



Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience: Championing a Digital Generation

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Documenting land tenure of sharecroppers and contract farmers to improve sustainable utilization of land and environmental protection: A Case from Dang district in Nepal

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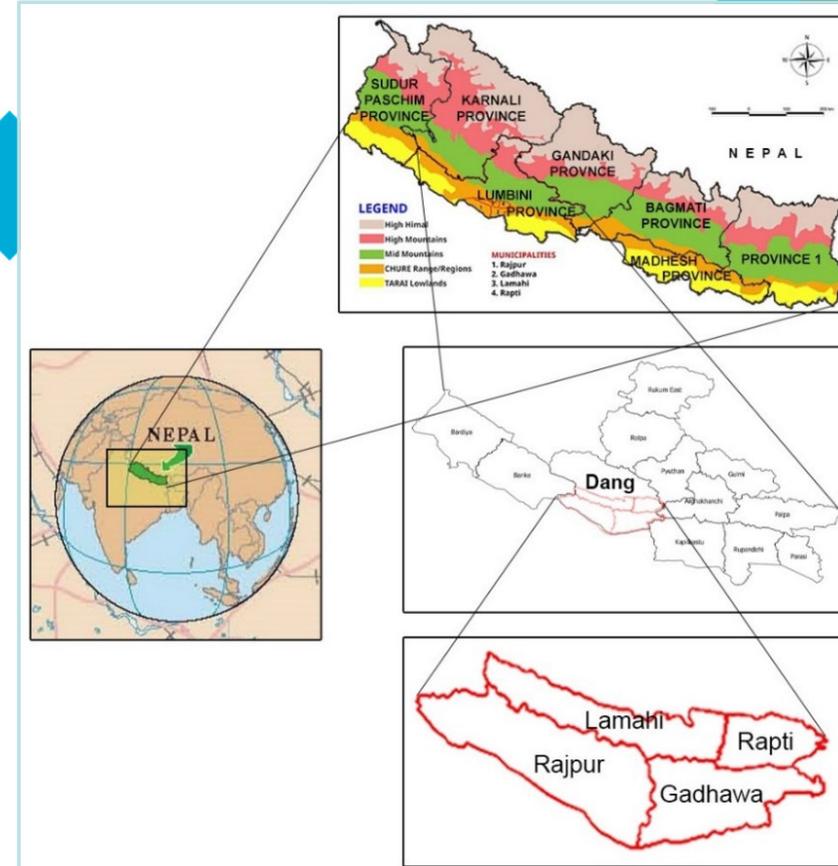
Country Context

- Among the 15 most climate vulnerable countries in the world (Susceptible to excessive drought, floods, landslides etc.)
- Landlessness and informal land tenure 1.34 million HHs (20% of total) due to displacement of HHs affected by floods, landslides etc. and history of marginalization of poor and vulnerable communities
- Informal tenancy, sharecropping, contract farming:
 - 18.4% land holdings are operated on rent
 - 31% farmers (More than 1 million farm families) work as tenants
 - 22.3% tenants are unregistered vulnerable to eviction
- Three tiers of Governments: Federal, Provincial and Local levels



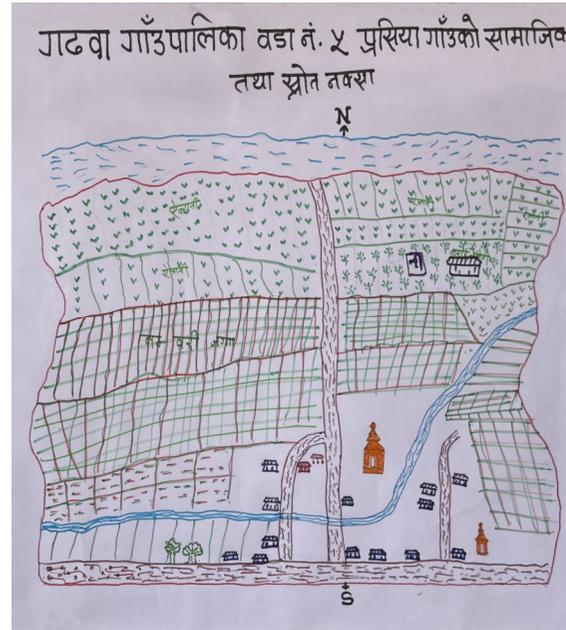
Study Area and the Key Issues

- Study Area: Rapti, Gadhwara and Rajpur RMs and Lamahi Municipality in Dang District
- **Key Issues:**
 - Situated in the foothills of Mahabharat Lekh vulnerable to climate induced disasters like floods and soil erosion
 - Home to indigenous Tharu communities
 - 4,805 landless and 20,152 unmanaged settlers (Total 24,957 HHs) unregistered operating land under informal tenure
 - 4,563 HHs unregistered tenants operated as sharecroppers or contract farmers without documents
 - Unregistered tenure-holders and tenancy vulnerable to eviction



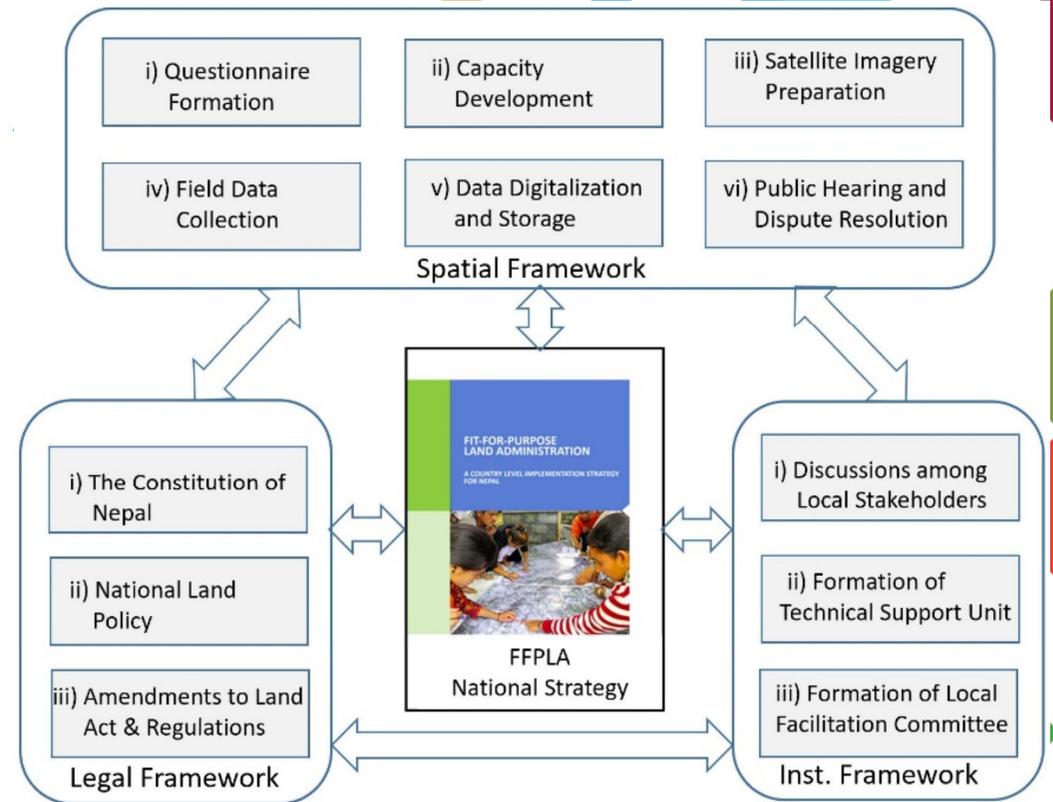
Issues due to Undocumented Tenancy and Proposed Response

- Type of land under unregistered tenancy:
 - Riverbed land prone to flooding
 - Abandoned public and Government land
 - Vacant land owned by landlords
 - Institutional land owned by Temples or Educational institutes
- Issues due to lack of documentation:
 - Encroachment
 - Abandonment and vacant private land
 - Lack of protection of government and public land
 - Forced eviction
- **Response:** Documenting land tenure of sharecroppers and contract farmers to improve sustainable utilization of land and environmental protection

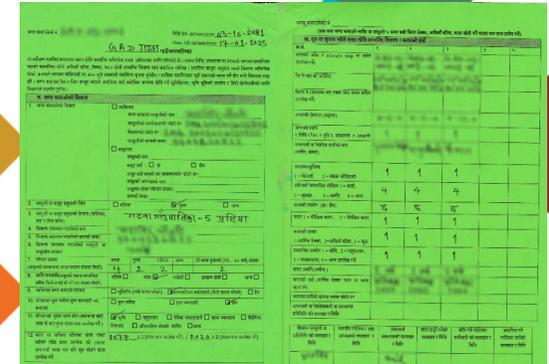
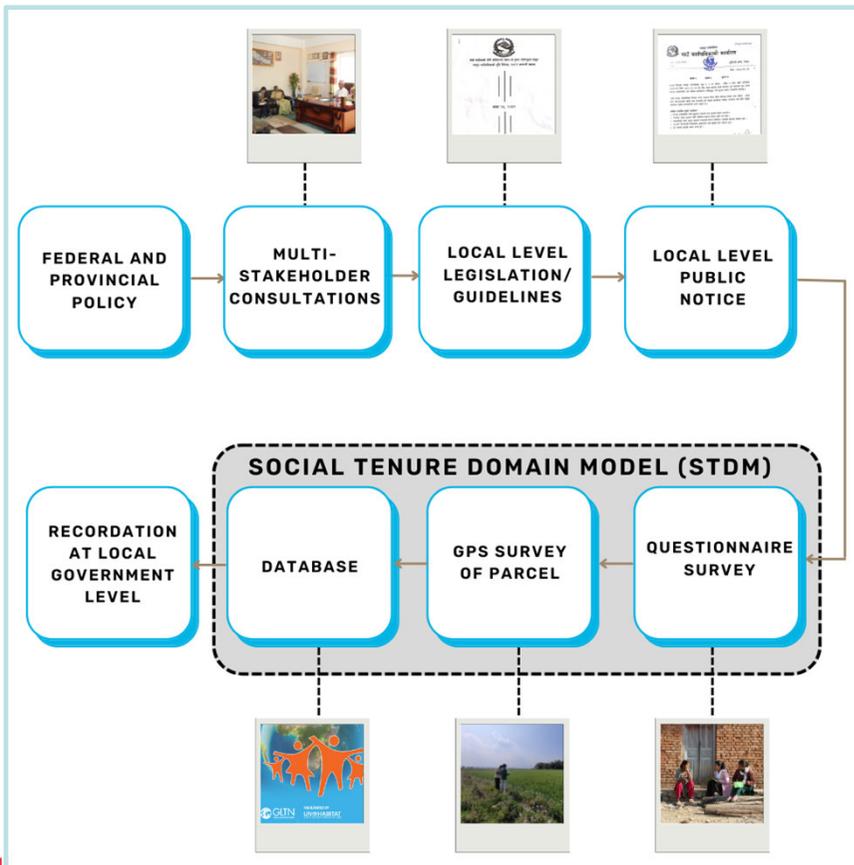


Policy Response

- National Land Policy, 2019
- Regularization of informal land tenure
- Relocation of HHs operating land prone to natural disasters and other environmental hazards
- Security of tenure of sharecroppers, contract farmers (Land banking under Willing Lessor Willing Lessee concept)
- Utilization of disused/ riverbank land (federal and provincial level policy and local government level legislation/ guidelines)
- Documentation and recordation at the local government level



Application of Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) for Documentation



Spatial Entity Details

- Land**
 - Land Code: L1LAM101
 - Location: Lamahi (011)
 - Area: 2231.000000
 - Owner Name: [Redacted]
 - Type Of Land: Ailani
- Social Tenure Relationship**
 - Tenure Type: Informal Contract
 - Validity Start: [Redacted]
 - Validity End: [Redacted]
 - Tenure Share (%): 100.000000
- Custom Tenure Information**
 - Farmer**
 - First Name: [Redacted]
 - Last Name: [Redacted]
 - Gender: male (m)
 - Address: Lamahi
 - National ID: [Redacted]
 - Contact Number: [Redacted]

Discussion

- The documentation applying STDM tool is under progress pending full results
- Multistakeholder process - LGUs, the Ward officials and other stakeholders are engaged
- Manual data collection using Green Forms for official recordation
- Security of land terms of agreement between farmer and land-owner
- Coordination with absentee land-owners challenging
- Knowledge transfer and institutionalization - Continued ownership and maintenance of the system by LGUs

Conclusions and Recommendation

- The project is still under progress awaiting full results
- Preliminary findings shows promising outcome on the application of low-cost and open-source tools for the participatory enumeration for documentation of land utilization
- Sustainability and maintenance of the system within the LGU and scale up beyond requires further work

The most relevant SDGs related to the presentation and theme of this session

1st relevant SDG



1 NO POVERTY

2nd relevant SDG



2 ZERO HUNGER

3rd relevant SDG



13 CLIMATE ACTION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

International Federation of Surveyors supports the Sustainable Development Goals