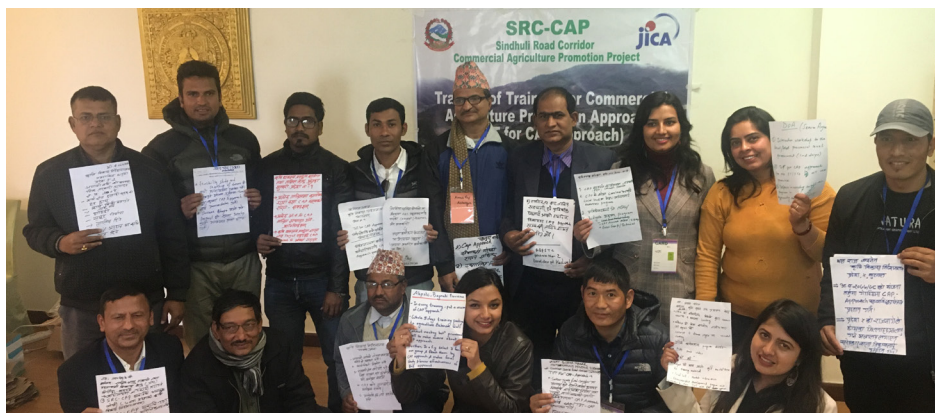


SHEP APPROACH AND ITS APPLICATION IN NEPAL

-Mr. Nama Raj Adhikari, Associate Program Manager, JICA Nepal Office



The Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) Approach is an innovative development modality developed by the joint efforts of the Japanese government and Kenyan governments. This approach addresses the motivation of farmers, and ensures their success in farming as a business. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is now promoting SHEP Approach all over Africa and in other Asian countries including Nepal¹.

In Nepal, followed by the completion of construction of BP Highway, a Sindhuli Road Corridor Commercial Agriculture Promotion (SRC-CAP) Project was jointly implemented in 4 districts (Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Kavre and Dolakha) from 2015 to 2020 by Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development/ Department of Agriculture.

The project developed the Commercial Agriculture Promotion (CAP) Approach that is a replication of SHEP approach in the context of Nepal. This approach aims to facilitate small-scale farmers to change their mind-set and behavior from "Grow and Sell"

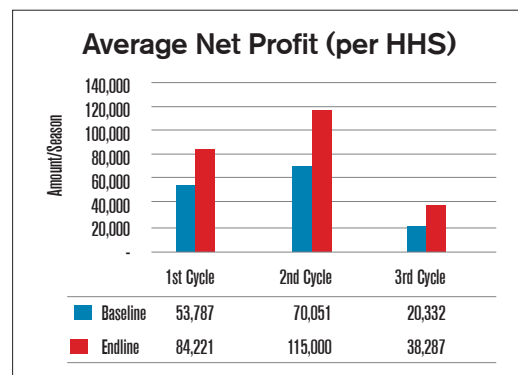
to "Grow to Sell" through the implementation of a set of activities.

There are mainly four steps of this CAP approach to implement at the target areas within periods of two years. They are; 1) Farmers share the goals; the implementing agency organize sensitization workshop to understand the concept of the CAP Approach and identify the target groups 2) Farmers awareness is raised through the participatory baseline survey and the market survey. 3) Farmers make decision on their crop and calendar for cropping and prepare the action plan. 4) Farmers acquire technical and managerial skill through the on-site coaching. By implementing all these steps in the right order and timing, CAP approach ensures that farmer motivation will be gradually raised and their absorption capacity for new knowledge and skills will be maximized accordingly.

Total 1208 farmers including 796 women of 50 farmers groups of Sindhuli corridor have benefitted from the SRC-CAP project. The project provided grant to each farmers group 200,000 NPR and farmers also contributed

50% which is used for agriculture infrastructure and agriculture input. Besides, the project provided technical and managerial skill to the farmers and agriculture extension officers of the project areas. The Project implemented three cycles and the average net profit in each cycle increased by 57%, 64% and 88% respectively (on average 70%) which is also shown in the chart. As a result, the living conditions of the farmers in the project are getting better through increased income. More youths are also engaging in the agriculture. Further, female farmer are empowered and it ultimately supported to increase the women for their self esteemed and dignity in their lives.

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOUR STEPS

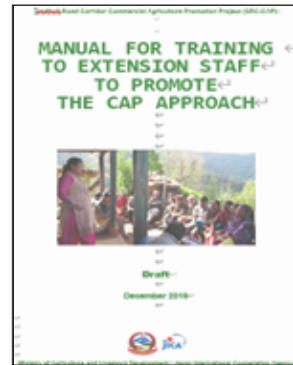
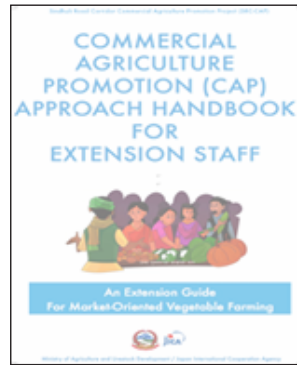


¹More information about SHEP is available on website (https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/agricultural/shep/index.html)

In order to support the wider application of CAP approach after the termination of the project, three volumes of Operational Guidelines as shown below were developed based on the working experiences from the project for agricultural extension to promote agricultural commercialization².

In order to follow up application and better understanding of SHEP approach (or CAP approach in Nepal), JICA has organized the on-line SHEP training for the officials of selected Asian countries including Nepal, in October and November 2020 aiming to implement the Action Plan prepared based on the learning from the SHEP training program in their respective countries. Total 27 Participants including six women participants from six countries were participated the training. Six officials were participated from Nepal in the training and they were from Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MOALD), Department of Agriculture (DOA), Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOLMAC) of Province 1 and Bagmati province and Agribusiness Promotion and Support Training Center (ABPSTC) of Bagmati province.

During the training, the participants have learnt about the SHEP approach and theory as well



as related knowledge such as; Basic concepts of SHEP/steps, Psychological needs and factors of motivation for adoption of innovations, Impacts of SHEP approach in African Countries, Introduction of SHEP Game³. The participants also learned practical issues like how gender mainstreaming could be possible in SHEP approach and importance of Joint decision-making process by both sex in a family to run agribusiness, calculation of production income and cost (Cost Benefit Calculation) etc.

At the end of the training, participants from Nepal delivered presentations on their Action Plan to incorporate the SHEP approach into their regular program and to institutionalize it at all level in the agriculture extension system.

The major action that prepared by the Nepalese participants are as follows;

- 1) Policy briefing and sharing of SHEP approach among stakeholders at different levels
- 2) Observation tour and monitoring of SRC-CAP activities in terms of how it is rooted to self-continue
- 3) Develop training syllabus and manuals to conduct training including TOT
- 4) Production of video documentary for further promotion of SHEP approach
- 5) Implementation of SHEP approach at the field level

The important thing is how this Action Plan will be implemented. They will have an opportunity to share their experiences on the action plan implementation during second stage of the training tentatively planned in Japan next year for the same participants so that the participants can observe the field and interact with the stakeholders directly.

SHEP/CAP approach always focuses on the capacity development aspect of the intervention with the utmost attention paid to making an impact on the ground. In this way, the training is producing six resource person/experts on this approach in Nepal and gradually the numbers of resource persons/experts will be increased in the days to come through their action plan implementation. JICA Nepal Office will continue the monitoring of the achievement of SRC-CAP Project and Action Plan and look forward to discovering more success stories coming in future.



³Available on both iOS and Android. Discover a variety of materials of SHEP approach (https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/agricultural/shep/materials.html#game)

²The volume of operation guidelines are; 1) Commercial Agriculture Promotion Approach Handbook for Extension Officers 2) Manual for training to extension staff to promote the CAP Approach and 3) CAP Approach: Guidelines for Local, Provincial and Federal Governments. The Department of Agriculture publicizes all these operational guidelines in their website; <http://doanepal.gov.np/actsdetail/1/2018/7264433/>

URBAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM OPERATIONS AMIDST COVID 19

-Ms. Bidhya Pokhrel, Senior Program Officer, JICA Nepal Office



Covid19 has hindered all sphere of the society including the development interventions. Due to the months long lockdown announced by the Government of Nepal (GoN) wide range of socio economic and development activities especially in the field level observed the halt. The pandemic has posed a challenge in carrying out the project cycle management in development operations. Particularly the 'Do' aspect of the PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, and Act) cycle has been adversely affected. The field activities 'Gemba' are severely halted for several months consequently affecting the schedule of the ongoing program. On the other hand, project planning, design, checking and monitoring of the interventions as such are being carried out through virtual means in the situation of New Normal triggered by the pandemic. The new normal context has demanded alternatives in every endeavor of socio, economic and development realm.

Development cooperation strategy has also been envisioned considering the new normal context amidst the pandemic. JICA adopts the holistic approach to combat COVID 19 focusing on the three pillars of support viz. Prevention, Precaution, and Treatment. Prevention is a key step to reduce the risk of infection including COVID 19 for which three components are inevitable viz. clean water, hand hygiene and proper nutrition . Urban Environment Program under JICA's development Strategy supports this pillar by continuously joining hand with GoN for enhancing access to clean water supply and improvement of the sanitary conditions.

Investment in clean water and sanitation has been a consistent priority of JICA. Present context of health crisis has realized the need of clean water and sanitary practice even more. While normal focus of the JICA's cooperation strategy on this sector is to augment service delivery of water supply ensuring water quality, the pandemic has triggered the need

to allocate resources and align ongoing activities for the prevention and reduction of the Covid 19 pandemic. As one of the major development partners to the GoN in the water supply and sanitation sector, several initiatives have been explored and implemented through existing ongoing programs and upcoming programs.

One of the efforts noteworthy to discuss is the intervention made by Water Supply Management Improvement Project-II (WASMIP II). The technical cooperation project being implemented by the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM) aligned its activities and resources to meet the urgent need of the pandemic in the target semi urban water utilities. As a start, Project provided disinfection materials like bleaching powder (total 14.15 metric tons) as an immediate Covid-19 response to 63 Water User & Sanitation Committees (WUSCs) in various project sites in the most affected 12 districts viz. Jhapa, Morang, Bara, Dhanusa, Sarlahi, Sindupalchowk, Ramechhap, Lamgunj, Nawalparashi, Bardiya, Dang, Rupendehi . This support was identified by one of the quick surveys conducted by the project to know the issues and concerns of the water utilities in the current pandemic scenario. Hence, for ensuring safe and consistent supply of water which is one of most crucial preventive measures for self protection in the current pandemic, the immediate support was provided. More than 600 thousand beneficiaries accrued the benefits.

Similarly, as the pandemic heightened, next lot of support was envisioned in close discussion with DWSSM. Quarantine and Isolation centers were identified under target project sites as well as its need. As per the need, 9 water quality test kits; 15 hand wash systems, 6 temporary toilets, and 2 chlorination unit were installed in different locations of the project site. The facilities are expected to be

operated and maintained by the target WUSCs in close coordination with the local authorities.

In addition, recent study findings highlights that while role of hand hygiene is critical in prevention of the disease, millions of people have no ready access to a place to wash hands . Such situation places people in high risk of infection. Access to hand washing facilities, advocacy and awareness of hygiene behavior is a consistent need to promote proper hygiene behavior of the people of all ages. With this hindsight, in collaboration with GoN, JICA is preparing to conduct pilot research project on hygiene promotion in schools and health care facilities including availability of the small scale water and sanitation facilities.

Beside interventions against the pandemic, ongoing and upcoming projects viz. Pokhara Water Supply Improvement Project, Development of Master Plan for Waste Water Management in Pokhara City, Biratnagar Water Supply Project, Strengthening capacity development of water utilities like KUKL, NWSC, and WUSCs are implemented and commenced amidst the pandemic scenario.



Detail Planning Survey Mission: The Project for Development of Master Plan for Wastewater Management in Pokhara Metropolitan City

Despite being the second largest city of the country and tourist hub, Pokhara Metropolitan City (PMC) lacks effective waste water management system and practice. Realizing the need, GoN requested the project for development of master plan study on waste water management in the city which has been positively considered by JICA. To commence the project, Detail Planning Survey was conducted using the virtual means during the month of November and December 2020. Ministry of Water Supply as a lead Executing Agency coordinated and facilitated the mission to identify the scope and feasibility of the master plan study in coordination with key stakeholders like Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management and Pokhara Metropolitan City to name a major few.

¹JICA President Message 28 September 2020 "JICA's Challenges: Protecting People's Life Around the Year"

²UNICEF; Factsheet <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/fact-sheet-lack-handwashing-soap-puts-millions-increased-risk-covid-19-and-other>

NAGDHUNGA TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AMIDST THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

Nagdhunga Tunnel Construction Project supported by Japanese ODA Loan is a milestone in the introduction of modern road tunneling technology in Nepal. The construction work started with the mobilization of the contractor in November 2019. The construction duration of the project is estimated to be 42 months. However, due to the spread of coronavirus and the infections of COVID-19, the project progress suffered. To continue with the project activities and to complete the project on time, COVID-19 became a big hurdle. Realizing, the new reality, measures against the spread of COVID-19 was the priority of the Government of Nepal, Department of Roads(DOR), the Consultant Nippon Koei and the Contractor Hazama Ando Corporation. The Government introduce the health and safety guidelines for the commencement of the works at all the sites including this project so that the project progress could be achieved.

Therefore, new strategy has been applied by the Department of Roads as well as the Consultant and Contractor to contain the spread of COVID-19. Various precautionary measures are taken at the project sites so that the infection can be prevented. The safety measures are applied in the DOR project offices, contractor's camp, consultant's camp, construction sites, hygiene/ sanitary sites, kitchen/canteen, etc. The following precautionary measures are taken,

- Normal procedures like providing soap, running water and hand sanitizer at the entrance of the contractor's camp site, all

workers are instructed to wash hands with soap or hand sanitizer while entering the camp.

- Provided infra-red thermos-gun to all site to ensure the body temperature of workers and Body temperatures is checked before entering at construction site.
- Social distancing of approximately 1m is also maintained during eating time. In case of space limitations, limited number of people are managed to come at a time.
- Compulsory use of face mask by all worker at camp and construction site.
- All vehicles are being disinfected at entrance gate before entering the contractor's camp. All the incoming delivery vehicles admitted to the sites are parked at store area and disinfected using a disinfectant chemical and pump machine.
- Unauthorized person are not allowed to enter at construction site.
- Person with symptoms similar to COVID-19 are not allowed to work.
- Clean and safe hygiene facility are ensured at lavatories, bath room in the work sites, handles, toilet bowl, etc. These places are disinfected time to time on a regular basis of time. Hand wash soap, hand wash containing alcohol, sanitizer etc. are provided.
- Safety officer check and audit the cleanliness of area and ensure routine effective cleaning of these place.
- No manual handling of the material are allowed as much as possible. If needed hand gloves protection are provided.
- Kitchen/Canteen room are kept clean and

disinfected regularly. The area are always kept clean. Utensils and kitchen wares are washed immediately and thoroughly.

- Waste materials are properly disposed in the dust bin.
- Continue monitoring of worker at entry point is done to ensure social distancing.
- Construction workers without PPE or face mask are not allowed to enter at site.
- Construction workers are not allowed to touch each other while greeting such as handshake, hug, etc.
- Construction workers are not allowed to consume liquors.
- Construction workers are instructed to avoid crowd, avoid visiting public places as much as possible, during the outbreak.
- Work activities are strictly monitored by the site engineer, safety officer to ensure compliance to safety standards, measures and precautionary measures related to COVID-19.
- Awareness about health and safety guidelines are provided to the staffs and workers for the preventive measures against COVID-19 during daily toolbox meeting and general safety assembly and regular meetings.

With the introduction of the above precautionary measures, the project activities including the construction work are going on smoothly. This has encouraged the Department of Roads to move forward even in this time of pandemic crisis situation and indicates that "when there is a will, there is a way." Some of the safety measures can be seen and felt in the below given pictures,



Thermal screening at gate



Disinfection of dormitory



Disinfection of site

ITS TIME TO WASH YOUR HANDS AGAIN !!

संसारका सबै बालबालिकाको लागि

सबै संगै मिलि मिलि हात धोऔं !

हात धुने बानीले जीवन बचाउँछ



<p>1 म सानो हुँदा साबुन पानीले मिची मिची पटक पटक हात धुनुपर्छ भन्ने कुरा सिकाइएको थियो</p>	<p>2 हूँ? हामीले कहिले हात धुनु पर्छ ?</p>	<p>3 (1) जब हामी बाहिरबाट घर फर्केछौं घर फर्केपछि हात धुन नबिर्सनु</p>	<p>4 (2) शौचालय प्रयोग गरेपछि</p>
<p>5 (3) खाजा, खाना खानु अघि हात धोयौ ?</p>	<p>6 हे? किन यति धेरै हात धुनुपर्छ ?</p>	<p>7 हेर, हाम्रो हात र औंला सफा देखिन्छ तर</p> <p>त्यहाँ भित्र आँखाले नदेख्ने लाखौं किटाणु अडकिएका हुन्छन</p>	
<p>8 त्यसैले यदि खाना खानुअघि हात धोएनो भने,</p>	<p>9 अनि, पेट दुख्छ थाल्छ</p>	<p>11 म सानो हुँदा, जनावरलाई छोएपछि हात धोइहाल्नुपर्छ भन्ने कुरापनि सिकाइएको थियो।</p>	
<p>हात मुखमा लग्यौं भने, ती किटाणुहरु हाम्रो आँखा, नाक, मुखबाट शारीरभित्र पस्न सक्छ</p>	<p>10 अनि, बिरामीपनि पसक्छ।</p>	<p>अनि फोहर चलाएपछिपनि</p>	

<p>12 यी यसरी हेर त !</p> <p>छयाप...</p>	<p>13 सुन त ! खाली पानीमा हात डुबाएर, छयाप छयाप गरेर मात्र हातको किटाणु मर्दैन</p> <p>केरे? होर?</p>	<p>14 किटाणुलाई साबुनको फिज मनपर्दैन</p> <p>त्यसैले हामी फिज निकाली निकाली हात धुन्छौं अनि किटाणुलाई पखालिदिन्छौं</p> <p>आहा !</p>	
<p>15 कसरी हात धुने त ?</p> <p>हात धुँदा १, २, ३ ३० सम्म गनी है</p> <p>1 2 3 4 ...</p> <p>.... साबुनले सबै ठाउँमा मिची मिची माडौं</p> <p>पहिला हात भिजाऔं</p> <p>साबुन लगाऔं अनि फिज निकालौं</p> <p>हल्केला</p> <p>हात पछाडी</p> <p>दुवै नाडी</p> <p>नङ भित्र</p> <p>औंलाको बिचमा</p> <p>दुवै बुढी औंला</p>			<p>16 अन्तमा पानीले राम्रोसंग पखालौं</p> <p>अनि सफा कपडाले पुछौं वा सुक्खा बनाऔं</p>
<p>17 तर हाम्रो गाउँमा त धाराको पानी छैन। पानीको समस्या छ। पानी लिन धेरै टाढा जानुपर्छ</p> <p>हामी कहाँ धारा छ तर सधै पानी आउदैन</p> <p>त्यसैले हामीसंग हात धुन धेरै पानी हुदैन</p>	<p>18 हो, सहि हो। पानी धेरै महत्वपूर्ण छ</p> <p>तरपनि थोरै पानीलेपनि मिची मिची हात धुन सक्छौं</p> <p>टिपी ट्याप</p> <p>खुट्टाले बिस्तारै थियो अनि थोरै थोरै गरि पानीले हल्ल धोऔं</p> <p>चियादानीबाट धुँदै</p> <p>सकेसम्म सफा पानीले हात धोऔं</p>	<p>हात धुने सामाग्री</p> <p>बिस्तारै घुमाएपछि पानी आउछ</p> <p>एक चिया गिलास पानीलेपनि हुन्छ</p> <p>चियादानीमा राखेर थोरै थोरै गर्दै हात धुने</p>	<p>19 सबै मिलि संसारबाट बालबालिकाको हातबाट किटाणु भगाऔं</p> <p>सबै बालबालिकाको सुस्वास्थ्यको लागि</p>

Author : INOUE Kimidori



JICA'S EMERGENCY HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED



House owners constructing EQ resilient house .

The Emergency Housing Reconstruction Project (EHRP) funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) was successfully completed earlier to originally targeted completion date. On this occasion, a closing ceremony was organized virtually on 25th December 2020. The ceremony was attended by NRA CEO Mr. Sushil Gyewali, NRA Secretary Mr. Suresh Acharya, H.E Ambassador of Japan to Nepal Mr. Masamichi Saigo, JICA Chief Representative Ms. Yumiko Asakuma and several other high ranking officials from NRA, Central Level Project Implementation Units, District Level Project Implementation Units, etc.

EHRP is a Japanese ODA loan project amounting Japanese Yen 12 billion equivalent to about NPR 12 billion. Main objective of EHRP was to restore and improve the living condition of the victims

of the Nepal Earthquake 2015, by reconstructing the destroyed and damaged houses using an adequate seismic standard of construction.

With the principle of Build Back Better (BBB), EHRP provided technical assistance to more than 95,000 housing reconstruction

beneficiaries in the target areas of Gorkha and Sindhupalchok. EHRP also provided financial assistance to the Government of Nepal for providing housing grant to the beneficiaries. The housing grant was providing housing grant to the beneficiaries, who successfully completed earthquake-resilient houses.



House owner posing in front of her completed house built under EHRP funded by JICA

As of November 2020, almost 90% of beneficiaries have already completed their house construction in JICA's target area. The Community Mobilization Program (CMP) was one of key factor for success of housing reconstruction which optimized the power of community and promoted mutual support. It also created job opportunity to over 500 mobile masons, who were instrumental in assisting the house owners for reconstruction.

Speaking on the closing ceremony, H.E. Mr. Saigo recalled his field visit to EHRP area where the mobile mason, house owner, technical support staff and the whole community were working together in a well organized way and shared his observation on the reason behind of completing the project successfully before the original schedule.

Ms. Asakuma, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal highly appreciated NRA's initiatives of documenting the learning from reconstruction and passing it to the new agency responsible for DRR, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority for institutionalization of the practical learning.

NRA CEO Mr Gyewali highly acknowledged the CMP, which was highly effective to synergize the well grounded Nepali culture of mutual help saying that the CMP not only was instrumental in expediting reconstruction but also in strengthening the social capital of community cohesion.

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS SIGNED

The Secretary of the Ministry of Urban Development Dr. Ramesh Prasad Singh and Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Ms. Yumiko Asakuma signed a Record of Discussions (R/D) confirming the project agreement on 18 November 2020. "The Project for Promotion of Nepal National Building Code Compliance for Safer Building Construction" will be a four year technical cooperation project. The project will target the Kathmandu Valley, as the JICA's previous project on Earthquake Risk Assessment of Kathmandu Valley had revealed that there is a huge risk of building damage if an earthquake of the similar magnitude that of 2015 Gorkha Earthquake happens. A study conducted to provide latest information to the project design had also revealed that there was noticeable improvement on the structural members in the private building construction practices, but the reinforcement detailing and quality control aspect were in alarming status in the Kathmandu Valley. The newly signed Project to be lead by the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction and participated by selected municipalities from the Kathmandu Valley will work to strengthen safer building construction practices. As the detailed planning mission was halted in the middle of the mission period in March 2020 because of the COVID19, the project planning was concluded through virtual meetings and communications.

CONDOLENCE



Date of Birth
November 4, 1950



Date of Demise
November 13, 2020

We are deeply saddened by the sudden demise of our respected former senior colleague
Mr. Krishna Chandra Manandhar.
We are very sorry for this irrecoverable loss and would like to express our sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

Mr. Manandhar will always remain in our thoughts and we shall forever remain indebted to his contributions to JICA Nepal.

JICA Nepal Office Family

**JICA NEPAL WISHES
YOU & YOUR FAMILY
A VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR
2021.**



**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
NEPAL OFFICE**

Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

450, Kathmandu, Nepal

+977-1-4425636

+977-1-4425658

www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english

www.facebook.com/jicanepal