



THE NSAF PROJECT

Nepal Seed and Fertilizer Project

NSAF facilitates sustainable increases in Nepal’s national crop productivity, income, and household-level food and nutrition security across 20 districts, including five earthquake-affected districts. **NSAF promotes the use of improved seeds and integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) technologies** along with effective and efficient **extension services**, including the use of **digital and information and communications technologies**. The project will specifically increase availability of technologies to improve productivity in cauliflower, lentil, maize, onions, rice, and tomato. It will also build **competitive seed and fertilizer systems** that significantly expand seed production, marketing, and distribution by enhancing the capacity of the public and private sectors in seed and fertilizer value chains.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

COUNTRY Nepal
YEARS OF OPERATION 2016-2022
BUDGET US\$15 million (IFDC sub-grant of US\$1.4 million)
DONOR USAID



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

» International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)



» Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC)
 » Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD)
 » Fertilizer Association of Nepal (FAN)

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- » Increase crop productivity through appropriate **site- and crop-specific fertilizer recommendations** and innovative **agro-input packages**, part of the integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) approach, through the public-private partnership model.
- » Workstreams:
 - » **Digital soil map:** Visualize the soil fertility status of the country.
 - » **Fertilizer recommendations:** Transition from blanket to domain-specific (efficient, scalable, and suited for different types of farmers).
 - » **Balanced fertilization:** Provide policy support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) and promote crowding in of private sector investment.
 - » **Improved fertilizer use efficiency:** Scale out best management practices.

OUTCOMES

- » **2018** Formation of the Fertilizer Association of Nepal. Since 2020, with the policy lobby from FAN, private sector companies are allowed to distribute subsidized fertilizers.
- » **2018** Introduction of urea deep placement (UDP) in cereals and vegetables. The private sector started producing urea briquettes in 2018 and it is now registered by MoALD as a new fertilizer.
- » **2019** Preparation of a road map on balanced fertilization in Nepal using blended fertilizers.
- » **2020** Introduction of digital soil maps of Nepal, a first for South Asia.
- » **2022** Launching of the site-specific fertilizer recommendation approach for rice.
- » **2022** Assessment of implementation status of the fertilizer distribution directive issued by MoALD in 2020.