

Roundtable Meeting on

DO FARMERS' VOICES MATTER?

The Crisis of Agriculture in a Changing Climate in Terai-Madhesh

Wednesday, Dec 10, 2014 | 09:00-13:00 |

Kiran Hall, Summit Hotel, Kupandole |

A recent survey led in seven Asian countries reported that people living in Nepal are the most worried about the future effects of changes in climate (BBC Media Action, 2013). Nepal has indeed been ranked as the 4th most vulnerable country to the impacts of climate change in the Climate Change Vulnerability Index (Maplecroft, 2010). However, in the Terai-Madhesh, farmers relate their vulnerability to what they coin as the 'failure of agriculture' rather than climatic factors. In their views, the root causes of their vulnerability are thus not related to a changing climate but rather to underlying structural factors, such as unequal access to public services or the lack of voice and influence in planning and decision-making processes.

This consultation is part of a series of dialogues between farmers and policy-makers organized in Janakpur and Kathmandu by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in partnership with Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS), PANOS South Asia and Nepal Madhesh Foundation (NEMAF). The objective of these dialogues is to create a common framing of vulnerability to climatic and societal changes and to build a shared understanding of the critical issues affecting agriculture, irrigation and rural development in a changing climate. Ultimately, this shared understanding will provide the basis for developing policies and interventions that address the root causes of farmers' vulnerability.

PROGRAMME

Time	Program	
09:00	Registration	
09:30	Introduction	Participants
09:45	Welcome and rationale of the meeting	Dr. Hari Dhungana, SIAS
10:00	Building a common framing of vulnerability	Dr. Floriane Clement, IWMI
10:35	Sharing of outcome story of participatory events in Dhanusha	Farmer representative
10:45	Screening of documentary	IWMI
11:20	Open discussion	Participants
11:50	Break	
12:05	Facilitated discussion	Dr. Hari Dhungana, SIAS
12:50	Concluding remarks	Dr. Floriane Clement, IWMI
13:00	Lunch	

Note: Participation by invitation only.