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# 10 Years in Nepal

What the Hariyo Ban Program Taught Us about Integrating Community Resilience, Climate Adaptation, and Biodiversity Conservation

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**Hariyo Ban Program**



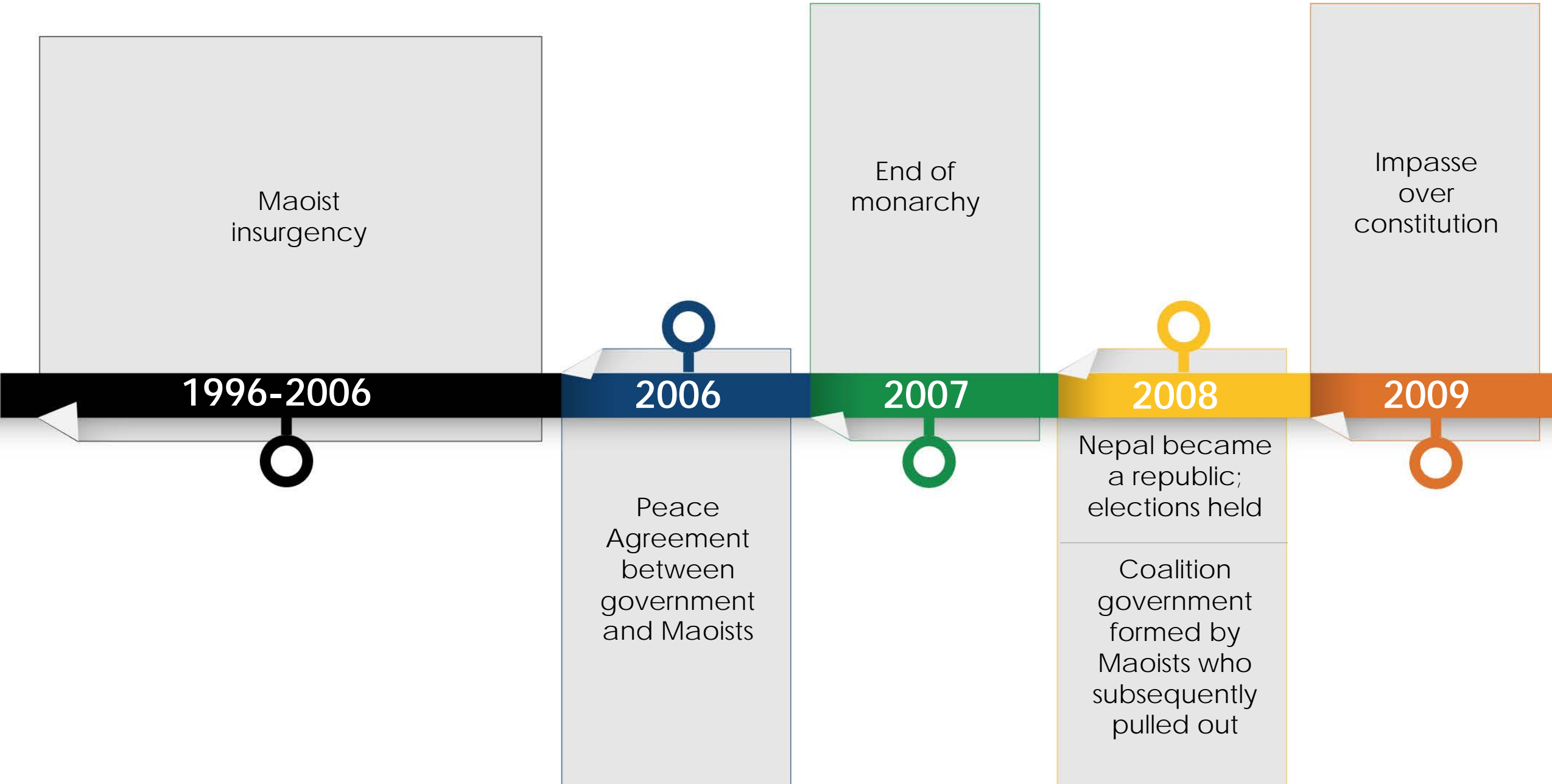
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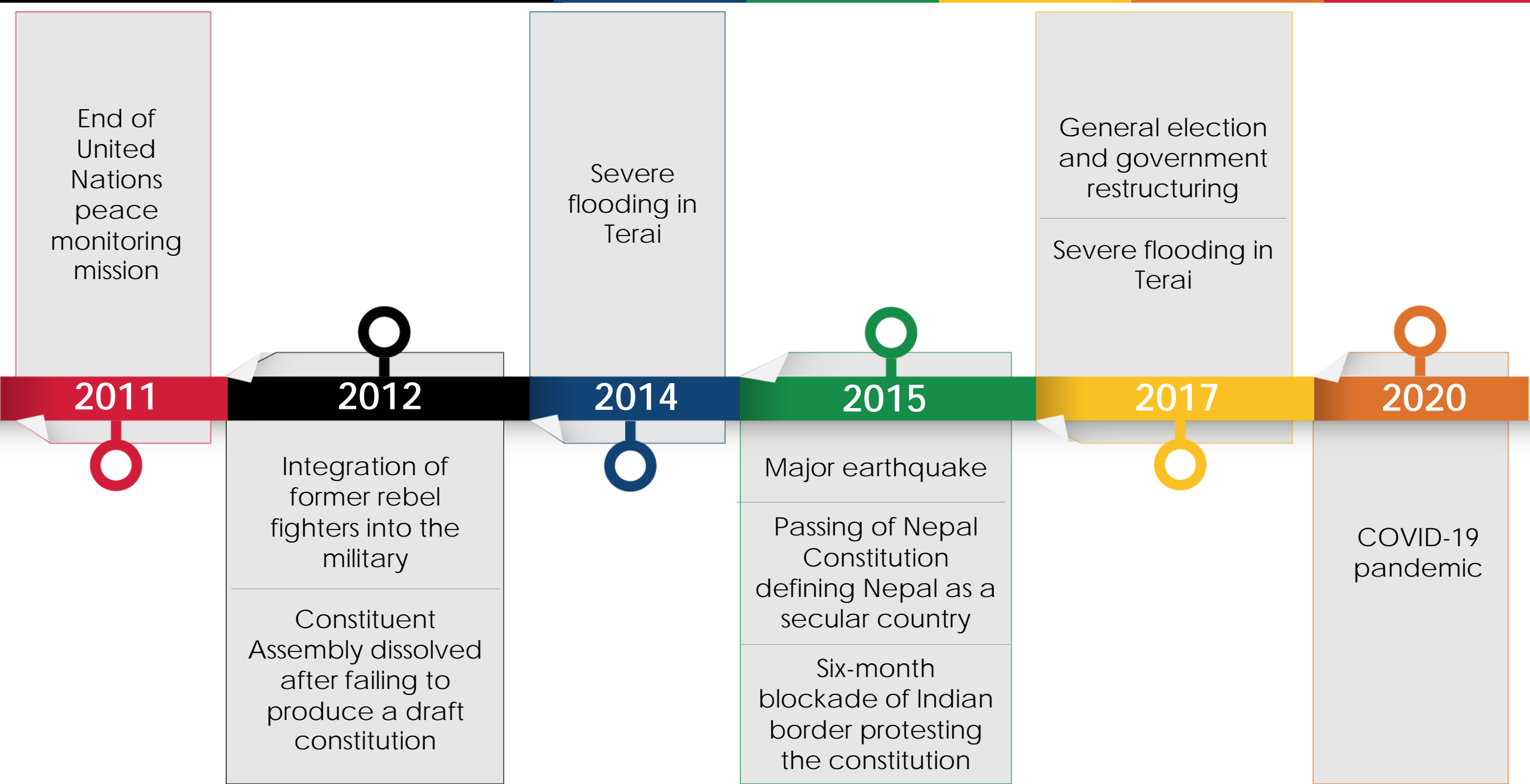
# Timeline of background events in Nepal

Before Hariyo Ban



# Timeline of background events in Nepal

# Hariyo Ban Lifespan



# Hariyo Ban Program



## Goal

To increase ecological and community resilience in two biodiverse landscapes in Nepal

## Main components

Biodiversity conservation  
Climate adaptation

## Crosscutting themes

Gender and social inclusion (GESI), governance, and market-based livelihoods

## Duration

2011- 2021



# Hariyo Ban Partners



## Consortium

WWF  
CARE Nepal  
Federation of Community Forest Users  
Nepal (FECOFUN)  
National Trust for Nature Conservation

Forest-  
dependent  
Indigenous  
peoples and  
local  
communities

Government of  
Nepal

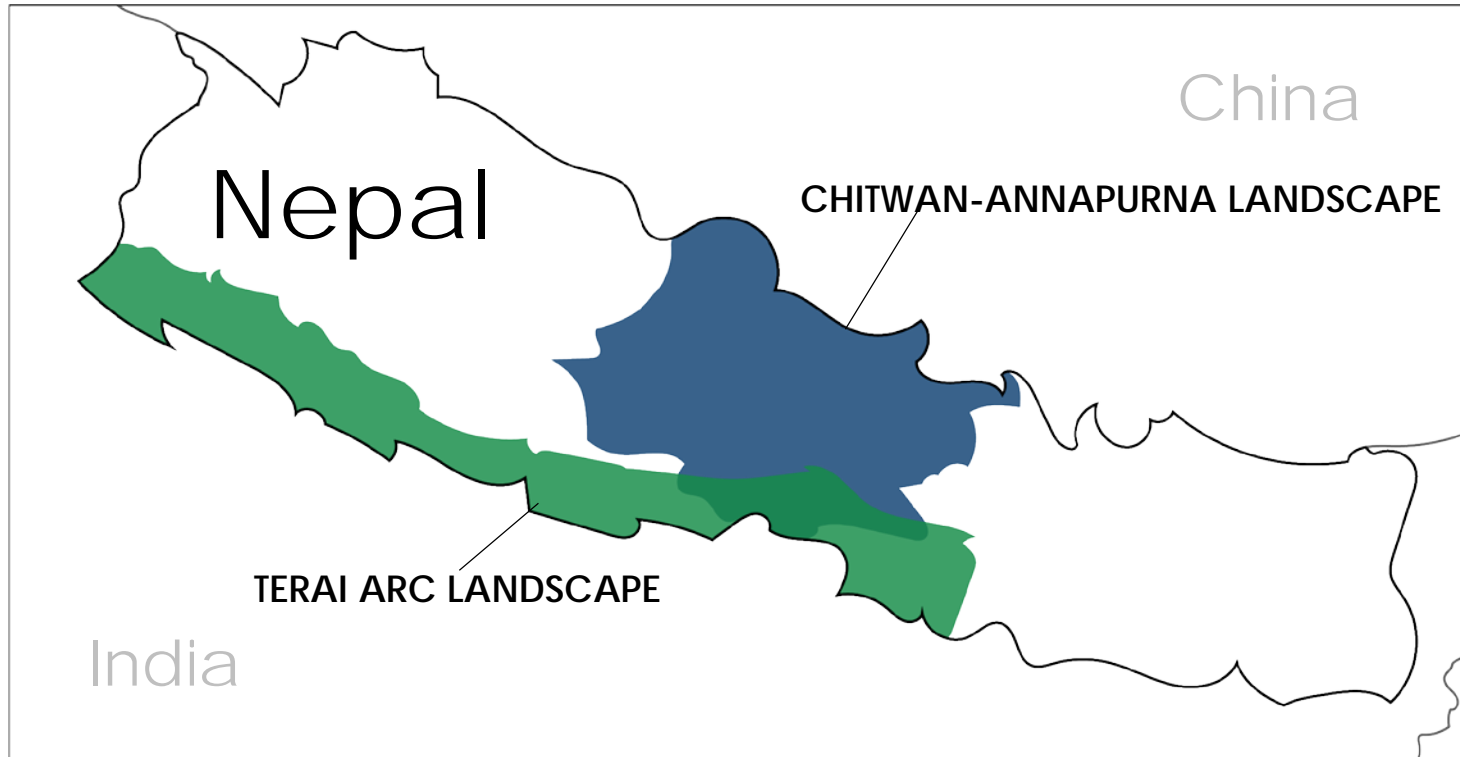
National,  
provincial and  
local level

USAID

Other NGOs,  
community-  
based  
organizations,  
private  
sector,  
academia



# Landscapes where **Hariyo Ban** works





# Protected areas and community forest areas in Nepal

- Nepal has **20 protected areas** and **13 buffer zones** covering **23%** of the country
- **45% of land** in Nepal is covered by forest; **38%** of this is community forest
- Nepal's community forestry is recognized globally as a **successful model** of decentralized forest management.
- **22,266 community forest user groups**
  - FECOFUN is the largest network
- **14 million people** (over 50% rural population of Nepal) are engaged in community forest management





# Hariyo Ban theory of change



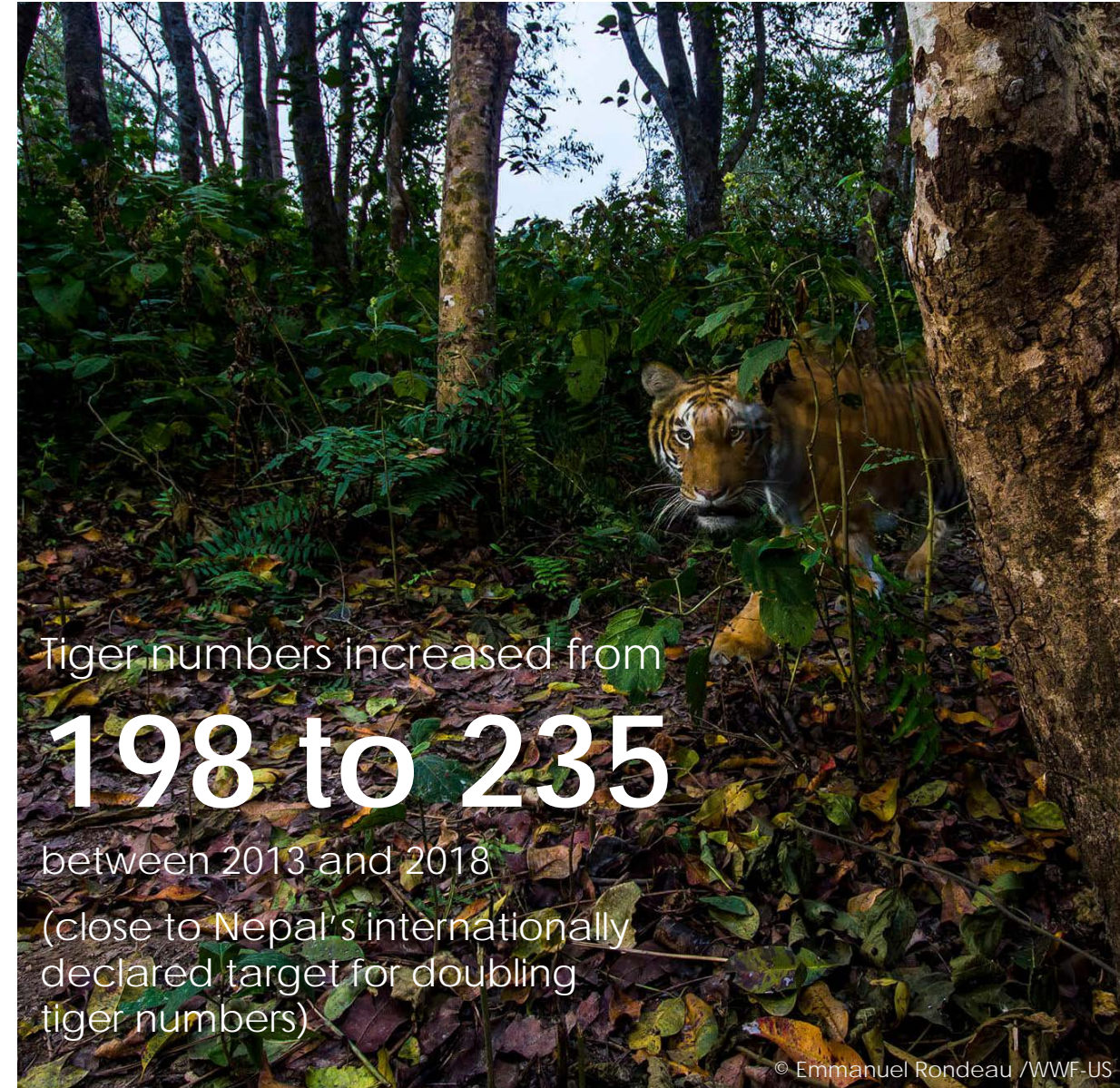
*“ If stakeholders are better able to conserve and benefit from biodiverse natural resources and adapt to climate change in a manner that diversifies livelihood options, improves gender equality and social inclusion, and promotes good natural resource governance, then people and ecosystems in the target landscapes will be more resilient. ”*



# Hariyo Ban approach

## Biodiversity conservation

Conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services by taking a landscape-level approach and tackling biodiversity threats





# Hariyo Ban approach

## Livelihood support

Improving the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable forest-dependent people in key parts of the landscapes

- Promoting **market-based enterprises** through natural resources, agriculture and ecotourism
- Providing **skills training** to increase employment opportunities for forest-dependent youth





# Hariyo Ban approach

**4.9 million  
tons of  
carbon  
emissions**

reduced/sequestered  
and

**173,860  
people**

benefited from  
alternative energy in  
phase 1

## Climate change mitigation

Supported national REDD+ readiness  
and tackled drivers of deforestation/  
forest degradation in the first phase



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- Supported government to formulate **REDD+ policies and strategies**
- Built capacity for **forest inventory and greenhouse gas monitoring**
- Tackled **drivers of deforestation and forest degradation**
- Piloted **payments for ecosystem services schemes**



# Hariyo Ban approach

## Climate change adaptation

Identifying climate risks to people and nature, and building stakeholder capacity for adaptation



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- Supporting **government** to mainstream climate adaptation into planning processes
- Supporting **communities** to adapt to climate change
- Introduced **differential climate impact analysis and response** to help the most vulnerable people
- Promoting **disaster risk reduction and management** to reduce climate risks to people and ecosystems

Climate change resilience improved for

**288,499**

**people**

in phase I and

**120,266**

**people**

in phase II



# Hariyo Ban approach

## Governance

Improving internal governance of natural resource management (NRM) groups, and facilitating links with local government

- Strengthening **institutional capacity** of natural resource user groups
- Helping user groups to **leverage and mobilize resources**
- Building **technical capacity** of user groups for local solutions to conservation and adaptation
- Strengthening **policy and enabling environment**

Natural resource management groups leveraged approximately

**US\$1,304,280**

for conservation, adaptation and management





# Hariyo Ban approach

## GESI

Ensuring participation of women and marginalized groups in decision-making and equitable sharing of benefits from natural resources



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- Improving **GESI policies, standards and governance** at multiple levels
- Increasing **leadership by women, youth and marginalized people**
- Promoting **more equitable access and benefit sharing** in natural resource management



91 groups

developed internal GESI policies and

117 GESI subcommittees

were formed in natural resource management groups to deal with gender-based violence issues and FECOFUN plans to scale this up to all 77 districts in Nepal

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# Hariyo Ban: responding to changes and opportunities

- Working at all levels with new federal government for better enabling environment, scaling up and sustainability
- Responding to policy opportunities: e.g. formal establishment of Chitwan-Annapurna Landscape
- Providing relief and promoting green recovery and reconstruction after disasters like the 2015 earthquake
- Adapting way of working during COVID-19 pandemic and supporting partners





# Hariyo Ban: factors contributing to program's success



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- **Composition** of the program's consortium
- **Close working relationship** with government and other partners
- **Existing** community-based natural resource management organizations and their networks
- **Synergies** across components
- **Landscape approach**
- **Opportunity** to contribute to enabling policy environment
- **Acceptance** by local governments of existing adaptation and integrated watershed management plans
- **Small grants program**
- **Leveraging resources** from government, community organizations and private entrepreneurs
- **Length of program** (10 years) and Nepal's longer-term experience of landscape level work



# Hariyo Ban: some lessons learned



- **Generate adequate knowledge** before working in the field
- **Ensure strong focus in critical parts of the landscapes** rather than being spread too thinly
- **Adopt river basin approach** in landscape conservation with greater focus on water
- **Involve private sector early on** when developing livelihood/enterprise models
- **Collect enough baseline data** in order to quantify results and demonstrate scale of achievements



We would like to acknowledge the commitment of many people who made the Hariyo Ban Program possible including **the consortium partners; core program team; Government of Nepal; USAID; Indigenous peoples, communities and community-based organizations; other civil society partners; private sector partners and academic institutions**

<http://www.wwnepal.org/hariyobanprogram/>



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**Hariyo Ban Program**



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