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## **FORECAST BASED ACTION AND SHOCK RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION (FbA-SRSP) IN SUDHUR PASCHIM AND LUMBINI PROVINCES, NEPAL**

### **OVERVIEW**

There is increasing evidence that acting in anticipation of a disaster, rather than solely in response, and delivering consistent support to the most vulnerable via government social assistance and other cash-based initiatives can reduce the impacts of extreme weather events. This approach has been shown to be especially helpful to target the right people at the right time and also reduces the costs of response and recovery.

Bringing the two concepts of Forecast based Action (FbA) and Shock Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) together in Nepal, represents a valuable opportunity to improve the delivery of social protection, build off innovations, and reduce the disaster burden in one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. Mainstreaming the two concepts into Nepal's Social Security Allowance (SSA), one of

the country's key social protection (SP) programmes, will require careful design, testing and advocacy at many levels.

The FbA-SRSP project funded by the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations aims at protecting the most vulnerable individuals before, during and after a disaster by exploring how the social protection system could be more responsive and resilient to shocks and even act in anticipation of a shock, to complement other humanitarian assistance.

The project is being implemented by the Nepal Red Cross Society with the support of a consortium led by the Danish Red Cross with Handicap International and technical and strategic support from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and the UNICEF.



## TARGETED AREAS

Five municipalities laying in Babai and Karnali river basins

Provinces: Lumbini and Sudhur Paschim

Bardiya district: Gulariya, Barabardiya and Thakurbaba Municipalities

Kailali district: Tikapur and Janaki Rural Municipality

## PROJECT DURATION

June 2020 – May 2022 (24 months)

## OBJECTIVES

Strengthen the capacity of the government to meet the needs of disaster-affected population – by acting in anticipation of floods and cold waves based on scientifically determined early warning indicators and by making the SSA more responsive to shocks.

- a) Jointly develop FbA mechanisms (impact thresholds, triggers, risk indicators and early actions) and SRSP initiatives (design tweaks to ensure the SP system continues during and after a disaster or possibly operates in anticipation) with relevant stakeholders (government authorities and humanitarian actors) through joint learning and capacity building, including a Community of Practice.
- b) Test the FbA-SRSP model in five municipalities of Bardiya and Kailali districts in season and through simulations and refine the model based on lessons learned.
- c) Document evidence and processes of developing and implementing a replicable and scalable FbA-SRSP model.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

1. A multi-hazard FbA mechanism for floods and cold waves is jointly developed with stakeholders and tested in five target municipalities. Based on the learnings collected throughout the monsoon season and from simulations, the mechanism is further refined and finalized for replication and scaling up in other municipalities and for various types of hazards.
2. Solutions for a more shock responsive SSA programme are jointly developed with stakeholders by introducing and testing design tweaks in five target municipalities. Based on the learnings collected throughout the monsoon season and from simulations, the system is further refined and finalized for replication and scaling up in other municipalities and for various types of hazards.
3. Consolidated learnings, evidence from the local level and processes are documented and contribute to the formulation of a National SRSP Roadmap for Nepal.



*"This document covers humanitarian aid activities implemented with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein should not be taken, in any way, to reflect the official opinion of the European Union, and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains."*

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