



Annex 1: Inception writeshop program

Comprehensive Risk Preparedness and Mitigation for Compounding and Cascading Disasters in Nepal

INCEPTION WRITESHOP

10 Jan, 2025 | Hotel Harmony, Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur, Nepal

1. Background

Changing climate, geopolitical complexities, and sheer dependency of the country's economic activities to natural resources, agriculture, global supply chain, and remittance puts Nepal under a vulnerable situation under evolving risk scenarios. Growing number of evidences around the world, irrespective of the development status of a country, are showing the rise of disaster risks involving compound, cascading and systemic impacts. The country is increasingly witnessing a rapid rise in extreme disaster events involving compound and cascading impacts such as the Malamchi Flood in 2021. Regions in Nepal are increasingly experiencing rather complex situation due to co-occurrences of multi-hazards such as heavy rain, landslides, floods, debris flow, avalanches, GLOF, etc. More specifically, unplanned developmental activities in fragile mountainous region coupled with climate induced extreme hazards are compounding the level of impacts.

With increasing frequency of disasters and associated compounding and cascading effects, building on the progress made on DRM so far, there is a further need to develop program focusing on comprehensive risk preparedness and mitigation for compounding and cascading disasters in Nepal.

In this context, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), with funding support from Ministry of Environment Japan (MoEJ) and in collaboration with Center of Research for Environment, Energy and Water (CREEW) and Center for Water Resources Studies (CWRS) at Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University, is organizing this Inception Writeshop to brainstorm potential ideas.

2. Objectives of Inception Writeshop

The inception writeshop aims to discuss on potential ideas for defining specific objectives, project components, theory of change, and stakeholder mapping for developing a concept note for a GCF proposal, which will have a broad objective of **“disaster risk preparedness and mitigation of climate induced multi-hazards for addressing compound and cascading disaster impacts in Nepal”**.



3. Pre-Writeshop Activities

A preliminary field study to collect evidence on impacts of recent disaster events and their compounding and cascading effect was conducted in mid-December. A study team did some study/analysis of multiple events, that clearly showed vulnerability of following sectors;

- Power sector (e.g., Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower Project)
- Water supply sector (e.g., Melamchi Water Supply Project)
- Road infrastructure (e.g. damage to about 10km stretch road infrastructure from Bhakundebesi to Nepalthok in BP Highway due to Sep 2024 heavy rainfall)
- Urban sectoral (e.g., damage and loss associated with Sep 2024 heavy rainfall in Kathmandu)
- Rural sectoral (e.g., damage and loss associated with Sep 2024 heavy rainfall in Roskhi Khola watershed)

A team of IGES, together with researchers from CREEW and CWRS are also planning to visit Roshi Khola, road damage section around Bhakunde Besi area, and Nakhu in Kathmandu during 6-8 January, 2025. The field study will focus on “*observing/visualizing extent of damage and vulnerability to identify potential response mechanism required*”.

In addition, a pre-writeshop consultation was held virtually with a limited number of experts to generate preliminary idea on potential components of the project. The virtual discussion indicated that the project might have following objectives and components;

Specific objectives:

- Establish a robust multi-hazard early warning system for effective risk detection, analysis, and real-time forecasting
- Address the gaps in response capacity for multi-hazard early warning at national, sub-national and community level through structural and non-structural measures.
- Strengthen disaster mitigation measures of critical infrastructure and systems subject to compound and cascading disaster impacts

Theory of Change:

IF the risk preparedness and disaster mitigation against compound and cascading impacts in Nepal were strengthened, THEN the relevant agencies and vulnerable communities will be protected from climate induced extreme disaster impacts in the fragile Himalayan landscape of Nepal BECAUSE the stakeholders, including the NDA, sectoral institutions, disaster agencies, sub-national governments, CSOs, IP and women’s groups, and the private sector, will have increased awareness and capacity to prepare and respond to multi-hazards risks WHICH is currently lacking.

Study Area:

National scale project (such as for multi-hazard warning system) but with focus on the parts of a



major river basin such as Koshi River Basin for risk preparedness and mitigation

4. Inception Writeshop Program

A tentative program schedule is provided hereunder;

Time	Activity	Responsibility
08:00 – 08:45	Registration and Breakfast	All
08:45 – 09:00	Introduction of participants	All
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome, stock taking of earlier activities and objectives of writeshop	Dr. Binaya Raj Shivakoti, IGES, Japan
09:10 – 09:25	Learnings from recent selected flood events	Prof. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, CWRS, IoE/TU
09:25 – 09:40	Activity 1: Stock-taking of existing and planned activities related to early warning for multiple hazards, impact-based forecasting, etc. → Participants write-down name, partners, funding agencies, etc. associated with such activities in meta card and provide to organizers	All Facilitator: Prof. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, CWRS, IoE/TU
09:40 – 10:40	Group Work 1: Confirmation of project components and key activities [3-4 groups]	Facilitator: Prof. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, CWRS, IoE/TU
10:40 – 11:00	Tea/Coffee Break	
11:00 – 12:00	Activity 2 – Plenary Presentation: Insights from Group Work [10 minutes presentation by each group (30 min) + 30 minutes of discussion]	Group Representatives
12:00 – 13:00	Group Work 2: Theory of Change [1-2 Groups]; Stakeholder Mapping [1 Group]	All
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	All
14:00 – 15:30	Activity 3 – Plenary Presentation: Theory of Change; Stakeholder Mapping	Group Representatives
15:30 – 16:00	Activity 4 – Open Discussion & Reflections on Moving Forward (overall project design, study area, scale, financing, stakeholders, etc.)	Participants
16:00 – 16:15	Closing with vote of thanks	Dr. Rabin Malla, Executive Director, CREEW
16:15 – 17:15	High Tea	