

PRESS RELEASE

Agreement for Small Irrigation Programme -Phase II Signed Swiss Government set to provide Swiss Francs 17.6 Million for the implementation of project

Kathmandu, 26th June, 2020– The Government of Nepal and Government of Switzerland signed a bilateral agreement to implement Small Irrigation Programme (SIP) – Phase II, which is to be executed in collaboration with the local level and provincial government of Province-1. Mr. Shreekrishna Nepal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Ms. Elisabeth von Capeller, Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland in Nepal, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments on 26th June, 2020.

As per the agreement, the Government of Switzerland will provide grants worth 17.60 million Swiss Francs (equivalent to NRs. 2.02 billion) for the said SIP-Phase II programme. The total budget of this programme is NRs. 5.7 billion (equivalent to 49.46 million Swiss Francs) among which Government of Nepal will contribute 8.86 million Swiss Francs (equivalent to NRs. 1.02 billion). The Province 1 Government and participating Local Governments will contribute 20 per cent each of the total cost of the civil works while as Water Users Associations will bear 10 per cent of the civil works. The programme will be implemented by the Local Governments of mid-hills of Province 1 over the next four and half years.

The programme will develop around 1,300 small irrigation schemes covering total irrigation area of 20,000 hectares benefitting more than 65,000 small farming households with an aim to double their agriculture income.

The programme will start from July 1st, 2020 and be completed on 31st December, 2024.

Ministry of Finance,
Government of Nepal.

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