

Scaling Climate-Resilient Millets and Indigenous Crops in Nepal

Building commercially viable local food systems through cluster-based production, processing and market development



PEOPLE
PLANET
PROSPERITY

WHY IT MATTERS



Heat- and drought-resilient crops



Fewer synthetic inputs



Stronger food and nutrition security



Conserved agricultural biodiversity



THE OPPORTUNITY



Connect producers with technology, mechanization, aggregation, processing, product development and growing urban markets.

AN EXISTING PLATFORM FOR SCALE



300 MUNICIPALITIES
covered since 2020–21



NPR 510 MILLION
provided through fiscal transfers



40 MUNICIPALITIES
covered by the complementary conservation program



NPR 162 MILLION
invested through that program over five years

Coordinated by Nepal's Department of Agriculture

FIVE-PART MODEL



- Awareness and policy support
- Technology and production
- Processing and value addition
- Enterprise and marketing support
- Conservation

PRIVATE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Improved cultivars and varietal research



Scale-appropriate mechanization



Cluster-based production and aggregation



Low-cost processing facilities



Value-added product development



Distribution and trade for urban markets

COMMERCIAL MOMENTUM



- Growing demand in urban centres
- Private investment rising in processed foods and trade
- Opportunity to expand investment upstream into production, services and processing

KEY BARRIERS



- Scattered production
- Low productivity and limited mechanization
- Weak processing and logistics infrastructure
- Fragmented value chains
- Private participation concentrated in marketing and trade



THE ROUNDTABLE QUESTION

How can Nepal combine cluster-based production and blended finance to attract private investment into productivity, processing and product development—while conserving indigenous crops and agricultural biodiversity?



Moving Private-Sector Adaptation Projects Forward: What Will It Take?

FINI World Café • 3rd CAIP Forum

