



USAID Digital Agriculture Efforts in Nepal

Economic Growth Office



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USAID/Nepal Digital Efforts

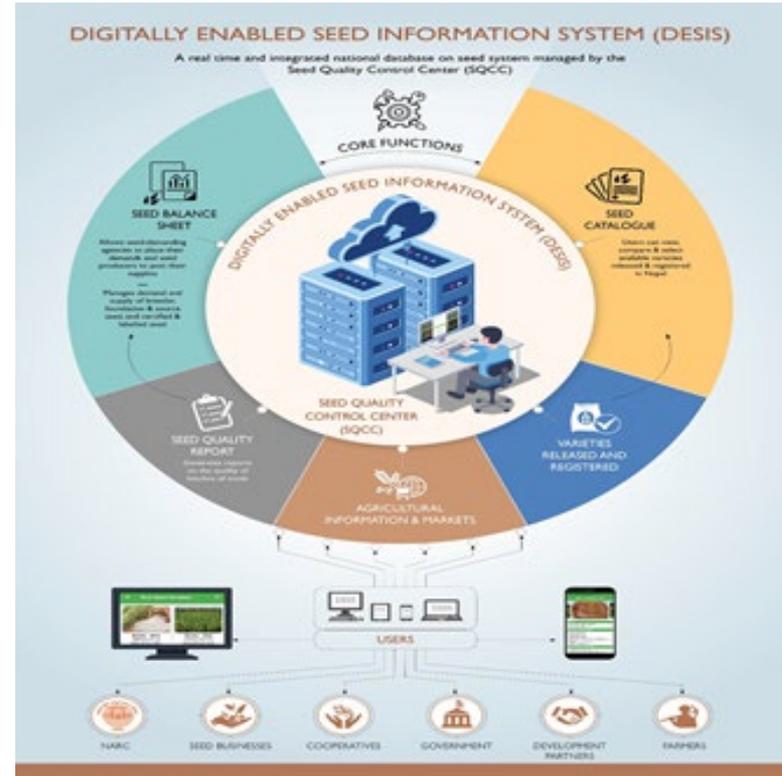
- Data Driven Farming Prize (2018)
 - Digital Seed Systems (launched 2021)
 - Digital Soil Maps (launched 2022)
 - Digital Agriculture Advisories
 - Digital Financial Services
 - Digital Vouchers (COVID 19 responded)
 - Digital Services - Enhancing Competitiveness

Digital Sdi Maps

- Launched in 2022; GON: MO ALD, NARC; Coverage: Nationwide
- Digital platform designed to give information on soil properties
 - Web portal of the soil map (<https://soil.narc.gov.np/>): allows users to identify a domain with similar soil properties and look at their soil fertility status
 - Soil information based on analysis results of 23,273 soil from 56 districts covering seven provinces
- Uses:
 - Crop and site specific fertilizer recommendations
 - More efficient management decisions on import, distribution and recommendation of appropriate fertilizer types
 - Selection of suitable crops
 - Design extension programs for improving soil health
 - Build interactive and user-friendly mobile apps that for commercial agri-advisory extension services

Digital Innovations in the Seed Industry in Nepal

- Launched in 2021; GON: MO ALD, SQCC;
Coverage: Nationwide
- Features: 1) Digitally enabled seed catalogue, and
2) Seed balance sheet.
- Digitally Enabled Seed System will aggregate seed demand and supply, and share the data in real-time and will also enable users to obtain updated information on released and registered seed varieties available in Nepal.
- Digital seed information will enable an efficient seed system in Nepal in which the government, seed companies, private sector actors, and farmers can access information and services.



Digital Agriculture Advisory

- Geographic coverage: Feed the Future Zone of Influence
- Agriculture Advisory Services to farmer and extension worker:
 - Access reliable and timely information on vegetables, rice, maize, and lentil production
 - Crop advisory, soil testing, irrigation
 - Mobile apps, SMS, Facebook
- Digital Apps/Platforms
 - Geo Krishi
 - Krishi Guru



Enhancing Competitiveness in Digital Services

- Product design, development, and marketing
- Increase access to innovative financing
- Policies and practices to recruit and retain labor
 - Sensitize and incentivize hiring and training of women and Dalits in the sector
- Address gaps in technical training
- Strengthen business accelerator services
- Remove regulatory barriers (payments, forex, taxation)
- Support women, youth, & marginalized entrepreneurs through mentoring, networking, training, and advocacy

