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#### "Irrigation Institution Reform – a Future Course in Nepal"

Madhav Belbase

#### History of Irrigation in Nepal



### **Irrigation Objectives**

#### <u>Past</u>

- Food production
- Security against starvation in hills and mountains
- Increase in incomes

#### <u>Now</u>

- Means for economic development with crop diversification
- Employment opportunity

#### <u>Future</u>

- An essential component of growth, social and economic development, poverty reduction, equity and as links for national integration and unity.
- Irrigation water a tradable commodity in terms of "virtual water" particularly in the form of exported agricultural commodities.





# Irrigation Systems in Nepal



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## Irrigation Management in Nepal

Small and Medium Irrigation Systems are managed by the beneficiary farmers

Large and Major (>2,000 ha) irrigation systems are under joint management

Management transfer of state developed irrigation systems began in early 1990.

Operation and maintenance costs are to be covered by the ISF collected from the farmers





#### Agriculture Vs Irrigation Potential, ha



#### Irrigation Service Fee in Percentage of Operation and Maintenance Cost



# Maintenance Funding Gap



# Policy and Institutional Intervention through proposed Irrigation Act









#### **Policy Intervention**



# Irrigation Institutional Intervention





Irrigation services

dependable and participative

Irrigation

Irrigation

ncomes

Board

Increase

σ

Management

Support -

Irrigation

Offices

Loan Clearance ncreased



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#### Irrigation Development Fund





#### Constitution of Irrigation Management Board

Chairman – Chairman WUA	
Member	<ul> <li>Representative – District Administration Office</li> <li>Local Development Officer</li> <li>Representative – District Agriculture Office</li> <li>Irrigation Officer</li> <li>Representatives from Village Councils – up to five</li> <li>Elected from WUA - up to five</li> </ul>
Niember Secretary – Executive Director	

#### Constitution of Irrigation Development Fund

Chairman – Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation	
Member	<ul> <li>Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance</li> <li>Joint Secretary, National Planning Commission</li> <li>Director General, Department of Irrigation</li> <li>Director General, Department of Agriculture</li> <li>Chairman, NFWUAN</li> </ul>
Member Secretary – Executive Director	

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# Thank you