

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Irrigation
Department of Irrigation

Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Project



**Vulnerable Community development plan
Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Project Phase II**

Prepared By:
DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION
RANI JAMARA KULARIYA IRRIGATION PROJECT
TIKAPUR, KAILALI

December, 27 -2017

PREFACE

This document is the sixth of eight volumes, which describes the Vulnerable Community Development Plan (VCDP) conducted in relation to the Modernization Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Scheme (MoRJKIS) in Tikapur Kailali Districts, Far West in the Province Seven of Nepal. This study was conducted by project proponent (Department of Irrigation, Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Project) between April to November 2017 and finalized on December 26, 2017. The Report has been prepared in compliance with the GoN Law and World Bank Safeguard Policies.

The report of these studies comprises eight volumes, which are arranged as follows:

- Volume 1: Executive Summary (combining the finds of EA, BIA, IPM, SA, VCDP & RPF)
- Volume 2: Environment Assessment (EA);
- Volume 3: Biodiversity Impact Assessment (BIA)-;
- Volume 4: Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM);
- Volume 5: Social Impact Assessment (SIA);
- Volume 6: Vulnerable Community Development Plan (VCDP)-this document;
- Volume 7: Resettlement Planning Framework (RPF);
- Volume 8: Stakeholder Consultation Proceeding conducted at Tikapur on December 14, 2017.

The relevant inputs received from the stakeholders during consultation have already been incorporated in respective reports. It is enclosed for reference only.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. THE PROJECT	1
2. OBJECTIVE OF THE PLAN.....	2
2.1 Specific Objective of the Plan	3
3. METHODOLOGICAL PROCESS	3
3.1 Review of Literature /Desk Study:	4
3.2 Use of existing information.....	4
3.3 Consultations	4
3.4 social and resource Mapping of the Project sites	4
4. RELEVANT POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES	5
5. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS	6
5.1 Summary of Social assessment	6
6. REVIEW OF VULNERABILITY ISSUES IN PROJECT AREA	7
7. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, INFORMATION DISCLOSURE AND PARTICIPATION.....	11
7.1 Key Issues Raised during consultation:.....	12
7.2 Key Information Disclosure and Dissemination	13
7.3 Continued Consultation and Participation.....	13
7.4 Strategy for Participation OF Vulnerable Communities	14
8. VULNERABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN.....	16
8.1 Budget and Financing:.....	20
9. GENDER ACTION PLAN.....	21
9.1 Overview of Gender issues in development sector	21
9.2 Irrigation Sector specific gender issues:.....	21
9.3 Gender Action Plan	22
9.4 Budget and Financing:.....	26
10. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT, MONITORING AND GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM.....	27
10.1 Institutional Arrangement for VCDP and GAP Implementation	27
10.2 Monitoring and Evaluation.....	27
10.3 Grievance Redress Mechanism	28

List of Tables

Table-1: Summary of Consultation	11
Table: 2: Vulnerable Community Development Action Plan	17
Table 3: VCDP Budget Breakdown.....	20
Table 4: Gender Action Plan (GAP)	23
Table-5: GAP Budget Breakdown.....	26
Table 6: Monitoring Methods and Responsibilities	27

List of Figures

Figure 1- Location Map of RJKI System.....	1
Figure 2: Structure of Grievance Readdress Mechanism	29

ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATION

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOI	Department of Irrigation
FGD	Focus group discussion
FMIS	Farmer Managed irrigation system
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoN	Government of Nepal
GRC	Grievance redress committee
HH	Household
HYV	High Yielding Variety
IFC	International Finance Cooperation
IP	Indigenous people
KIC	Key Informants Consultation
M&E	Monitoring & evaluation
NFDIN	National foundation for the development of indigenous nationalities
NLSS	Nepal Living Standard Survey
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
RJKIP	Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Project
NRs	Nepalese rupees
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SIMF	social Impact Management Framework
VC	Vulnerable community
VCDP	Vulnerable community development plan
VDC	Village development committee
WB	World Bank
WUA	Water user association
WUG	water user group

1. THE PROJECT

The Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation System (RJKIS) is the largest farmers' managed irrigation system in Nepal and was constructed by farmers of the Tharu community. According to the WUA record, Rani was built by farmers in 1896, Jamara in 1960 and Kulariya 1972. At present, Rani has 18 branches, Kulariya, 17 and Jamara, 15. In addition to the branches, each Kulo has large number of outlets and tertiaries to supply irrigation water to the farm fields. The water from the Jarahi Nala, a western branch of the Karnali River, has been diverted to irrigate the land in a traditional way. Over the past few years, the flow in the Karnali River has been shifting towards the East, leaving the Jarahi Nala with less and less water. The farmers are contributing huge number of labour to divert water by excavating a long supply channel up to the Karnali River, which is getting more and more difficult now days.

Even after the operational difficulties, these systems are being managed and operated by farmer communities with little input from government and external organizations. For system operation, there exist close ties between the three kulo systems. All of three systems share a common source of water and contributes labour and other resources requires annually for source maintenance while diverting water into canal system. There are three Water Users' Association, one in each kulo and one apex committee (Federation) that links the three systems together and coordinates for various activities.

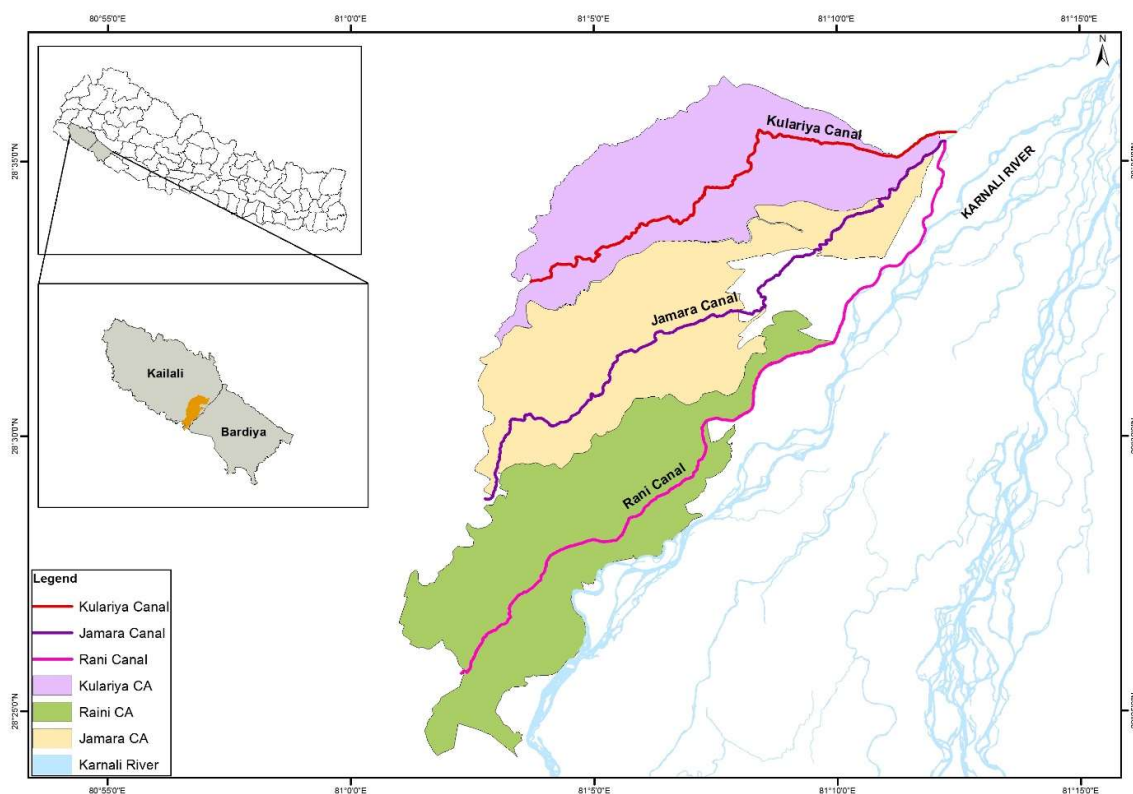


Figure 1- Location Map of RJKI System

To address these issues, the Government of Nepal (GoN), as per the request of the irrigation users of the Rani, Jamara and Kulariya, set up Rani, Jamara, Kulariya Irrigation Project (RJKIP) Office at Tikapur, in Kailali District in FY 2009/2010 to implement the Project activities. The project started procurement activities for the construction of Intake, main canal and feeder canal along with associated structures on the fund allocated to the project by the GON. In the meantime, GON

requested the World Bank to provide financial support for the remaining works of modernization of RJKIS. The World Bank agreed to provide financial assistance for the Phase-2 for the modernization of RJKIS

Proposed Modernisation of Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Project, Phase II:

The major activities in the Phase-2 includes Command Area Development (CAD) work, Command Area Protection (CAP) work, Rural Agriculture Road Improvement work and Agriculture Extension works. The modernization shall also focus on addressing the existing lower-order irrigation system (such as- sub-branches, tertiary canals and water courses) so that irrigation water can reach farmer fields with the optimal flows. Under modernization activity, three pilot area pilot area of each about 300 ha each has been designed down to watercourse level. While planning and designing existing canals alignments have been followed. The Phase 2 will further provide continuation to the WUA/WUG support program along with the implementation of a comprehensive agricultural improvement program.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE PLAN

The overall objective of the VCDP is to ensure that indigenous peoples and vulnerable communities affected by the RJKIP get special attention and all the adverse impacts on them are

minimized and addressed in a sensitive manner. However, all of the interventions planned in the project are on existing schemes, land acquisition and/or physical displacement are not envisaged. The underlying assumption for the need for protection is that 'indigenous people' are frequently susceptible to changes that are normally promised by the development processes. To this end, the project, through the VCDP confirms that IPs and vulnerable communities will receive culturally appropriate social and economic benefits without having adverse impacts due to project intervention.

2.1 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE OF THE PLAN

Create enabling environment for the participation of the poor, marginal land holdings and other disadvantages people in the entire process of preparation, implementation down to the monitoring of project activities.

Capacity building of poor, small and marginal land holdings and other disadvantages people to enable them to voice their needs and hold the system accountable for their benefits

Ensure that project benefits will accrue to all groups and any adverse impacts are mitigated.

Define the institutional arrangement for screening, planning and implementation of the plan for projects including grievance readdress mechanism.

Define the monitoring and evaluation processes with responsibility of key stakeholders.

3. METHODOLOGICAL PROCESS

The VCDP is prepared based on the existing social impacts assessment conducted for the Phase-II of the projects. The processes adopted are summarized in following paragraphs.

3.1 REVIEW OF LITERATURE /DESK STUDY:

In order to understand the participatory system improvement process applied for the modernization of RJKIS, the consultants reviewed the literatures that include both published and unpublished sources of information such as project documents, published and unpublished reports, aide memoires of the WB mission, government policy and program related to social and environmental safeguarding, etc. Much focus was laid in reviewing the documents providing insights to socio-economic and cultural setting of the project area. The following materials were reviewed as a part of information collection.

- Various Project documents (aide memoire, DINE survey report 2017; Socio economic census survey 2017 of pilot scheme
- Social Impact Management Framework (SIMF; Resettlement Planning Framework; and Vulnerable Community Development Plan prepared under scope of Phase-I

3.2 USE OF EXISTING INFORMATION

In order to analysis the socio-economic situation of the study area, information from recently conducted baseline survey 2017 of the entire project area, Census survey conducted for three pilot schemes were largely utilized during data analysis. Additionally, the data from the population census 2011 and Nepal Living Standard Survey 2010/11 were used for the propose of study.

3.3 CONSULTATIONS

Focus Group discussions (FGD), Key Informant Interviews (KII) and field observation were the principal tools applied for social assessment and data collection. The FGD with WUA member were focused to understand the general impression of farmer on on-going practices of system modernization and the degree of information and consultation being adopted by project. Free prior and informed consultation were organized in each canal section with women group, occupational caste group and Indigenous people. A total of 515 WUA members, key informants, women and occupational caste attended the FGD.

Interactions and consultations with concerned staff member of DOI at project implementation offices, concerned staff of the world Bank were carried out to understand the conceptual framework applied for the modernization of RJKIS. Additionally, consultation meeting and discussion were carried out with the members of main committee of WUA and other three branch WUAs separately.

Ongoing system modernization activities were observed in all three irrigation systems. The physical facilities (WUA office) made available under WUA strengthening component were visited and observed in all three locations. Further, on-going WUA operation practices (meeting conduction process, list of beneficiaries with land holding, status of membership distribution and renewal, financial transaction with auditor's reports etc. were looked during office observation

In addition to the focus group discussion, key informants were identified and interviewed to record in-depth information required for satisfying the scope of the study. Elderly citizen having knowledge on the history of system evaluation, WUA officials, progressive farmers, women, people from occupational cast, representatives from divisional chapter of DOI, district offices of Agriculture, district forest office were interviewed.

3.4 SOCIAL AND RESOURCE MAPPING OF THE PROJECT SITES

Social and resources mapping tool was used to map the exact locations of irrigation systems, major settlement of IPs and other vulnerable communities. Additionally, current and traditional areas for natural resources and cultural sites were identified and marked during the exercise.

4. RELEVANT POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

In absence of comprehensive and inclusive national policy & regulations for development projects, safeguard related issues in Nepal are being addressed through project specific guidelines prepared in accordance with donors' safeguard policies. Additionally, the provisions articulated in the various legal policies and acts are taken as a basis for social impact assessment. The Constitution of Nepal

2015, National Foundation for Upliftment/Development of Indigenous Nationalities Act 2002, Local Self-Governance Act, 1999, Forest Act 1993 and Forest Regulation 1995, Irrigation Policy 20113 and periodic Plans have placed significant emphasis on delivering basic services to the disadvantaged and indigenous people, occupational castes, women, disabled and other vulnerable groups. The project triggers the World Bank's Operational Policy on Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10) which requires to conduct social assessment. to identify potential effect and prepare plan to ensure that indigenous peoples receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate. The plan is based on the

5. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 SUMMARY OF SOCIAL ASSESSMENT

The population of the project area composed of different castes and ethnicity. Indigenous Tharu community has highest population (48%) followed by Chhetri (17%), Brahmin (10%), occupational caste (15%) and others (10%). Subsistence agriculture is the main source of livelihoods, especially for the poor and Tharu ethnic groups. The vulnerable community/people mapping exercise shows that people living in unregistered (ailani) land near forests, people from occupational castes, mukta kamaiya, female headed households, HH with differently abled persons, people living below the

poverty line are considered relatively more vulnerable in project area. Recurrent natural disasters, basically droughts and floods further added number of poor in the project command areas.

Majority of population (66.52%) belonged to age group range 15-60 years in pilot scheme area. These groups of population are considered as economically active population, and can engage in construction activities of the proposed irrigation infrastructure improvement. The occupation in the project area is a mix of farm and non-farm activities. Based on the DIEM baseline survey 2017, 59.9% and 21.7% of household's primary occupation is agriculture and daily wages as main source of livelihood. During the FGD it was reported that more than 80 percent male are used to go India for searching temporary job after paddy plantation and they came back for harvesting.

The land holding size between 0.1 ha and 0.5 ha occurs highest in the project command areas (45.4 %) whereas land holding with less than 0.1 ha is 34.1 percent. Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS) - 2010/11 reveals that the incidence of poverty has been found to be less among households having more than 1 ha of arable land. The DIME survey revealed that around 79% farmer are "small farmer" having less than 0.5 hectare. This implies that the agriculture component of the RJKIP phase II should have the extension activities focused to these groups of the farmers.

The landless and non-titleholders (7%) are directly excluded from participating in WUA activities and enjoy the project benefit because they do not own land in command area. The landownership further affects the women as in the project area, only 11.7% women have land titles. This deprives them from formally participating in WUA activities. The project need to work out on amending WUA constitution to provide HH based membership.

Disability is one of the indicators of vulnerability. The HH survey reports of the three-pilot scheme revealed that 270 (1.8 %) persons are differently abled out of 15260 population in pilot project areas. Likewise, disability found in 1.7% of BCTS; 2.0% in Hill Adivasi/Janajati 10 1.8% in Terai Adivasi/Janajati. The data showed that the percentage of differently abled population is highest in hill originate occupational cast (2.6%) group followed by hill originate Indigenous people (2%).

Three branch level and one system level WUAs are duly registered and renewed in accordance with government rules. All four committees (Rani, Jamara, Kulariya and Main) have their written constitutions, and all have their offices provided under WUA strengthening component of RMKIP-I. All Badghar from the villages are integrated into formal WUA structure who have influencing role over rules of water allocation, labor mobilization, and imposition of fines and penalties at the village and sub-branch levels.

6. REVIEW OF VULNERABILITY ISSUES IN PROJECT AREA

In the project area, there are two major indigenous group, Tharu and Mahar. Out of the total beneficiaries of the project area, about half (48%) of HHs are Tharu followed by Brahmin and Chhetri (27%), and occupational caste (15%) and other constitute around 10% population of the project area. The findings of social assessment shows that the impacts on particular group, whether positive or negative, are generally not different from those on others with the same socio-economic status and land size, like occupational caste or poor Chhetri, because most household in project area do not have different types of livelihoods from other groups. Not all indigenous people are vulnerable or disadvantaged, available resource and poverty remains more important than caste or ethnicity.

The major ethnic communities – the Tharus – are not in disadvantaged position in terms of their participation in the current governance structure of the irrigation systems as they are more than 71% of WUA functionaries. The presence of dalit is relatively low (4%) in comparison to their population (15%). Furthermore, all Badghar from the villages are integrated into formal WUA structure who have influencing role over rules of water allocation, labor mobilization, and imposition of fines and penalties at the village and sub-branch levels. In project organized training program around 60 %¹ participants were from indigenous communities. This shows the common issues of exclusion and low level of participation from indigenous group does not exist in the WUA. The marginal and small holders located in the tail reach of the system, are relatively disadvantaged as they receive limited irrigation water and are mainly concerned about the timely and equitable water distribution. To this end, appropriate representation of tail enders in a decisive position in WUA is important to ensure that water allocated to all the reaches of canal section.

During FGDs it was reported that around 80% of households in project area migrate seasonally for employment. Migrant households often fail to benefit from irrigation because the benefits are not big enough to keep the men at home, while the men are needed to capitalize on the new opportunities. Women left alone at home were often not able to manage the new intensive agriculture. This group needs guidance in simple business planning to allow them to make basic cost-benefit analysis comparisons between investing time at home or migratory labor. When formulating VCDP activities, special attention should be paid to those that are seasonally absent. For those migrants that belong to the most marginal groups a little extra assistance might make the difference between staying at home and migratory labor.

While designing the safeguard measures and identifying target group for specific support, land holdings are the best indicators to use as selection criteria for determining specific disadvantages and poverty issues that the plan should address. Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS) - 2010/11 reveals that limited land holding in Nepal is a major trigger for the incidence of poverty in rural Nepal. The same report highlights that the incidence of poverty has been found to be less among households having more than 1 ha of arable land, means the larger the size of land holding is, the lesser the incidence of poverty is found. The DIEM report 2017 revealed that around 79% farmer are "small farmer" having less than 0.5 hectare. This implies that the agriculture component of the RJKIP phase II should have the extension activities focused to these groups of the farmers.

All poor and disadvantaged groups have mostly the same constraints and mostly the same issues. Generally, these groups are less informed less educated and has very little experience or access to external assistance and external institutions. This therefore decreases their chances of receiving assistance due to inept and naive about the requirements and possible benefits. The concerned of these groups is relatively more focused to equitable benefit sharing, affordable O&M expenses and proportionate to the benefit received. They need opportunities that come along with the project like capacity building, income generation, labor opportunities, water use for other than irrigation. A specific awareness program regarding project support and likely benefit need to be organized through utilizing all means available.

Households who having differently abled family member are more frequently suffer from economic difficulties, show more traditional gender role arrangements (usually the women/ mother, is forced to stay at home longer to provide care for such child/member), more frequently in bad health, and have lower well-being than families without disabilities. HH survey report of pilot area shows that around 2% population in pilot area are differently abled and needs care. Depending on whether the disability is mental or physical and depending on its severity, the families having such members may have more

¹ RJKIP Project report 2017

financial difficulties, modified work and leisure activities, limited social life, and greater time constraints due to care demands. These factors make the household having such family members more vulnerable compared to others.

Generally, occupational caste and indigenous people are taken in small, marginal land or land less categories, but focusing on these proxy poverty indicators sometimes excludes few really poor Brahmin-Chhetri households, who are also among priority target groups recognized for any kind of support activities. The project needs to focus on the specific issues of this category. Even within the Tharu community disparities exist in terms of big and small landowners, and male and female-headed households as well as the household situated in head and the tail reach of the command area.

Majority of the Mid-hills migrants in the area are from mid and far western regions of the country. Hill communities during the focus group discussions highlighted that Tarai land is considered more appropriate and fertile for farming than the one in the Midhills because of its productivity. Thus, the tendency is that Mid hills' communities invest in purchasing land in the Tarai and migrate gradually for decent life. In addition, living adjacent to Tikapur and surrounding areas is a key attraction for those whose livelihood source is seasonal out-migration to India.

In all WUAs of RJKIP, the representation of women is less than what is expected to fulfill the requirements of the Irrigation Policy. Reviewing the existing gender inclusion in WUAs, none of the WUAs have 33% women in their executive committee. In order to meet the legal requirement, it has been practiced that the female members are being selected through the provision of nomination by executive board, and this particular practice makes female member more loyal towards the chairperson and ultimately limits them to express their feeling freely. Further in key positions (chairperson, secretary and treasures) the presence of women is almost nil. Apart from the social barriers existed in the indigenous Tharu community; lack of leadership skill could be one of the reasons that prevent them to take over the principle responsibilities in WUA. This also indicates the need to (a) organize separate leadership skill development training for female member of WUA and, (b) specific provision in the constitution related to selection/election process for women member.

The project area of RJKIP is spread over eight VDCs (two municipalities and one rural municipality). While discussing the women's low participation in WUA meeting², majority of participants were of the view that participating in meeting took more than 2-3 hours to reach the WUA office and sometime and unavailability of public transportation caused delay or forced to miss such meetings.

Most of the participants were found aware on agriculture program implemented under Component-C of the project but were unaware on process required to get involved in the agriculture production support program. This indicates the need to organize more extensive consultation and review the effectiveness of project public consultation strategy. The project report shows that about 26% out of

² Daft report Consulting Services for Command area development study of Rani, Jamara and Kulariya irrigation systems phase-ii: Institutional Development Component - 2016

total participants during information dissemination workshops were female however discussion with participant during FGD revealed that the effects are limited because they were not trained and guided to play effective roles in organizing village level consultations and acting as a go between the WUA and their village's women and men.

Household census survey -2017 of three pilot scheme shows that around 18% HHs are headed by female in RJKIP area. These HH with dependent children without adult males (sons) are somehow at more disadvantage than other. Once single and poor, women cannot find time to engage in intensified agriculture due to multiple duties at home. While designing the support program for these HHs, care should be taken to correctly identify FHH and not include the wealthier FHH and women in whose name land is registered, but who are still under the male household head. Participants of FGD expressed that close-knit communities generally help single women through labor exchange mechanisms and are also helped by relatives. Their needs and constraints are similar to women in general but more intense: social exclusion, poverty, time constraints.

During the FGD, it was informed that family members from more than 9% households have been identified to be migrated abroad and about 80% seasonal migration occurs within the country. Better economic opportunity and livelihood are some of the major causes of migration from rural areas. In this sense, women from migrant family have constraints similar as that of FHH or single women.

The literacy rate of women is found lower than the man. However the group discussion witnessed that the cultural barrier are slowly getting weaker as most of women are now participating in the public meetings (25% participants during FGDs), taking part in training program (about 22% in WA training, above 82% in farmer field school), operating the sewing and knitting centers (can be seen in Tikapur market), working as a member of WUA (25%), openly putting their views in the in the mass , dialogue with front of stranger and in some cases it was clearly visible that they were putting their arguments strongly with their husbands while discussing on the gender role in decision making. These are some of the indicators showing relatively better social status of women in the project area.

Based on the social assessment and focus group discussion, the following section of the society should be treated as more vulnerable than other.

- HHs with Small and marginal land holding whose livelihood largely depends on wage labour
- Female headed HHs
- Tail end user, especially if they are small holder
- Dalit as majority of them possess small land size.
- HH having differently abled family member
- HH below poverty line

7. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, INFORMATION DISCLOSURE AND PARTICIPATION

During the course of social assessment for VCDP preparation, a total of 23 consultations were conducted with IPs and vulnerable communities at different locations of RJKIP command areas. In order to make the consultation free, prior and informed, the meetings were organized after obtaining the consent from indigenous and other vulnerable communities. Before each consultation meeting, indigenous and other vulnerable community's leaders, activists and their organizations were asked to come up with their key concerns/issues associated with the RJKIP. Each consultation meeting was started with a briefing on what the future project activities would be, and what sorts of impacts (both positives and negative) the people might suffer from if the RJKIP phase II activities are executed.

Table-1: Summary of consultation

Location	Date	Participants by sex		Caste/ethnicity of the Participants			Total
		Male	Female	Dalit	IPs/Tharu	others	
Tikapur	7/25/2017	44	3	-	31	16	47
Manuwa, Janaki	7/26/2017	12	4	-	13	3	16
Jamara Kula (Layakpur, Rajipur and Tikapur)	2074/04/31	-	10	5	5	-	10
Jamara Kula (Tikapur)	8/15/2017	9	-	-	7	2	9
Jamara Kula (Tikapur)	8/15/2017	9	3	-	10	2	12
Pahadipur, Kulariya Kula	8/14/2017	14	-	-	5	9	14
Pahadipur, Kulariya Kula	8/14/2017	-	7	2	2	3	7
Pahadipur, Kulariya Kula	8/14/2017	10	-	-	8	2	10
Simreni (Uttar, Dakchin and Padampur) Rani Kula	8/12/2017	-	5	5	-	-	5
Simreni (Uttar, Dakchin and Padampur) Rani Kula	8/12/2017	-	3	-	3	-	3
Simreni (Uttar, Dakchin and Padampur) Rani Kula	8/12/2017	6	-	2	3	1	6
Simreni (Uttar, Dakchin and Padampur) Rani Kula	8/12/2017	-	9	-	9	-	9
Simreni (Uttar, Dakchin and Padampur) Rani Kula	8/14/2017	7	2	1	5	3	9
Padhalnapur, Bhagriya, Kulariya Kula	9/15/2017	26	4	-	20	10	30
Salyani Tole, Bhagriya, Kulariya Kula	9/15/2017	26	3	1	2	26	29
Layakpur, Jamara Kula	9/15/2017	24	28	-	52	-	52
Bhagatpur, Jamara Kula	9/15/2017	12	4	1	11	4	16
Naya Tikapur, Jamara Kula	9/15/2017	18	5	-	23	-	23
Layakpur, Jamarakula	9/15/2017	30	2	11	6	15	32
Bhagatpur, Jamara Kula	9/15/2017	37	1	8	6	24	38
Rajipur, Jamara Kula	9/15/2017	39	7	-	35	3	46
Aampur Bhagriya, Kulariya Kula	9/15/2017	28	1	15	1	13	29
Simreni, Rani Kula	9/15/2017	37	26	4	47	12	63
Total (23 Community meetings)		388	127	55	304	148	515

7.1 KEY ISSUES RAISED DURING CONSULTATION:

As a series of free, prior and informed public consultation meetings with indigenous and other vulnerable communities were conducted at different locations at the project. The participants of the consultation voiced several concerns during the meeting. They openly expressed that the project should not be implemented undermining IP's and other vulnerable community's rights (land, river and natural resources).

Key concerns, expectation and suggestion expressed by the IPs and other vulnerable communities during consultations are summarized below:

- The participants consistently raised concern related to their involvement in all decision-making throughout RJKIP implementation process.
- The participants showed their positive attitude towards RJKIP expecting fair compensation and replacement if needed of lost assets including land and natural resources occupied by the local communities. Lands and natural resources have been regarded as a physical representation of their culture, their spirituality, and their identity.
- All the issues related to the rights of IPs and other vulnerable communities that are related to land and natural resources should addressed in line with the provisions spelled out in ILO 169 and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
- If land acquisition, resettlement and relocation is unavoidable, it should be done with the consent of the affected people, with their active participation in the planning processes, and with fair compensation for their losses.
- IPs and vulnerable communities focused livelihood restoration programs including provisions of skill trainings, on-farm training, interest free loans for economic activities.
- In-sufficient consultation with farmer during the survey, alignment and construction of the irrigation canals.
- Water logging, siltation, undomesticated livestock (damage of agricultural crops) problems and solid waste management issues particularly in Tikapur Bazaar area.
- Members of IPs, women, and other vulnerable families should get the first priority to benefit from the project including project related employment, skill training and other project induced income and livelihood enhancement opportunities.
- Resettlement and rehabilitation package programs that include opportunities for job, capacity building, livelihood restoration package, financial support or soft loan for income generation activities, skill and vocational training, financial support to their traditional organization, community forest user groups, religious institution, NGO, school, business etc.
- Special income generation programs should be designed and implemented targeting women and IPs (e.g. skill training and monetary assistance for improved agricultural practices, livestock rearing (goatry, piggery, poultry, dairy etc.), vocational training and monetary assistance for plumbing, wiring, electronic (mobile, TV) repairing, vocational

training and monetary assistance to run small business-like hotel, tea and coffee shop, bakery etc.

- Representation of project affected IPs and vulnerable groups in each phase of project cycle-- planning, implementation and monitoring.

7.2 KEY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE AND DISSEMINATION

The VCDP will be disclosed and disseminated through project websites, national newspapers and community Radio. In order to ensure more transparency in planning and creating enabling environment for active involvement of vulnerable communities and other stakeholders, the executive summary of the draft VCDP will be translated into local languages and shared with IPs and other stakeholders at different project locations. The VCDP and other relevant project information will also be made available at public places as prescribed by the Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan prepared for RJKIP.

Similarly, information related to works progress (related to the implementation of safeguarding plan of RJKIP), potential temporary disruptions to access during construction, grievance redress process, subsidies, employment and other benefits available under the project and procedures for access etc. will be disseminated all concerned stakeholder as prescribed in the VCDP. The VCDP also acts as a depository of documentation and recording of all the public and community consultations related to RJKIP.

7.3 CONTINUED CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION

The project management office of RJKIP will have to continue consultation and disclosure process particularly with IPs, vulnerable communities and other local stakeholders throughout the project phase II. Two-way flow of information between the stakeholders and RJKIP is considered vital during all phases of project cycle to ensure the environmental sustainability and social acceptance of the project. The project has emphasized equally for both sharing of project information and getting maximum feedback from the stakeholders for the planning of mitigation measures acceptable to the affected communities and other stakeholders. Thus, continued consultations with and participation of IPs, vulnerable communities and other stakeholders is required during the implementation and operation phase of the project. Such consultation and two-way feedback will be instrumental to address the issues and concerns of the communities while implementing the measures as stipulated in the VCDP and other community development plans. The primary responsibility of the public consultation and disclosure during project implementation and operation lies with the RJKIP.

key strategies:

- Mobilization of the women representatives or educated women/girl from the *occupational caste*, or indigenous community for social mobilization and communication for specific target group/community. Use of poster visualizing message will be adopted for those communities where literacy rate is below the average.
- Utilization of existing indigenous communication structure "Chiragis" which is widely used and effective in communicating the message relating to resource mobilization in RJKIP area. This will be very effective to communicating with the primary stakeholders, the beneficiaries.
- Defined key message for various stakeholders according to their level and need during particular stages of project implementation. A dedicated unit to look after the communication

affair at PIO will be established and made responsible for ensuring the efficient transparent/ flexible system to respond to the queries/ concerns of the stakeholders

- Use of the local FM are very effective and widely listen by the rural people as radio with FM frequency are available in cheaper price as well as can be listen in simple mobile phone. It is believed that the local FM broadcast their program in local languages in a more effective way than other means of communication
- Organize period workshop to aware and orient project official on GESI, issues of vulnerable community and other social concerns which are integral part of the project.

7.4 STRATEGY FOR PARTICIPATION OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

The preparation of VCDP followed a participatory approach to enable local communities, particularly the indigenous and other vulnerable communities to have their role in the planning and development process of this plans. During the course of VCDP preparation, indigenous and other vulnerable communities have been interviewed on an individual basis, consulted in group discussions and meetings in order to understand and collect their needs, priorities, and preference regarding the project implementation. Separate focus group discussions were held with indigenous communities and other vulnerable communities to assess the project impacts and benefits to these groups. Accordingly, VCDP has been prepared with their feedback of concerns, requests and recommendations.

The VCDP implementation will continue this participatory approach to ensure free, prior and informed consultation with indigenous and other vulnerable communities. The project 's VCDP includes a strategy for the ongoing involvement of affected people, including vulnerable groups, in project preparation and implementation. Core components of this strategy are: (a) the representation of affected people/vulnerable groups on VCDP implementation structures; (b) a grievance management system for the resolution of grievances and disputes; and (c) monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track implementation issues.

The key provisions proposed in VCDP for indigenous communities and other vulnerable communities will be disseminated through appropriate means of communication. The RJKIP will use a range of communication/information dissemination mechanisms, including written documents (information sheets and newsletters), FM radio broadcasts through local radio stations, community meetings, focus group discussions and social mobilization.

A key focus of the future consultations will have to be on mitigation measures specified in VCDP. These topics will be further discussed extensively to ensure that individual households are aware of the proposed benefit maximization measures targeted to them. In particular, it will be important for the indigenous and other vulnerable households to have a thorough understanding on the activities articulated in the plan

The project will adopt both mainstreaming and targeted approaches to maximize the project benefits and opportunities for indigenous communities and other vulnerable communities. Mainstreaming approach includes increased participation and proportionate representation of indigenous communities and vulnerable communities in various user groups and committees formed under the project promoted and sponsored social and community development activities so that their needs, priorities, interests and perspectives are reflected in project planning and implementation.

Targeted approach will cater poor and disadvantaged indigenous communities and other vulnerable communities through livelihood enhancement skills training activities to enable them to take full advantage of project opportunities and benefits, including employment opportunities. Livelihood enhancement skills training will be targeted to these groups on the basis of their specific needs and priorities.

8. VULNERABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Generally, it is believed that appropriate income generation activities, infrastructure development and capacity building programs improve the livelihoods of the poor and socially excluded groups. The RJKIP specific VCDP is expected to contribute to all 3 aspects of social development: income generation, infrastructure development and capacity building. To this end the project will directly contribute to increasing agricultural productivity and production through improved access to year-round irrigation that will create/enable condition for crop diversification and increased cropping intensity. The action plan is largely deals with addressing the issues of small and marginalized farmer to ensure their participation and create enabling environment to share the benefits. **Table 2** depicts the vulnerable community development action Plan of the RJKIP area.

Table: 2: Vulnerable Community Development Action Plan

Activities	Target group	Result indicator	Responsible
1. Improved access to information			
Orient project implementation staff on the objective, process and procedure of VCDP through regular/periodic workshops	Project staff and WUA executive board	Number of PIO + Agriculture staff member receives orientation on VC and GESI issues	PIO
Awareness raising on project scope and benefits utilizing wider ranges of communication such as: (a) local FM; poster; pamphlets, (b) consultation programs at various level of canal system, (c) Utilization of existing indigenous communication mechanism "Chiragis" for delivering project information to beneacaries and (d) Train and mobilize representatives from the Dalit, women or indigenous community for disseminating information.	ALL beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60% of participants in consultation are from marginal/small farmer or landless category. HH are informed how to access the government support provided through RJKIP - 50% of social mobilizer are recruited are from dalit and indigenous communities - Number of Chiragis oriented on process and procedures of stage II of the project 	PIO + system level WUA
Periodic consultation with key stakeholder to share the project updates	DADO, forest office, civil society' local chapter of FNCCI, elected local government entities etc	Number of consultation and number of participants with social disaggregated data	PIO
2. Creating enabling environment for the Participation in project activities			
Re-organization of WUAs and associated sub-committee to make more inclusive and geographically balanced representation	Small & marginal farmer from tail end	The WUA reorganized and the appropriate number of marginal land holder, dalit and FHH included in WUA governance structure.	PIO + system level WUA
Formulate inclusive participant selection criteria to ensure the participation of the target group in all the training and capacity development efforts organized by the project	Small & marginal and landless farmer	Guidelines prepared and endorses by WUA, 40% of participants are from vulnerable group	System level WAU + PIO + Agriculture component
Prioritize the participation of land less beneficiary as wage labour in construction site	Land less and farmer having less than 0.1 ha	Strategy developed and streamlined in WUA operation; Number of landless and small holder (0.1 ha) engaged in construction	PIO + system level WUA
Establish a mandatory provision to organize consultation at concerned canal and present the draft final design providing	Beneacaries	Number of consultation organized	PIO+ concerned WUA

Activities	Target group	Result indicator	Responsible
enough space for modification to address the diverse need of farmer through multiple use of the irrigation water.			
Establish special cell or sub-committee under each sub-branch committee with special mandate to voice and safeguard the needs of landless and ultra-poor	Land less and farmer having less than 0.1 ha	Number of sub-committee established 50% of member in sub-committee are from landless or ultra-poor	PIO + sub-branch WUAs
3. Agriculture support program			
Ensure the participation of target group in commercial agriculture activities	Small and marginal land holding farmer	40% of training participants are included from the target group 20% of targeted farmer involved in commercial farming activities.	PIO+ Agriculture component
Link target group with agriculture mechanization support program under agriculture support component of the project	Small and marginal land holding farmer, specially FHH and HH with differently abled people	MOU signed between the DADO and apex WUA on linking the target group with agriculture component	Agriculture component + system level WUA
Link target beneficiaries with post-harvest and marketing support program under agriculture component	Small and marginal land holding farmer Differently abled HH	Out of the total participants, at least 20% are from small, marginal farmer or from differently abled HH	Agriculture component
Marginal and public land support program (Riverbed farming, flood plain public land etc)	Landless and ultra-poor- (less than 0.1 ha holders)	Farmer's group formed for riverbed farming and 30% participants are from landless category	Agriculture component
Link target beneficiaries with Livestock production support program under agriculture component	Landless and ultra-poor- (less than 0.1 ha holders)	% members are from target group in each livestock support program	Agriculture component
4. Capacity support			
Leadership development training	Executive members representing Small and marginal land holding farmer and female	Number of WUA executives (those represents tail reach, marginal and small land holding, dalit and other vulnerable class) provided leadership development training	PIO
Income generation training (poly house vegetable production, green house for high value crop etc)	Small and marginal land holding farmer	20% of participants receiving agro based income generation activities are from relatively vulnerable group	PIO link with Agriculture component

Activities	Target group	Result indicator	Responsible
Linking with existing civil society organizations providing marketing and financing literacy and technical training	Small and marginal land holding farmer; Differently abled HH	Number of training classes organized 20% of training participants are from target group	Farming;
5. Integrated approach to work with various service provider			
Facilitation of improved access to rural credit/inputs through linking groups to cooperative, agro vet service provider etc.	Small and marginal land holding farmer	Number of small and marginal farmer receiving service from cooperatives and other service providers	PIO

8.1 BUDGET AND FINANCING:

The Plan will have to be tied with the project implementation schedule and is thus driven by it. It requires no additional resources; however, some resources may require to organize capacity support events and to initiate the integrated approach to establish functional relations between the WUA and other disadvantaged group with various service providers.

Table 3: VCDP Budget Breakdown

Budget line	Activities	Total number of activities/events	Budget Amount (US\$)
Awareness campaign and orientation program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation to project staff member internalize VC issues in its working procedure • Orientation to WUA executive's member to internalize VC issues in its working procedure • Orientation to locally hired social mobilizer, Chiragi 	5 - one each year 2 – one to each newly elected committee 5 - one in each year	27,000
Capacity support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WUA – to internalize the VP issues in its working procedure of WUA • Specific leadership development training to EC member representing VC 	2 5	20,000
Agriculture support program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial farming • Income generation • Link with market 	Link with Agriculture component	
Integrated approach to work with various service provider	Joint workshop with various organizations involvement in social development focusing to the issues of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to rural credit • Access to input supplier • Access to health, water and sanitation services 	10	15,000
Cooperative formation	Workshop + support for office establishment	3 (one in each branch)	110,000
Social Mobilization	Recruitment of local social mobilizer	215-person days	43,000

9. GENDER ACTION PLAN

9.1 OVERVIEW OF GENDER ISSUES IN DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

In rural Nepal, institutional and structural barriers exist to exclude women from playing a meaningful and equitable role in society. For example, women are subjected to the dominance of patriarchal values including, in practice, the denial of rights to landed property, despite the Constitution and law gave women equal rights over ancestral property. In reality, the property is inherited to men in particular land, house and other assets. This limits woman in accessing loans from formal banking institutions by putting the assets as collateral. Division of labor by gender within households is also inequitable as women shoulder more responsibility than men, particularly regarding household chores including farm activities. Likewise, traditionally, participation, control and mobilization of public activities falls within the domain of men and thus minimize the mobility of women to participate in community meetings, capacity-building exercises and other opportunities provided by development organizations, including those offered by the project that they are associated with.

Analysis of gender differences and inequality is important for irrigation project design because women are prime users of irrigation systems, as they, more than anyone else, are the ones that cultivate the fields, and use systems for domestic purposes (drinking, doing dishes, bathing children, laundering, livestock raising and kitchen gardening). On the other hand, they are, compared to men, hardly involved in the planning and design of the infrastructure.

9.2 IRRIGATION SECTOR SPECIFIC GENDER ISSUES:

Land ownership (titleholder): Lack of land ownership is key barrier for women's participation in irrigated agriculture: This is because : (a) land titleship is prerequisites to get the formal membership in WUA which ensures the participation in WUA election with voting right and other activities; (b) access to credit facilities through financial institution for investing in improved irrigated agriculture has not been possible without land certificate; (c) not being a member, most of the women are not consulted during system design and structure layout which have negative effect such as water management, labor contribution etc among the excluded. For instance, irrigation water can also be used for washing, livestock etc and such tasks generally falls in the domain of female. The consultation during design can incorporate a modification to use the water for washing and other purposes and to return it to canal - enhance multiple use of the irrigation water. Consultation with the users while placing a water structures is important to address the users need in the design. For this reason, all user's participation, specially women's in formal water organization to implement irrigation activities is the important.

Women do most agriculture related work: In Nepal, women contribute significantly to agriculture sector, which is getting progressively feminized over the period time. Women, due to traditional gender division of work, have less understanding about matters and experiences associated with community work. However, due to out-migration of male members from rural area, women have stepped into more aggressive leadership roles than they traditionally had. According to national census figure of 2011, one out of ten, have migrated from rural area in search of better employments. Women's labor contribution to agriculture was 30.4 percent in 1971 which has now climbed up to 75 percent by 2015. Similarly, more than 70 percent of livestock farmers comprised of women. These figures are enough in themselves to justify the need to introduce women friendly technologies substituting labour intensive agriculture operation in rural areas.

³ TA 48218-001 NEP: Agriculture Sector Development Program: Project Preparatory Technical Assistance: Interim Report, 2016:

Irrigation is considered as male dominant activity: Mainly it involves construction works involving technical people/engineers etc. However most of the training program planned and organized related to water allocation, distribution and system maintenance are targeted to male only. Furthermore, women have practical ideas about irrigation at household and community level, however, the project consults naturally more with men, as these have more time and are of same gender as most project staff are men. Women are more reliable partners for a project because they are sincerer, ensure benefits to reach the whole family and remain in the area almost all year and largely involved in O&M of canal due to the out migration of male.

9.3 GENDER ACTION PLAN

Key strategy to enhance the roles and opportunities of women farmers and households is reflected in specific gender-focused plan prepared for RJKIP. Under the scope of this project women will have improved access to irrigation, a proportionate role in its management and access to participation in all activities including the training. The role of women in WUAs as well as other agriculture associations will be enhanced to maximize their benefits from irrigation. Improved access to farming technology will also be linked with agriculture component of the project.

The social mobilization process will put its sharpened focus on bringing women's participation rate beyond the minimum threshold of 33% as required by the DOI for all registered WUAs. Since the WUAs have failed to achieve minimum representation, the project will have to work for increasing women participation ensuring a constructive role for women in leadership and decision-making through specific capacity support. To enhance the impact of their participation, the WUAs will be oriented towards:

- Providing extra group management skill training for WUA/WUG members.
- Provide extra trainings for women functionaries in required skills.
- Sensitize WUAs and WUG to adjust meeting venues, times and styles to support women's needs and preferences.

To support this, the project will focus on increasing participation, confidence and technical capacity of women in irrigated agriculture and, will work to make improvements in the social environment of the WUA. To this end, the Project will provide gender sensitization training to the leadership of WUAs of RJKIP to help develop a more cooperative attitude and facilitate an increased and more active participation of women in WUA activities.

Women do a major share of community labor contribution and are also part of the construction labor force in RJKIP. The WUA and project will ensure that work conditions are conducive to women's participation, e.g. by choosing suitable construction seasons and time for voluntary labor. The WUAs/RJKIP shall also ensure that equal payment for work of equal value shall be paid to women. This should be a mandatory obligation on the WUA, specified by a special condition in the WUA agreement.

The project has provision of M&E system that monitors overall progress with gender and social inclusion through internal progress and benefit monitoring, and external benefit monitoring and participatory monitoring mechanisms undertaken by consultants that include evaluation and social audits. All relevant indicators are disaggregated by gender.

Table 4: Gender Action Plan (GAP)

Key issues	Activities	Targets group	performance indicators	Responsibility
Lack of information about the status of women	Prepare/update socio- economic data disaggregated by gender caste and ethnicity	All beneficiaries	All project data are gender/social disaggregated	PIO
Less access to information	<p>Awareness-raising on the various aspect of project implementation</p> <p>Gender issues will be included in information, materials and messages for subproject planning, WUA capacity building, system construction and agricultural extension</p> <p>Use of wider ranges of communication such as: (a) local FM; poster; pamphlets, (b) consultation programs at various level of canal system, (c) Utilization of existing indigenous communication mechanism "Chiragis" for delivering project information to beneacaries and (d) Train and mobilize representatives from the girl/women from Dalit, or indigenous community for disseminating information to specific target group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All man and women farmers in the Project area Men and women of targeted households, Officials and members of WUA 	At least 40% women beneficiary participation proportionately from diverse caste and ethnic groups in all major consultations	PIO and agriculture component
low level of participation	<p>Aware and orient WUA to include more women in executive board at least one in key position</p> <p>All sub-committed constituted in accordance with project requirements are fully inclusive</p> <p>Facilitate WUA in drafting policy for minimum 33% women participation in all training and events organized in the scope of project</p> <p>Aware WUA to fix female friendly meeting Venue that so women can feel free and uninhibited in their discussions</p>	WUA	<p>% of representation and presence of women from different socio-economic groups in all meeting</p> <p>% of the women included in the WUA executive (president, secretary, and treasurer)</p> <p>Gender friendly guidelines prepared</p>	PIO- SEIDU

Modernization of Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Scheme Phase II
Vulnerable Community Development Plan

	<p>Orient WUA towards amendment of WUA Constitution providing more space for female representation, special provision for women headed HH and migrants HH and guidelines for their meaningful participation</p> <p>Membership based on husband and wife from to be revised in the WUA Constitution</p>		<p>WUA constitution amended to provide HH based membership</p>	
Poor leadership qualities	<p>Design and organize specific capacity building programs for women groups/FHH with focus on skill management, communication skills, book-keeping, decision-making processes, governance, accountability and transparency</p> <p>Study tours both within and outside the Project area districts.</p>	<p>Women in WUA executive boards and women leader from respective branch/tertiary canals.</p>	<p>at least 40% of participants of the program are women</p> <p>at least 20% of participants of the study tour program are women</p>	<p>PIO- SEIDU</p> <p>Agriculture component</p>
Gender disparities	<p>Gender sensitization training (with focus on the change of power relationships - Male + Female)</p> <p>Create conducive environment for women's participation following core labour standard such as equal wage, no child labour, no force labour</p> <p>Gender sensitive physical facilities i.e. separate sanitation/lavatory facilities in construction sites.</p> <p>Organization of work and its implementation conducive to Gender need</p>	<p>both male and female member from HH</p>	<p>number of training organized</p> <p>number of female started to work as paid labor</p>	<p>PIO- SEIDU</p>
Limited access to services or less familiar with technologies	<p>Establish functional linkage with extension and other services provided under the scope of agriculture component</p> <p>Farmer field school and short agriculture skills training conducted with reference to women's existing skill level and constraints on time and need</p>	<p>Women farmer involved in commercial farming</p>	<p>At least 50% of total trained farmers are women/ Female farmer</p> <p>50% of the women farmers have access to extension</p>	<p>PIO- SEIDU</p> <p>Agriculture component</p>

Modernization of Rani Jamara Kulariya Irrigation Scheme Phase II
 Vulnerable Community Development Plan

	Focus on female headed households on HVC production, processing, post-harvest activities, marketing, irrigation management, and farm mechanization		services provided by agencies No of women farmer involved in agro-based entrepreneurship	
Possible increase of workload due to involve in extensive irrigated agriculture	Link with modern technologies (use of small farm machinery) supported by RJKIP agriculture component	Female headed households + HH with differently abled family member	% HH adopting new technology	Agriculture component

9.4 BUDGET AND FINANCING:

The Plan will have to be tied with the Strengthening Water Users Associations/Groups and Agricultural Production Support component of the RJKIP-II and implemented with the resources allocated to these components. However additional resources may require to organize capacity support events and to initiate the integrated approach to establish functional relations between the WUA and other disadvantage group with various service providers. Hence some budgetary provisions are proposed.

Table-5: GAP Budget Breakdown

Budget line	Activities	Total number of activities/events	Budget Amount (NRs)
Awareness campaign and orientation program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness events at project level • Orientation to project toward gender sensitive planning and implementation • Drafting gender friendly WUA operational guideline 	5 – one event (two events a year for three year)	25,000
Capacity support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific leadership development program for women functionaries in WUA 	10 (two events per year for 5 year)	20,000
Income generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial farming • Income generation • Link with market • Link with service provider 	4	Activities will have to linked with agriculture component
Integrated approach to work with various service provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint workshop with various organizations involvement in social development focusing to the issues of women 	2 (once a year)	5000

10. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT, MONITORING AND GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

10.1 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR VCDP AND GAP IMPLEMENTATION

The key agencies involved in implementation of this framework are the Ministry of Irrigation, Department of Irrigation, the RJKIP PIO Office. The Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources will be responsible for overall coordination of VCDP -and GAP related activities. The PIO will have the planning and implementation responsibilities. All the activities articulated in the VCDP and GAP are to be carried out as part of the project implementation process and procedures through the same institutional set up for project execution.

The Social, Environment and Institutional Development Unit (SEIDU) in the office of the PIO will lead and supervise the activities related to the preparation and implementation of the vulnerable community development plan and gender action Plan. The SEIDU will work together with the engineers in the Project Office on-site to make sure that the basic principle of safeguarding will be followed during project implementation.

10.2 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Planning and implementation of social safeguards compliance will be monitored both internally and externally. The purposes of both monitoring are to provide feedback to the management to take timely corrections in the implementation procedure and improve the performance both outcome and impact levels. Major objectives of monitoring are to ensure the followings: (i) actions and commitments in the mitigation plans (RAP, VCDP and GAP) are implemented (ii) Mitigation measures are effective in sustainably enhancing (or at least restoring) affected people's living standards and income levels (iii) complaints and grievances lodged are followed up and appropriate corrective actions taken.

Two monitoring systems will be applied ;

1. Internal Monitoring: The internal monitoring is undertaken on a regular basis to track the problems and performance against the planned activities and schedules. The Project will be responsible to undertake internal monitoring which will include mainly the indicators of VCDP and RAP implementation. The indicators to be captured are normally the progress on benefit enhancement activities targeted to the vulnerable people, supports to severely affected people, restoration of income and livelihood of Aps. The project will produce quarterly monitoring report and submit to the Bank.
2. External Monitoring: An Independent expert or Agency will be hired to undertake external monitoring of RAP and VCDPs. Overall objective of external monitoring is to provide unbiased and updated status on implementation of social safeguard measures including compensation, resettlement, rehabilitation, training, income generation and livelihood improvement.

Table 6: Monitoring Methods and Responsibilities

Performance/results				
Type of monitoring	Frequency	Against	Tool, process/Method	Responsibility
Process	Day to day	Action Plan	Field visits, progress review, public hearing/auditing	Branch and sub-branch WUA+PIO
Progress	Quarterly/annually	Action Plan	Field visits, progress review, public hearing/auditing	PIO
Involvement party/group				
Internal	Quarterly, annually	Work plan, progress report, field visit report	Field visits, progress review, public hearing/auditing	WUA+PIO
Independent	Occasionally as needed but at least once during the implementation period	Issues based, progress or field report	Progress review. interaction with primary stakeholder	Independent experts hired by PIO
Joint	At the end of the implementation of plan	Action plan	Progress review. interaction with primary stakeholder	All stakeholder involved including

10.3 GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) are locally constituted committee in accordance with the project provision for dispute resolution with regard to overall project intervention. The GRCs established at the various level of the project will mandated to receive and facilitate the resolution of APs' concerns and grievances about physical and economic displacement including other impacts due to project intervention, paying particular attention to the impacts on vulnerable groups.

The project Grievance readdress mechanism (GRM) consists of three layers. The first layer of the GRM will be at Mauja or settlement level led by Badghars. This will be the continuation of existing indigenous practices of grievance resolution. The second layer of GRCs will be created at branch canal level, led by the secretary of Branch committee whereas the project level, the GRC will be led by the by elected chairperson of rural/municipalities. The structure of GRM is presented in following figure.

GRC procedures:

The information about the existence and working procedures of GRCs will widely be disseminated in the project area. The committees are mandated to address the concerns of APs' and complaints promptly, using an understandable and transparent process that is gender responsive and socially inclusive, culturally appropriate, and readily accessible to the APs at no costs and without retribution.

The APs may submit their concerns or grievances verbally or in writing to the Committee. All complaints/grievances received are documented properly at branch and system level GRCs.

Respecting the indigenous practices of grievance handling at Mauja/ settlement by Badghar, documentation of complaints/grievances will not be mandatory, however the project will encourage them to document grievance received at settlement level too.

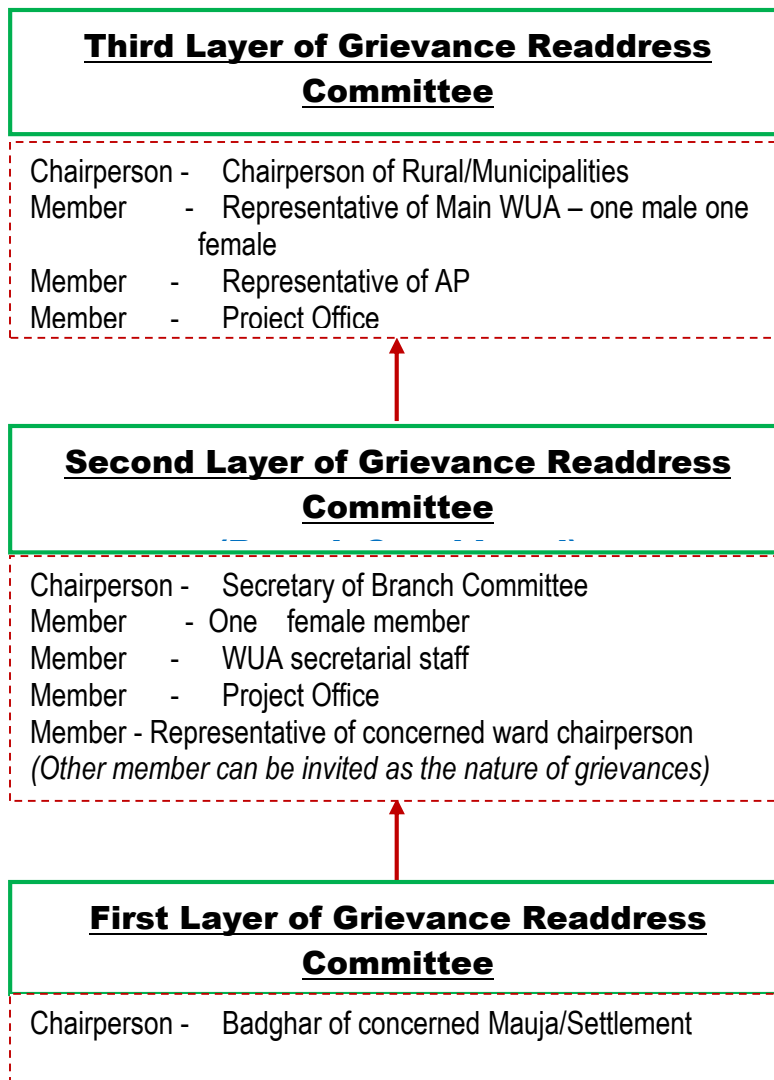


Figure 2: Structure of Grievance Redress Mechanism

The followings steps are followed for grievances management

Steps 1: APs file the complaints in GRC at settlement level. Complaints of APs on any aspect resulted due to project intervention or issues related to land donation, compensation, relocation or unaddressed losses is in the first instance are discussed and settled verbally or in written form with GRC at settlement level. The GRC at this level will have to respond within 7 days from the date of complain registration.

Steps 2: If no understanding or amicable solution reached from the GRC at settlement level, APs can appeal to their respective branch level GRC. While lodging the complaint, the AP must produce documents to support his/her claim. The Committee will have to make field-based assessment to verify and examine the grievances. After proper examination and verification of the grievances, the committee will facilitate WUA, APs, and other concerned parties to agree on a time-bound action plan to resolve the grievance if found to be genuine. The GRC at branch level will have to provide the decision within two weeks from the registration of the appeal.

Step 3 If the grievances are not settled at branch level APs can appeal to the project level GRC. While lodging the complaint, the AP must produce documents to support his/her claim. The working procedures of the committee will be decided by itself. The GRC at project level will have to provide the decision within one month from the registration of the appeal.

Steps 4: If AP is not satisfied with the decision of project level GRC or in the absence of any response of its representatives, within one month of the complaint, the AP, in his/her last resort, may file the case to the appropriate courts of law and access the country's legal system.