Demonstrating Enhanced Productivity of Irrigated Agriculture System through Multifunctional Water Users Associations

The Pilot and Demonstration Activities (PDA) helped evaluate the potential for and merit of building multifunctional water users associations (WUAs) in Nepal’s irrigation systems. Report Card

Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project site</th>
<th>Nepal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>US$ 17,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval date</td>
<td>July 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion date</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADB officer</td>
<td>Cindy Malvicini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>International Network on Participatory Irrigation Management (Nepal), Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems Trust, and Nepal Engineering College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report card

Completed in December 2010, this PDA

- Synthesized evolution and engagement of multifunctional WUAs in the irrigation systems in Nepal and in other parts of the world
- Reviewed relevant policies and approach in formulating periodic Five Year Development Plans
- Carried out systematic documentation of events and processes in rehabilitation and improvement of physical infrastructures, agricultural support services and livelihood improvement activities
- Analyzed processes and patterns of evolution of multifunctional WUAs in 7 cases

Read the final report.

Description

Nepal’s irrigation systems suffer from underperformance, especially because of the poor linkages between irrigation and agriculture. Irrigation infrastructures, agriculture inputs, and marketing and support services are all important elements in increasing productivity. Farmers need better access to credit, good quality fertilizer and seed, exposure and training in new crops, and better farming systems. Since 1995, the Government of Nepal has been addressing irrigation underperformance through management and structural improvements and policy reforms. Participatory management has been adopted as a distinct policy
option towards this initiative.

The PDA helped evaluate the potential for and merit of building multifunctional water users associations (WUAs) in Nepal’s irrigation systems. It enumerates the factors promoting, supporting and/or constraining the processes towards evolution of multifunctional WUAs.

The study is important for achieving the outcome of the Community Managed Irrigated Agriculture Sector Project (CMIASP) in Nepal, which aims to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability of farmer-managed irrigation systems by providing improved measures for irrigation infrastructure, agricultural development, and livelihood enhancement. WUAs are empowered to manage the irrigation, agriculture, and livelihood enhancement activities for each subproject. CMIASP seeks to strengthen WUAs to take an active and effective management role.

Expected results

Outputs

- Process documentation report focused on factors, environment, and prerequisites for the evolution of multifunctional WUAs
- Interim Guideline Reports with recommendation for adjustments to CMIASP subprojects
- Good practice publication

Outcome

- Enhanced engagement of WUAs in managing the irrigation, agricultural and livelihood enhancement activities in CMIASP subprojects, eventually leading to evolution of multifunctional WUAs

Impact

- Enhanced agricultural productivity and sustainability of farmer-managed irrigation systems

Related

- Knowledge and Innovation Support for ADB's Water Financing Program
- Scribd: Final Report (December 2010)
- Scribd: Midterm Report (July 2010)
- Scribd: Inception Report (February 2010)
- Scribd: Proposal (March 2008)
- Scribd: Annex I - Tanting
- Scribd: Annex II - Ikudha
- Scribd: Annex III - Sikharkateri
- Scribd: Annex IV - Case Studies
- Nepal and ADB
- ADB's Focus on Water
- Water Pilot and Demonstration Activities

Sourced from https://www.adb.org/results/water-pda-demonstrating-enhanced-productivity-irrigated-agriculture-system-through-multifunctional