Scaling Global South Climate Solutions
Climate Field Schools: Farmer-Led Learning for Climate-Resilient Farming - Nepal



Climate Field Schools enable smallholder farmers in climate-vulnerable communities to learn, test and adopt climate-resilient farming practices through participatory, field-based learning that combines local knowledge, climate information and practical experimentation.

Challenge

Smallholder farmers depend heavily on climate-sensitive agriculture and face increasing erratic rainfall, drought, floods, landslides, changing temperatures, water scarcity, soil degradation, pests and diseases. These climate stresses affect crop productivity, livestock, food security and household incomes.

Solution

Climate Field Schools (CFS) are participatory, farmer-centered learning platforms where farmers learn, experiment, and apply climate-resilient farming practices in their own fields. Through seasonal learning cycles, farmers work with agriculture technicians, climate experts and local institutions to assess climate risks, use weather and climate information, test climate-smart practices, and combine scientific knowledge with local and indigenous knowledge. Farmers compare results, identify locally appropriate solutions, and share lessons through farmer-to-farmer learning.

Contact

binod.thapa@sahasnepal.org.np

Website



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Impact

Climate Field Schools have strengthened farmers' capacity to understand climate risks, use climate information, experiment with adaptation options, and adopt climate-resilient farming practices through practical, season-long learning.

- Key results:
  - Climate Field Schools established, reaching 75 farmers, including 50% women;
  - Farmers tested and adopted 12 climate-resilient practices, including soil and water conservation, crop diversification, organic soil management, integrated pest management and improved livestock practices.;
  - Strengthened integration of local/indigenous knowledge with scientific climate information.; Increased farmer-to-farmer learning and dissemination of locally tested climate-resilient practices.
- Timeframe:2024 - 2026
- Evidence/Data Source: CFS records, farmer attendance and learning records, demonstration plots, field observations, adoption monitoring and project monitoring data.

Partners

- SAHAS Nepal: Overall facilitation, technical support, climate-risk assessment, CFS methodology, capacity building, monitoring and documentation.
- Local Governments / Municipalities: Coordination, agricultural extension support, local planning and institutionalization of CFS and Farmers'
- Groups Community-Based Organizations: Local coordination, inclusion and community-level knowledge sharing Development Partners / Donors, Financial and technical support.

