

Extensive orientations were conducted in provincial agriculture ministries (PAM) and municipalities in all seven provinces to increase their familiarity with ADS. The orientations enhanced their capacity to prepare annual programs in alignment with ADS outcomes, outputs, and indicators. However, in 2020, COVID-19 and subsequent lockdowns stalled formulation of ADS implementation, coordination and monitoring mechanisms, and the establishment of a web database—all of which have resumed from the beginning of 2021.



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Based on the first annual JSR recommendations, three agricultural projects (Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project, Nepal Livestock Sector Innovation Project and Knowledge-Based Sustainable Agriculture Nepal II Project) were assessed and found to be aligned with ADS outcomes and outputs to varying degrees, although all three required some enhanced alignment by setting up relevant monitoring and reporting mechanisms to directly measure their contributions to ADS.

The second annual JSR meeting was held in February and March

2021, virtually, under the framework of NADSIC, chaired by the Hon. Minister, MoALD. After endorsement from MoALD in April 2021, the meeting's action plan was transformed as national priority programs, included in PAMs' annual programs, and implemented through joint-financing and collaboration with DPs. Annual priority programs include: (i) organizing a series of subnational consultations on priority policies and directives to align them with the federalized context, and (ii) implementing high national priority production programs (i.e. fine rice and industrial maize) to promote domestic self-sufficiency and further harness export potentials for tea and large cardamom.

The third annual review of the sector was completed in January 2022 and publication of the report is in the final stage. Compared to last year's assessment, the review shows similar progress on ADS indicators. Twelve of the 16 indicators are on track and the remaining four are still behind, mostly related to food grain self-sufficiency, trade (with specific reference to rice), irrigated areas, and agriculture productivity.

As a step towards institutionalizing the JSR mechanism and annual sector reviews within the GoN system, a shorter version of the third annual review report (translated into Nepali) is included as part of MoALD's Annual Progress Report for FY2021/22.

Future Steps

The third annual ADS JSR meeting will be organized in June 2022. Actions agreed in the meeting will be included in the GoN's and DPs' annual priority programs for FY2022/23, which will be monitored and reported in Technical Committee meetings. JSR implementation guidelines will be prepared for future use and reference by MoALD.

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