

## RVWRMP Value Chain Support

The Rural Village Water Resources Management Project (RVWRMP) supports WASH and livelihoods development in Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces. RVWRMP livelihoods support has gradually developed from household (home gardens) to community (income generation activities) to regional and national (value chain) level.

Five value chain areas in five Rural Municipalities (RM) were selected in 2019. The criteria for selection included poverty alleviation, existing potential, possibility of supporting activities as well as geographical and climatic potential. The five value chains are: Chiuri (Marma RM, Darchula), Citrus (Chure RM, Kailali), Ginger (Badikedar RM, Doti), Large Cardamom (Naumule RM, Dailekh) and Vegetable (Alital RM, Dadeldhura).

The interventions began by improving production, capacity building and local market linkages. Physical support for processing machines, collection centres, nurseries, storage houses and dryers. Then, focus on building regional and national linkages through e.g., collective workshops with cooperatives and traders. Local government support was substantial.

In total, value chain support benefitted 4,890 households: Chiuri 664, Citrus 1,015, Ginger 1,030, Vegetable 1,817 and Large Cardamom 364.



### Citrus in Chure RM, Kailali

The most common citrus varieties are mandarin orange, sweet orange, lime and lemon. The subtropical climates of Nepal's mid-hills (800 – 1400 metre altitude) have favourable climate conditions for citrus cultivation alongside the correct acidity of the sandy soil (pH 5.0 – 6.5).

In Chure RM (Kailali district) farmers had been cultivating citrus fruit before Project interventions. The suitable environment, existing potential coupled with enthusiasm from farmers and access to nearby regional markets were primary reasons for citrus value chain.

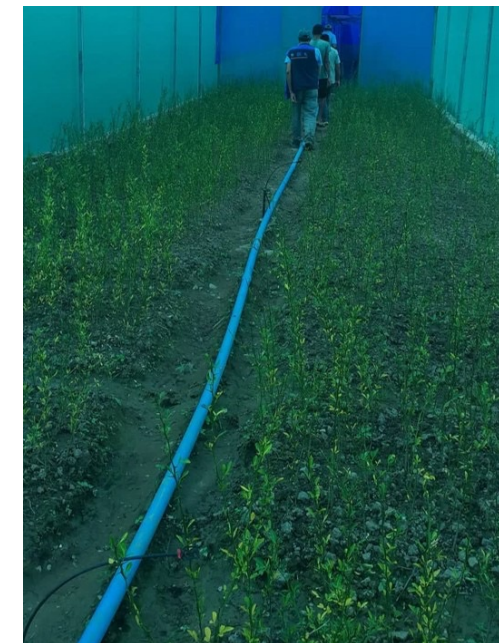
Major Project partners for Chiuri value chain include: Chure RM, Agriculture Knowledge Centre, MoLMAC (Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives), DCCI and local cooperatives. support



## Project Support for Citrus Value Chain

The RVWRMP value chain intervention was based on the baseline report and identified value chain constraints. Major support included:

- Construction of six collection centres and one improved nursery.
- Lead farmers capacity building on production, citrus die-back, post harvest and marketing.
- Support and capacity building on saplings, orchard management, trimming, application of CPIs, sowing and uprooting of plants.
- Mobilisation of lead farmers, Capacitation of cooperatives through market management and business planning trainings as well as exposure visits and interactive workshops with potential traders.
- Citrus die-back problem-solving campaigns, establishment of communications platforms through social media.



## Impact of Citrus Value Chain

The citrus value chain has been successful in Chure RM thanks to enthusiastic involvement of all stakeholders.

The main results of citrus value chain activities are:

- 20 000 saplings supported by the Project and RM
- The average annual income of farmers has increased to 80 345 NPR.
- 36 locals are fully or partially employed through the citrus value chain.
- The lateral collection centres are providing an annual income of 60 000 NPR and the main collection centre is 100 000 NPR.





## Challenges of Citrus Value Chain

The main challenges of the Citrus value chain are:

- Pest, insects and citrus die-back
- Lack of vehicular management in the cooperatives
- Some farmers feel reluctant to pay service charges to lead farmers
- More facilitation is required to link actors (farmers, cooperatives, traders) together.

## Future of Citrus Value Chain

Through Project capacity building activities, cooperatives and farmers are aware of the market potential of the citrus value chain. All farmers have become shareholders in cooperatives and received technical support and loans. The system is mutually beneficial for the stakeholders. Connections with the RM and its agriculture section have been strengthened.

The cooperative has been identified by regional traders and cooperation has begun. Other development organisations are also supporting the farmers and cooperative. Currently, there is more demand than supply for citrus products in the regional market. The farmers are enthusiastic about expanding citrus orchards. Overall, the citrus value chain has a good potential for success.

Still, actor linkages need to be strengthened and the RM can play a key role to enhance bonds. Problems (such as citrus die-back) can surface, which need to be handled efficiently by all stakeholders to minimise losses.



# CITRUS VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

## RURAL VILLAGE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT PHASE III

Sudurpaschim and Karnali Provinces, Nepal

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