

## **Updated Action Pledge- NWP**

### **Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal**

#### **1. Extension of NGO group on Climate Change network**

NGO group on climate change has now been extended with formal participation of 17 organizations. The member organizations of the group are listed as below:

- Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)
- World Vision, Nepal
- Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO)
- Clean Energy Nepal (CEN)
- Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness(ECCA)
- Environment Study Group (ESG)
- Machapuchhre Development Organization (MDO)
- Forum for Rural Welfare and Agriculture Reform for Development (FORWARD)
- Ecological Service Centre (ECOSCENTRE)
- Nepal Red Cross Society, Kaski
- Multidimensional Agriculture for Development (MADE) Nepal
- Nepal Water Conservation Foundation (NWCF)
- Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Conservation (CEBEC)
- RIMS Nepal
- Sahamati, Nepal
- Forest Action
- Federation of community forest user Nepal (FECOFUN)

Similarly, a regional node of NGO group was formed in parts of Nepal where more than 50 organizations are affiliated.

#### **2. Awareness Raising Activities: Global Climate campaign day**

For the synchronized demonstration all around the world, LI-BIRD in collaboration with local and community-based organizations in Pokhara organized a public rally. There was participation of more than 5000 people which included school students, college youths, women group, civil societies, media persons, NGOs and CBOs. The participants of the parade chanted slogans related to climate change issues and policy needs to create awareness and concerns for global environmental issue. Banners and play cards with the slogans related to climate change issues were displayed during the rally.

### **3. Capacity Building**

#### **South Asian Regional Pilot Training on Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change**

Development NGOs (including international as well as national and local NGOs) have experience working with vulnerable groups and communities. However, most development NGOs has not yet engaged with the issue of Climate Change. In Nepal with the initiatives of LI-BIRD and partner organization, NGO group was formed and actively involved in the climate change work. However there are very limited resources, capacity and project currently handled by the civil society organization. These civil society organizations have also limited and untrained manpower to deal with climate change related research and development. Therefore, 5 days comprehensive training was organized by LIBIRD on 9-13<sup>th</sup> January 2009, with the invited resources persons from Bangladesh Center for Advanced Studies (BCAS). The aim of the training was to provide guideline for trainers aiming to enhance capacity of different development workers to understand climate change better and explains several frameworks, tools and techniques to facilitate planning and designing community based adaptation projects. Some of the tools and techniques learnt were, hazard mapping, Vulnerability matrix and Local Options for Communities to Adapt and Technologies to Enhance Capacity (LOCATE).

### **4. Action Research**

#### **4.1 Assessing the environmental stress tolerant Neglected and Underutilized species in the context of changing climate**

Many of our local crops and varieties have traits that can resist to changing climate and also ensures to food security but these are often been neglected or not recognised by researchers and scientist. Keeping this in mind research was conducted to investigate the local crops and varieties that are more resilient to environment stresses and identifying the traits that can be useful for further development and promotion of these crops. Environment stress tolerant characters identified were pest/disease tolerant, drought tolerant, heat tolerant, cold tolerant, water logging tolerant, marginal land tolerant and low management required.

## **4.2 Field testing of various CBA tools**

Several Community Based Adaptation tools such as Risk and hazard mapping, CRiSTAL (Community Based Risk Screening Tool-Adaptation and Livelihoods), DFID Livelihood framework, CARE CVCA (Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis) tool and tools recommended by UNFCCC were tested, while conducting the case study on climate change impacts on livelihood of poor and vulnerable communities and bio-diversity conservation in community and buffer zone forests of Banke, Dhading and Rasuwa districts. This study was carried out in collaboration with CARE Nepal.

## **5. Contribution to NAPA (National Adaptation Programme of Action)**

Adaptation to climate change should be considered from a contingency planning process perspective. There is a need for integration of agrobiodiversity component within NAPA as part of the adaptive strategies of countries, in order to improve the livelihood of the poor and to enhance their adaptive response in terms of climate change. For this purpose LI-BIRD in collaboration with Bioversity International conducted a study related to existing policies in Nepal that enable or inhibit the wider use of agro biodiversity. The study was intended to synthesize and made widely available the current state of knowledge in the agro biodiversity and secondly identified key research that needs to be undertaken within policy frameworks as part of the Nepalese National Adaptation Programme of Action to improve, explore and use of agro biodiversity to help cope with climate change.

## **6. Interaction with Constituent Assembly Members about Climate Change Challenges as a National Concern**

LI-BIRD with joint collaboration of NTNC, FECOFUN and RIMS- Nepal organized half day interaction program with constitution assembly members, experts of climate change and relevant stakeholders to discuss about climate change issues and to address its immediate need by incorporating in national policies. The main objective of the interaction was to incorporate climate change issues in national policy and strategy document as Nepal is now on the way of making new constitution.

## **7. Publication**

### **Information Sheet**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue of information sheet in Nepali was published addressing the need of policy related to climate change issues in Nepal. This sheet has covered the past efforts in policies related to climate change from international to national level, policy framework related to climate change mitigation and adaptation and various issues related to adaptation in Nepal.