Micro Watershed Development in the Uttarakhand Himalayas, India
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Concerns

- The Himalayas are the watershed for some of the major rivers in the region and have experienced **significant degradation due to soil erosion and deforestation.**
- Resulting in **water insecurity**
- Leading to:
  - Impact on **livelihoods**
  - Consequent and greater **vulnerability to Climate Change**
Integrated Watershed Management in Uttarakhand

Managing rivers, watersheds and livelihoods in the Indian Himalayas

A strategy towards achieving inclusive growth with the objective of giving impetus to treatment of degraded watersheds, augmentation of drinking water, agricultural growth and spreading the benefits of growth to all sections of population, especially women, to be pursued in a mission mode.
Strategies for Intervention

- Participatory and integrated watershed management
- Innovative livelihood options
- Improved management of natural resources
- Improved community resilience
- Better ecosystem services
- Addressing migration from rural areas
## PROJECT COMPONENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Project Component</th>
<th>Sub Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Participatory Watershed Development and Management</td>
<td>Promotion of <strong>social mobilization</strong> and community driven decision making. Watershed treatments and village development.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Enhancing Livelihood Opportunities</td>
<td>Farming systems improvement. Value addition and marketing support. Income generating activities for vulnerable groups</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Institutional Strengthening</td>
<td>Capacity building of local community institutions</td>
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BEST PRACTICES OF THE PROJECT

- Social mobilization and Institutional strengthening (Van Panchayats)

- Women’s participation in raising nurseries, introduction of agro forestry

- Participatory M & E

- Financial Support to Vulnerable Groups

Contd…
BEST PRACTICES OF THE PROJECT

- Dissemination and documentation of Best Practices

- Nature based livelihood options--ecotourism, and revival of watermills
BEST PRACTICES OF THE PROJECT

- An initiative towards fuel switch
- Briquetting of Pine needles for cooking and heating
BEST PRACTICES OF THE PROJECT

- **Agribusiness** – Revival of traditional crops, value chain & enterprise dev. and assured marketing

- Capacity building for adaptation to Climate change

- Policy interventions
Key Messages

- **Ecosystem based planning** and management needs to be integrated in future policies for the Himalayan region.
- **Resilience and reduced vulnerability to climate change** can be achieved through promoting best practice in water and land management in watersheds in the Himalayas.
- Increased **participation of women** in land and water management.
Key Messages (continued)

- NGO, community and government expertise, support and participation is required to **sustain and scale up the process**.
- Promote more resilient and diverse **livelihoods and economic growth** that incorporates investment in the natural infrastructure of ecosystems and watersheds/river basins
Watersheds of Uttarakhand

- No. of watersheds: 26
- No. of MWS: 1110
Thank you