



Nepal Government Partnership for Economic Growth (NGP)

Background

Diversifying funding sources and collaborating with local actors is crucial for Heifer Nepal. Leveraging local government resources fosters ownership and ensures sustained investment after project conclude. In the SLVC I project, Heifer Nepal secured 50% of its co-funding from local sources. In SLVC II, a new funding model was introduced, consolidating government and Heifer funds into a single account managed by Heifer. This streamlined fund flow improved control, efficiency, and timely execution of activities, overcoming bureaucratic delays. The model created a critical mass of smallholder farmers, providing services to many with limited resources. Significant effort went into establishing a legal framework and gaining local government acceptance. Key agreements on legal frameworks, accounting standards, and partnership directives were reached, creating a replicable package for other municipalities. As the prototype rolls out, discussions with municipalities have been positive. Local governments agreed to cover 75% of program costs, with Heifer Nepal covering the remaining 25% and providing technical support and capacity building for local government officials.

Goal

The project goal is to enable 65,200 families to close the living income gap.

Duration

Feb 2021- June 2026

Working Areas

36 Districts in 6 Provinces

- **Bagmati Province:** Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk, Dhading, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Chitwan
- **Gandaki Province:** Baglung, Parbat, Kaski, Lamjung, Tanahu, Nawalparasi East, Syangja
- **Karnali Province:** Surkhet and Salyan
- **Koshi Province:** Jhapa, Morang, Udayapur
- **Lumbini Province:** Palpa, Arghakhachi, Gulmi, Rolpa, Pyuthan, Dang, Banke, Surkhet, Kapilbastu, Rupandehi
- **Madhesh Province:** Bara, Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Rautahat, Siraha

Value Chains

- **Primary-** Goat
- **Secondary-** Vegetable, Local Poultry, Dairy, High Value Crops

Expected Outcomes

- **Social Capital Strengthened:** The project strengthens social capital by organizing smallholder farmers into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and federating them into cooperatives, promoting engagement in value chains and personal transformation. It also addresses social injustices and enhances goat supply by supporting the establishment of four abattoirs, creating business hubs that benefit families in the target districts.
- **Strengthening Supply Chains of Target Commodities:** Focused on the goat value chain, the project improves production through training in animal health, management, and business practices. It also connects farmers to the Community Initiated Genetic Improvement in Goat (CIGIG) project, improving productivity and profitability while providing access to capital for enterprise scaling.
- **Market System Development:** The project empowers cooperatives as business hubs, offering services that improve production quality, business management, input supply, technical support, animal insurance, and market access. It builds capacity to aggregate products, understand market dynamics, and engage with value chain actors, while collaborating with local governments and investors to develop market infrastructure.
- **Strengthening Local Government Capacity:** The project establishes a management platform with local government and stakeholder representation through a Project Monitoring and Coordination Committee (PMCC). This platform enhances project planning, budgeting, and monitoring, while strengthening agricultural and livestock units to address policy barriers and create smallholder-friendly programs.
- **Women Empowerment:** The project engages women through Self-Help Groups, enhancing their roles in economic growth beyond unpaid care work. By building capacity and promoting savings, women can secure credit, manage farm enterprises, and advocate for policies that support their engagement in value chains, with all women-led cooperatives joining a national apex body for stronger representation.
- **Climate Smart Agriculture and Reduced Risk of Zoonotic Disease Transmission:** The project promotes climate-smart agriculture through water-saving technologies, drought-resistant crops, and improved livestock management practices. These strategies enhance productivity, improve soil health, and implement biosecurity measures to reduce the risk of zoonotic disease transmission throughout the value chain.

Cross Cutting Themes

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The NGP project aligns with 5 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): No Poverty (1), Decent Work and Economic Growth (8), Peace, Sustainable Cities and Communities (11), Justice, and Strong Institutions (16), and Partnerships for the Goals (17).

