

## Empowering Women with Skills for Climate-Resilient Agriculture in Nepal

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Community Resilience Partnership Forum 2024

28 February 2024

## **Country Context**

- Agriculture contributes 24% of GDP & employs 62% of HH
- 64.8% women (50.6% men)
- Of the 2.2 million ha of arable land only a third has year-round irrigation (high spatial variability in precipitation) 80% of precipitation during monsoon
- Lack of mechanization
- Low seed replacement rate
- Weak technology transfer
- High out-migration of men (women in agriculture-80% in Karnali & 79% in Sudurpashchim province compared to 50% in Bagmati)



## Climate Change Impacts

- Unpredictable & extreme weather events
- Changing precipitation pattern
- Rising average winter temperature in the temperate zone (farmers are changing crops)
- Changing subsurface hydrology in the hills – drying springs
- Difficult to predict weather forecasts in the mountains with micro climates



## What can we do?

- Irrigation
- Research on local cereals, horticulture, and medicinal and aromatic plants
- Link women farmer groups to cooperatives & emerging SMEs
- Facilitate for geographical indication & certification for accessing export markets
- Basic business training
- Mechanization & technology transfer
- Ecotourism promotion







