If you would like to know more about the project in Bhutan, please contact:

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Introduction

In Bhutan, rainfall is becoming more unreliable and natural springs are drying up. In line with the priority of the Government of Bhutan to address water resource management, SNV is working with water user associations to ensure efficient water use and boost agriculture production.

Specific objectives of the ongoing CSA project in Bhutan are to:

- Support implementation of climate change vulnerability and impact assessments of water user associations and farmers’ groups;
- Raise awareness on the impact of climate change on women;
- Mainstream climate smart agriculture into stakeholders’ activities and development plans for rice and horticultural activities; and
- Integrate best practices into local planning processes.

Site and impact targets

The project is working with rice and vegetable farmers in Tsirang, Sarpang, Wangdue, Chukha, Samtse and Thimphu districts. More women (65.5%) than men (50%) are involved in the agriculture sector, therefore, the project focuses extensively on how climate change is impacting the position of rural women.

By the end of the project, about 650 vegetable and rice farmers will have the skills and knowledge to adapt to the impact of climate change. SNV will also have helped build awareness and expertise among government counterparts and service providers ensuring wider replication though future planning processes.

As of 2014, over 689 farmers from 10 pilot sites in 6 districts have benefitted from climate smart initiatives. Some of the key activities include adaptation of commodities such as rice, lentils and rhizome to climate change; tapping water into reservoirs and strengthening of Water User’s Association; and development of alternative livelihoods for small-scale farmers.

Partners/Donors

The Climate Smart Agriculture project in Bhutan is part of the current multi-country program implemented in Nepal, Lao-PDR and Cambodia, and is funded by the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs-DGIS.

SNV Bhutan works closely with the following partners in the Climate Smart Agriculture project:

- Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Bhutan
- District offices in 6 districts of Bhutan
- Local government in pilot sites
- Farmer’s groups/cooperatives

Photo Credits

Adrian Enright & Aidan Dockery for SNV
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