Nepal

The subject of Agromet Advisory Services was not taken into consideration till 2012 in Nepal. During 2013-14, a number of discussions were made to implement the operational agromet advisory services and finally in 2015, with the World Bank assistance ,agromet advisory services started in the country by joint collaboration between Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC) and Department of Hydrology & Meteorology. Using weather forecast along with the past weather and crop status; these services were started for 26 districts in the country. AAS bulletins are issued on provincial level using the 72 hours forecast on every Friday and aiming to prepare in district level and local level agromet advisories in future. Agromet advisories are disseminated by the Agriculture Information Centre, central agency for dissemination of information in Nepal. Dissemination is done through SMS, mobile apps and radio. Roving seminars in 26 districts for capacity building of the farmers were arranged for popularisation and awareness of the agromet advisory services. Short- and long-term plans for the improvement of operational Agromet Advisory Services have been formulated. More attention needs to pay as climate is changing in Nepal along with capacity building on use of ICT technology and remote sensing application in agrometeorology, use of artificial intelligence, district and seasonal forecast. Weather insurance. PPP is not so strong in Nepal. Smart agriculture, AWS in Hill station, climate change adaptation programme are being encouraged.

At present farmers in Nepal have shown confidence and appreciate the information generated by the meteorological and hydrological fusion products for agriculture in Nepal. Some good studies made in Nepal in this regard. PPCR project has been completed and further initiatives were taken up for further continuation of the project. There is need for more AWS in the country especially to the hill stations and also the importance of the same to the weather-based insurance in the country. Moreover, the AAS should be farmer's friendly as the farmers are not literate enough to adopt these services. In respect of data sharing, research on crop weather relationship, effect of weather on pest & disease etc.

The Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS)

The Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS) is implemented by the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD) on four sub components mentioned below.

1. Infrastructure
2. Agro/climate-Info Products
3. Agro-Info dissemination and
4. Capacity Building
5. Support for PMU, M&E and Outreach

Objective of AMIS

The prime objective of this component is to provide critical and timely agro-climate and weather information to farmers in order to increase productivity and reduce losses from meteorological and hydrological hazards. Other objectives are bulleted as below.

1) Provide a mechanism to deliver timely relevant agro climate and weather information under early warning system and deals as agriculture decision support tools to farmers, and other stakeholders.
2) Provide open data access for information and web portals.
3) Build ICT assisted communication opportunities to strengthen the voice of the farmers on agricultural issues.
4) Diminish the impacts of extreme climate related events.
5) Protect lives & assets.
6) Support agriculture livelihoods

Different Activities under AMIS

Roving Seminar

Crop Simulation Modelling Training

Dissemination through Call Centre

Mobile SIM Distribution

Kisan Call Centre

GIS Training

Drought monitoring and early warning system in Nepal

The Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD), Government of Nepal and the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) join hands to develop the drought monitoring and early warning system for Nepal.

The system incorporates suitable earth observation datasets and land surface and climatic models to produce key drought indices to inform on the agricultural drought condition in Nepal

The agricultural drought information system allows the user to visualize drought indicators aggregated at district level along the growing season of key cereal crops in Nepal**.**