and more accessible places. This change is therefore highly significant.	local levels. NFGF applied a 8 step systematic process.
A4: NLRF and NFGF have improved management, institutional governance, legitimacy and accountability systems to ensure inclusive and diverse/meaningful representation at their all-level structure and are accountable to their constituencies and related stakeholders.	The change observed in the organization is highly significant as both the organization have contextual policies in practices. Before the project, there were basic operating policies and guidelines.	SAMARTHYA supported NLRF and NFGF in amendment and formulation of policies and guidelines, application in accountability tools and techniques
A5: NLRF and NFGF have increased capacities in programmatic area (strategic planning, policy analysis, model policy formulations and advocacy and influence, gender, social inclusion and diversity, Campaign management) and technical area (agriculture, livelihoods, climate change adaption measures, KM &MEL proceedings).	Both NLRF and NFGF are able to develop and implement gendered and inclusive plans and model practices. Active participation of women and marginalized people in programs of both the organizations has increased. Further, they are able to facilitate climate resilient agriculture adaptation practices through a robust organizational mechanism at ward, Tole and HHs level. Before the project intervention, they had their own capacity to advance their movements. They had very less experience in climate resilient farming practices.	SAMARTHYA contributed in various trainings to build the capacity of NLRF and NFGF in strategic and management sector. It supported in the development of operational and technical guidelines, networking capacity and strategic program formulation and revision. The project built the technical capacity of NLRF and NFGF through LIBIRD, CEN, and CSRC particularly in climate resilient agriculture, leasehold farming and home garden management-climate resilient model practices with demonstration
<b>Advocacy to influence policies and programs</b>		
A6. NLRF, CSRC and NFGF strengthened policies and budgets, in three tiers of the government including local levels, related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security in Nepal through developing clear advocacy agendas (Policy brief, model act) and pursuing collective actions by their structure of different level by applying Insider and outsider advocacy approach to incorporate the priorities landless and marginalized communities (alliance and coalition building, campaign, mass gathering, lobby,	This change is highly significant as the land and agriculture related policies, guidelines and procedures are formulated and owned by local government and scaled out in different municipalities. Agriculture models i.e. FID, contract farming and Agriculture insurance are developed, owned by local government and scaled out. Before the project intervention, policies and practices were applied on a common basis. Priorities and needs of the small and marginalized farmers were less considered in the plans and	SAMARTHYA through CSRC, NLRF and NFGF continue several rallies, miking, meetings/discussion, strike, alliance and coalition building, campaigning, mass gathering, lobby and advocacy meeting with elected members at federal, provincial and local levels.  Capacity building of institutional structures of NLRF and NFGF at province, district, Palika, ward and Tole level in lobby and advocacy related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security.

<p>dialogue meeting with parliamentary members, women empowerment in agriculture (contribution in decision making process at family and community, dignity at family level).</p>	<p>budgets. Instead, there was unfair distribution of resources among the elite and impact groups</p>	<p>Empowerment of farmers' groups, women and marginalized farmers through a series of trainings and advocacy skills to claim their rights related to land, agriculture, and climate change and food security.</p>
<p><b>Promoting Social Norm Change</b></p>		
<p>A7: The women and marginalized group of people associated in NFGF and NLRF ward level group and network have better stake in HHs and community level planning and decision making forum; play meaningful role in the decision making process due to change in power relation. The proven models like Farmers ID Cards, Leasehold Farming, IVR, Agro-met Advisory Services and Community Based Land Management has initiated to transform existing GESI norms and practices in land and agriculture sectors. They also have better access to government services and resources.</p>	<p>The change is significantly high as this had built their capacity to receive the services they need influencing the state structures. Before the project, the farmers were usually hesitated to gather in a meeting and felt uncomfortable to speak up and share their feelings and difficulties and social discrimination was rampant in the communities. The participation of women and marginalized community in the public events was not in the priority given that the Constitution of Nepal-2015 [Article 84 (8)] had provisioned 33% participation of women in state structures. They were unaware about their constitutional rights and entitlements. They were left behind of the opportunities i.e. quality education, capacity building, and access to land and agriculture resources. Even they were not aware about their duty bearers about who does what and how. Changes achieved in the community seemed highly significant compared to the aforesaid scenario as the women and marginalized communities of the project communities had established a strong hold to access land and agriculture related entitlements after being empowered by NLRF, NFGF, CSRC.</p>	<p>The project organized women and marginalized farmers of the remote communities, federated them into wards, municipal, district, province to federal level of structures. The two strategic partners of CARE Nepal, NLRF and NFGF played a vital role to empower women and marginalized people into their federations for network for collective action for the benefit of the target group. The organizations collaborating with local government, line agencies and working with others to maximize the impact of the programs, built alliances and partnerships with those who offered complementary approaches and were able to scale up effective solutions, and/or had responsibility to fulfil rights and reduce climate hazards in the local level through policy change and implementation.</p>
<p><b>Systems strengthening and social accountability</b></p>		
<p>A8: Local government delivers quality services related to land, agriculture, climate change and food security incorporating NFGF, NLRF, CSRC and other CSO partners and citizens demands in</p>	<p>The change is significant as it had paved the way to provide needful services to the communities. It also demonstrated flagship models like agro-met services, leaseholds farming, community land</p>	<p>SAMARTHYA through the CSOs piloted the proven models at local governments together with them, realized the needs of quality services to the impacts groups. Further, the project ensured the</p>

<p>their local plan, policy formulation and implementation process.</p>	<p>management etc. insuring the participation of impact groups to influence the change. Before the intervention, the impact groups had very rare participation in policies and practices and had very less access to government services</p>	<p>presence of NLRF and NFGF at local levels-Tle and ward levels to continuously coordinate with the local government.</p>
<p>Scaling and adopting proven models</p>		
<p>A9: Local government jointly with CSOs partners co-create (joint planning, piloting and proof of concept) and scale up climate resilient land and agriculture practices and plans taking into account in-building in their periodic plan, policy and program.</p>	<p>The changes in the co-creation approach by the project has drastically reduced the bureaucratic approach to program planning and implementation within the local government levels. This new arrangement has addressed the issues of landless and marginalized communities in the plan and services mechanism they provide through joint action. Even the landless people, women and marginalized farmers are able to pull financial resources from the local level governments. Before the project intervention, the municipal bodies mostly formulated the plans by themselves without any formal coordination with the CSOs and right holders.</p>	<p>SAMARTHYA enhanced coordination together with scalable models through federal and local government structures and NARMIN realizing the dynamics of collaboration among the duty bearers. The collaboration was enhanced and scaled out through pilot demonstrations.</p>
<p>A10: Small land holder farmers are adopting climate resilient land and agriculture models and Climate Smart Agricultural ( CSA) practices in subsistence, nutritional gardening, lease-hold and semi-commercial farming. in subsistence, nutritional gardening lease hold and semi-commercial farming.</p>	<p>Before the model application, they had no idea of what was being happened looking at the crop loss, low productivity and production even in their own small piece of land and blamed the god to be dishonest on them. They had no idea of climate smart approaches i.e. leasehold farming practices, community land management, agro-met advisory services. Even they didn't know about the significance of their local seeds compared to imported hybrid seeds. Thus, the change brought by the project is highly significant as it had founded the base of climate adaptive farming technologies across the project communities.</p>	<p>SAMARTHYA piloted and scaled up the models through resource partners LIBIRD and CEN. The farmers enhanced their skills and continued practices.</p>
<p>A11: Four targeted local governments (Belaka, Siddicharan, Sakhuwnankar katti,</p>	<p>The most significant change emerged due to the project intervention is that farmers were grouped</p>	<p>SAMARTHYA piloted FID through NFGF in Belaka, Udayapur unfolding the farmers into four</p>

<p>Bhagawanpur) have adopted the categorization-based ID cards model piloted/demonstrated by National Farmers Groups Federation (NFGF) and CARE Nepal. Farmers have received categorization-based ID cards, and production inputs based on the FID card category</p>	<p>into four categories for their identity. This is a different approach compared to the materialization of earlier policy. Before the project intervention, Agriculture Act (2004) had a provision of farmers' categorization but was not materialized. All farmers were put in a single basket which left behind the landless and marginalized farmers from accessing the services benefitting even non farmers.</p>	<p>category which ensured the equity in resource distribution among the farmers accessing the small farmers to 100% subsidized production inputs. The piloting was replicated in the remaining three local levels with the same approach.</p>
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