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GLOBAL LEARNING AND EVIDENCE EXCHANGE  
**CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE**

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DECEMBER 5-9, 2016 // SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

**Multiple Use Water Systems/  
Services (MUS)**

Luke Colavito, iDE



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## MULTIPLE USE WATER SYSTEMS (MUS)

in partnership with USAID, DFID, EU and other support has developed 300 MUS in Nepal, serving 60,000+ people.

MUS are piped systems designed to supply water for **both domestic and productive** needs.

- Drinking water, irrigation, hydropower, etc. are generally regulated/invested in separately
- Multiple use of water is normal; “MUS by design” reduces community conflict from competing uses





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- IWMI conducted a random sample survey of MUS 7-10 years old and found 85% of MUS **fully functional and economically sustainable** (with benefit: cost of 11:1 from agricultural income alone)
- Communities invest in-kind, cash, microfinance
- Payback period is less than one year
- Benefits: WASH, reduces women/girls' labor, improves nutrition
- CSA: 1) earn income from reliable source; 2) enables efficient micro-irrigation; 3) nutrition/income throughout the year



Photo: Bimala Rai Colavito, iDE Volunteer



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- Highest returns come from linking MUS to **high-value agricultural value chains**
- Collection centers (CC) are output markets for MUS; MUS improve profitability by increasing production
- FTF India: ENBAITA is supporting last-mile supply chains to meet technological needs of MUS farmers in Nepal
- iDE Nepal co-organized the International MUS Workshop in 2016 to focused on adaptation for **institutionalization and scaling**
- Nepal MUS Network coordinate bringing the approach to scale
- GoN working with iDE to develop MUS guidelines
  
- More info: <http://www.idenepal.org/what/mus.html>



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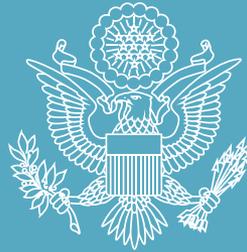
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