



NEPAL

For the past 11 years, WWF has partnered with local communities and the Government of Nepal Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) to deliver a programme promoting sustainable water management in the Indrawati river sub-basin.

Through the programme, WWF has provided technical support to the Secretariat to implement the National Water Plan using the Integrated Water Resources Management approach. This approach assesses water availability and use from the social, environmental, economic and governance dimensions. It is the first time such an approach has been implemented in Nepal.

The programme aims to ensure that communities have access to quality water throughout the year and can adapt to the impacts of climate change which have led to irregular rainfall. The programme also addresses the need to promote sustainable human activity within the sub-basin.

The integrated approach to water management has created multiple benefits for local communities. Communities have built water ponds to store water. ¹⁵ ⁶ This has reduced the amount of time community members, especially children and women, spend on collecting water, as they previously walked long distances to fetch water. ⁵ Another benefit is that farmers have formed co-operatives to sell larger quantities of their produce for more competitive prices. ²

WWF has also supported community based organisations by providing advice on how to implement plans for improved water management practices and how to make recommendations to local government authorities. ¹⁵ ¹⁶



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