

1 Introduction

In the last two decades, NDRI has completed numerous studies, assessments and surveys contributing to evidence-based policy and programming related to livelihoods and food security in Nepal. During this period, Nepal has made significant progress on food security and nutrition, and NDRI feels privileged to be part of this journey, through its contribution towards evidence-based policies.

3 Key Activities



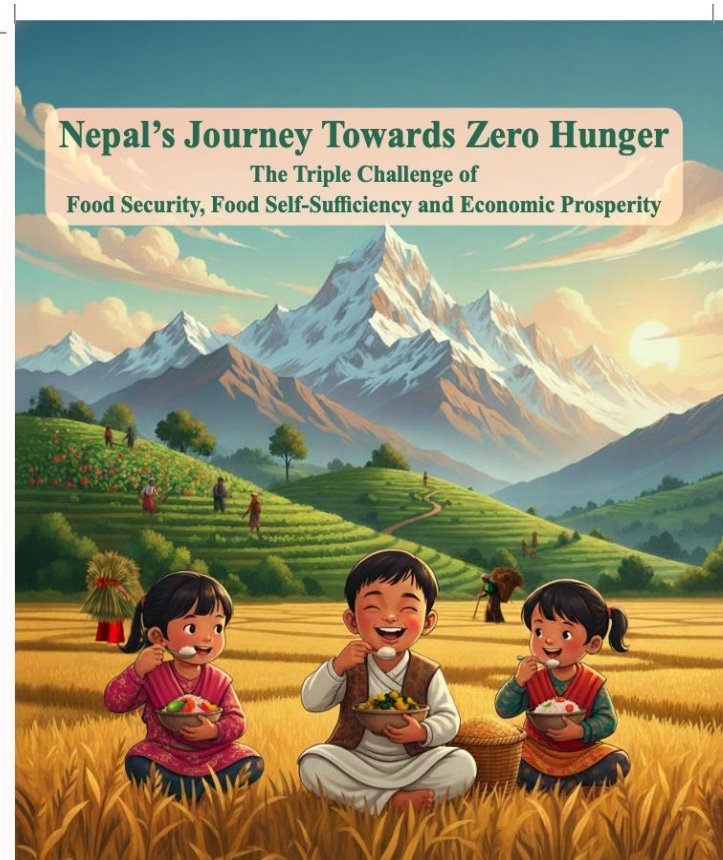
MIGRATION ATLAS OF NEPAL

2025



Migration Atlas of Nepal (NDRI and AWO International)

2025



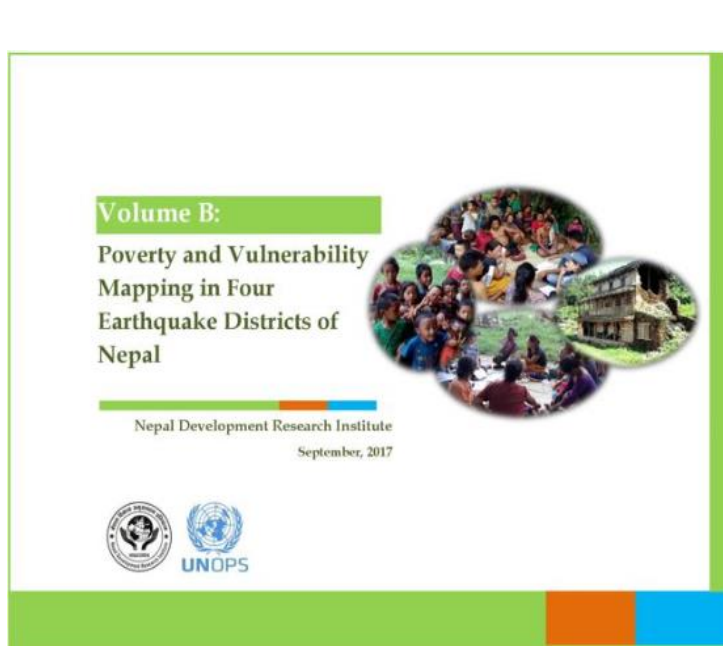
Nepal's Journey Towards Zero Hunger: The Triple Challenge of Food Security, Food Self-Sufficiency and Economic Prosperity (NDRI and PRI)

2025



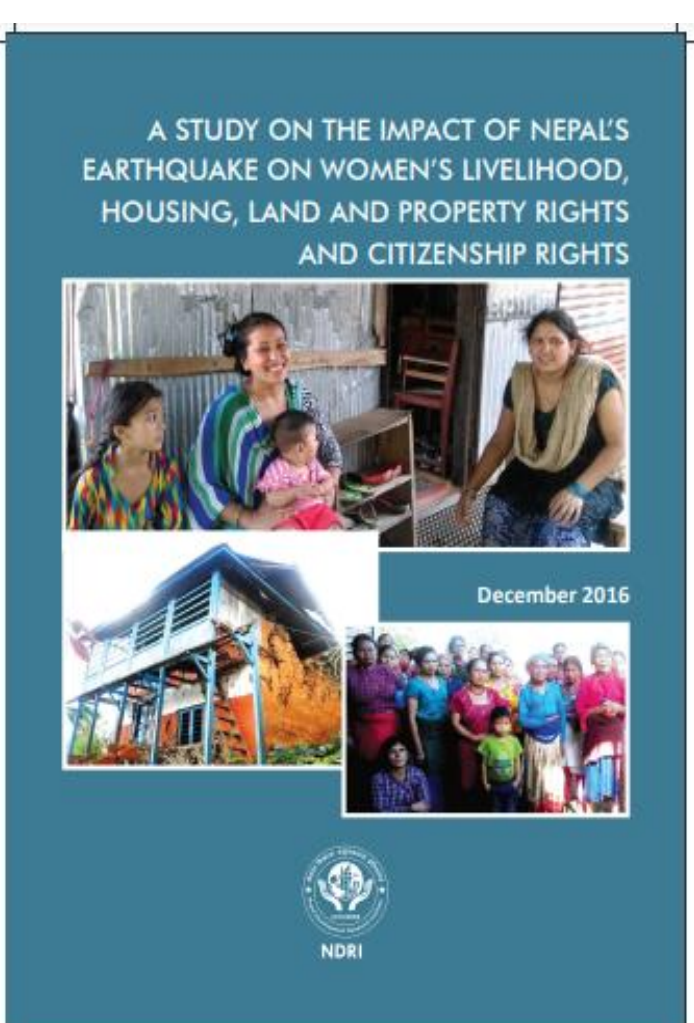
THE FOOD SECURITY ATLAS OF NEPAL

2019



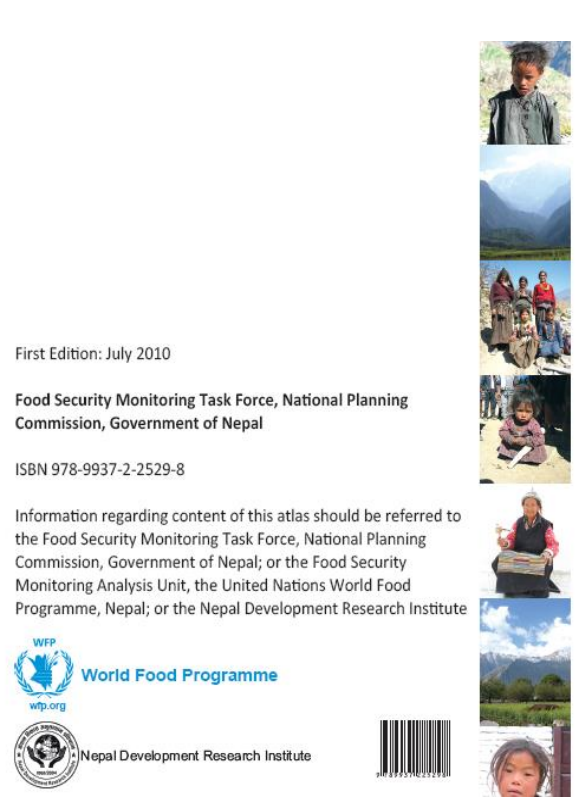
Poverty and Vulnerability Mapping in Four Earthquake Districts of Nepal (NDRI and UNHCR)

2016



Strengthening Generation and Dissemination of Climate based Agro-advisories for Smallholder Farmers in South Asia

2014-15



The Food Security Atlas of Nepal

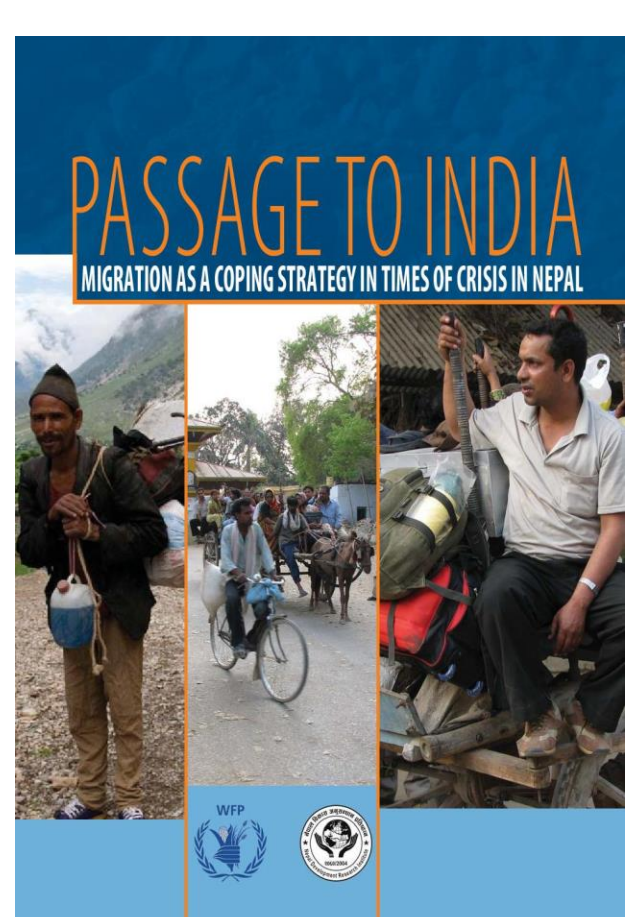
2010

The first food security atlas of Nepal (WFP and NDRI)



Market and price impact assessment In the context of soaring global food prices (NDRI and WFP)

2008

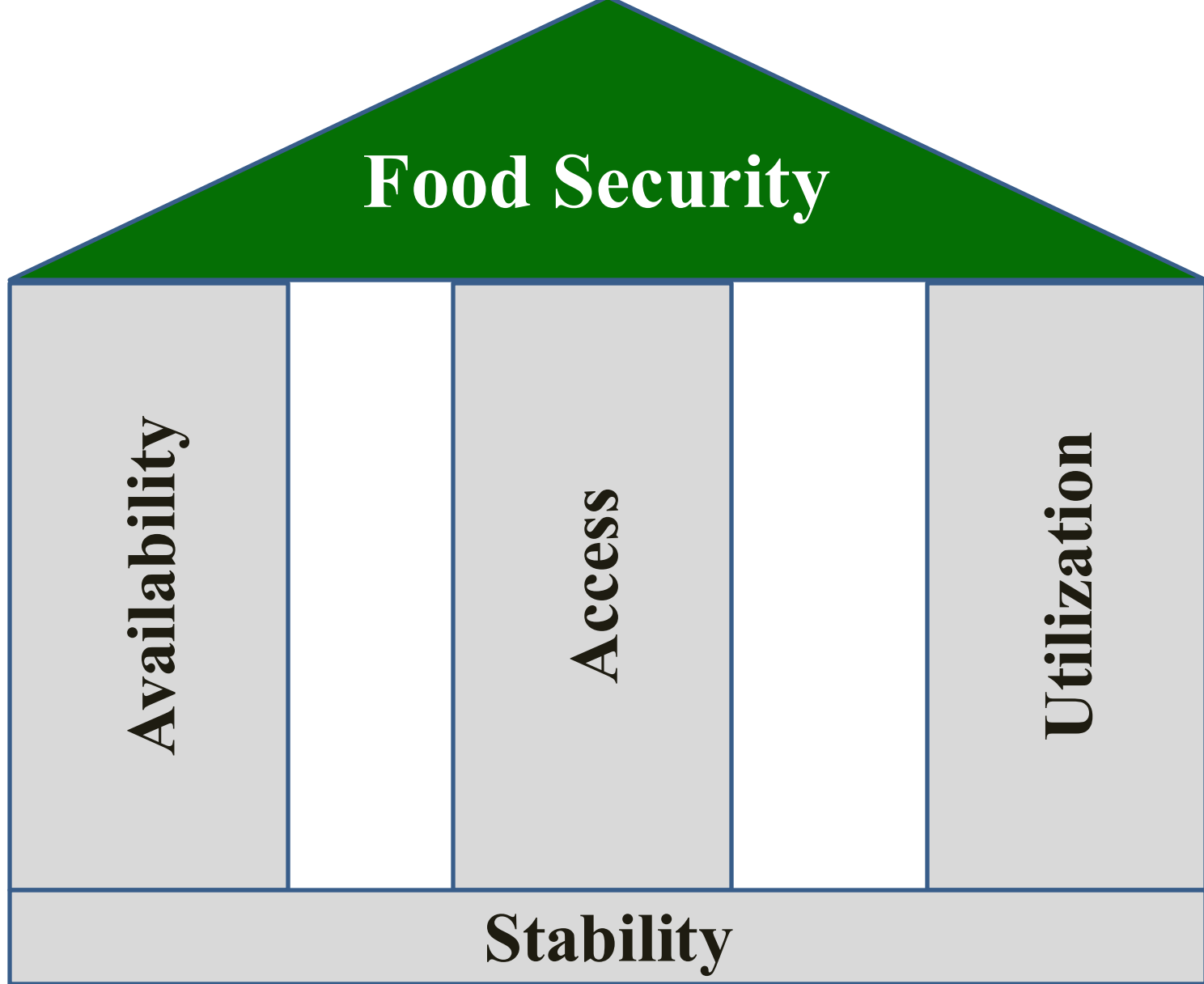


Passage to India: Migration as a Coping Strategy in Times of Crisis in Nepal (NDRI and WFP)

2008

2 Overview

Achieving food security of its populations is a high priority for a developing country like Nepal. Food security is based on three pillars: availability (through production and markets) access (economic as well as physical) and utilization (health, water and sanitation contributing to better nutrition), on a stable condition in a stable situation throughout the year.



Livelihoods
Livelihoods and food security are closely related. Populations with stable and good income-generating livelihoods are likely to be food secure. NDRI has conducted numerous surveys, assessments and evaluations related to livelihoods in Nepal, including the assessment of Karnali employment programme and impact on the livelihoods of earthquake affected communities. During the COVID-19 years, NDRI conducted studies on informal workers, women’s participation in natural resources activities, indigenous people and MSMEs. Agriculture is an important source of livelihood in engaging almost two-thirds of the population; therefore, many of NDRI’s livelihood-related studies focus on agricultural outcomes.

Nutrition
Many NDRI studies have analyzed food security and nutrition. The most recent, specifically on nutrition, is the Regulatory System for Private Sector Engagement in Nutrition in Nepal, done together with WFP in 2021.

Food safety
Food safety is an important concern in Nepal. NDRI has collaborated with Kansas State University on the following studies:
• Strategic framework for risk communication and to strengthen the outreach of Mycotoxin (2022)
• Characterizing Prevalence of Mycotoxins in Value Chain Crops and Livestock Feeds in Western Nepal.

The Gender dimension
NDRI has conducted a number of studies and evaluations on the gender dimension of livelihoods and food insecurity. These include:
• Fields Without Safety Nets: Analysis of Gendered Informality in the Agricultural Sector and Cost of Social Insecurity (Ongoing)
• Final Evaluation of “Building Climate Adaptive Farming opportunities and improved livelihoods for women and marginalized groups in Nepal” (2024)

CAPI-based household surveys
NDRI has conducted surveys in all 77 districts across Nepal including household surveys, key informant interviews and focus group discussions. It has a roster of more than 200 field surveyors and is thus able to conduct large scale national surveys when necessary. With opportunities provided by technologies, NDRI has leveraged its experienced into adopting computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) methods (e.g., Kobo Toolbox, Survey CTO) to ensure more reliable and rigorous data collection.

Other ongoing projects and completed projects in 2025/26
The following are the programme’s ongoing projects:
• Empowering Farmers in Chainpur, Sankhuwasabha for Direct Export and Sustainable Production of Large Cardamom (Australian Aid)
• Gender-Sensitive Climate–Migration–Health Nexus (CMHN) Scoping Study (IOM)
The following are the programme’s completed projects in 2025/26:
• Feasibility study of “Building Community Resilience for Food & Nutrition Security and Disaster Risk Reduction in Salyan District, Nepal.” (AWO International)
• Baseline Evaluation for Modernizing Aquaculture in Nepal (MATSYA) project (LWR)
• Cross-Country Rice Farming Household and Agricultural Survey (ADBI)

Partnerships and collaborations
NDRI values partnership and has worked with many organizations including the Government of Nepal, academic institutions and development partners, including WFP, FAO, World Bank, ADB, ADBI, UNDP, LWR, USDA, USAID, ILO, IOM, Kansas State University, CCAFS, LWR, Practical Action, AWO International, UN Women, Oxfam, Australian Aid, LIRNEasia.

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