



Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC)  
Dhapasi, Kathmandu  
**Project Fact Sheet**

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| <b>Name of Project</b>                         | Empowering Rural Producers in Commercial Agriculture (EPIC): Nepal   |
| <b>Working Area</b>                            | Dang, Dhanusha and Jhapa   |
| <b>Contact Person</b>                          | Kalpana Karki  |
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| <b>Project's Partner/s</b>                     | IIED   |
| <b>Project Summary [Not exceed 1000 words]</b> | EPIC Nepal is part of an international initiative which is investigating the role of socio-legal empowerment which aims to promote small-scale producer agency. Through this, it aims for more sustainable and locally beneficial investments in commercial agriculture. The work in Nepal is based on a notion that any transition to a context in which investment in commercial agriculture is sustainable and locally beneficial, requires social transformation derived through action in three areas: enabling and empowering communities; mass mobilization / public opinion; and policy and governance. The EPIC project will engage with key policies shaping commercial agriculture and develop practical approaches to securing access to land and markets on more equitable terms; as well as generating evidence to further inform policy and practice. |
| <b>Project Objective/s:</b>                    | <b>Long-term impact:</b> Landless and marginalised small-scale rural producers improve their livelihoods and strengthen their voice through more effective engagement with the policy and practice of commercial agriculture<br><b>Objective:</b> To support a critical mass of landless and marginalised small-scale rural producers, and their support organisations, in empowering themselves to influence public and private sector policies and actions in favour of locally beneficial and sustainable investments in commercial agriculture.  |

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| <b>I. Expected Results</b><br><i>(With indicators)</i> | <b>Outcome</b>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Through their organisations, landless and other marginalised small-scale producers are empowered to: analyse problems and identify potential solutions; articulate their concerns and aspirations; and build alliances to advance their vision of commercial agriculture.</li> <li>2. Inclusive agricultural entrepreneurship models and related policy proposals are developed from the bottom-up</li> <li>3. A critical mass of landless and other small-scale producers and their supporting organisations, from a local to national level, are well equipped to engage with private sector actors and public decision makers in favour of locally beneficial and sustainable investments in commercial agriculture.</li> <li>4. Generate evidence on the role of socio-legal empowerment in strengthening producer agency and document periodic participatory reflection and learning.</li> </ol> |  |
|  | <b>Approaches</b>  | <b>Envisioned Transformation</b>  | <b>Approaches</b>  |
|  |  | Grassroots Empowerment  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory context and actor analysis in each site and nationally</li> <li>• Learning Centre embracing REFLECT pedagogy</li> <li>• Capacity Assessment of Ground level Landless, and Small-Scale Producers forum, and strengthening of Cooperatives.</li> <li>• Identification and Engagement with relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>• Development and Mainstreaming of learning documents.</li> </ul> |
| Alternative Entrepreneurship Model Development         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of <i>Agri-Business Promotion Act</i> and produce a police brief.</li> <li>• Policy dialogue with stakeholders</li> <li>• Micro-research on issues of land, agriculture and markets.</li> <li>• Support in formulation of federal and provincial land and agriculture policies.</li> </ul> |   |  |

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|                      |   | Produce Critical Mass through Social mobilization | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity enhancement of small-scale producers on advocacy and collective-bargaining skills.</li> <li>• Development of strategy paper regarding landless and small-scale producer forums.</li> <li>• Claim of resources by landless and small-scale producers.</li> <li>• Orientation to three-tiers of government on Land and Agrarian rights.</li> <li>• Motivation building through effective actions.</li> </ul> |
|                      |   | Learning and Evidence                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory review and reflection workshops/meetings.</li> <li>• Collection and Mainstreaming of change stories.</li> <li>• Learning Route reporting (with anecdotes etc)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Duration:</b>     | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2019-30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 |   |  |
| <b>Total Budget:</b> | NPR. 2,81,39,213  |   |  |