



## Innovations in Agriculture and Livestock Value Chains Development (IALVC)

### Background and Rationale

Nepal's agriculture sector is primarily composed of smallholder farmers which accounts for 23% of the country's GDP but lacks proper organization and facilities, leading to an undersupply in domestic markets.

To address these challenges, the Innovations in Agriculture and Livestock Value Chains Development (IALVC) project aims to improve agricultural productivity, increase market linkages, and enhance the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Nepal through innovative and sustainable approaches.

### Project Goal

The goal of the project is to enable 60,000 project participants to achieve sustainable living incomes through innovations in agro-livestock value chain development.

### Project Scale

The project aims to reach 60,000 direct and 300,000 indirect families, contributing to the target of 1.57 million families by the signature program in 10 years.

### Key Donors

Heifer International USA, Local Governments, Bank and Financial Companies, and Private Sectors

### Key Partners

Local NGOs-28, Private Sectors-2

### Project Duration

April 01, 2023- March 31, 2027

### Working Areas

The project will be implemented in 24 districts, including 21 existing SLVC signature program areas and 3 new districts from the Sudur Paschim province.

## Theory of Change

The project's theory of change involves components contributing to achieving the desired outcomes. These components include promoting clean energy, capacity building of cooperatives, enhancing market linkages through digital technologies, and adding value to the target value chains. The goal is to improve competitiveness, bringing profits and sustaining smallholder incomes toward the living income threshold.

## Project Components

- **Vegetable Value Chain-** Enhancing supply chain efficiency in the vegetable sector, improving market access, providing market infrastructures, and ensuring the quality of agri-livestock products.
- **Strengthening Apex Body-** Enhancing the capacity and resources of the apex body as a robust organization and creating enabling environment for the cooperatives associated with SEWA.
- **Government Partnership-** Leveraging local government resources to ensure continuous investment and engagement for economic growth, improved livelihoods and food and nutritional security of smallholder farmers through development of inclusive value chain.
- **Cooperative Digital Platform-** Providing a platform for cooperatives, private sectors, value chain actors, and smallholder farmers to connect and expand business opportunities.
- **Goat Abattoir-** Focusing on the production of hygienically prepared goat meat through proper slaughtering and dressing techniques.

## Cross-Cutting Components

- **Social Capital-** Implementing the Values-Based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) approach, grounded in the 12 Cornerstones to foster comprehensive community transformation.
- **Youth Engagement-** Inclusion of youth in terms of access to credit, market, and support from municipalities, aiming to build social capital among young people and enhance their role in the transformation of rural economies.
- **Environment & Climate Change-** Introducing climate-smart agriculture technology and practices to mitigate the negative environmental impact of livestock production.
- **Animal Welfare and One Health-** Ensuring animal well-being, disease control, and hygienic processing practices to prevent threats to human health.
- **Food Security and Nutrition-** Prioritizing food and nutrition security to enhance accessibility, availability, and consumption of nutritious food, improving overall well-being.

## Expected Key Results

- Improve productivity through increased capacity of smallholder farmers and better access to production technologies
- Enhance capacity of cooperatives for effective supply chain management of selected value chains
- Improve access to inputs, services and markets of smallholder farmers
- Develop and operationalize of cooperative digital platform
- Provide technical support to construct and upgrade agri-livestock aggregation, processing, storage centers and market facilities

