# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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| Project ID: | 8009 |
| Project Name: | Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-resilient Development in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal |
| Countr(ies): | Nepal |
| Implementing Agency: | UNEP |

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# I. Overview

## A. Description

Project name
Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-resilient Development in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal

Country
Nepal

| GEF ID | Implementing Agency |
|---|---|
| 8009 | UNEP |

Executing Entity
Kathmandu Valley Development Authority (KVDA)

| Trust Fund | Project Type |
|---|---|
| LDCF | FSP |

| PIR Submission | Fiscal Year , PIR Number |
|---|---|
| 9/14/2026 | FY 2026 , 5th PIR |

Objective
The overarching objective of the LDCF project is to build the resilience of local communities in the Kathmandu Valley to the increasing impacts of climate change, such as flooding, landslides and drought.

## B. Ratings and Disbursements

| Implementation Progress | Development Objective |
|---|---|
| Satisfactory | Satisfactory |

Overall risk
Low Risk

| Project Financing | Cumulative Disbursement |
|---|---|
| 6,835,756.00 | 1,364,379.50 |

## C. Key Dates

| CEO Endorsement/Approval | Agency Approval |
|---|---|
| 8/2/2019 | 9/15/2022 |

| Implementation Start | First Disbursement |
|---|---|
| 12/2/2019 | 2/17/2020 |

| Expected MTR<br>12/31/2026 | Actual MTR |
|---|---|
| Expected Completion<br>3/30/2027 | Actual Completion |

## II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

### A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

**Outcome 1: Increased capacity of government to integrate EbA into development planning in the Kathmandu Valley**

Formulation of Urban EbA technical guides is underway. The EbA technical guides are scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2026. The technical guide, including a framework for assessing cost effectiveness of EbA/NbS interventions will be utilized as a resource that will support KVDA and municipalities with integration of NbS/EbA into planning, implementing and monitoring thereby assisting KVDA and municipalities to meet their policy targets for climate risk resilient urban development planning and development. Similarly, three Municipal Technical Officers – UNV Environment Specialists – have been deployed in Tokha, Madhyapur Thimi, and Budhanilkantha municipalities in April 2026 to support EbA mainstreaming in municipal planning and budgeting processes. The officers have been providing technical support to municipal teams on integrating NbS and EbA-related interventions into annual plans and budgets. They are also developing an inventory of the ecological assets and environmentally significant sites to establish an evidence base for identifying priority areas and opportunities for EbA and NbS interventions with municipal budget allocations.

Two experts (Senior Policy Expert and EbA Expert) were onboarded in April 2026 to support the review of policies, plans, regulations, and budget frameworks relevant to urban development, climate adaptation, and environmental management. The experts are conducting stakeholder consultations, policy reviews, and private sector engagement to identify opportunities and entry points for mainstreaming Urban EbA. The policy dialogue, titled "Urban EbA: Policy Framework for Engagement of Private Sector," was organized. The event brought together 48 (including 19 female) participants representing government institutions, municipalities, banks, private enterprises, environmental organizations, and development partners. Based on the assessment, the experts are developing recommendations for integrating Urban EbA into existing policy, planning, regulatory, and budgeting frameworks, including approaches for social inclusion and gender responsiveness. Two key outputs were submitted on 15 June 2026: (i) a draft report on Urban EbA policy and budget entry points and recommendations; and (ii) a draft report documenting outcomes and recommendations from the private sector engagement process. These documents are under review.

After multiple tests, updates and refinements (with the support of multiple stakeholders, such as, MoID, MoAFE and municipalities), a set of training materials and manuals for community and elected officials were translated into Nepali and printed in April 2026, are being utilized for effective training delivery at the local level. A series of community level Urban EbA trainings/orientations (three individual events) were organized in Budhanilkantha Municipality in April 2026, with UN Habitat providing technical support and facilitating the sessions. Altogether, 155 (including 84 female) people participated in the training programs in Budhanilkantha municipality. The trainings supported raising awareness and strengthened community understanding of Urban EbA concepts and their relevance to local climate resilience. A one-day training on "Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Development in the Kathmandu Valley" for elected representatives and

political leaders of Tokha Municipality was organized where 97 participants (including 31 female) took part in the program. The training strengthened the understanding and significance of urban resilience to climate change with inclusive participation about integrating EbA/NbS into municipal planning and budgeting processes. Urban EbA/NbS integration knowledge and skills of political leadership of Madhyapur Thimi municipality was improved through the EbA/NbS training involving the political leadership of Madhypur Thimi municipality where 47 individuals (including 16 females) participated.

Likewise, to support dissemination and promote the use of the training materials, an Urban EbA Seminar and Training Manual Dissemination Event was organized in May 2026. The event formally launched the community and elected representatives' training manuals. More than 50 representatives (including 22 females) from government agencies, municipalities, academia, development partners, civil society organizations, and schools participated in the Urban Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Seminar and Dissemination of Urban EbA Training Materials.

To promote application of Urban EbA approaches in implementation, an Urban EbA orientation for contractors and consultants was organized in June 2026, where UN Habitat facilitated the group reflection session focusing on practical integration of EbA approaches in urban development projects.

The project is developing an e-Learning platform to enhance accessibility and facilitate wider dissemination of Urban EbA knowledge; the e-Learning platform will host key training modules and learning resources. The e-Learning platform will help to upscale the training outcomes even after the project has been phased out.

The total number of direct beneficiaries of outcome one as of 30 June 2026 is 683, of whom female direct beneficiary is 293.

**Outcome 2: Knowledge and awareness of local communities living in the Kathmandu Valley on EbA enhanced.**

To strengthen the national knowledge base on urban EbA/NbS and promote evidence-informed, climate-resilient urban planning and development practices in the Kathmandu Valley and beyond, out of 43 research initiatives, 39 ones are underway on topics as guided by the Urban EbA Research Grants Manual endorsed by the Urban EbA Research Steering Committee under Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). The individual research initiatives have gained a significant progress towards completion. Remaining 4 researchers have been identified and their recruitment is under way.

The process of developing a research program and strategy for academic and research institutions to conduct long-term EbA research has been initiated, and the Terms of Reference (ToR) is ready to roll out the activity. The proposed EbA research program and strategy aims to align urban EbA research with national climate policies, urban policies, and climate adaptation and mitigation priorities; establish a coordinated national framework for long-term, interdisciplinary urban EbA research across institutions, including stakeholder roles and responsibilities; strengthen institutional and individual capacity for EbA research within academic and research organizations; propose data collection methodologies for urban EbA research; identify research funding options; and mobilize sustainable funds to support urban EbA research initiatives that promote evidence-informed policy making and urban planning and resilience-building practices.

In order to improve the public awareness and understanding about conserving and maintaining urban ecosystems to adapt to the adverse effects and impacts of climate change through Television programs on Nepal Television and Public Service Announcements (PSA) on Radio Nepal, MoU on 20$^{th}$ of January 2026 and Letter of Agreement on 8 February 2026 was signed between KVDA and Public Service Broadcasting Nepal (PSB Nepal). The LoA and MoU is effective until 31$^{st}$ of March 2027. Under this initiative, PSB Nepal runs Television program called 'Climate Crisis: Initiative for Naure-based Solutions that goes into the air fortnightly.

In total under the agreement with KVDA, PSB Nepal should produce 15 television episodes, five video reports, two visual PSAs, and two audio PSAs for the Urban EbA Project. The TV Programs include ground-based reports, facts and figures, and impacts shared by urban locals, existing adaptation best practices by locals, provincial, and federal governments, followed by panel discussions among experts, bureaucrats, politicians, etc. During the reporting period, eight television episodes on urban planning, urban heat, urban flooding, urban droughts and dry spells, and climate financing practices of Nepal's public and private banks and financial institutions were produced and broadcast on Nepal Television, helping stimulate climate discussions among bureaucrats, politicians, and experts. In addition, remaining policy dialogues on the same television program will focus on topics such as anatomy of climate finance in Nepal, climate adaptation practices and inclusion, climate change in national and local media, GLOF, etc. It has also been planned that one episode as a video report will focus on capturing all key results, learning and recommendation based on the Urban EbA Project, and will be broadcast on Nepal Television.

In order to disseminate the knowledge, including climate-induced hazards, risks, EbA/NbS or hybrid approach-based best practices about addressing climate risks and building urban resilience, web-based knowledge platform has been upgraded and regularly updated. More than 700 people visited the web platform. Likewise, more than 19,769 people viewed the Urban EbA content on the Facebook page of the project. Additionally, 6,894 people viewed the content created through the project on the YouTube channel of the Nepal national television.

A total of 7,869 students (3,853 males and 4,016 females) from nine public schools—one primary school and eight secondary schools—in the Kathmandu Valley have benefited from EbA interventions, such as rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, green roofing, plantation, and school gardening. School eco-clubs, along with teachers, directly participated in implementing EbA activities. Both teachers and students have gained firsthand experience of how urban nature-based solutions can effectively address climate adaptation challenges in the city.

Overview of schools engaged and progress achieved

| SN | Name of the School | Area<br>Hectares | Beneficiaries | Intervention type | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Shree Balkumari Secondary School, Sunakothi, Lalitpur | 0.17 | 491 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, plantation, green roofing, and gardening | Completed |
| 2 | Shree Aadarsha Saul Secondary School, Saibu, Lalitpur | 0.20 | 2293 | Rainwater harvesting system installation for school use, gardening, and plantation | Completed |
| 3 | Shree Patan High School, Patandhoka, Lalitpur | 0.66 | 1275 | Plantation and gardening | Completed |
| 4 | Shree Janapremi Primary School, Kausaltar, Bhaktapur | 0.09 | 237 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, gardening, plantation, and slope stabilization for landslide management | Completed |
| 5 | Shree Jalupa Secondary School, Baniyatar, Tokha | 0.13 | 1026 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, gardening, plantation, and slope stabilization for landslide management | Completed |
| 6 | Shree Chandeshwory Secondary School, Tokha | 0.51 | 537 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, gardening, plantation, and slope stabilization for landslide management | Completed |
| 7 | Shree Kalidevi Secondary School, Jhor, Tarakeshwor | 1.22 | 1289 | Rainwater harvesting system installation, plantation, rooftop farming, and gardening | Completed |
| 8 | Shree Janauddhar Secondary School, Gamcha Budhanilkantha | 0.26 | 490 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, plantation, and gardening | Completed |
| 9 | Shree Janajagriti Secondary School, Jagdol, Budhanilkantha | 0.15 | 231 | Rainwater harvesting system installation with groundwater recharge and re-use, gardening, plantation, and slope stabilization for landslide management | Completed |
| | Total | 3.39 | 7869 | | |

In this reporting period to further raise awareness and showcase the results and changes brought by the EbA interventions, open days were held at four schools: Jalupa Secondary School, Janajagriti Secondary School, Janauddhar Secondary School, and Balkumari Secondary School. Moving forward with the remaining funds allocated for this work, at least one state school will be supported with EbA interventions for students and teachers awareness and learning about the significance of NbS/EbA.

The total number of direct beneficiaries of outcome two as of 30 June 2026 is 35,295, of whom female direct beneficiary number is 11,885, (See Annex 1 for beneficiary details).

**Outcome 3: Decreased vulnerability of communities in the Kathmandu Valley to climate change impacts such as floods, landslides, and droughts.**

The number of urban dwellers directly benefiting from Outcome 3 has reached 73,413 (including 36,962 female population) mainly through interventions such as rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge, plantation and greenery works in urban public spaces and roadsides, ecosystem-based adaptation measures in public schools and urban open space ecosystem, forestry ecosystem and lake/wetland ecosystem restoration and protection work.

In addition, **56.4143** hectares of land are currently under restoration, including EbA interventions in nine public schools (3.39 hectares), urban plantation sites (22.07 hectares), and urban ecosystem restoration sites, such as Gale (4.23 hectares) and Hattichwock open space (0.32 hectares) in Tokha Municipality, Chyasindol open space (3.88 hectares) in Budhanilkantha Municipality, and Nil Barahi forestry (18.17 hectares) in Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, along with 2.65 hectares of Nagdaha waterbody/wetland.

Design and cost estimates have also been completed for Dhobikhola Rudreshwar conservation pond (25,000 cubic meter capacity of stormwater retention with 0.56 hectares of ponding) in Budhanilkantha Municipality. Similarly, ecosystem protection design and cost estimates for Gagalphedi hill ecosystem (1.94 hectares) in Kageshwari Manohara Municipality is underway while the ecosystem protection design and cost estimates for Bhootkhel open space ecosystem (5.09 hectares) in Tokha Municipality, and Shivabatika open space ecosystem (0.89 hectares) in Changunarayan Municipality have been completed. Thus, the total area of ecosystem restoration and protection of the project is 64.8943 hectares. Once completed, these interventions will strengthen climate resilience through improved ecosystem services, including flood regulation, groundwater recharge and dry-season water availability, urban cooling, and siltation control.

Overview of urban ecosystem sites and progress achieved:

| SN | Intervention Site | Area Hectares | Location (Municipality/District) | Intervention type | Beneficiaries | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Nilbarahi Urban Forest Ecosystem | 18.17 | Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, Ward no 9 | Hybrid approach is applied for ecosystem restoration and protection from critical landslides and highly active soil erosion. Key interventions include piles, beams, groundwater recharge, foot trails, bioengineering, among others. | 13786 | Interventions in progress |
| 2 | Gale Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 4.23 | Tokha Municipality, Ward no. 2 | Protection and conservation of urban open space is promoted with public park development approach where NbS led interventions include landscaping plantations, recharge pond, recharge wells, permeable foot trails, etc. | 3961 | Interventions in progress |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Hattichowk Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 0.32 | Tokha Municipality, Ward no 6 | Protection and conservation of urban open space is promoted with public park development approach where NbS led interventions include plantations, recharge wells, permeable foot trails, and permeable paving. | 13944 | Interventions in progress |
| 4 | Chyasindol Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 3.88 | Budhanilkantha Municipality, Ward no 6 | Protection and conservation of the urban open spaces is promoted with NbS such as plantation for reducing urban heat,<br><br>bamboo crib wall for landslide control,<br><br>grass pavers with landscaping for soil erosion control, stone spout and reservoir tank to enable ecosystem's provisional services such improve availability of potable water. | 11803 | Interventions in progress |
| 5 | Nagadaha Wetland Ecosystem | 2.65 | Lalitpur Metropolitan City, Ward no 24 | NbS approach of urban lake/wetland ecosystem restoration and protection is applied. The key interventions include de-siltation for removing accumulated silt, sand, and fine sediment from the lake to restore its storage capacity, improve water flow, and reduce flood risk, foot trail for the protection of the bank of the lake and check the encroachment, public bath facility to improve the water quality of the lake and plantation to improve cooling of the surroundings and biodiversity. | 9104 | Interventions in progress |
| 6 | Bhootkhel Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 5.09 | Tokha Municipality, Ward no. 3 | NbS approach for the restoration and conservation of the Bhootkhel urban open space has been promoted. Key interventions include landscaping plantation to beat the ambient heating, rainwater harvesting canal networks and recharge ponds to reduce stormwater thereby reducing risks of urban flood and enable groundwater recharge, improving the existing recharge ponds to enable groundwater recharge, grass paving to control soil erosion and improve ambient air quality. | 26660 | Ecosystem restoration design and cost estimate completed, and ready for procurement |
| 7 | Shiva Batika Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 0.89 | Changunarayan Municipality, Ward no. 1 | NbS approach for the protection and conservation of the Shiva Batika urban open space has been applied. The key interventions include landscaping plantations, permeable paving and foot trails. | 11658 | Ecosystem restoration design and cost estimate completed, and ready for procurement |
| 8 | Gagal hill ecosystem (aka Sahid Smriti Park) | 1.94 | Kageshwari Manohara Municipality, Ward no. 1 | NbS approach for the restoration of the Gagal hill ecosystem has been promoted. Key interventions | 6795 | Ecosystem restoration design and cost estimate in progress |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | include plantations, crib walls, recharge pond, etc. | | |
| 9 | Conservation Pond | 0.56 | Budhanilkantha Municipality, Ward no 2 and 13 border. | Hybrid approach for the construction of Dhobikhola conservation pond is applied. Key interventions include a weir to control flash floods and water flow the river, and raise upstream water level to improve groundwater table. Sluice gate for silt dredging. Plantation to improve the cooling of the surroundings, and slop stabilization on the ponding area, etc. | To be calculated. | Design and cost estimate for conservation pond is ready. Environmental study of the construction work following the environmental rules of Government of Nepal is underway. |

Overview of progress in public buildings:

In total the project works in 60 buildings across 5 municipalities: 16 in Tokha Municipality, 16 in Tarakeshor municipality; 18 in Budhanilkantha municipality; 8 buildings at Madhypur Thimi municipality; 1 at KVDA building and 1 at a state school in Suryabinayak Municipality.

In this reporting period, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) measures, including rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, plantation, and permeable paving for parking areas, are underway at 15 government office properties in Tokha Municipality, with 40% physical progress achieved. Procurement processes for the remaining works is on-going and planned to be completed by September 2026.

In addition, during this reporting period, 5,512 native plants of different species have been planted as part of urban plantation efforts to promote urban cooling, groundwater recharge, and other environmental benefits. As of 30 June 2026, the total number of trees planted has reached 10,937.

The direct beneficiaries of the interventions under this outcome were counted using the following methodologies:

- For ecosystem restoration sites (Output 3.3), the entire population of the Wards in which the sites are located was counted as direct beneficiaries.
- For groundwater recharge, and permeable paving at government or public buildings and properties (Output 3.4), 10% of the population of the relevant Wards was counted as direct beneficiaries.

For tree planting activities (Output 3.8), each planted tree was counted as one direct beneficiary (i.e., one person per tree). M&E expert has been hired in the middle of August 2026 and is currently working on a detailed M&E framework and assessing whether the revision of the methodologies would be required.

Every major ecosystem restoration activity is guided by an Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework (ESMF). For example, the ESMFs for the Nil Barahi forest ecosystem, the Gale and Hattichowk open space ecosystem sites, and the Nagdaha wetland/lake ecosystem site, and Chyasindol urban open space ecosystem have been prepared, and the planned safeguard measures are being implemented.

Thus, the total number of direct beneficiaries of the project, including all three outcomes, as of 30 June 2026, is 73,413 where female direct beneficiary number is 49,140 (44.92%).

## B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

**Delays in procurement and implementation of on-site EbA interventions.** Detailed government procurement requirements and lengthy processes have delayed the start of on-site EbA interventions, reducing the time available to implement and demonstrate results. For example, following the environmental regulations of the Government of Nepal, the process for the Brief Environmental Study (BES) under Output 3.5, (construction of conservation pond) was initiated in September 2025 and has been time-consuming. The BES is expected to be completed by September 2026. The procurement of the contractor for the construction of conservation pond will probably begin in September 2026 after the BES clearance is issued by Ministry of Infrastructure Development. Similarly, due to environmental vetting and the heritage impact assessment on the proposed design of the landslide management and protection of the Nil Barhi urban forest ecosystem, the construction works began six months after the contract was awarded. The landslide management works are now progressing smoothly, with 60% physical completion achieved by June 2026.

Updated government procurement guidelines, developed under a new government that came into place after February 2026 elections, are expected to shorten procurement timelines, while a project no-cost extension will be discussed for approval at the PSC meeting on 3 September to provide sufficient time for implementation.

**Limited integration of research into policy and decision-making.** Science-to-policy approaches are not yet well established, and research generated by NAST is not systematically used in government policy and planning processes. The project will strengthen links between research and policy by ensuring that key relevant NAST's EbA research findings are connected to the policy component of the project, implemented through the collaboration with UN-Habitat. The Project, in collaboration with NAST and UN-Habitat, will organise a meeting with Policy Research Institute (PRI), specialized think-tank of the Government of Nepal, to share the research findings and promote the use of research based-evidence to update the urban policy instruments including the National Urban Strategy 2017.

**Need to strengthen monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management.** A more systematic M&E approach is needed to consistently track project interventions and results and translate evidence from the first urban EbA project in Nepal into lessons for policy, replication and scaling. With the on-boarding of M&E and Communications experts in August 2026, the project will develop and implement an M&E framework and knowledge management plan, strengthening project monitoring and capturing of the results for up-scaling and knowledge sharing. Additionally, the project will hire ESS expert, contributing to strengthened project implementation and increasing scale-up potential.

**Limited technical capacity to integrate climate risks and NbS into urban infrastructure design:** NbS/EbA remains relatively new in Kathmandu Valley, with limited specialized expertise among contractors and uncertainty around the systematic integration of future climate risks into intervention designs. To address this, the project organized a dedicated workshop for contractors and have integrated considerations of increased climate risks in the designs of project interventions.

## C. Stakeholder Engagement

Overview of stakeholder engagement is provided below in chronological order:

2025

- On 23 July 2025, 3 August 2025, 8 July 2025, 6 August 2025, and 19 December 2025, meetings between KVDA, contractors, representatives of the locals of Nil Barahi urban forest ecosystem, and Madhyapur Thimi

municipality were held to discuss the Nil Barahi slope stability and ecosystem protection design. The meeting held on 8 July was chaired by KVDA and other meetings were chaired by mayor of Madhyapur Thimi municipality.

- A meeting with consultant, Technical Advisor, Project's engineer and National Project Director was held on 13 October 2025 to outline the Brief Environmental Studies (BES) for Dhobikhola conservation pond aligning with the environmental rules of Government of Nepal. The meeting was chaired by then National Project Director.

- A meeting between Urban EbA Project/KVDA and Tokha municipality was held on 7 November 2025 and discussed the Grievance Redress Mechanism and formed the one. The meeting was chaired by the mayor of Tokha municipality.

- Heritage Impact Assessment meeting to discuss the potential impacts of the EbA interventions at Nil Barahi Forest Ecosystem was held on 11 November 2025 between consultants from Department of Archeology, officials from Madhypaur Thimi municipality and KVDA.

- A meeting between KVDA and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) was held on 7 December 2025 on progress sharing about the Urban EbA research initiatives and other activities.

- Meetings between consultants and KVDA about the Bhootkhel urban open space protection design were held on 20 November 2025 and 11, and 12 February 2026.

- 2025 concluded with the Project Steering Committee meeting that was held on 31$^{st}$ of December 2025. The representatives from Environment Division, Department of Forests and Soil Conservation, Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation, Urban Development Division, High Powered Committee for Integrated Development of Bagmati Civilization, KVDA, and the meeting was chaired by Secretary of Ministry of Infrastructure Development. Key decisions taken during the meeting are: 1) approval of the revised plan and budget, procurement plan and workplan for 2026/27, 2) clearance to go for the cooperation agreement between KVDA and Gorkhapartra Corporation (Nepal Government's print and online media agency) to publish climate change, EbA/NbS related awareness messages, 3) approval of no-cost extension for partnership with Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) until 31 March 2027 and 4) adding an ecosystem site—Loktantrik Sahid Uddyan open space (Gagal hill ecosystem), located in Kageshwari Manohara municipality in the Kathmandu Valley and 5) approval of reallocation of budget from output 3.7 (EbA interventions including rainwater harvesting) to Output 3.5 (construction of conservation pond at the Dhobikhola River in Budhanilkantha Municipality.

2026

Since the National Project Director—Mr. Prakirna Tuladhar of KVDA—was transferred to different role within the Ministry of Infrastructure Development, Ms. Sunita Shrestha of KVDA assumed the role of National Project Director for the Urban EbA Project, and a project orientation meeting with her was held on 18 March 2026.On 3 January 2026, a meeting was held to discuss the Dhobikhola conservation pond design. The meeting was chaired by Development Commissioner of KVDA.

A meeting between KVDA and PSB Nepal was held on 20$^{th}$ of January 2026 to sign an MoU followed by Letter of Agreement (LoA) meeting on 8$^{th}$ of February 2026. MoU between KVDA and PSB Nepal establishes a formal working relationship between them for Urban EbA Project, while LoA specifies roles and responsibilities of both organizations to carry out the defined public awareness activities under outcome 2 (output 2.2). As outlined in the Letter of Agreement between KVDA and PSB Nepal to carry out the public awareness activities, meetings of Urban EbA Public Awareness Coordination, Monitoring, and Content Review

Committee were held on different dates. The Committee has seven members—three members from KVDA and four members from PSB Nepal. A progress and update sharing meeting between KVDA and UN-Habitat was held on 16 February 2026. The meeting was chaired by Development Commissioner of KVDA.

Coordination meetings between UN Habitat and its CRVA team and KVDA was held on 23 March 2026 and 24 March 2026 and discussed the CRVA methodology and study outlines.

Following the decision of the PSC, to raise awareness about the climate change impacts and local NbS/EbA solutions measures to build climate risk resilience in the urban contexts of the Kathmandu Valley in particular and in the urban context of Nepal in general the MoU and LoA signing meetings between KVDA and Gorkhapatra Corporation (Nepal Government's print and online media agency) was held on 22 April 2026. The LoA outlines the publication of 4 Public Service Announcements (PSAs) containing climate change, EbA/NbS awareness messages in Gorkhapatra's inner page, 40 PSAs in Gorkhapatra Ear Panel (color) and 11 PSAs in Magazine (inner page-color). Gorkhapatra, is Nepal's oldest continuously published newspaper.

As per the agreement with PBS:

- A policy dialogue on 'Climate Change and Urban Dry Spells and Droughts' was broadcast on Nepal Television on 11 April 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with guests from the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology.

- A policy dialogue on 'Climate Change and Air Pollution' was broadcast on Nepal Television on 25 April 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with guests from the Department of Environment, Mayor of Chandragiri Municipality in the Kathmandu Valley, and Air Pollution Expert from International Center for Integrated Mountain Development.

- A policy dialogue on 'Climate Change and Health Service System in Nepal' was broadcast on Nepal Television on 29 April 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with guests from the Ministry of Health and Food Safety and HERD International.

- A policy dialogue on 'Urbanization of the Kathmandu Valley and Climate Considerations' was broadcast on Nepal Television on 2 May 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with Development Commissioner as a guest speaker from Kathmandu Valley Development Authority (KVDA).

- A policy dialogue on 'Urbanization, Climate Change and Urban Floods in the Kathmandu Valley' part—1, was broadcast on Nepal Television on 16 May 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with a former Secretary of Ministry of Urban Development, a political leader and Kathmandu urban flood activist as guest speakers.

- A policy dialogue on 'Urbanization, Climate Change and Urban Floods in the Kathmandu Valley'—part 2, was broadcast on Nepal Television on 13 June 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with a Joint Secretary from High Powered Committee for the Integrated Development of the Bagmati Civilization (HPCIDBC) and the Kathmandu urban flood activist as guest speakers.

A policy dialogue on 'Climate Change and Urban Heating, was broadcast on Nepal Television on 27 June 2026 under the talk show *Climate Crisis—Initiatives for Nature-based Solutions*, with guest speakers from Department of Hydrology and Meteorology and Forests Research and Training Center (Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Environment). A series of community-level Urban EbA trainings/orientations (three individual events) was organized in Budhanilkantha Municipality on 6, 7, and 8 April 2026.

An Urban EbA Seminar and Training Manual Dissemination Event was organized on 8$^{th}$ of May 2026.

The policy dialogue, titled "Urban EbA: Policy Framework for Engagement of Private Sector," was organized on 12th of June 2026.

On 28 of June a training for organized for the elected representatives and political leaders of Madhyapur Thimi Municipality on "Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Development in the Kathmandu Valley.

The same training was done on 20 August 2026 for elected representatives and political leaders of Tokha Municipality.

The key stakeholders include the following:

The Ministry of Urban Development, Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management (DSCWM), Department of Environment Management, Climate Change Management Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Environment, High Powered Committee for the Integrated Development of Bagmati Civilization (HPCIDBC), Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Budhanilkantha Municipality, Changunaryan Municipality, Lalitpur Metropolitan City and Ward no 24, Gokarneshwor Municipality, Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, Suryabinayak Municipality, Kageshwari Manohara municipality, Tarakeshwor municipality, Kirtipur Municipality, Tokha Municipality, Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, Divisional Forest Office (Kathmandu), Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, and the Government Integrated Data Center (GIDC), Public Service Broadcasting Nepal (PSB Nepal), nine Public Schools, and Gorakhapatra Corporation were key government stakeholders that supported project implementation. Likewise, UN-Habitat played a key role in delivering activities under outcome 1. The high-quality service delivery by PSB Nepal for public awareness raising through television programs have been effective with enhanced level of climate understanding in political, bureaucratic and community levels. For example, viewers such as government officials, climate, environmental and social activists, youth leaders, and municipal officials have expressed that the themes and issues covered by the talk shows are timely and highly relevant to the climate change governance and climate actions context of Nepal. Talk show themes are also based on the feedback provided by viewers. In the meantime, there is a dedicated production team assigned by Nepal Television of PSB Nepal that also ensures that the technical quality of the show is of a good one. The technical support of Nepal Academy of Science and Technology contributed the progress towards the delivery of urban EbA research initiatives. The cooperation of local urban communities, including local NGOs, consulting firms and service providers, the environmental organization (NEPCEMAC Lalitpur), was crucial for planning and execution of ecosystem protection activities.

### D. Gender Equality

During the reporting period, women's participation in Urban EbA training, research, awareness-raising activities, climate impact assessments, ecosystem-site protection design, ecosystem conservation works, and plantation activities were encouraged

Project Gender Action plan, developed in 2021, covers 16 activities with 5 linked to Outcome 1, 4 to Outcome 2 and 7 to Outcome 3. All activities in GAP have progress in this reporting period.

Under Outcome One, as of June 2026, a total of 683 people had participated in various engagements, including private stakeholder consultation meetings, orientation sessions on the Urban EbA training manual, and EbA training sessions. Of these participants, 293 were women – 43% This exceeds the quantitative target of 33% women participation in trainings and meetings planned for in 2 out of 5 GAP activities related to outcome 1. Remaining 3 GAP activities have qualitative targets that refer to gender-responsive provisions in the plans and policies revisions and recommendations. UN Habitat is a key technical partner for the delivery of these

activities. In the reporting period, UN Habitat policy experts have developed draft recommendations for integrating Urban EbA into existing policy, planning, regulatory, and budgeting frameworks, including approaches for social inclusion and gender responsiveness. The submitted documents are under review.

Under Outcome Two, GAP outlines 4 activities focused on women inclusion in research activities (at least 33%), gender-sensitive awareness raising and knowledge sharing activities.

In this reporting period women scholars represent 58% of researchers o, leading 25 of the 43 research initiatives. 'Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), Livelihood and Good Governance' is one of the research themes. The researchers are further guided to develop their research considering GESI-based data inventory of climate change and weather extremes effected people, GESI-based climate change victims based on population density, geographical region (open space) and urban infrastructure, status of GESI in CC adaptation activities focused on EbA, integration of GESI principles into EbA practices, women's leadership in Urban EbA, GESI in NRM, frameworks and strategies for integrating EbA/NbS in urban planning, participatory urban EbA planning among other aspects. One standalone gender-focused research study titled "Mainstreaming GESI and Sustainable Livelihood Approaches for Urban Climate Resilience: An Integrated Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Kathmandu Valley" is currently underway.

In addition, awareness and understanding of climate change issues and the role of EbA/NbS increased among 11,885 women, out of a total of 35,295 individuals, through school-based EbA activities, Nepal Television's digital platform, and the Urban EbA Project's web platform.

Under Outcome Three, GAP foresees 7 activities that primarily focus on the inclusion of women in decision-making and execution processes in relation to the selection of interventions on project sites and their implementation. GAP puts women participation target at 33% and the project has so far exceeded that:

6,879 of the 13,786 beneficiaries are directly benefiting from conservation works in the Nil Barahi urban forest ecosystem. Women constitute more than 50% of the beneficiaries at the Gale and Hattichwock open-space ecosystems, the Chyasindol urban open-space ecosystem, and the Nagdaha wetland ecosystem. These ecosystems have 8,991, 5,928, and 4,606 beneficiaries, respectively.

Similarly, women accounted for nearly 51% of local residents participating in urban plantation activities. Their role in maintaining and managing the improved ecosystem sites remains vital.

### E. Knowledge Management

Knowledge management activities for the reporting period can be summarized as follows:

- Urban EbA training materials and manuals: Training materials for communities and elected officials were tested and refined with relevant stakeholders, translated into Nepali and printed in April 2026. They are now being used to support local-level training and awareness raising on Urban EbA and its integration into municipal planning and budgeting.
- Dissemination of Urban EbA knowledge products: An Urban EbA Seminar and Training Manual Dissemination Event was held in May 2026 to formally launch the training materials and promote their uptake among government agencies, municipalities, academia, development partners, civil society and schools.
- Capacity building for communities and local decision-makers: Urban EbA training and orientation sessions have been delivered for communities and elected representatives in Budhanilkantha, Tokha and Madhyapur Thimi Municipalities, strengthening understanding of EbA/NbS and its contribution to local climate resilience.

- Learning with contractors and consultants: An Urban EbA orientation for contractors and consultants was held in June 2026 to enable mutual learning and strengthen the practical application of EbA/NbS in urban development projects. The session gathered feedback from contractors related to the integration of EbA into design and procurement, technical standards, hybrid green-grey approaches, site assessment, budgeting and capacity needs.
- Policy knowledge and stakeholder dialogue: Policy reviews, stakeholder consultations and private-sector engagement have been undertaken to identify entry points for mainstreaming Urban EbA into policy, planning, regulatory and budgeting frameworks. Draft reports on policy and budget entry points and private-sector engagement have been produced and are under review.
- Urban EbA technical guides: Technical guidance is being developed to support KVDA and municipalities in planning, implementing and monitoring EbA/NbS interventions, including a framework for assessing their cost-effectiveness.
- Inventory of ecological assets: Municipal Technical Officers are developing inventories of ecological assets (urban public open spaces, ponds, lakes and urban forests) and environmentally significant sites in three municipalities to create an evidence base for identifying priority EbA/NbS interventions and informing municipal budget allocations.
- The project is building the national evidence base for Urban EbA through the NAST research programme, with 39 research initiatives underway under the Urban EbA Research Grants Manual. In parallel, development of a long-term Urban EbA research programme and strategy has commenced to strengthen interdisciplinary research, align research with national climate and urban priorities, establish common methodologies and institutional roles, and promote evidence-informed policy and urban planning.
- Knowledge dissemination and public awareness are being expanded through the partnership between KVDA and Public Service Broadcasting Nepal (PSB Nepal), established through an MoU and Letter of Agreement. The collaboration foresees 15 television episodes, five video reports, two visual PSAs and two audio PSAs on Urban EbA and climate resilience; during the reporting period, eight television episodes addressing topics including urban heat, flooding, drought and climate finance were produced and broadcast on Nepal Television.
- Finally, the project's web-based Urban EbA knowledge platform has been operationalised and is being regularly updated to disseminate information on climate risks and EbA/NbS and hybrid approaches, attracting more than 700 visitors during the reporting period. This is complemented by the development of an e-Learning platform that will host urban EbA training modules and learning resources, helping broaden access to project knowledge and sustain capacity-building benefits beyond the project period.
- In 2025/26, through consultation with private stakeholders including people of banking sector, private consulting firms and contractors, training manual orientation, EbA training to political leadership and municipal elected officials, 445 people benefited. During this reporting period 27,383 people's awareness level about the climate change and urban EbA/NbS were raised through mass media such as You Tube, Urban EbA's web platform and Facebook.

## III: Minor Amendments

| CONTEXT | |
|---|---|
| Result Framework | |
| Components and Cost | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Institutional And Implementation Arrangements | |
| Financial Management | |
| Implementation Schedule | |
| Executing Entity | |
| Executing Entity Category | |
| Minor Project Objective Change | |
| Safeguards | |
| Risk Analysis | |
| Increase of GEF Financing up to 5% | |
| Co-Financing | |
| Location of Project Activity | |
| others | |

## IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nagdaha wetland ecosystemLMC site06 | 27.62456 | 85.33331 | |

Location Description:

Nagdaha lake ecosystem is located in Lalitpur Metropolitan City. Ward no 24. Dhapakhel in the Kathmandu Valley.

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chyasindole forest ecosystem | 27.757161 | 85.337433 | |

Location Description:

Chyasindole forest ecosystem lies in Budhanilkantha municipality at Kathmandu Valley.

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nilbarahi forest ecosystem | 27.697589 | 85.396353 | |

Location Description:

Nilbarahi forest lies in Madhyapur Thimi municipality at Kathmandu Valley.

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Conversation pond ecosystem construction site | 27.762642 | 85.364342 | |

Location Description:

The conservation pond ecosystem construction site is located in Budhanilkanth municipality (wards no 13 and 2)

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Roadside tree ecosystem (plantation) sites | 27.674533 | 85.397511 | |

Location Description:

The sites are located Chardobato intersection in Madhyapur Thimi municipality to Suryabinayak in Suryabinayak municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Duwakot roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site-1) | 27.68105 | 85.409894 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jhaukhel roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.696083 | 85.428658 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Balkumari Bishnubhir community forest ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.67763 | 85.384388 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Madhyapur Thimi municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rudreshwor Mahadev temple area roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.720544 | 85.342777 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Kathmandu Metropolitan City ward no 7

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nikoshera roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.086997 | 85.393863 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Madhyaapur Thimi municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Duwakot roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site-2) | 27.687238 | 85.41245 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Byasi to Jhaukhel roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.684183 | 85.430197 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sainik Pratisthan to Jhaling roadside ecosystem (tree plantation site) | 27.683858 | 85.446411 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Suryabinayak administrative building roadside tree ecosystem (tee plantation site) | 27.664544 | 85.404844 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Suryabinayak municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nakkhukhola corridor roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.664972 | 85.301680 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Lalitpur Metropolitan City

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bhootkhel urban open space ecosystem | 27.763980 | 85.328422 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Tokha Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shiva Batika Urban Open Space Ecosystem | 27.705141 | 85.404738 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bagmati river corridor roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.717977 | 85.380948 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Gokarneshwor Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shanti Danda urban open space, roadside tree ecosystem (plantation site) | 27.710557 | 85.502576 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Changunarayan Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Balkumari Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.630263 | 85.320502 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Lalitpur Metropolitan City

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Aadarsha Saul Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.632827 | 85.303780 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Lalitpur Metropolitan City

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Patan High School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.678333 | 85.321375 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Lalitpur Metropolitan City

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Janapremi Primary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.672447 | 85.361747 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Madhyapur Thimi Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Jalupa Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.748747 | 85.318683 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Tokha Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Chandeshwory Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.771441 | 85.329047 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Tokha Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Kalidevi Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.788922 | 85.311463 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Tarakeshwor Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Janauddhar Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.762544 | 85.365438 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Budhanilkantha Municipality

Activity Description:

| Location Name | Latitude | Longitude | GeoName ID |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shree Janajagrity Secondary School eba intervention (public school site) | 27.747355 | 85.376597 | |

Location Description:

It is located in Budhanilkantha Municipality

Activity Description:

## V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

| Document Category | Title |
|---|---|
| M and E Document | 8009_PIR_FY26_Kathmandu_Urban_EbA_final for GEF |