South Asia

Major Issues/gaps

• Climate risk agriculture (all the stakeholders are sensitized)
• Inadequate agro-meteorological infrastructure/services and human capacities (for example in some cases 1 person/country)

Best practices/good practices

• Proven models from India on forecasting and advisory services both from public and private sector (based on the case studies presented) and also seasonal forecast experiences from Kenya
• Center for Research and Excellence in Agriculture Meteorology (CREAM), Pune, India
• Participatory approaches through farmer groups (how do we include)
• Strategic (long term) and tactical (short term – dynamic) decisions
• Participatory scenario planning (top down and bottom up approach with community mobilization)

Actionable points

• Replicating experiences from India would be possible as all South Asia countries share similar ecological region
• Capacity building (at all levels and also new professionals from farmer groups)
Big Ticket Idea 1
- Use of crop and climate information services to transform climate risk agriculture to climate smart agriculture

Product
• Models to codify climate and crop advisories

Processes
• Convergence of various players/multi disciplines/multi-institutional
• Public-private partnerships
• Participatory videos
• ICT mediated communication (Packaging of messages)
• Crop value chain approaches (Paddy)
• Go beyond agro-advisory (bundling advisories with quality inputs)
• Gender sensitive approaches
• Validation mechanism (impacts/economic benefits)
Where do we do? Locations

- Plain areas of Nepal (most productive region) comparison with north eastern parts of India
- Bangladesh – western parts of Bangladesh (comparison with West Bengal)
- Sri Lanka - Northern Sri Lanka (comparison with Southern Tamil Nadu)
- Pakistan – Punjabs of Pakistan and India
Who will do? Actors

• Met Agencies
• Agricultural Institutions at various levels
• ICT players that includes media
• NGOs/farmer groups/local bodies
• Private Sector players
• Policy Makers
• Donors/International Agencies

Target Audience

Smallholder farmers and policy makers

Note: The details will be nailed down through a planning workshop
Big Ticket Idea 2
Enhance infrastructure and human capacities to improve
delivery of agro-climatic services

• Improving the observation networks (that includes met stations, automatic weather stations, data management and dissemination etc.)

• Enhance human capacities at various levels (scientists, students, technicians, intermediaries, farmers etc.)

• Use of ICTs to improve delivery mechanisms

Note: The details will be nailed down through a planning workshop