

NEPAL UPDATES OCT. 2017

INGENAES stands for Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services. We aim to assist partners in Feed the Future countries to build more gender-responsive and nutrition-sensitive extension approaches and tools to improve agricultural livelihoods for women and men and enhance household nutrition.

ingenaes.illinois.edu/about-us

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Relevant Resources

[INGENAES Library](#)

[Nepal Landscape Study, 2015](#)



Women participants in a focus group in the Kavrepalanchok District visually depict their conceptions of men's and women's empowerment. Photo © K. McNamara 2017.

Register now for the INGENAES Nepal Symposium!

[Pre-symposium workshops in Pokhara](#) – Mon, Nov 6

[Pre-symposium workshops in Kathmandu](#) – Wed, Nov 8

[INGENAES Nepal Symposium](#) – Thurs, Nov 10

See page 2 for more details

Research on Best Practices for Gender and Nutrition Integration and Multi-Sectoral Collaboration

In July 2017, Katie McNamara and Lacey Harris-Coble (University of Florida) conducted key informant interviews with INGENAES stakeholders in Kathmandu in order to examine best practices for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) and multi-sectoral collaboration for nutrition integration into agricultural extension services. Seventeen interviews ensued with over 20 individuals, including stakeholders from international NGOs, government ministries, and local NGOs. Interviewees openly discussed the ways in which they integrate GESI and nutrition into their projects and shared many innovative approaches, including the Bhanchhin Aama Radio program and a multi-sectoral planning tool that encourages nutrition-sensitive agriculture. Knowledge products from this research—including case studies, tip sheets, discussion papers, and technical notes, will be finalized and shared on in the [INGENAES Library](#) in late fall of 2017.

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Register Now for the INGENAES Nepal Symposium and Workshops!

As a conclusion to INGENAES's engagement in Nepal, we invite you to join us for one (or all) of these upcoming events in November! Please register via the Eventbrite registration pages, linked below, and contact Liz Poulsen with any questions (epoulsen@ufic.ufl.edu).

[Pokhara Pre-Symposium Workshops – Click here to register](#)

- **When:** Monday, November 6th from 8:30AM to 5:00PM
- **Where:** Hotel Barahi (Lakeside, Pokhara-6)
- **What:** Two parallel sessions will take place during this event.
 - **Option #1** – Grant-writing workshop (full day) – Hands-on training on the fundamental aspects of writing successful proposals for grant funding
 - **Option #2 part one** – Defining empowerment (half day) – A methodology for comparing community-level perceptions of empowerment with those of project implementers
 - **Option #2 part two** – INGENAES ‘Write-shop’ (half day) – Customizing INGENAES resources for your organization

[Kathmandu Pre-Symposium Workshops – Click here to register](#)

- **When:** Wednesday, November 8th from 8:30AM to 5:00PM
- **Where:** Shangri-La Hotel (Lazimpat Road, Kathmandu, 44600)
- **What:** Two parallel sessions will take place during this event.
 - **Option #1** – Grant-writing workshop (full day) – Hands-on training on the fundamental aspects of writing successful proposals for grant funding
 - **Option #2 part one** – INGENAES “Write-shop” – Customizing INGENAES resources for your organization (half day)
 - **Option #2 part two** – Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD) Symposium

[INGENAES Symposium – Click here to register](#)

- **When:** Thursday, November 9th from 8:00AM to 5:00PM
 - **Where:** Shangri-La Hotel (Lazimpat Road, Kathmandu, 44600)
 - **What:** Join us to contribute, identify opportunities, brainstorm, share experiences, and build networks for scaling out nutrition and gender integration in agricultural extension.
- [Click here to see the preliminary agenda.](#)

We are now accepting applications for presenters during the shift-and-share session of the symposium! [Click here to see the shift-and-share application instructions.](#)

Research on Best Practices

(Continued from p.1)

In addition to their research in Kathmandu, Ms. McNamara and Ms. Harris-Coble traveled to the Kavrepalanchok District to pilot a participatory activity focused on elucidating women's and men's conceptions of empowerment. Two students from Nepal's MICD program (Master's in Development Practice) were trained to facilitate the activity, which was conducted in partnership with INGENAES partner NGO BBP-Pariwar and took place in three communities.

The Community Concept Drawing (CCD) methodology consists of gender-disaggregated focus groups in which participants draw and discuss their perceptions, attitudes, beliefs, and practices about the empowerment and disempowerment of women and men. The long-term goal of this activity is to provide a reflective space for community members and NGOs to share and align their conceptualizations of empowerment through a "reciprocal facilitation" methodology (this methodology is still in development). The insights gained from this process can eventually help shape NGO project activities and strategies that are focused on gender and empowerment.

The activity was well-received by the communities, BBP-Pariwar staff, and the MICD student facilitators. Currently, the recordings of the focus group discussions are being transcribed and translated so that they can be analyzed. The findings of this activity are planned to be disseminated in a case study in late October.

Top photo: MICD student facilitator Saheena Maharjan leads a women's focus group discussion on empowerment. © K. McNamara 2017

Middle photo: A men's focus group draws their concepts of empowerment. © K. McNamara 2017

Bottom photo, from left: BBP-Pariwar staff, INGENAES team members Lacey Harris-Coble and Katie McNamara, INGENAES In-country coordinator Kabita Devkota, and MICD student facilitators Saheena Maharjan and Abhishek Dominic Karki. © L. Harris-Coble 2017



Advanced Organizational Capacity Building Workshops



Since the beginning of INGENAES's engagement in Nepal, a total of 102 individuals from various organizations that work to integrate gender and nutrition into agricultural extension services have participated in workshops on organizational capacity building. These workshops, founded on a Training-of-Trainers model and led by Dr. Muthusami Kumaran (University of Florida) have been conducted in Kathmandu, Pokhara, and Nepalganj.

Repeated demand from participants in these workshops for the expansion and reinforcement of capacity-building themes led to the planning and implementation of a three-day advanced capacity-building workshop, which was held in Kathmandu from May 5-8, 2017. Dr. Kumaran also took advantage of this trip to conduct "original" capacity-building workshops in Nepalganj—an event that was originally scheduled to take place during his previous trip but that had been cancelled due to local transportation issues.

Through technical presentations, hands-on activities, and interactive discussions, the 15 participants in the advanced workshop learned to implement management tools to make their gender- and nutrition-related programs more efficient and effective. Participants held group discussions focused on improving networking and collaboration between NGOs and government extension service providers, and learned from sessions on topics such as program planning, SWOT analyses, logic models, monitoring and evaluation tools and approaches, and resource mobilization.

Many participants in the organizational capacity building activities have requested further guidance on grant-writing, and we have listened to their requests! **Dr. Kumaran will facilitate two grant-writing workshops in Nepal in November; see page 2 for more information and for links to the registration pages.**

Top photo: Participants engaged in workshop activities.

Middle photo: Dr. Kumaran in a one-on-one consultation session with NGO staff members

Bottom photo: Workshop participants with completion certificates.

All photos © M. Kumaran 2017

Selected Outcomes of Capacity Building Activities

"[The] SWOT method is very effective for our board as well as for the staffs, which was never applied in our organization. **This helped us to prepare SMART objectives** for program development with the participation of all board members and staff."

"[The Training] has helped me to design Log-frame that is the backbone of each and every project."

"Due to our participation in the workshop, **our governance process and leadership are already improved.**"

"We used basic elements of strategic planning and executive leadership that we learned from the workshop.

We are including some topics and activities from the workshop in our three upcoming training for our staff. We have 45 staff in our NGO and they all will attend these three training program within the next seven months. **After the workshop, our manager started to meet with officials in the Ministry of Agricultural Development...** We hope to continue our networking with government officials to assist in the implementation of government schemes in rural Cheppang communities."

Workshop: Linking Agricultural Extension, ICTs, and Youth Engagement to Promote Family Nutrition in Nepal

In March 2017, Dr. Nancy Erbstein (UC Davis) led an ICT- and youth-focused workshop to foster connections between individuals in Nepal's government, private, and civil society sectors. This effort built on exploratory research findings from 2016 that indicated that such multi-sectoral connections could be critical to dismantling cultural, social, and informational barriers relating to nutrition-sensitive agriculture. A total of 14 individuals from 13 organizations attended the workshop, which consisted of panel presentations, participatory priority-setting activities, discussions about characteristics of successful ICT initiatives, and the identification of youth leadership networks. As a result of this workshop, several participants from different organizations have launched collaborative efforts relating to the workshop themes. For example, participants have produced two radio shows on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and they have used participatory video production to increase nutritional and agricultural resilience. Other participants have launched a new kitchen garden program.



Photo: Dr. Erbstein with the agricultural extension, ICT and youth workshop participants. Photo © N. Erbstein 2017



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We look forward to hearing from you!



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