

# PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Switzerland has agreed to provide a grant assistance of 16.94 million Swiss Francs (Approximately Rs. 1 billion 78 million) for the implementation of Small Irrigation Program.

The main objective of this program is to increase the agricultural productivity and agriculture income of rural poor especially the disadvantaged groups.

The Program will cover nine districts, namely Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Khotang, Sindhuli, Udaypur, Achham, Dailekh, Kalikot and Jajarkot. It aims to build or rehabilitate 1800 Farmers managed Small Irrigation Systems with involvement of small farmers which will provide the irrigation facility to 15000 hectares of command areas.

The Project will be implemented for the period of four years from January 2015 to December 2018. The Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development will be the implementing agency for this Project.

The Agreement was signed by Mr Suman Prasad Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr Urs Herren, Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland in Nepal on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for this assistance and for its continued support to the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance,  
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu

10 February 2015