

Improved forestry in Nepal



Project Implementation

The Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) is one of the largest mountain systems in the world, covering 4.2 million km² across eight countries. The countries are facing detrimental changes in forest cover and land degradation due to various factors, including unsustainable farming, fuelwood and fodder collection, overgrazing and urbanization. Such loss of forest cover has led to habitat fragmentation, loss of biodiversity, increase in frequency of forest fires and increase in invasive species. Recent reports indicate that one-fourth of the HKH's endemic species may be lost by 2100 (HKH Assessment Report, 2019).

Fuelwood is a major source of energy, it accounts for about 77 percent of the total energy demand in Nepal (WECS, 2010), and it is the rural population that are more dependent on fuelwood. Tourism in the region is also placing burden on energy consumption needs.

Nepal's Forest Reference Level has quantified the emission from deforestation and forest degradation and removals mainly from promotion of community managed forests. The annual emissions from deforestation for the country is estimated at 929,325 t CO₂e/year and from forest degradation the emission

estimate is 408,500 t CO₂e/year while afforestation contributes to around -151,077 tCO₂e/yr removals (MoFSC, 2017). Emission from deforestation is six time higher than removal from afforestation. Nearly a third of the population manage nearly a third of the

forest in Nepal, making the grass root level community institutions for managing forest a global model for forest management. This proposed project works directly with these institutions that manage and conserve forest.

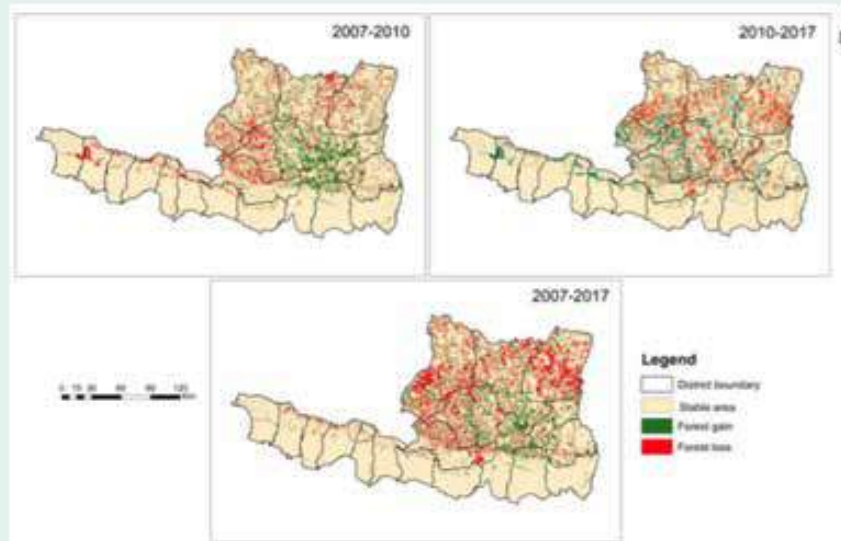


Project Objective

The objective of the proposed Biodiversity Community and Carbon project is to develop result-based incentive mechanisms in the forestry sector in the form of intervention that lead to enhancing the capacity of forest sinks and mitigate the forest emissions while contributing to local livelihood and biodiversity conservation.

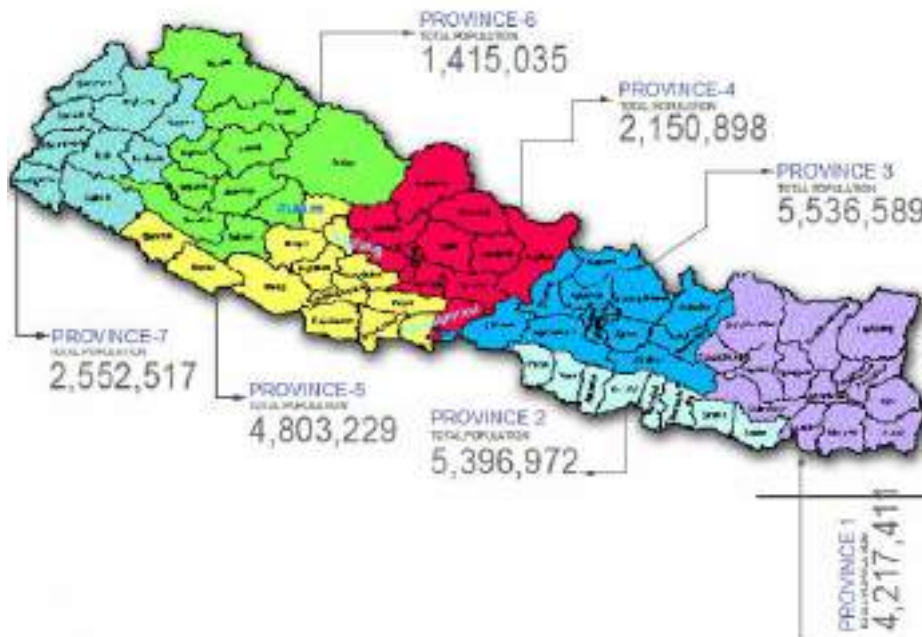
The proposed project will be implemented in Province 1 and province 2 of Nepal to address the drivers of deforestation, forest degradation and unlock the potential for forest enhancement of carbon through improved forest management, restoration, afforestation/reforestation and agroforestry. The project will be implemented in selected areas of the provinces that provide the most promising results. The project will lead to improving forest connectivity, forest landscape restoration that will reinstate the habitat of many endangered wildlife. The increased flow of ecosystem services from the restored forested landscape will contribute to improving the livelihood of the local communities that depend on forest resources and the tourism industry as well.

Decreasing trend in forest area coverage is observed over 2007, 2010 and 2017



Images showing change in forest cover in Province 1 and Province 2 from 2007 to 2017

Location & Key Focus Areas



Country: Province 1 & 2 (Nepal)

Budget

Estimated carbon price:

\$6 a tonne

Approx. Area:

12,400 ha

Estimated Emission Reductions
(10 years):

2 million tCO₂e

Duration of the Project

10 years

Implementation Partner:
**ICIMOD (The International
Centre for Integrated Mountain
Development)**



Improved biodiversity and habitats

More trees will be planted to make up for the deforestation for energy needs, this will lead to increase in biodiversity of the region and improved ecosystems



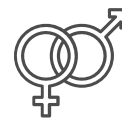
Livelihood Benefits

Increased income for the community through sale of carbon credits



Carbon sequestered in trees and soil

Due to afforestation there will be an increase in carbon dioxide sequestered from the atmosphere



Gender Equality

Both men and women given equal opportunities to take part in the project and grow



Employment Opportunities

Development fund for livelihood and sustainable development programme for the community



Mitigation of Climate Change

One of the many goals of the project is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through afforestation



SDGs addressed by the project





VNV ADVISORY

VNV Advisory Services has been at the forefront of working with climate change and livelihoods. Our decade-long experience has seen us develop low-carbon projects that support these communities in getting their basic needs while adapting to and mitigating the harsh impacts of climate change. We work in areas of clean cooking, social forestry, sustainable agriculture, rural energy access and many other related community based technologies. With support from over 40 NGOs and implementation partners, our work encompasses over 4 million rural households and 50,000 hectares of forest areas under management across the South Asian (India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Laos, Myanmar and Sri Lanka) region. We have also been able to engage with businesses to address issues of Social Responsibility, Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Neutrality.



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