



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



APCAS/24/B4.5

ASIA AND PACIFIC COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

30TH SESSION

19–24 May 2024
Kathmandu (Nepal)





SIDE EVENT B:

Nepal Experiences with Farm-based SDG indicators

B4: SDG indicator 5.a.1 – women's secure access and rights to agricultural land

Presenter: Mahesh Subedi, Director, NSO, Nepal



Metadata: Measuring SDGi 5.a.1 in Nepal

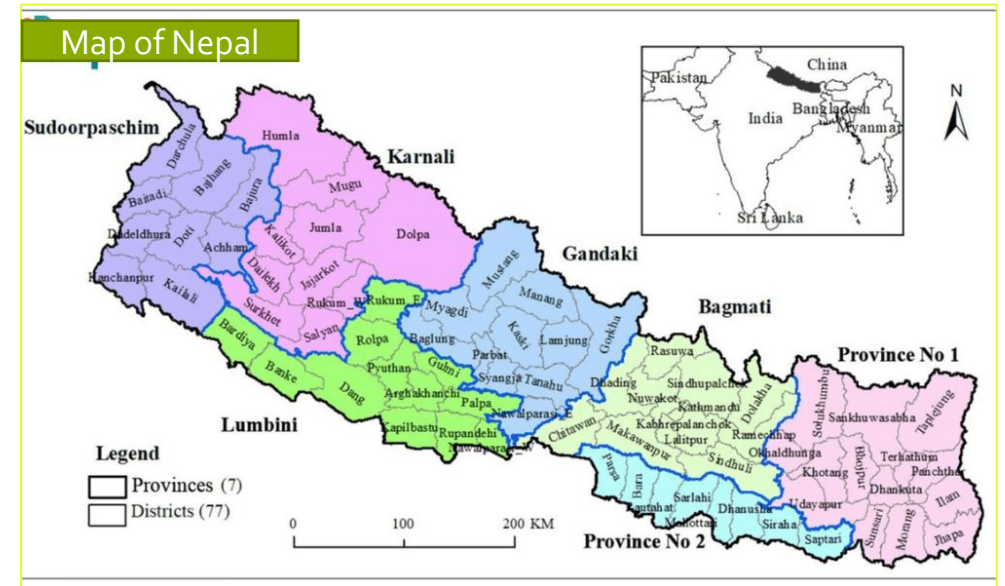
Lead Ministry/Agency	National Statistics Office (NSO), Nepal
Data users	Municipal, Provincial and Central Government of Nepal, Researchers, FAO, UNWOMEN
SDGi data source	National Agriculture Sample Census of Nepal, 2021/22
Data collection year(s)	2022 (19 Apr to 2 Jun, 2022: 45 days)
Reference period	2021 (Calendar year)
Sample size	330,112 holdings
Data collection frequency	Decennial (Once in every ten years)
Data collection mode	Face-to-face (with PAPI and CAPI methods)
SDGi reporting status	National and provincial estimates of SDGi 5.a.1, published

Content of the presentation

- Brief on Agriculture status in Nepal
- Information on Women's ownership of assets
- Measuring SDGi 5.a.1 in Nepal: Data situation & the tool
- Adaptation of the 5.a.1 questions in Nepal Sample Census of Agriculture 2021/22
- Indicator & results
- Interpretation
- Challenges, Limitations and Issues

Agriculture in Nepal

- Population of 29 million people; 6.67 million households of which around 62% households are engaged in agriculture (2021).
- Women account for 51.13% of the population; 64.8% of economically active women working in agriculture, forestry and fishing sector (2021).
- The country is largely agrarian; the agricultural sector contributed 24% of GDP (2023).



Women ownership in Assets

- Population Census 2021

- **31.5%** of the total households are headed by female,
- **23.8%** of the total households have ownership of land or housing in the name of female hh member,

- Housing unit only: 2.3%
- Land only: 9.7%
- Both (housing unit & land): 11.8%

11. Does any woman in your household own house/land anywhere in Nepal?

Has a house only.....1

Has land only2

Has both house and land.....3

Does not have any4

- Department of Land Management and Archive (as of March 23, 2023)
- **38.03%**: share of women with ownership of land among owners of land (agri+non-agri land),

SDG 5.a.1: Data Situation

- Lack of direct estimate from survey data before the Ag. Census 2022,
- Indirectly estimated data using DHS data (UNSD Global database, 2016)
 - 5a1a_F: 11%
 - 5a1a_M: 29.1%
 - 5a1b: 39.3%

Minimum Set of Data Required for SDGi 5.a.1

- Agriculture Household
- Farm Population (Adult)
 - Sex of Individual
 - Age of Individual
- Whether or not the selected **individual owns or holds use rights to any agricultural land,**
 - Individual has a **legally recognized document** that allows protecting ownership/tenure rights over the land,
 - **Individual is listed** as an owner or holder on any of the formal documents
- Individual has **the right to sell** any of the agricultural land, either alone or jointly with someone else,
- Individual has the **right to bequeath** any of the agricultural land, either alone or jointly with someone else.

Measuring SDGi 5.a.1 in Agriculture Census 2022

- Definitions of Terms Used in AC 2022

- Agricultural household

- Nepal AC 2022 follows WCA 2020's concept and definition to define Agricultural household (holding) as a statistical unit for data collection.
 - The household that has operated land for agricultural purposes or held/tended livestock over the past 12 months, regardless of the final purpose.
 - However, a certain threshold is used in agricultural land, and livestock to exclude small agricultural operations from the census.

Measuring SDGi 5.a.1 in Agriculture Census 2022

- Definitions of Terms Used in AC 2022
 - Agricultural population
 - The Agricultural population is all individuals living in the agricultural household.
 - The AC 2022 collects information on ownership of land for all household members **aged 16 years and above** as per the legal provision in Nepal.
 - However, the indicator 5.a.1 is estimated following the recommendation of 5.a.1 methodology for “**adult**” persons of the population who are **18 years old or older**.

Land ownership & Secure rights

(Metadata of 5.a.1)

- An individual is said to have ownership or secure rights to agricultural land if three conditions (proxies) are considered:
 - **Formal documentation:**
 - Proxy 1- Presence of legally recognised documents in the name of the individual
 - **Alienation rights:**
 - Proxy 2- Right to sell
 - Proxy 3- Right to bequeath

In the case of Nepal: If a person has a Formal documentation, it also holds the Alienation rights.

Nepal Agriculture Census 2022

(Questions for 5.a.1)



Government of Nepal
National Planning Commission

Central Bureau of Statistics

National Sample Census of Agriculture 2021/22

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INDIVIDUAL HOLDINGS

(Schedule 2)



Form Serial Number :

OBJECTIVE	The objective of the National Sample Census of Agriculture 2021/22 is to collect basic data on agricultural structure to be used for planning and formulating policies for the development of agriculture sector as per the federal structure.
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Question for LAND TENURE

3.6 Land Tenure Types on the Holding for Each Parcel

Parcel Code	Own land and own holding	Rented from someone else						Other Types of Land Tenure
		Contract		on Sharing of Produce	In Exchange for Service	Mortgage	On other Rental Agreements	
		Agreed sum of Money	Agreed Quantity Produced					
	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
01								
02								

12.2 Information on each of the household member

Serial No.	Name of the member of the household <i>(Write the name of holder, household head and other members serially)</i>	What is the Sex of the [NAME]? 1. Male 2. Female	What is the Age of the [NAME]? <i>(Years Completed)</i>	What is the Head's relationship to the [NAME]?	What is the highest education attainment of the [NAME]? <i>(5 years and above)</i>	What is the Primary Occupation of the [NAME]? <i>(10 years and above)</i>	Has [NAME] ever received any formal training on agriculture? <i>(Age 10 years and above)</i> 1 Yes 2 No	Does [NAME] participate in decisions concerning crops and livestock <i>(Age 10 years and above)</i> 1 Yes 2 No	How much time does [NAME] spend working on the holding in the reference period? <i>(Age 10 years and above)</i> 1. Less than half (<40%) 2. About half (40%-59%) 3. Most (60%-99%) 4. All (100%) 5. Not spent at all	Does <NAME> hold an official document in his/her name* certifying ownership or legal access** to agriculture land? <i>(Age 16 years and above)</i> 1. Yes 2. No
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
01	Name of the holder:									
02										

12.2 Information on each of the household member

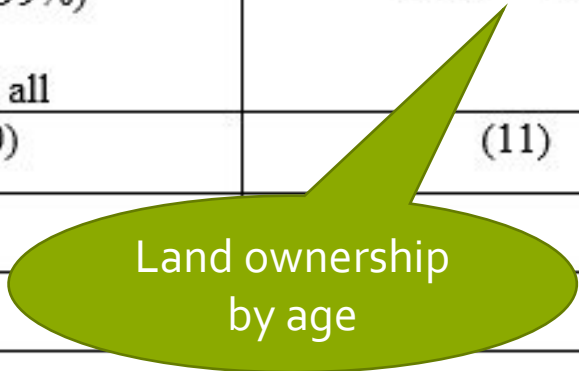
Serial No.	Name of the member of the household <i>(Write the name of holder, household head and other members serially)</i>	What is the Sex of the [NAME]? 1. Male 2. Female	What is the Age of the [NAME]? <i>(Years Completed)</i>	What is the Head's relationship to the [NAME]?	What is the highest education attainment of the [NAME]? <i>(5 years and above)</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
01	Name of the holder:				
02					

Sex

Age

Information of each member of the holding

What is the Primary Occupation of the [NAME]? (10 years and above)	Has [NAME] ever received any formal training on agriculture? (Age 10 years and above) 1 Yes 2 No	Does [NAME] participate in decisions concerning crops and livestock (Age 10 years and above) 1 Yes 2 No	How much time does [NAME] spend working on the holding in the reference period? (Age 10 years and above) 1. Less than half (<40%) 2. About half (40%-59%) 3. Most (60%-99%) 4. All (100%) 5. Not spent at all	Does <NAME> hold an official document in his/her name* certifying ownership or legal access** to agriculture land? (Age 16 years and above) 1. Yes 2. No
(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)



(*) With name listed on the land document

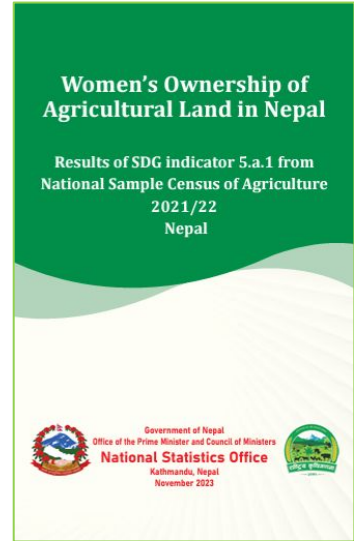
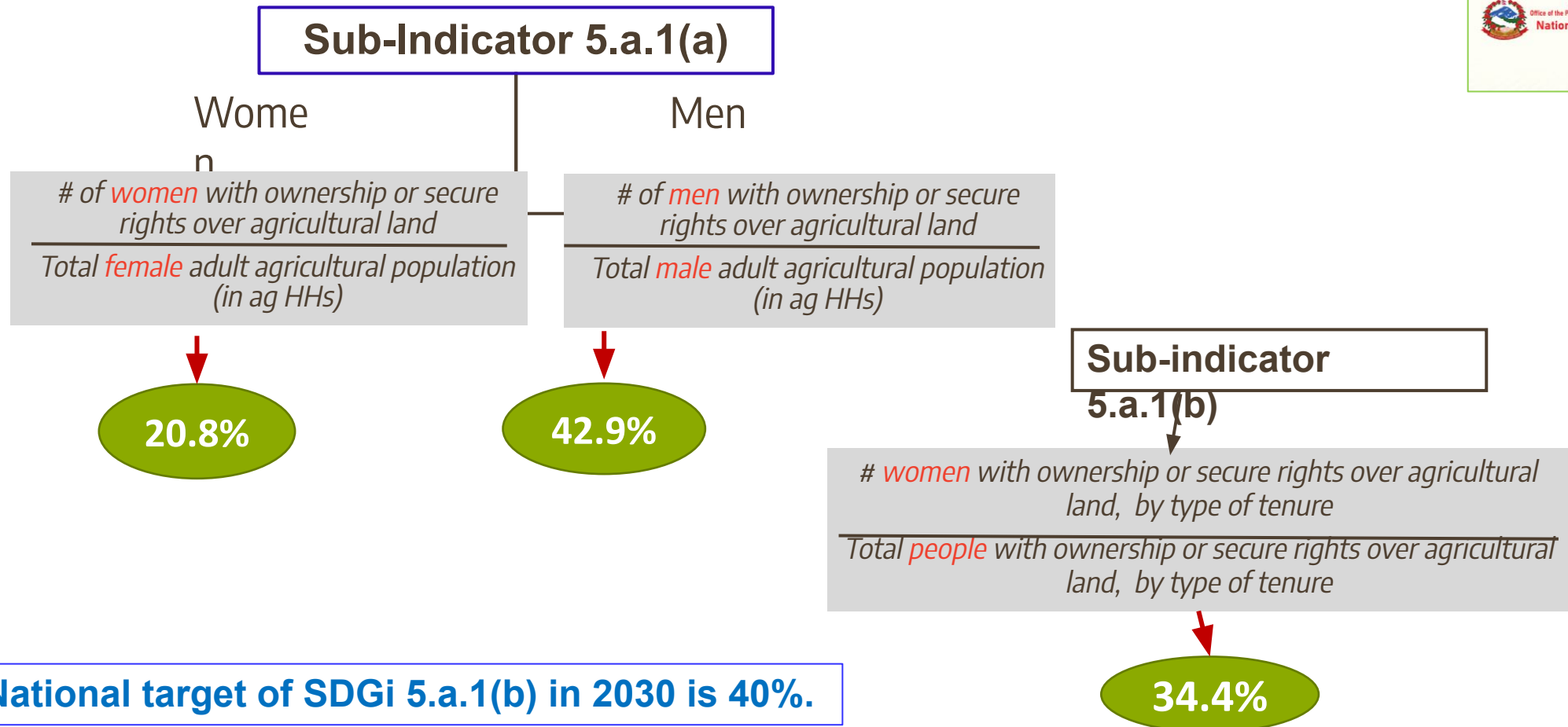
(**) Consider all types of official documents valid to defend individual's rights before the law - e.g., certificates of ownership, sales agreement, registered rental contracts, leasing contracts, etc.

NSCA 2021/22: select variables from microdata

Name	Label
PROV	01 Province
DIST	02 District
MUN	03 Municipality
WARD	04 Ward Number
EA	05 Enumeration area
HCNUM	07 Agriculture Holding Control Number
psuid	PSU ID
hhid	Household ID
QN122_1	QN12.2.1 Id code
QN122_2	QN12.2.2 Name of the household members
QN122_3	QN12.2.3 Sex of the member
QN122_4	QN12.2.4 Age of the member
QN122_5	QN12.2.5 Relation to household head
QN122_6	QN12.2.6 Highest education attained
QN122_7	QN12.2.7 Main occupation of the member
QN122_8	QN12.2.8 Formal agriculture training attended
QN122_9	QN12.2.9 Participation in decisions concerning agriculture activities
QN122_10	QN12.2.10 Average time spend on agri. activities
QN122_11	QN12.2.11 Has own agri registration document
enum	
sn	sn
MUNx	03 Municipality in English
wt	PSU Weight

Estimates of SDGi 5.a.1(a) & (b) from the Agriculture Census 2022

(Adult population; Age >=18 yrs)



Conclusion

- The Nepal Sample Census of Agriculture (NSCA) 2021/22 was used as a tool for data collection of SDGi 5.a.1,
- The results of SDG indicator 5.a.1 are available at national and provincial levels,
- 5.a.1 questions posed to all members of agricultural households aged 16+,
- The result, SDGi 5.a.1(b), i.e. 34.4% is close to national target of 5.a.1(b), in 2030, i.e. 40%.
- **Adaptation of 5.a.1 to Nepal context,**
 - All agricultural land under legal documentation - ownership, rental or leases,
 - Legal documents list owner or lease/renter, so no need to ask about the right to sell or right to bequeath/gift
 - No informal arrangements or customary tenure,
 - Tax incentives for land ownership in a woman's name (halves the tax rate on agricultural land/activities),

Challenges and Limitations

▪ Challenges,

- Such questions make the census questionnaire longer, adds cost, and burden to respondent,
- Some differences in definition of agriculture land between WCA recommendation and national legal land system,

▪ Limitations,

- Self reported ownership by a proxy respondent,
- Agricultural land with non-documented/non-registered long term lease is excluded.

• Issues,

- What, if any, is the minimum duration of a rental/lease agreement that leads to secure access?
- Nepalese men work as overseas temporary workers from 23% of agricultural households, such as in the Middle East, does 5a1 underestimate male ownership rates for 5a1(a), and overestimate the proportion of secure rights holders that are women (5a1(b))?

Thank you for your attention!

For more information, please visit:

<https://nsonepal.gov.np/>

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