



Status and Trends of Localization of SDG 2 in Nepal:



Civil Society Perspectives



NGO Federation of Nepal



For a world without hunger

Status and Trends of Localization of SDG 2 in Nepal: **Civil Society Perspectives**



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Table of Contents

Abbreviations/Acronyms	6
1. Context	7
2. Salient Features of SDGs	7
3. Civil Society as Stakeholders	8
4. Nepal SDGs Forum	8
5. VNR 2020	9
6. Objectives, methods, scope and limitations of the report	9
7. Analysis of status and trends of sustainable development Goal 2	10
7.1. Introduction	10
7.2. Assessment of Progress on SDG 2	12
7.3. COVID-19 impacts and responses	13
7.4. Some challenges	16
7.5. Recommendations and way forward	18
7.5.1 Related to all levels of governments	18
7.5.2 Related to federal government	19
7.5.3 Related to province and local governments	20
7.5.4 Related to civil societies	20
References	21
Annex 1: SDG2- time bound targets and indicators	22
Annex 2: Targets, indicators and achievements of SDG 2, including the targets of the 15th plan (2019/20-2023/24)	24

Abbreviations/Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADS	Agricultural Development Strategy
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CINA	Corona impact and needs assessment
COVID-19	Corona virus disease (named in 2019)
CSO	Civil society organization
FIES	Food insecurity experience scale
GDNI	Gross disposable national income
GDP	Gross domestic product
GHI	Global hunger index
GoN	Government of Nepal
HAMI	Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiative
HLPF	High level political forum
HRBA	Human rights based approach
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
INGO	International non-government organization
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoAD	Ministry of Agricultural Development
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MSNP	Multi-sector nutrition plan
NDHS	Nepal demographic and health survey
NFN	NGO Federation of Nepal
NGO	Non-government organization
NLSS	National living standard survey
NPC	National Planning Commission
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHH	Welthungerhilfe
WHO	World Health Organisation

1. Context

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a culmination of decades of development agenda and efforts at the international level. The UN Sustainable Development Summit in New York in September 2015 adopted “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” with its 17 SDGs, which came into effect from 1st of January 2016. This is what the world at the moment is engaged to achieve by 2030¹.

Universally agreed by the heads of states and governments of the world in 2015 for transforming the world, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 17 SDGs and their corresponding targets are integral and indivisible. These are global in nature and universally applicable, considering different national realities, circumstances, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities². The SDG targets are defined as aspirational and global, with each national government setting its own national targets guided by the global targets. Thus, it is up to each of the national governments to decide and incorporate these aspirational global targets into national planning processes, policies and strategies³.

2. Salient Features of SDGs

The SDGs are transformational and comprehensive in the sense that these are very much encompassing the wellbeing of all living beings and environment of the earth. So, the five ‘Ps’ that are the core of the SDGs have tremendous focus on the **People** to end poverty and hunger in all forms and ensure dignity and equality; the **Planet** to protect the planet’s natural resources and sustainability; **Partnership** to implement the agenda through a solid global partnership, **Prosperity** to ensure prosperous and fulfilling lives in harmony with nature and; **Peace** to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies. Thus, the **5 Ps** highlight the intertwined nature of the SDGs framework instead of a group of standalone goals. The SDGs are the transformative roadmap not only at the international but also at the national and sub-national levels. The 17 SDGs are integrated, indivisible and interlinked; a number of agenda overlap and need synergies or integrated approaches. In addition to this, economic, social and environment considerations in development and eradication of poverty are the overarching goals.



It is argued that six grand transformations underpinned by the principles of **leaving no one behind** are necessary in order to achieve the SDGs: i.e., (i) education, gender and equality; (ii) health, well-being and demography; (iii) energy decarbonisation and sustainable industry; (iv) sustainable food, land, water and oceans; (v) sustainable cities and communities; and (vi) digital revolution for sustainable development⁴.

Achieving these transformational goals also require major systemic changes on capital, skills and knowledge; long term investments; complementarity of multi-stakeholder partnerships; and a set of complementary tools that include taxation, pricing, political institutions, civil society, and economic, social and political instruments. The major stakeholders for this are governments, private sector and civil society.

⁴ <https://www.unsdsn.org/news/2019/08/26/six-transformations-to-achieve-the-sustainable-development-goals-provide-cross-cutting-framework-for-action>

The 2030 Agenda incorporates follow-up and review mechanisms at the national, regional and global levels. At the global level, the high level political forum (HLPF), under the auspices of Economic and Social Council, carries out voluntary national reviews (VNRs) with participation of member countries along with other stakeholders such as civil society and the private sector.

The Goal 2 is focused to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. This goal relates to the poor, rural populations, vulnerable, infants, children, farmers, along with areas such as agriculture, food production and distribution, financial and technological supports, etc. Food and nutrition are the fundamental human needs and relate to right to food and right to life.

3. Civil Society as Stakeholders

Effective implementation of SDGs and achieving results require a good preparation and collaboration of different actors and stakeholders. Awareness, mobilization of the actors and their resources, participation and ownership create synergy. Streamlining all the efforts from national to local levels require localization and amalgamation into development plans along with robust monitoring, evaluation and feedback systems in place so that any lessons learned are integrated into the planning processes. This type of arrangement is believed to support the Government for promotion of ownership of the goals and accountability of all actors for sustainable development. However, it is the state that is in the end responsible for the implementation and ensuring achievements of the SDGs. Civil society which is a rich source of expertise and resources to assist for the materialization of SDGs may be encouraged and mobilized to utilize their extensive information and practical empirical knowledge. This is particularly important for a culturally, economically and geographically diverse and developing country like Nepal and to include different social groups in economic, social and political processes and development.

Better enabling environment, recognition and role of CSOs is expected in the federal democracy. Yet, CSOs are faced with hurdles; it has been difficult for them to secure recognition and resources. On the whole, it is challenging for the local NGOs and CSOs to be able to remain vibrant. Regardless of these facts, efforts of NGOs in community development cannot be denied because their contribution is essential for inclusive and accountable development outcomes. Engagement and contribution of CSOs for achievement of MDGs and now for SDGs has continued. For this, Nepalese CSOs have come together to form “Nepal SDGs Forum”, a common platform to make coordinated civil society efforts to contribute accelerating the implementation of SDGs.

4. Nepal SDGs Forum

Nepal SDGs Forum was established in 2016 as a common platform of thematic federations and networks, CSOs, I/NGOs, private sector, cooperatives, media, UN agencies, bilateral and multilateral development partners and major groups and stakeholders which aspire to contribute to achieving the SDGs. This is similar to the way Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGoS) are a part of SDGs implementation. Nepal SDGs Forum is the only civil society platform recognized by National Steering Committee, Thematic Committees as well as Nepal Government’s institutional mechanisms set up for implementation of SDGs. Now, more than 50 federations and alliances and over 500 organizations from across the country are the members of this Forum. Nepal SDGs Forum aims to accelerate, localize and contribute to achieving SDGs while guided by the principles of ‘leave no one behind’, shared and sustained prosperity, and increased role and participation of civil society. It works in close coordination with National Planning Commission (NPC) and other state and non-state actors.



NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) facilitates in the functioning of Nepal SDGs Forum at central and province levels. Its secretariat is located at NFN, Buddhanagar, Kathmandu.

5. VNR 2020

The theme of this year's VNR is "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". In the VNR 2020, Nepal is taking part for the second time, after its first participation in 2017. Nepalese civil societies aim to contribute to the VNR by recommending Nepal Government the perspectives, concerns and demands for incorporating in the VNR 2020. Nepalese civil societies also take this opportunity to make an annual review of the SDGs in general, and SDG2, in particular, from civil society perspectives.

This report is a continuity of civil societies and their organisations in demonstrating their perspectives, contributions, analyses, recommendations and demands on development agendas including the SDGs. While there is a comprehensive report prepared encompassing all 17 SDGs, this specific report focusing on SDG2 is prepared in order to highlight the urgency for addressing the poverty and hunger in Nepal and the need for increased efforts from all actors to make poverty and hunger a history.

6. Objectives, methods, scope and limitations of the report

The 2030 Agenda is "an Agenda of the people, by the people and for the people"⁵. It is in this purview that the Nepalese civil societies, with a sense of ownership, have been always engaging and contributing to the achievements at national and international levels. The objective of this report is to present civil society perspectives and recommendations by reviewing the achievements and assessing the trends towards achieving the SDG2 in Nepal.

Nepali civil society and CSOs, organized under Nepal SDGs Forum have proactively come up with their perspectives and reviews of the SDGs. Amidst the mayhem created by COVID-19 pandemic, Nepalese CSOs submitted to NPC a brief analysis and recommendation for accelerating the SDGs. This report on SDG2 is a more detailed review and analysis from multiple perspectives.

Precisely, with this report, civil society and their organisations in Nepal aim to:

- Build common understanding and awareness on SDG2 while developing civil society perspectives;
- Analyse the mechanism, progress, trend and gaps on implementation of SDG2; and
- Make recommendations, complement the government's review process and support for the enabling environment for areas of implementation of the 2030 Agenda particularly SDG2.

This report is a culmination of multiple ways of engagement of CSOs in Nepal. Having aligned their programmes with SDGs, they have been working to build awareness and localize the SDGs, hold the government agencies accountable for meeting the indicators by leaving no one behind and also contributing to focused goals. Many organizations held consultations and reviews at national, provincial and local levels while focusing on the themes and goals of their expertise and focus, in order to consult, generate ideas and inputs for voluntary national review (VNR) of the SDGs.

NGO Federation of Nepal mobilized district, province and central level CSOs, networks and federations which have been organized under Nepal SDGs Forum. At the central as well as sub-national levels, web based civil society meetings were organized. Similarly, there were several rounds of discussions and consultations

⁵ DESA, U. N., 2016. *Transforming our world: The 2030 agenda for sustainable development*

in coordination and facilitation with government agencies particularly National Planning Commission, UN agencies, parliamentarians, INGOs, media persons, academia, and researchers. Deliberations, ideas and views expressed in this course have been well-considered and integrated while writing this report. Apart from this, conveners, co-conveners, major groups and thematic contributors have provided focused inputs and analyses in order to be incorporated in this report. An online form was also designed and disseminated for collection of ideas and inputs for enriching this report. In addition, several experts have contributed to this report by research, review and analyses. Available secondary data were accessed and analysed appropriately.

Two online consultation meetings specifically focused on SDG2 were organized to garner ideas and opinions from the local, province to the federal levels. The first consultation meeting was focused to the local levels in which representatives of two local levels made detailed presentation while other around a dozen representatives of the local levels along with the representative of NARMIN made their remarks. Another consultation meeting covered the province and federal levels in which Policy and Planning Commission representatives of Karnali and Bagmati provinces made presentations. Minister of Internal Affairs and Law of Province 2 as the chief guest also spoke about the status of SDG2 in province 2. As the federal level government focal agency, representative of National Planning Commission made remarks on policy coherence on SDG2. Apart from this, civil society representatives also had their say in these consultation meetings.

This publication has been guided by the underlying ideas that 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Goals including the SGD 2 are the transformative roadmap for peace, prosperity, people, planet and partnership; that the 17 SDGs are integrated, indivisible and interlinked; that the people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships are the five inseparable pillars of the SDGs; that the SDGs need to be achieved within the stipulated time frame in the inclusive way and leaving no one behind; that participation of civil society and people's organizations at all levels of their operation including the grassroots level is essential to achieve the SDGs; that good governance, transparency and accountability, effectiveness, data revolution and participation of all stakeholders is the key to inclusive and transformative development; and that civil society, NGOs/CSOs and all the groups and sections of the society continue to contribute to socio-economic transformation of the country and accelerating SDGs. This publication is expected to be a reference document for civil society, CSOs, Government of Nepal, development partners and other stakeholders and they would seriously consider the perspectives of the civil society organizations in relation to realizing the SDG2.

Unavailability of data for SDG 2 indicators has, however, made it difficult to estimate the progress and trend. Looking into progress across various social groups and geographies was another challenge due to lack of disaggregated data. For these reasons, in many cases, the observations seem subjective and qualitative.

7. Analysis of status and trends of sustainable development Goal 2

7.1. Introduction

According to FAO et al. (2019), more than 821 million people in the world were chronically food insecure and hence facing hunger, creating a huge challenge for achieving the Zero Hunger target by 2030. Hunger is rising in almost all sub-regions of Africa, Asia and, to a lesser extent, in Latin America. Having said this, the South Asia region has made remarkable progress in the last decade in terms of reducing hunger, but the prevalence of undernourishment in this sub-region is still the highest in Asia. The undernourishment rate in South Asia region was 21.5% in 2005 that came



down to 14.7% in 2018⁶, which is, though, not satisfactory. As stated by FAO et al. (2019) about two billion people in the world experience moderate to severe food insecurity. This situation of lack of regular access to nutritious and sufficient food puts the people at greater risk of malnutrition and result in poor health. In general, the prevalence of undernourishment rate is slightly higher among women than men (FAO et al., 2019). Of the 821 million people that are chronically food insecure, 135 million are suffering from acute hunger as a result of human-instigated conflicts, climate change and the economic downturns (ibid). The COVID-19 pandemic is feared to double this number, putting an additional 130 million people at risk of suffering acute hunger by the end of 2020, according to the World Food Programme⁷. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and specifically the SDG 2 is supposed to fight against hunger and end it by 2030.

In SDG 2 there are eight major targets and 32 indicators (14 global and 18 added by Nepal). Of the eight targets, three are related to international cooperation and financial resources. The targets related to food and agriculture are:

- (i) End hunger and ensure access by 2030 by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round,
- (ii) By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under five years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons
- (iii) By 2030, double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment,
- (iv) By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality, and
- (v) By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.

Similarly, the other targets are:

- (vi) Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions,
- (vii) Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round, and
- (viii) Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility. Several of the indicators are yet to be elaborated and quantified.

⁶ https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000106763/download/?_ga=2.156040179.919760643.1592568530-1977993287.1592568530

⁷ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/>, accessed on 13 Jun 2020

As per the 2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI), 9.5 percent of Nepal's population was undernourished. Nepal stood at a rank of 73 out of 117 qualifying countries in the GHI scale by scoring 20.8 points. This indicates that Nepal falls into the category of serious hunger status on GHI severity scale. However, this score is lower than it was in 2000, when the GHI score of Nepal on hunger was 36.8 (alarming status⁸). Similarly, the score was 31.3 (serious) in 2005 and 24.5 (serious) in 2010⁹. Nepal is feared to face a severe problem of hunger as a result of COVID-19 health crisis impacts, hence the GHI may be reversed in 2020 and for a few more years in future.

As per the latest available information, only 48.2 percent of the households are food secure (NPC/GOV, 2020). According to the 2016 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS, 2016), the food security situation of Nepal has improved, however, still 4.6 million people were found food-insecure, and 10 percent households were severely food-insecure, 20 percent were mildly food-insecure and 22 percent were food-insecure.

Among all the seven provinces of the country, the prevalence of food insecurity was found 28 percent, the highest, in Karnali Province. This combined moderate and severe levels as defined and measured with the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)¹⁰. However, existing disparities across different ecological zones were found quite large. For example, about 60% of the households in the mountainous districts were food insecure compared to 16 percent households in the hill districts of Karnali Pradesh (ibid). Similarly, compared to other social groups, nearly 56% of all women and 76% of Dalit women were found experiencing food insecurity¹¹. So, in Nepal, women in general, and Dalit women, in particular are very much vulnerable to food insecurity.

7.2. Assessment of Progress on SDG 2

The government of Nepal has been implementing the 20 year long agricultural development strategy (ADS, 2015 to 2035), 10 year zero hunger challenge national action plan (2016-2025), national health sector strategy implementation plan (2016-2021), Nepal water supply, sanitation and hygiene sector development plan (2016-2030), food and nutrition security plan of action (2014-2024), multi-sector nutrition plans I & II (MSNPs I & II, 2013-2017 & 2018-2022), multi-sector nutrition and food security advocacy and communication strategy, 2015-2020, and several other policies, laws, plans and programmes towards achieving the SDG2. The first phase of MSNP concluded in 2017 and the second phase with the goal of improving maternal, adolescent and child nutrition through various interventions is underway.

National Planning Commission, which is the focal organisation for the SDGs, has assigned codes to the SDGs and integrated the SDG2 along with other SDGs into its Fourteenth (2016/17-2018/19) and Fifteenth (2019/20-2023/24) periodic plans. Also the provincial governments are advised to align their respective development plans with that of SDGs, and the respective provincial policy and planning commissions are considered as the responsible agency or the focal organisations for the SDGs. All but one province government is in the initial process of aligning their development plans with the SDGs. Some of them have prepared their periodic plans integrating the SDGs. The policy and planning commission of the Sudur Pashchim Province is yet to organise. So far, none of the local governments have systematically integrated the SDGs into their local development plans as they are not adequately aware of the SDGs in one hand and they do not have much needed capacity to tailor their development plans to that of SDGs, on the other. Not only the local governments but also the province governments are facing the shortage of expert human resources to plan, implement and monitor the SDGs in a regular manner. At the same time, there exists a generic coordination gap among the governments at different levels.

⁸ GHI of > 50 is considered as extremely alarming status; 35.0-49.9 as alarming; 20.0-34.9 as serious; 10.0-19.9 as moderate and < 9.9 as low. Further reference <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/results.html>

⁹ <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/pdf/en/2019/Nepal.pdf>, accessed on 18 Jun 2020

¹⁰ <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Nepal%20FIES%20Report%202018.pdf>, accessed on 26 Jun 2020

¹¹ <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-020-8298-4>, accessed on 26 Jun 2020

The aspects of nutrition were prominent even before the beginning of SDGs to tackle the issues of malnourishment and associated health problems. One of the significant interventions in this regard is beginning of implementation of multi-stakeholder nutrition plan (MSNP). The MSNP is a collective plan of the government of Nepal and its development partners, the first phase of which commenced in 2013 and ended in 2017, and the second phase is going on now.

The long-term vision of the multi-sector nutrition plan (MSNP I & MSNP II), over the next ten years (2013-2022), is to lead the country toward significantly reducing chronic malnutrition so that it no longer becomes an impediment to improving human capital and for overall socio-economic development. The goal of MSNP I was to improve maternal and child nutrition, which would result in the reduction of maternal infant and young child (MIYC) under-nutrition, in terms of maternal body mass index (BMI) and child stunting, by one third. The main purpose was to strengthen capacity of the NPC and the key ministries to promote and steer the multi-sector nutrition programme for improved maternal and child nutrition at all levels of society.

Thus, the Government of Nepal seems committed to addressing the complex causes of malnutrition through a multi-sectoral approach. The first Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP I, 2013-2017) had the following three outcomes:

1. Improved maternal, infant and young child feeding.
2. Increased maternal, infant and young child micro-nutrient status.
3. Improved management of malnutrition in children.

To arrive at the above outcomes, different programmes and activities were implemented by various government line ministries, mainly the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD), Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), Ministry of Water Supply (MoWS), Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), and the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens (MoWCSC). Although the regular cross-sectoral nutrition programmes were implemented across the country, 28 districts were prioritized for the focused implementation of MSNP I. Most of the results of MSNP I were found in the positive direction, hence paving way for the implementation of 2nd phase of the plan.

The 2nd phase of MSNP started in 2018 and is expected to end in 2022. The goal of MSNP II is to improve maternal, adolescents and child nutrition by scaling up essential nutrition specific and sensitive interventions and creating an enabling environment for nutrition.

The expected outcomes and outputs of the MSNP II are as follows (GoN/NPC, 2017)¹²:

Outcome 1: Improved access to and equitable use of nutrition-specific services

Output 1.1: Enhanced nutrition status of women of reproductive age including adolescents

Output 1.2: Improved infant and young child nutrition and care practices

Output 1.3: Improved maternal, infant and young child micronutrient status

Output 1.4: Improved management of severe and moderate acute malnutrition

Output 1.5: Enhanced preparedness for nutrition in emergency responses

Output 1.6: Capacity built of nutrition-specific sectors

Outcome 2: Improved access to the equitable use of nutrition-sensitive services and improved healthy habits and practices

Output 2.1: Increased availability and consumption of safe and nutritious food

Output 2.2: Increased physical and economic access to diverse types of food

Output 2.3: Increased access to safe drinking water

Output 2.4: Increased access to safe and sustainable sanitation services

¹² <http://nnfsp.gov.np/PublicationFiles/b8aae359-15ea-40c4-aa13-b1076efb251b.pdf>, accessed on 25 Aug 2020.

- Output 2.5: Improved knowledge of children and mothers and caretakers of under 5-year-old children on health and hygiene
- Output 2.6: Targeted groups have access to resources and opportunities that make them self-reliant
- Output 2.7: Nutrition component incorporated in women, adolescent girls and child development training packages
- Output 2.8: Women, children and out-of-school adolescent girls reached with health and nutrition care practices
- Output 2.9: Child care homes comply with minimum standards of nutrition care
- Output 2.10: Communities empowered to prevent harmful practices (menstrual seclusion [chhaupadi], food taboos)
- Output 2.11: Enhanced enrolment of children in basic education
- Output 2.12: Increased adolescent girls' awareness and improved behaviour on nutrition
- Output 2.13: Enhanced access to health and reproductive health services

- Outcome 3: Improved policies, plans and multi-sectoral coordination at federal, provincial and local government levels to enhance the nutrition status of all population groups
- Output 3.1: MSNP-II included in local, provincial and federal government policies and plans
- Output 3.2: MSNP governance mechanism instituted and strengthened at federal, provincial, and local levels
- Output 3.3: MSNP institutional mechanisms established and functional at federal government level
- Output 3.4: Functional updated information system across all MSNP sectors
- Output 3.5: Enhanced capacity of federal, provincial and local level government to plan and implement nutrition programmes

The MSNP II has been mainstreamed by most of the provinces into their development agenda. Also the local level governments have taken an initiative to contribute to more than 50% of the costs of MSNP-II implementation. The MSNP-II interventions are being implemented in 610 out of 753 local governments and in 62 out of 77 districts, with plans for nationwide scale-up by 2022¹³.

Province level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees have been established in all seven provinces and the processes of establishing similar committees at the Ward level (the smallest administrative unit commanded by Palikas) are underway (Rupakhetee et al., undated¹⁴).

Different multi-sectoral nutrition programmes and projects are in implementation in Nepal with support from various multilateral, bilateral and intergovernmental agencies, civil societies and the private sectors. Likewise, in the 14th plan, the annual agricultural development targets were set as 4.5, 4.7 and 4.9 percent for FY 2073/74, 2074/75 and 2075/76, respectively, and the achievements were above the targets except in FY 2074/75. The achievements in FY 2073/74 and 2075/76 were 5.2 and 4.8 percent, respectively, whereas, the agricultural growth rate in FY 2074/75 was only 2.8%. It reveals that the annual achievements are unpredictable due to various factors.

In the 15th plan, it is expected that the food poverty would be reduced to 10 percent and the severely food insecure population would be reduced to 2 percent from that of 7.8 percent, by the end of the plan period of 2023/24. Similarly, the population deprived of consuming daily minimum calorie food would be reduced to 4 percent from the current level of 8.1 percent (GoN/NPC, 2019, 15th plan).

Also the 15th plan has set a target to reduce the stunting rate of children below five years to 20 percent by the end of the plan period from the current 36 percent.

¹³ https://www.enonline.net/attachments/3353/NEX-13_p7-8_Nepal.pdf, accessed on 12 Aug 2020

¹⁴ <https://www.enonline.net/nex/13/nepal>

During the plan period, the estimated productivity targets of some major food crops, livestock and fisheries are as follows:

Table: Current status and 15th plan targets of some major food crops, livestock and fisheries

Description	FY 2018/19	FY 2023/24
Productivity (mt/ha)		
Rice	3.5	4.5
Maize	2.7	4.0
Wheat	2.8	3.5
Fresh vegetables	14.0	20.0
Potatoes	16.0	22.0
Fresh fruits	8.9	12.0
Fish	4.9	8.0
Milk (L per milking animal/lactation)	1,012.0	1,487.0
Meat (Kg/slaughtered animal)	72.0	92.0
Eggs (no. per bird)	240.0	260.0

Source: GoN/NPC, 2019, 15th Plan.

Additional 300,000 hectares of agricultural land is planned to bring under the irrigation facility during the plan period. In areas where the infrastructures for irrigation services are developed, nearly 50% area will be served with round the year irrigation facility. Thus, by the end of the plan period, the government expects to meet its per capita food grain production of 460 kg and improve the global food security index to 75 points by 2025.

Although there has been good progress in reducing child undernourishment rates, still the prevalence of stunting among children under five years of age has remained at 31.6 percent, 24.3 percent have suffered underweight and 10 percent suffered malnutrition¹⁵. Whereas, 8.7 percent people were found undernourished in 2019 (ibid); 10 percent of the children under five years of age suffered wasting as a result of acute malnutrition in 2016¹⁶, which is a worrisome situation. Moreover, about 53 percent of children under five and 69 percent of children aged 6-23 months are suffering from anaemia (ibid). Likewise, 44 percent of adolescent girls, 46 percent of pregnant women and 41 percent of women of reproductive age were suffering from anaemia¹⁷. Similarly, pregnant and lactating women (PLW) also suffered from malnutrition, as well as micronutrient deficiencies. Approximately 1.4 million PLW were found malnourished according to WFP report in 2016 (ibid).

7.3. COVID-19 impacts and responses

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the government of Nepal imposed a nationwide lockdown from 24 March 2020 that lasted for a period of 105 days, which restricted free mobility and transport. Food and agriculture input supply chains were disrupted, and hence the farmers were not able to get production inputs as well as sell their farm products. Due to this, food price has hiked in the cities. On the other hand, there were difficulties in selling the products in the rural areas even in cheap price. Lockdown has also restricted the availability of agricultural workers for harvesting and planting. Lack of both physical as well as economic access to food will have adverse impacts on the health of people. Moreover, the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent consequences are feared to spill over to multiple SDGs with an immediate threat to three intricately related Goals, i.e., no poverty, zero hunger, and good health and

¹⁵ GoN/NPC, 2020. Nepal National Review of Sustainable Development Goals

¹⁶ <https://www.wfp.org/countries/nepal>, accessed on 18 Jun 2020

¹⁷ <https://www.unicef.org/nepal/nutrition>, accessed on 12 Jun 2020

wellbeing. Almost all pillars of the food security (i.e., availability, access, quality, and stability of food) are being affected by COVID-19 pandemic, and impacts on poverty are seen to affect access to food. Of these four pillars, the profound impact is seen in availability and access to food. In the long term, it will impact all these pillars, as well as poverty, health and wellbeing. The impacts are experienced more by the daily wage earners, informal sector workers, small and medium holder farmers, women, older people, people with disability, children, the poor, etc.

This COVID-19 pandemic brought to light various unseen dimensions of the gender issues that made women further vulnerable in this crisis. Women's workload (mainly unpaid) increased, as they needed to cater more people at home in the pandemic. Decline in the income (from wage labour, from sales of farm produce partly or because of their digital illiteracy and inability to drive vehicles) and increase in food prices made womenfolk stressed, and many suffered from psychological trauma. The women migrant workers who have returned to their villages have already lost their monetary income and now they have no other option but to engage in agriculture, in addition to taking care of unpaid household care works. So, the agriculture sector which was gradually being feminized is set to engage additional women. According to some news reports, in quarantine/isolation places, women with specific needs, pregnant and lactating women and with young children were deprived of nutritious food. Domestic violence against women has increased rampantly since this pandemic started, according to several media reports. The health of children is also impacted negatively as they are barred from receiving necessary vaccines, vitamin supplements, and nutritious school meals.

Realising the above fact, the High-Level Coordination Committee for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19 constituted by the Government of Nepal (GoN) eased transportation of food, essential goods, and supplies. Also they decided to open food processing industries with health safety measures in place. Some province and local governments also provided urgent transportation services for perishable products such as fresh vegetables, fruits, dairy and meat products, from the site of production to the sites of markets and processing plants. This helped to continue agricultural activities while maintaining social distancing. Various public and private agencies including civil societies offered food and water to the impacted needy people, mainly the labourers and migrant workers who have lost their jobs and the source of livelihoods during the lockdown period.

The ministry of agriculture and livestock development has recently unveiled an agriculture development plan consisting of five pillars-- subsidy on agricultural inputs, access to low-interest loans, increased technical services, agricultural insurance, and guarantee on minimum savings for smallholder farmers, which is considered as the COVID-19 pandemic sensitive plan. Similarly, to bring back the fallow land into production and engage the returnee migrant workers in agriculture by making use of the skills they have learned elsewhere, the government has introduced the concept of land bank. In this scheme, the available cultivable fallow land can be deposited at the respective local governments with guaranteed interest amount to the owner and thus available land is leased out to the interested individuals or groups for a designated period of time. If the above plans get implemented as expected, then the farming community of Nepal may recover from the sufferings of COVID-19 pandemic some earlier.

7.4. Some challenges

Considering the scenario as highlighted above, which is likely to get aggravated further by disasters such as COVID-19 pandemic, achieving SDG2 looks like a difficult task if appropriate measures (policy, plan, programmes and mechanisms) are not effectively activated and followed in a timely manner by all the stakeholders, in general, and by the state, in particular. So, the targets of reducing stunting to 15%, malnutrition to 4% and underweight to 9% by 2030 may not be achieved if concerted efforts are not put in place as early as possible. In addition to swiftly responding to the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic challenge, the following challenges also need to be dealt carefully.

Interconnectedness of SDG2: The main challenge in achieving the goal of zero hunger, food security and improving nutrition is that this goal is interlinked with various other goals, such as Goals 1, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 17 among others. In Nepal, access to food and improved nutrition seems possible when people are uplifted from abject poverty. Hence, the right to food and food security is a big challenge among the poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups of people.

Financial resources for agricultural development: To improve food security by making food available and affordable round the year in all Local Governments (Palikas) of the country, we need to invest in agriculture. Adequate resource is needed for developing irrigation facilities, ensuring agricultural inputs on time, supporting sale of the excess products, among others. The current level of budgetary allocation (i.e., 4.7% of FY 2020/21 total budget, both agriculture and irrigation combined¹⁸) for agricultural development is believed to be quite inadequate to respond the urgent agricultural development needs of the country and achieving national food security even during normal period. In 2015, round the year irrigated land in total arable land was just 25.2%¹⁹ and the SDG plan is to increase it to 80% by 2030. The current trend of budgetary allocation for irrigation, which is NRs. 27.97 billion (1.9% of the total budget) in FY 2020/21 will not be enough to meet the target.

Remoteness and infrastructure development: Food insecurity is pervasive in remote rural areas lacking transportation infrastructures. Hence, investing in infrastructure development like road construction is considered to increase the access of people to food.

Education and awareness: Education and awareness among mothers is likely to impact the food security and nutrition of children, as educated and aware mothers are found to be more conscious and aware of the nutritional values of various foods.

Capacity to cope with the challenges of climate change and other natural disasters: It is a difficult task to develop capacity of small and medium farmers who make the majority of the farming community, for enhancing their professional capacity to cope/adapt with and recover from the impacts of climate change as well as other natural disasters. Therefore, focused suitable climate change adaptation and mitigation plans are required to counter the impacts of climate change.

Food and nutrition is associated with multiple aspects: Food and nutrition is closely linked with agriculture, land, rural life, environment, climate change, and health among others. Similarly, multiple actors are involved and associated with these diverse sectors. This indicates that coordinated and coherent efforts are necessary among sectoral line agencies—both vertically and horizontally—in order to resolve the issues of food and nutrition. Coherent and well-aligned policies and interventions from the federal and province to the local levels are inadequate, specifically at the local levels. Unless the local governments align their programmes and budget with the SDGs, achieving SDGs would remain a distant dream.

Inclusive and focused interventions: The recent data shows that more than 8.1 million Nepalese are living in poverty. Due to the fabric of socio-politico-economic and power construct of Nepalese society, Dalit, women and girls are more vulnerable to poverty and hunger. Likewise, more than 35 percent of Nepal's children under five years are stunted, and 10 percent suffer wasting due to acute malnutrition.

The conditions of poverty and hunger are more experienced by poor, women/girls, Dalit, people with disability, sexual minorities, older people, children, jobless people, small and medium farmers, landless agricultural workers, seasonal/daily wage workers and other minority indigenous groups of people (e.g.,

¹⁸ Kantipur, Nepali National Daily, 29 May 2020 and https://mof.gov.np/uploads/document/file/%E0%A4%AC%E0%A4%9C%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%9F_%E0%A4%B5%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%A4%E0%A4%B5%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%AF_%E0%A5%A8%E0%A5%A6%E0%A5%AD%E0%A5%AD_website.pdf

¹⁹ Government of Nepal, Ministry of Agricultural Development, 2017. Agricultural Development Strategy, 2015-2035.

Raute, Kusbadiya, Chidimar, Sonaha, etc.). The situation gets worse in remote rural areas that are deprived of basic livelihoods related infrastructures.

7.5. Recommendations and way forward

7.5.1 Related to all levels of governments

1. Undertake COVID-19 impact and needs assessment (CINA) in the livelihoods and the state of poverty in different ecological regions of the country and prepare livelihoods and poverty response plan under COVID-19 crisis. While developing such interventions, special attention should be given to those who are going to be disproportionately impacted by the crisis, mainly the poor, job and income losers (e.g., workers), and those subjected to rising prices of basic livelihood commodities.
2. Although Nepal has developed various legislations and policies for improving nutrition, including supporting implementation of MSNP-II, some sort of confusions still exist about the institutional arrangements under the federal system of governance. Therefore, concrete strategies for capacity building and system strengthening need to be developed and implemented to address the challenges, creating an enabling environment for more ownership at sub-national levels.
3. There is strong need to improve and strengthen coordination and collaboration among various stakeholders at all levels with internalisation of nutrition as a priority issue and ownership of MSNP-II at all levels.
4. Implement suitable food and nutrition security policies, plans and programmes based on the findings of impact assessment of COVID-19 crisis to revitalize local food supply chains (production, processing, marketing, consumption, etc.), at least in the short run.
5. Implement specific targeted plans and programmes for the vulnerable people, e.g., feeding the most affected people including children who are deprived of supplemented nutritious school meals and vitamin supplements during corona virus lockdown. Likewise, people with disability, daily wage earners, returnee migrant workers, lactating and pregnant women, chronically sick and old age people, and poor Dalit families need food support. Similarly, the poverty and hunger related policies, plans and programmes must focus both the geographical as well as social pockets that mainly lie in mountains and hills of Karnali and Sudur Pashchim Pradesh and rural areas of Pradesh 2.
6. Develop and implement an effective and sustainable agricultural development plan, including revising the ADS vis a vis COVID-19 crisis as appropriate, to attain self-sufficiency in basic food items within five years' time. Agriculture is still one of the major contributors of national economy, contributing 27.6% of the GDP by engaging 60.4% people, so it needs to be fully developed and made sustainable in the long run. Nepal's agriculture should be able to produce adequate food for its inhabitants, supplying required nutrients.
7. Encourage small and medium-enterprises and generate more employment opportunities. Introduce programmes to protect the livelihood of small landholder farmers, landless agricultural workers, slum dwellers, daily wage labourers, and other poor and vulnerable groups, including returnee migrant workers.
8. Develop and implement coherent and well-aligned policies and interventions from the federal and province to the local levels.
9. Establish functional coordination and monitoring mechanisms with different levels of governments and other stakeholders (both vertical and horizontal), supporting to align the SDG plans at sub-national development plans, and providing adequate awareness and capacity enhancement activities (planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, etc.) for sub-national level actors for effective localization of SDGs, in general, and SDG2, in particular.
10. Ensure implementation of right to food and food sovereignty act, to promote availability, accessibility, quality and sustainability of food materials, by formulating regulations and guidelines, and establishing the implementation mechanisms at all levels of governance.
11. Complete the targets and indicators framework matrix of the SDGs prepared by the government of Nepal, and collect and manage required disaggregated data and information for effective planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs.

12. Generate additional employment opportunities in agriculture as well as other sectors of economy to engage the youth returnee migrant workers and other youths for them to have gainful employment and thus guaranteeing economic access to food.
13. Impacts of climate change in agriculture must not be underestimated, so mitigation and adaptation measures including conserving agricultural biodiversity must be considered timely and acted accordingly. Climate change as well as disaster risk management should be integrated at all levels by strengthening capacity of the sub-national level stakeholders.
14. Address all forms of discriminations and deprivations and create just societies. Unless these underlying causes of poverty and hunger are eliminated, the perpetuation of poverty and deprivation to food may continue despite of other efforts.
15. Concerted efforts are necessary to tackle inequality and pursue policies that benefit the poorest and most marginalized people. Otherwise, we may be quite good portraying average progress on the data but will continue to exclude the excluded even further.
16. Apply human rights based approach (HRBA) for addressing the underlying causes of poverty and hunger. The HRBA is of utmost importance to address inequality and other forms of social injustices.
17. Mainstream gender and address the vulnerability of women in terms of food and nutrition. Encourage and protect women as drivers of agriculture and also address the structural issues in relation to women by considering nexus with SDG5.
18. Endorse MSNP II (2018-2022), including new target groups--adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, overweight and obesity.
19. Update sectoral policies, strategies and plans incorporating multi-sector approach for nutrition.
20. Create effective mechanisms to implement, monitor and evaluate MSNP II through sub-national governments.
21. Strengthen collaboration with academic platforms, civil society, private sectors, donors, external development partners, and UN agencies.
22. Consider gender and climate change as cross-cutting issues across the SDG2 targets as appropriate.

7.5.2 Related to federal government

1. Ensure means of implementation for the implementation of SDG2. For fully and timely achieving SDG2 targets, we need adequate financial resources (both domestic and international), technology development and transfer, capacity building, inclusive and equitable globalization and trade, regional integration, as well as the creation of a national enabling environment.
2. Allocate adequate financial resources for the development of agriculture sector. Increase the level of allocation of total budget for agriculture and irrigation to the tune of about 10% annually, with concrete result oriented allocation plans; also taking into consideration the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and the need to focus on food security and nutrition.
3. Advocate and lobby effectively with the UN and other development partners for meaningful partnership to address the additional problems of poverty and hunger due to COVID-19 pandemic, and meeting the 0.7% of GNI (for LDCs it is 0.15-0.20%) amount committed by the developed and rich countries to the developing countries. Substantial amount of thus acquired aid must be used to address poverty and hunger.

7.5.3 Related to province and local governments

1. Align and integrate the programmes and budget with the SDGs, otherwise SDGs may not be realised at the province and local levels.
2. Arrange to provide pension or livelihood support packages for the farmers, insurance of crops and livestock, minimum support price and buy back guarantee of the agricultural products in excess of the family consumption.

3. Strengthen the capacity of provincial and local governments in terms of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SDG2 targets. Management of trained and committed human resources at sub-national level is a prerequisite for the attainment of SDG2.
4. In order to reduce food insecurity situation in Nepal, it is imperative to plan interventions focusing on improving women's education and wealth, especially among Dalit and those residing in the provinces of Karnali, Sudur Pashchim and Pradesh 2.

7.5.4 Related to civil societies

Civil society and CSOs are integral partners in implementation of the SDGs. It is imperative to maximize the strengths of CSOs and mobilize them to create synergy and the effectiveness. It is also a way to pursue and translate the spirit of human rights and democracy. Broadly, a few possible actions that CSOs can undertake are listed below:

1. Support the government initiatives in terms of formulating and implementing people friendly and human rights based policies, plans and programmes related to SDG2.
2. Monitor the initiatives by different levels of government and provide critical feedback to the respective governments for improvements.
3. Develop policies and plans and then make advocacy, lobby and campaign about genuine concerns of the people.
4. Support the government and other actors in delivery of services, and implementation of community focused activities for achieving the SDG2.
5. Support in developing/strengthening capacity of governments, mainly the local and provincial governments, in the areas of planning and implementation and integrating the SDG2 into their respective plans/programmes.
6. Raise awareness of the community organizations and civil society on SDGs, human rights and advocacy from their perspectives.
7. Develop capacity of the most marginalized and vulnerable people for making their human rights claims effectively.
8. Initiate voluntary local reviews on SDGs.

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Annex 1: SDG2- time bound targets and indicators

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Targets and Indicators 2015		Years				
		2019	2022	2025	2030	
Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round						
2.1.1	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	36.1 ^a	27.3	20.6	14	3
2.1.2	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)					
1	Population spending more than two-third of total consumption on food (%)	20 ^b	15.5	12.1	8.7	3
2	Per capita food grain production (kg)	320 ^c	376	418	460	530
3	Global Food Security Index (score)	42.8	57	66	75	90
Target 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons						
2.2.1	Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age	36 ^c	32	28.6	20	15
2.2.2	Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)	11.3	8	7	5	4
1	% of children under age 5 years who are underweight (-2SD)*	30.1	20	18	15	9
2	Prevalence of anemia among women of reproductive age*	35	26	24	18	10
3	Prevalence of anemia among children under 5 years *	46	33	28	23	10
Table 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment						
2.3.1	Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size					
2.3.2	Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status					
1	Land productivity (AGPA/ha) USD	3278	4003	4646	5339	7018
Target 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality						
2.4.1	Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture					

1	Agricultural land at the present level (000 hectare)	2641	2641	2641	2641	2641
2	Degraded land including forest (000 hectare)					
3	Round the year irrigated land in total arable land (%)	25.2	40	50.5	60	80
4	Soil organic matter (SOM in crop land %)	1.96	2.79	3.37	3.92	4
Target 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed						
2.5.1	Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities					
2.5.2	Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction					
1	Number of DNA bank for variety of seeds	1	1			
2	Number of DNA bank for variety of plants					
3	Number of DNA bank for endangered animal species					
4	Number of Community Seed banks (number)	115	115			
5	Number of arboratatem and breeding centre for indigenous species					
Target 2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions						
2.a.1	The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	0.14	0.21	0.26	0.31	0.38
2.a.1	Government expenditure in agriculture (% of total budget)	3.3 ^c				
2.a.2	Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	0.8 ^b				
Target 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round						
2.b.1	Agricultural export subsidies					
Target 2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility						
2.c.1	Indicator of food price anomalies					
2.c.1	Food Consumer Price Index					
2.C.2	Number of food reserve depots					

Data reference: a: NPC (2016), b: CBS (2011), c: MoF (2016), d: GFSI (2015), e: NDHS (2016), f: NPC (2015c), g: MoAD (2013)

Source: Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission, 2017. Nepal Sustainable Development Goals: status and roadmap 2016-2030

Annex 2: Targets, indicators and achievements of SDG 2²⁰, including the targets of the 15th plan (2019/20-2023/24)

Targets and Indicators		Baseline 2015*	Targets 2019*	Progress 2019**	15 th plan targets (2023/24)	Targets 2030*
Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round						
2.1.1	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	36.1	27.3	8.7		3
2.1.2	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)%	-	-	7.8		-
1	Population spending more than two-third of total consumption on food (%)	20	15.5			3
2	Per capita food grain production (kg)	320	376	376		530
3	Global Food Security Index (score)	42.8	57	46	66	90
Target 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons						
2.2.1	Prevalence of stunting	36	32	31.6	20	15
2.2.2	Prevalence of malnutrition	11.3	8	10		4
1	Percent of children under age 5 years who are underweight	30.1	20	24.3		9
2	Prevalence of anemia among women of reproductive age	35	26	40.8		10
3	Prevalence of anemia among children under 5 years	46	33	52.7		10
Table 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment						
2.3.1	Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size (USD)				1260	
2.3.2	Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status					
1	<i>Land productivity (AGPA/ha) USD</i>	3278	4003		5339	7018
Target 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality						
2.4.1	Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture					
1	Agricultural land at the present level (000 hectare)	2641	2641	2641	2641	2641
2	Degraded land including forest (000 hectare)					
3	Round the year irrigated land in total arable land (%)	25.2	40	33	60	80

²⁰ GoN/NPC, 2020. Nepal National Review of Sustainable Development Goals

4	Soil organic matter (SOM in crop land %)	1.96	2.79			4
Target 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed						
2.5.1	Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities					
2.5.2	Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction					
1	<i>Number of DNA bank for variety of seeds</i>	1	1			
2	<i>Number of DNA bank for variety of plants</i>					
3	<i>Number of DNA bank for endangered animal species</i>					
4	<i>Number of Community Seed banks (number)</i>	115	115	?		
5	<i>Number of arboratatem and breeding center for indigenous species</i>					
Target 2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions						
2.a.1	The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	0.14	0.21	No data		0.38
2.a.1	Government expenditure in agriculture (% of total budget)	3.3		2.27	?	?
2.a.2	Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	0.8		No data		
Target 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round						
2.b.1	Agricultural export subsidies					
Target 2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility						
2.c.1	Indicator of food price anomalies					
2.c.1	<i>Food Consumer Price Index</i>			No data		
2.c.2	Number of food reserve depots			No data		

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