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SUSTAINABLE WATER PARTNERSHIP IN NEPAL

The USAID-funded Sustainable Water Partnership (SWP) develops and implements participatory water resource management to strengthen water security, which is essential to improving public health and livelihoods, alleviating poverty and supporting economic growth as well as political stability.

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY (IWMA)

As USAID/Nepal's Social, Environmental and Economic Development (SEED) office recognizes, water is the most important natural resource underpinning Nepal's overall economic growth. In fact, water plays a key role in every activity the SEED office funds. But until recently, coordinated actions on water security among these projects were few and far between. The two-year Integrated Water Management Activity (IWMA) supports USAID/Nepal's SEED Office to effectively integrate their ongoing Natural Resources Management (NRM), Feed the Future (FtF), Food for Peace (FFP), WaSH, and Nutrition activities around the importance of safeguarding water.

SWP supports USAID/Nepal and SEED implementing partners working in the Rangun Khola and Lower Karnali watersheds to develop and implement integrated plans to improve water security and strategically use results and learning to inform programming around more effective water resources management. For example, many current SEED activities are collecting data and producing information about the area's water quality and availability. Others are promoting disaster-risk reduction with early flood warning systems. By coordinating shared information and tools among projects, SWP can reduce the collective effort of SEED projects while maximizing their overall benefits.

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The CEO Water Mandate



EXPECTED RESULTS

This activity is providing four key deliverables:

- Two integration plans for Lower Karnali and Rangun Khola Watershed;
- A monitoring, evaluation and learning plan for each watershed;
- Organization and facilitation of quarterly planning/ review sessions; and
- Semi-annual and annual progress reports.

INTERMEDIATE RESULTS

Several coordination workshops were held to bring together USAID/Nepal staff and representatives of the various SEED implementing mechanisms as well as from other relevant USAID activities. The objective was to discuss, generate inputs, and build consensus among implementing partners on potential synergies and integration themes to address critical water-related risks in two target watersheds. To date, IWMA convened USAID implementing partners active in the two target watersheds, identified nine integration themes and over 30 integrated on-the-field activities, and developed two watershed integration work plans along with corresponding MEL plans.

