



ADVANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF THE WATER SECTOR IN BHUTAN



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Resilient nations.

SDG GOAL



BACKGROUND

Bhutan is highly vulnerable to climate change and climate induced hazards and faces shortages and declining water quality, which has a direct bearing on increased vulnerabilities of livelihoods, food production and human health that depend on the renewable natural resources (RNR) sector, particularly for communities those dependent on forest resources.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is to enhance the resilience and sustainable economic well-being of the people of Bhutan by supporting climate adaptation interventions that enhance climate resilience of water resources through climate adaptation of the water sector. This will be achieved through catchment restoration and management, “climate-proofing” of water infrastructure for rural and peri-urban areas and enhancing institutional capacities in local government and communities for operation, maintenance and management of these catchments and water infrastructure. The project will be implemented in three Dzongkhags of Gasa, Punakha and Tsiriang which fall under the most climate vulnerable regions of the country.

PROJECT COMPONENT

Component 1: Water governance and institutions.

Component 2: Nature-based solutions for sustainable & climate- resilient watersheds livelihood enhancement.

Component 3: Efficient, adequate, and sustainable supply, distribution, and utilization of water.

Component 4: Knowledge management.

PROJECT TARGETS

- 19,391 people (almost half of them women) will have assured access to irrigation and domestic water through climate-proofing and enhancement of water infrastructure.
- 41,910 hectares of land will be restored/ brought under climate-resilient management.
- 38,518 hectares of watersheds will be restored and protected.
- 3,392 hectares of agricultural land will be brought under climate-resilient practices including adoption of climate-smart agricultural technologies.
- 74 kilometres of water transmission and distribution lines will be “climate-proofed” and automated with Internet of Things (IoT) and ICT based technologies.
- Knowledge product and awareness on water resource management.



Testing water quality at the source in
Tsirang Dzongkhag



Water source in Gasa

PROJECT FACTS

<i>Title:</i>	Advancing Climate Resilience of the Water sector in Bhutan
<i>Duration:</i>	60 months(2023 - 2028)
<i>Budget:</i>	GEF LDCF/ UNDP : USD 8,932,420 + USD 100,000 - Government co-finance: USD 25,032,000
<i>Location:</i>	Gasa, Punakha and Tsirang
<i>Implementing Partner:</i>	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MOIT)

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