Building a resilient Koshi basin
Koshi Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Knowledge Hub country consultation

Kanchan Shrestha, Programme Coordinator, ICIMOD
Objectives of the workshop

Understand the issues and challenges related to Koshi basin

Share some solutions towards making Koshi Basin resilient and support transboundary collaboration

Priority actions for the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub.
Outline of this presentation

Introduce Koshi Basin and the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub

Overview of the Agenda
Koshi Basin: Transboundary basin

China
Area – 28,368 km² Population – 0.3 million (51.7% M, 48.3% F)
Decadal Growth – 10% Population Density – 5.4
5 Counties, TAR

India
Area – 19,685 km² Population – 28.3 million (52.4% M, 47.6% F)
Decadal Growth – 26% Population Density – 1275
16 districts of Bihar State

Nepal
Area – 39,407 km² Population – 10.8 million (49.6% M, 50.4% F)
Decadal Growth – 16% Population Density – 263
Province 1,2,3,
27 districts ( 5M,11H, 11T)

Basin
Area – 87,481 km² Population – 39.2 million Decadal Growth – 23%
Population Density – 445
Koshi Basin: Multi-hazard environment upstream/downstream linkage

Future projections show a 14% increase in summer rainfall by 2050.

By 2050, annual water demand is projected to rise by 44%.

About 3.9 million people were affected by floods each year between 1991 and 2001.

+40 million people dependent on basin resources.

79 potentially dangerous glacial lakes in the basin.
Developing the idea of the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub

Leveraging Collaboration for DRR in the Koshi Basin
Climate Change Adaptation And DRM in the KB
Flood Dialogue
Inception Workshop
1st Annual Dialogue

December 2017
April 2018
August 2018
December 2018
November 2019

Knowledge gap between and across researchers, practitioners and policy makers
Challenges in the Koshi Basin

Limited knowledge, information sharing, and data generation

Lack of informed policy and decision making; scientific and local knowledge, and upstream/downstream linkages are not always considered

Trust among various stakeholders in the basin is a major challenge that the participants foresee for the knowledge hub
Opportunities in the Koshi Basin

Joint research and collaborative activities

Sharing of best practices and encouraging adoption in relevant areas

Synthesis of existing knowledge including local knowledge

Growth as a multi-stakeholder platform that links science, policy, and practice, including the private sector and local knowledge
Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub Inception Workshop
11-12 December, 2018, ICIMOD
jointly organized by Bihar State Disaster Management Authority and Sichuan University
Scope of the hub

- Promote transboundary collaboration
- Strengthen the science-policy-practice
- Synthesize and provide recommendations for policy advocacy
- Trust building
Success indicators

- Use of knowledge by policy makers
- Initiation of a number of joint projects among hub members
- Production of evidence-based solutions and recommendations by the hub
- Exchange of knowledge and information
- Joint activities such as workshops and conferences
Structure of the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub

- Transboundary Working Groups
  - Landslide and Sedimentation
    - GLOFs
    - Floods
    - Droughts
    - CBDRM
    - Policy Advocacy

- Country Chapters
  - China
  - Nepal
  - India

- Secretariat, ICIMOD

- Members
Opportunities for members of the KDKH

- Opportunity to share and learn from other members.
- Contribute to an online platform.
- Collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders by being a part of the Transboundary Working Groups (TWGs).
Koshi Basin Information System
Online platform: www.icimod.org/kdkh
Proposed roles of Country Chapters

bringing country perspectives and priorities to the KDKH and engage with key stakeholders for science-policy-practice interlinkage and transboundary collaboration
Where can we deepen collaboration?

- Science-Policy-Practice -> joint policy dialogues
- Data and information sharing
- Standardization of methods
- Knowledge and technology transfers
- Institutional capacity building
- Joint action research (complementary, synergistic)
Outline of the agenda for the country consultation

Day 1:

- **Technical Session I**: Understanding the issues and challenges of the Koshi river basin
- **Technical Session II**: Strengthening coordination and collaboration among Transboundary development agencies
- **Technical Session III**: Improving upstream-downstream cooperation for cross-border floods and resilience building
Outline of the agenda for the country consultation

Day 2:

- **Technical Session IV**: Transboundary interactions and sustainable actions towards a resilient Koshi

- **Technical Session IV**: Role of media in reaching out to the unreached in creating a resilient Koshi river basin

- **Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub (KDKH) - country chapters and transboundary working groups (working tea)**
What we seek from the participants

Inputs for:
• Issues for the country chapter
• the working mechanism for the country chapter
• Strengthening transboundary working groups
• Suggestions to improve the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub

www.icimod.org/kdkh
Thank you

Kanchan.shrestha@icimod.org