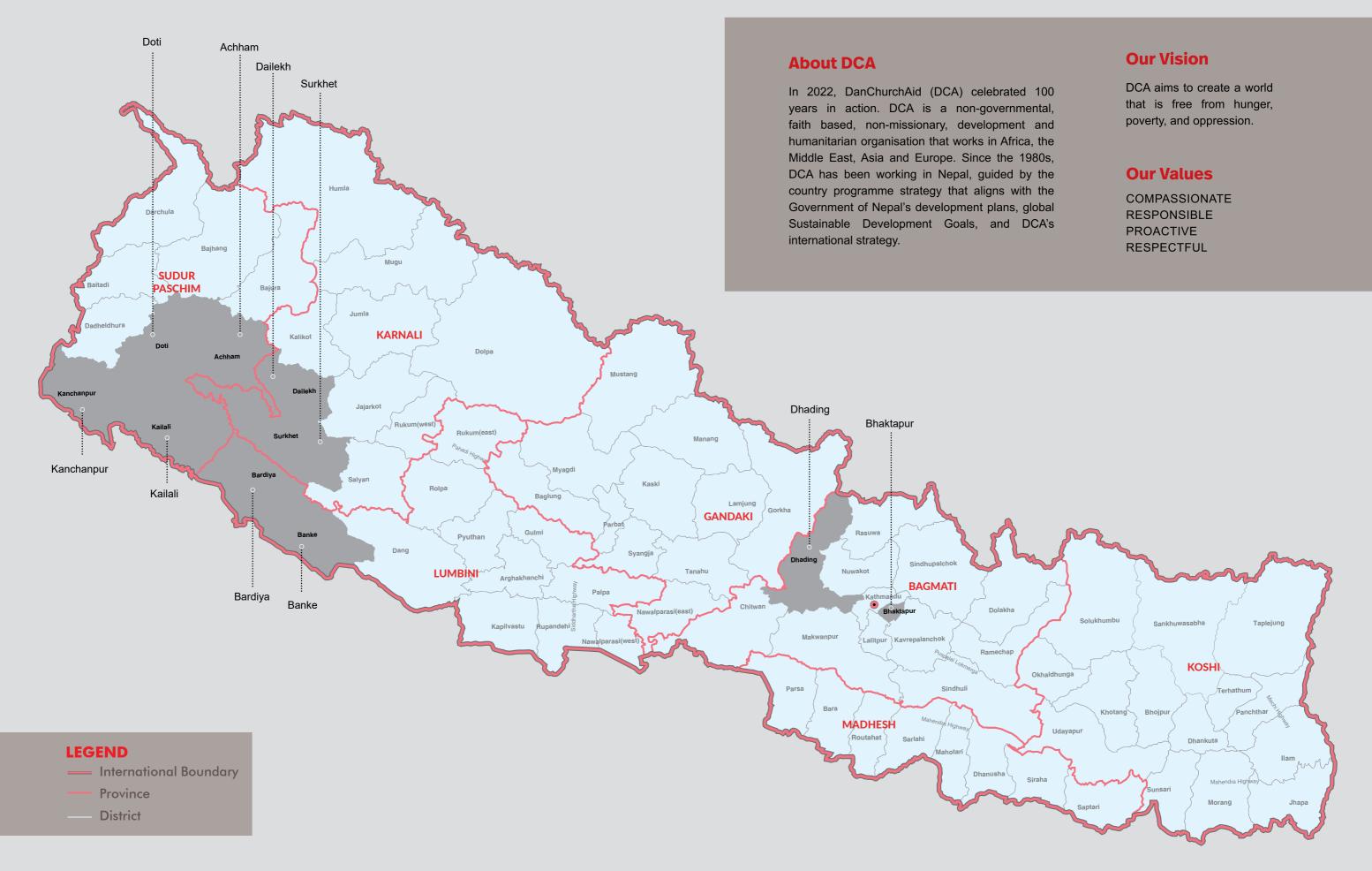


ANNUAL REPORT 2022







CROSS-CUTTING GOALS SAVE LIVES: LINKS TO SDGs

SAVE LIVES

Under the "Save lives" theme, the DCA Nepal Country Office aims to increase local actors' capacity to lead preparedness and risk-informed humanitarian actions to enhance communities' resilience and ability to cope with disasters. In 2022, DCA supported 6,493 people within the 'Save Lives' theme.

Objectives



Support locally led risk informed humanitarian preparedness and response capacities



Build and contribute to community-based resilience



Engage in interventions that align with the humanitarian and development nexus









Handover of Rescue Boat



Every year, the monsoon flood leads to the loss of property, resources, and human lives. Nepal programme implements the SUDRIDH project funded by DANIDA in Dodhara Chandani, Bheemdatt, and Parshuram municipalities through its partnership with NNSWA. The project aims to reduce the risk of disasters and build the resilience of the communities. Strengthening the capacity of the community and local government for effective preparedness and response and this initiative is part of that effort. DCA

Nepal Office, in coordination with Dodhara Chandani municipality and its partner NNSWA, handed over a boat to the municipality to expand the capacity of local duty bearers to engage in search and rescue efforts within the lower Mahakali River Basin, located in Kanchanpur district. As the area is frequently affected by annual flooding, Nepal programme partly financed the boat to aid in rescue and response missions in the region.

Ganga Devi Joshi, Deputy Mayor of the Dodhara Chandani municipality expressed, "This boat was greatly needed, and the community members are delighted. We will now be able to carry out rescue missions more efficiently."



Disaster Simulation

DCA Nepal Office supported the execution of a disaster simulation exercise (monsoon response) along with our partner NNSWA in Kutiyakabhar, Dodhara Chandani municipality, Sudurpaschim province, a location selected due to its significant vulnerability to floods as it sits near the confluence of Mahakali and Jogbudha rivers. The simulation exercise included the triggering of an early warning system indicating a flood was imminent, after which community members were informed and moved to safer areas, and a search and rescue team was mobilised. The First Aid Task Force helped injured individuals while organisations involved in the humanitarian response offered food and water to displaced people. Lastly, an Initial Rapid Assessment

(IRA) team was activated to gather information on the damage caused by the flood.

Reception within the community was positive as the community members noted that the exercise was highly effective and well timed as it was conducted just before the onset of the monsoon. Ganga Devi Joshi, Deputy Mayor further added, "This exercise is important for newly elected representatives like us as we have also learned about the role we must play during times of disaster event and how coordination with different stakeholders is crucial."



BUILD RESILIENCE: LINKS TO SDGs

BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Under the "Build Resilient Communities" theme, the Nepal County Office aims to promote green and inclusive development through working to promote green livelihood opportunities, sustainable agricultural practices, and the strengthening of local value chains. This work is done in close collaboration with CSOs and local duty-bearers and aims to elevate the voices of marginalised groups such as women and young people. In 2022, within the 'Build Resilience Communities' theme, DCA supported 10 local partners in implementing nine projects under the build theme, that spanned across the four provinces of Nepal and reached 14,309 people.

The programme focuses on delivering against two key objectives:



Create and expand livelihood opportunities for small-scale producers, women entrepreneurs, and youth in green and sustainable food systems.



Provide technical support to community-based organisations and their members to adopt and scale up initiatives promoting climate-resilient agriculture, agroecology-based farming, and sustainable value chains.







farmers received support in agroecology and DRR practices.



Execution of an assessment in the urban areas of Changunarayan municipality to support home-based women workers. After the market assessment, two groups of home-based women entrepreneurs received training, equipment, and start-up capital to start and manage cotton bag and pickle businesses.



community-led Action Research initiatives related to agroecology and climate resilient agriculture were designed and rolled out through local CSOs and CBOs.



cooperatives were provided support to enable the operations of Farmers' Service Centres at the local level.



(150 Dalit HHs) received 903 goats in total and €9 cash per HHs under the Goat Gift Support Project. The household constructed goat sheds with the support from government, received insurance support for the goat and fodder plantation and goat management trainings.









value chain actors were trained in value chain management, while four relationship building meetings were hosted between the local government and market actors and producer groups.





Integration of Technology for Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Economy

In the past, farmers in Barbardiya Municipality-9 faced water scarcity and lacked means for proper irrigation. Their crop production totally depended on rainfall, with adequate rain resulting in good production. To cope with irregularity in rainfall, the farmers hired a diesel motor to irrigate their fields from a nearby river, but the cost was relatively too high.

Through AADHAR Project, the group received a solar panel and motor worth NPR. 508,700 (€ 3,822). This allowed them to efficiently lift water for irrigation and widened their skills through training, pest management, and market connections. Using the irrigation facility, they now store water in a shared reservoir, which is also occasionally used for fish farming.

Vegetable production has also significantly increased with reliable irrigation, boosting farmer's income. Small-scale farmers can now earn NPR. 20,000 - NPR. 30,000 (€ 150 - € 225) in a season. Charging NPR. 200 per hour (€1.50) for outsiders and NPR. 60 per hour (€0.45) for group members for solar lift service, the group sustains equipment upkeep.

Earlier, the high cost of diesel motors limited affordability for the farmers. However, with the solar facility, the group have transformed production, leading to significant economic improvement. "There has been a remarkable change among the lives of the group's members," Vice-Chairperson of the farmer's group, Ram Kishan Tharu.





The European Union-funded UTHAN Project in Nepal supported the production of eco-friendly and affordable Compressed and Stabilised Earth Bricks (CSEB) as an alternative to highly polluting brick kilns. In Sudurpaschim province, the 'Gurans Interlock Brick Industry' was established by 18 women from the marginalised Tharu community. These women produced interlocking bricks by mixing and compressing soil, sand, and cement, without the need for burning of fuels. The CSEB bricks were recognized as earthquake-resistant and were about 25 to 30% cheaper than traditional fired bricks. The women worked in their free time and produced

thousands of bricks, earning additional income while contributing to a climate-friendly solution. They operated in subgroups, with each subgroup producing 50 to 55 bricks per day. The women's dedication and the success of the project were acknowledged locally. With the support of the UTHAN Project, the women received training and acquired the necessary machines, investing in land and raw materials.

"This brick is almost twice as strong as the red bricks produced in the kiln and is also resistant to earthquakes," said Rajkumari Mahato, President of the Gurans Interlock Brick Industry.



FIGHT EXTREME INEQUALITY

In the 'Fight Extreme Inequality' theme, the Nepal Programme aims to enhance the capacity of rights holders, human rights defenders (HRDs), and environmental activists, and their groups and networks, to voice their concerns and exercise their rights. Within 2022, the DCA Nepal Office implemented five projects with six partners under the 'Fight Extreme Inequality' global goal across the three provinces of Nepal, reaching 20,030 people.

Objectives



Support community-led advocacy to duty bearers at the local and provincial level to allocate adequate resources, strengthen quality public services, and design and implement gender-responsive and inclusive policies and programmes



Build the technical and functional capacity of local authorities in formulating inclusive policies, designing Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) sensitive programmes, and strengthening social accountability mechanisms





human rights violation survivors were supported to seek justice.



Campaigns focusing on elections and radio programmes were effective in educating people about their civil and political rights and choosing the right candidates in the elections.





community groups received NPR. 16,317,320 (€ 103,473) from local governments to fund their income generation plans and strengthen livelihood opportunities.



Promoted effective engagement and lobbying of provincial government, resulting in parliamentary deliberation on HRD and Dalit Empowerment bills.



Trained climate campaigns localised the climate agenda, addressed information and knowledge gaps, and familiarised right holders and service providers with climate-friendly plans and actions.



Study and research were conducted to identifying needs, assessing satisfaction levels of rights holders, and designing evidence-based programmes and proposals.



"

This became possible after she became aware of the importance of vital registration. Currently, she is earning NPR. 575 (€ 3.75) daily through the Prime Minister's Employment Programme.



PAHUCH TO CIVIL RIGHTS

Dilsara Pariyar from Baijanath Rural Municipality was limited to household activities only. She was married to young Sankar Pariyar, driven by social restrictions and economic circumstances. These limitations prevented her from pursuing personal endeavors. After having children, her husband migrated to India for work, and she remained engaged in household responsibilities.

The PAHUCH project motivated her to become a member of the Milijuli Dalit Women Group, established by the Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO). In this group, she participated in various relevant discussions such as citizenship, child marriage, polygamy, participation in local-level structures, budgeting, economic empowerment, etc. She received training on group governance, leadership development, and advocacy. She has been actively engaged in rural municipality budget discussions, taking on a leadership role to advocate for services and resources.

She was deprived of her civil rights due to a lack of a citizenship card. Now, she has the right to enjoy every right like her fellow citizens. She is now able to access child nutrition, a birth certificate, a marriage certificate, and membership in the cooperative. This became possible after she became aware of the importance of vital registration. Currently, she enrolled in Prime Minister's Employment programme and is earning NPR. 575 (€ 3.75) daily through the Prime Minister's Employment Programme.

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With her newfound financial stability, Manamati was able to enroll her son back in school, open a savings account, and actively participate in community activities.



RENEWED CONFIDENCE AND DREAMS

Manamati, a 35-year-old resident of Sokat-2, Chaurpati, Achham, faced immense hardship and mental torture from her in-laws after the death of her husband. Her life took a turn for the worse when her in-laws set her hut and goats on fire. This pushed Manamati into depression, resulting in hospitalisation and a deterioration of her physical health. Struggling to make ends meet and provide for her son's education, she found hope and regained confidence when she joined the Good Governance School (GGS) as part of the PARIWARTAN project.

Through GGS, she learned about social security programmes and employment opportunities. She used the skills and knowledge she acquired to secure employment, receive financial support for goat farming, and generate a steady income. With her newfound financial stability, Manamati was able to enroll her son back in school, open a savings account, and actively participate in community activities. She has gained social acceptance and is determined to fight against violence and advocate for women's rights. Manamati dreams of running for local elections under the Dalit quota, as GGS has instilled in her the belief that hard work can transform lives.

Manamati says, "I want to move forward. Women should not suffer from domination. They should be able to live a life free of violence. GGS has given me the confidence to believe that hard work can change our lives."



A Village Strives to be Climate Smart

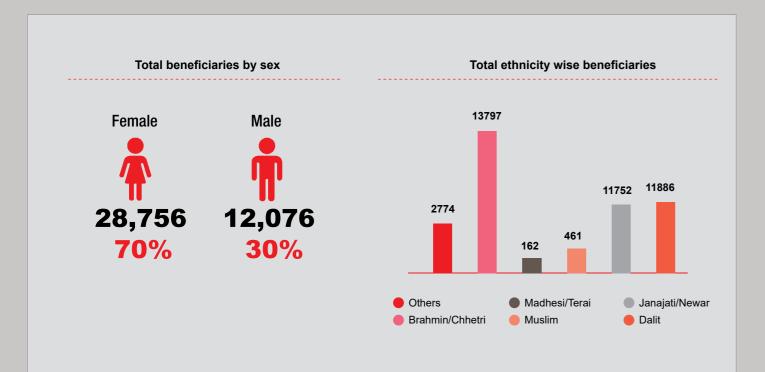
The Bhandari Tole Multipurpose Farmers' Group in Ward 4 of Dullu Municipality, Dailekh District, is actively working towards transforming their village into a climate-smart community. With the guidance and training provided by the UTHAN Project, the group has embraced organic farming practices, eliminating the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. This transition has not only enhanced soil quality and reduced health risks but has also attracted customers from nearby villages who come to purchase their organic vegetables.

The farmers have replaced chemical inputs with biofertilisers, compost fertilisers, and biopesticides, resulting in lower production costs and increased profits. Furthermore, the project has facilitated the construction of improved cattle sheds, irrigation ponds, and the adoption of climate-smart farming techniques. The community has also embraced solar energy, agroforestry, and reduced plastic usage. Through these collective efforts, Ward 4 of Dullu Municipality is steadily progressing towards its goal of becoming a climate-smart village.

"After we improved our sheds, our work became very easy. The collected urine of cattle is used to make bio-pesticides and fertilisers", said Indira Bhandari, a member of Bhandari Tole Multipurpose Farmers Group.

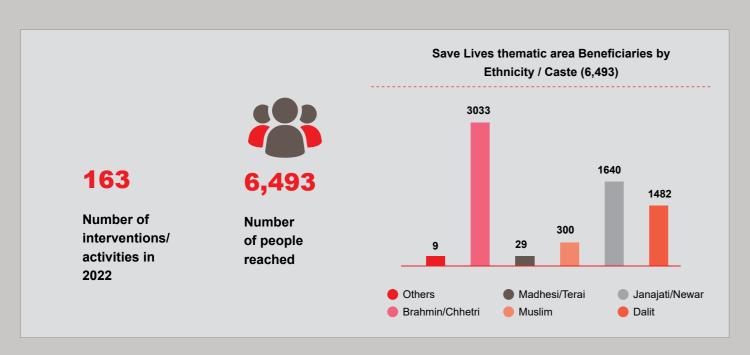


OUR REACH IN 2022



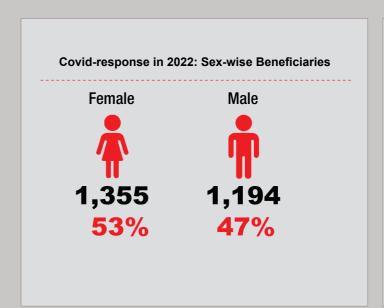
PROGRAMME

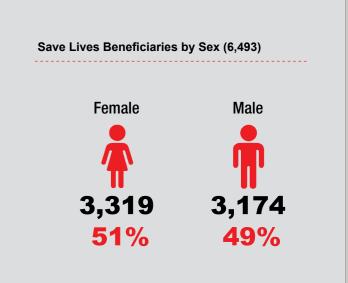
1. SAVE LIVES



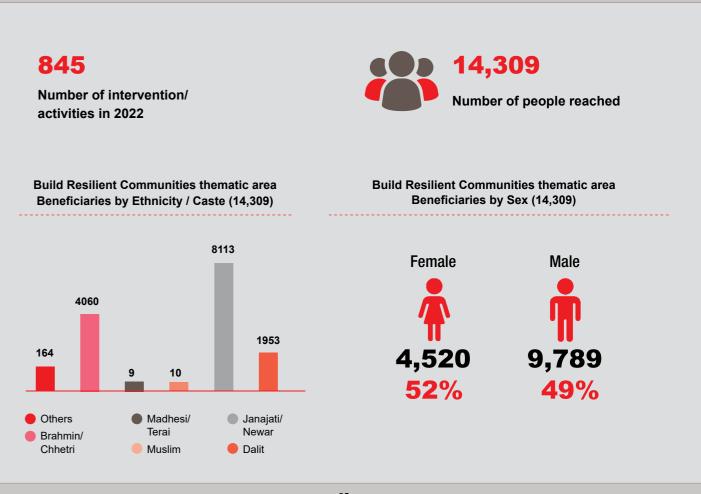
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COVID-19 Support in 2022

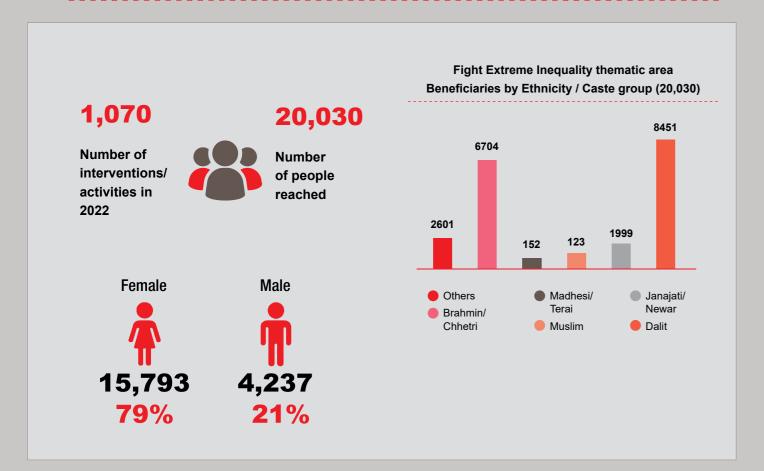




2. BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

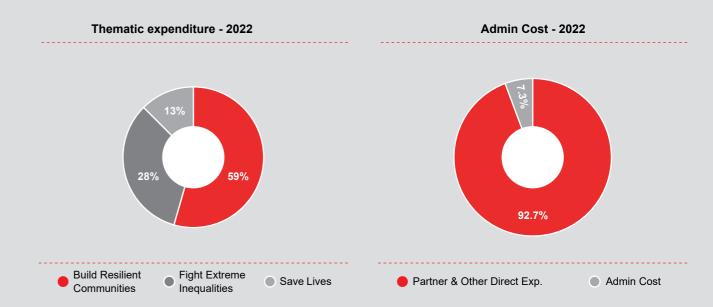


FIGHT EXTREME INEQUALITIES

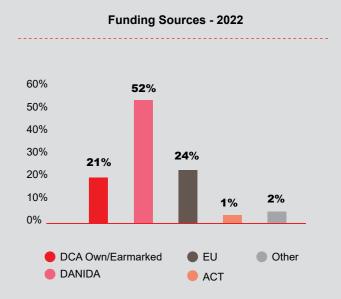


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW OF 2022

DCA Nepal Programme successfully managed different funding sources to reach a total expenditure of approx. € 2.70 million in 2022, representing over 91% of the total estimated budget for the year. Projects within the three global objectives- Build Resilient Communities, Fight Extreme Inequality, and Save Lives- accounted for expenditures of approx. € 1,608.01 thousand, € 753.58 thousand, and approx. € 343.17 thousand, respectively, in 2022. Build Resilient Communities accounted for 59% of the portfolio, while Fight Extreme Inequality covered 28%, and the remaining 13% was allocated to Save Lives. The administrative costs for all the projects were effectively managed within 7.3%, with direct costs, including partners, accounting for 92.7% of the total expenditure.



From the initial phase of programme implementation in Nepal, DANIDA has been supporting the Nepal Programme as the major donor. The funds received from DANIDA for 2022 amounted to € 1,409.13 thousand, which accounted for 52% of the total funding portfolio of Nepal programme in Nepal. EU Grants covered 24% of the portfolio, while ACT Alliance contributed approx. 1% towards the implementation of activities in 2022. Nepal Programme internal and allocated fund contributed € 558.73 thousand for Nepal in 2022, representing 21% of the total funding sources. The remaining funds, approx. 2%, were received from various other donors.



COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY

The DCA Nepal Country Programme Strategy (2022-2026) serves as the guiding framework for DCA's programmes and operation in Nepal for the next five years. It has been designed to integrate the development plans and priorities of the Government of Nepal, Sustainable Development Goals, and DCA's Global International strategy. The strategy is a result of an extensive consultation process with external and internal stakeholders and a week-long theory of change workshop with the implementing partners. Further, it has considered the findings, learnings, and best practices from the previous strategic period (2017- 2021) and the external evaluation.

The strategy has taken into consideration context-specific problems such as (i) low development outcomes of poor and marginalised communities; (ii) slow rate of improvement in food insecurity, and access to agriculture and market infrastructure; (iii) poor access of citizens to basic human rights; (iv) poor status of the nation in relation to climate vulnerability; (v) limited knowledge and preparedness on climate-induced as well as other forms of disasters.

OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

DCA's Vision:

A world without hunger, poverty, and oppression, in which popular and political powers constantly work strongly and actively for a just and sustainable distribution and use of the earth's resources.

Programme Objective:

By 2026, marginalised and vulnerable communities including youth and women are empowered, resilient and protected to access justice and enjoy public and private sector services, and environmental resources, where the duty bearers play active role in creating a favourable environment.

Thematic Focus:

DCA's Nepal Programme will continue to focus on three global goals of DCA: (i) Fight Extreme Inequality; (ii) Build Resilient Communities; (iii) Save Lives.

CROSS-CUTTING COMMITMENT

Gender Equality and Climate Action are the two crosscutting commitments, which will be mainstreamed strongly across all the projects to be designed and implemented by DCA together with its partners.





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