



Translation of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) from global narratives to local realities: Lessons from Nepal Himalayas

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Introduction

- The agriculture sector gained global attention with the introduction of CSA which aims for triple benefits (Liper et al. 2014) as shown in figure below
- Research on CSA should be localized to smallholder farmers and community based programs (Chandra et al. 2018)

What is CSA?

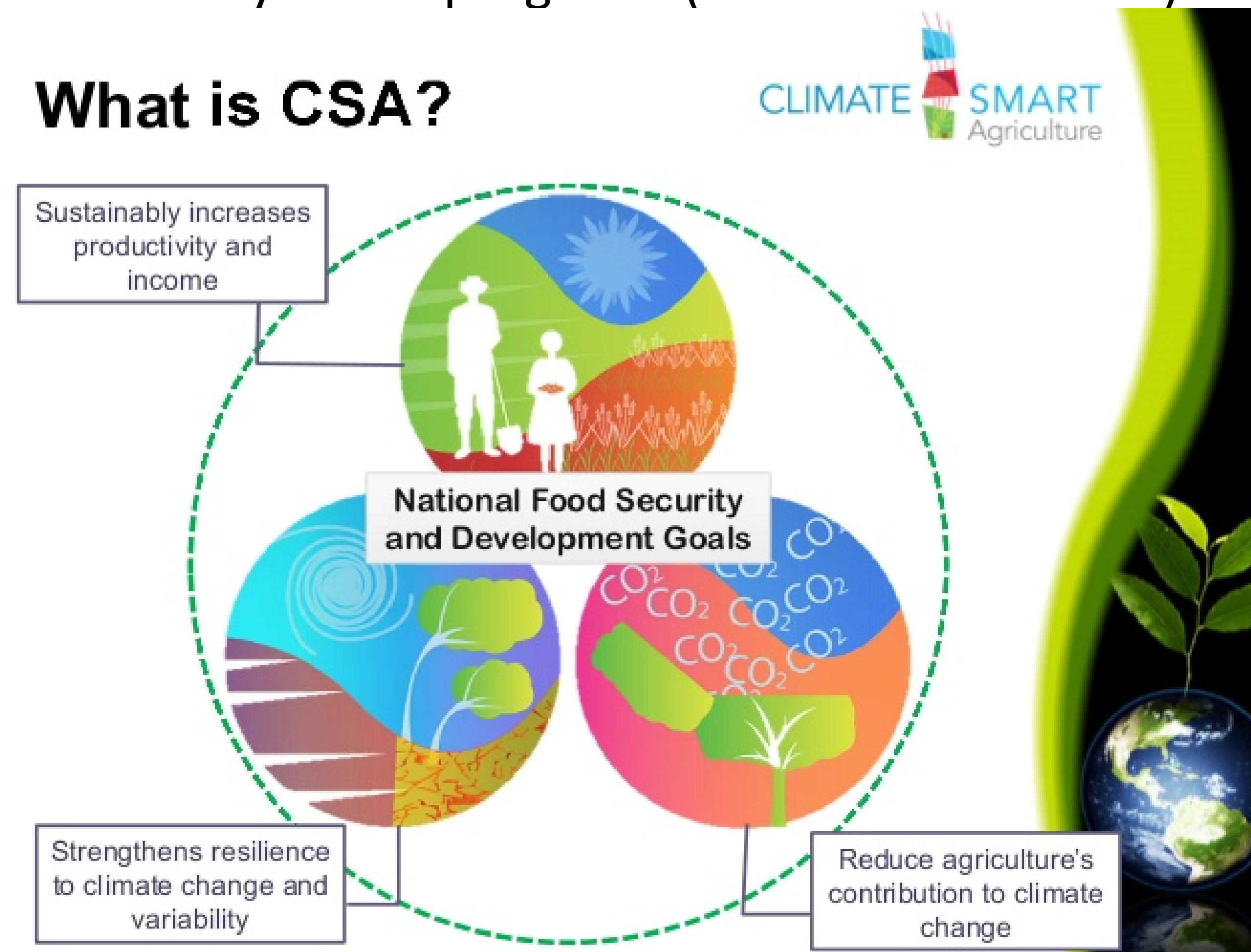
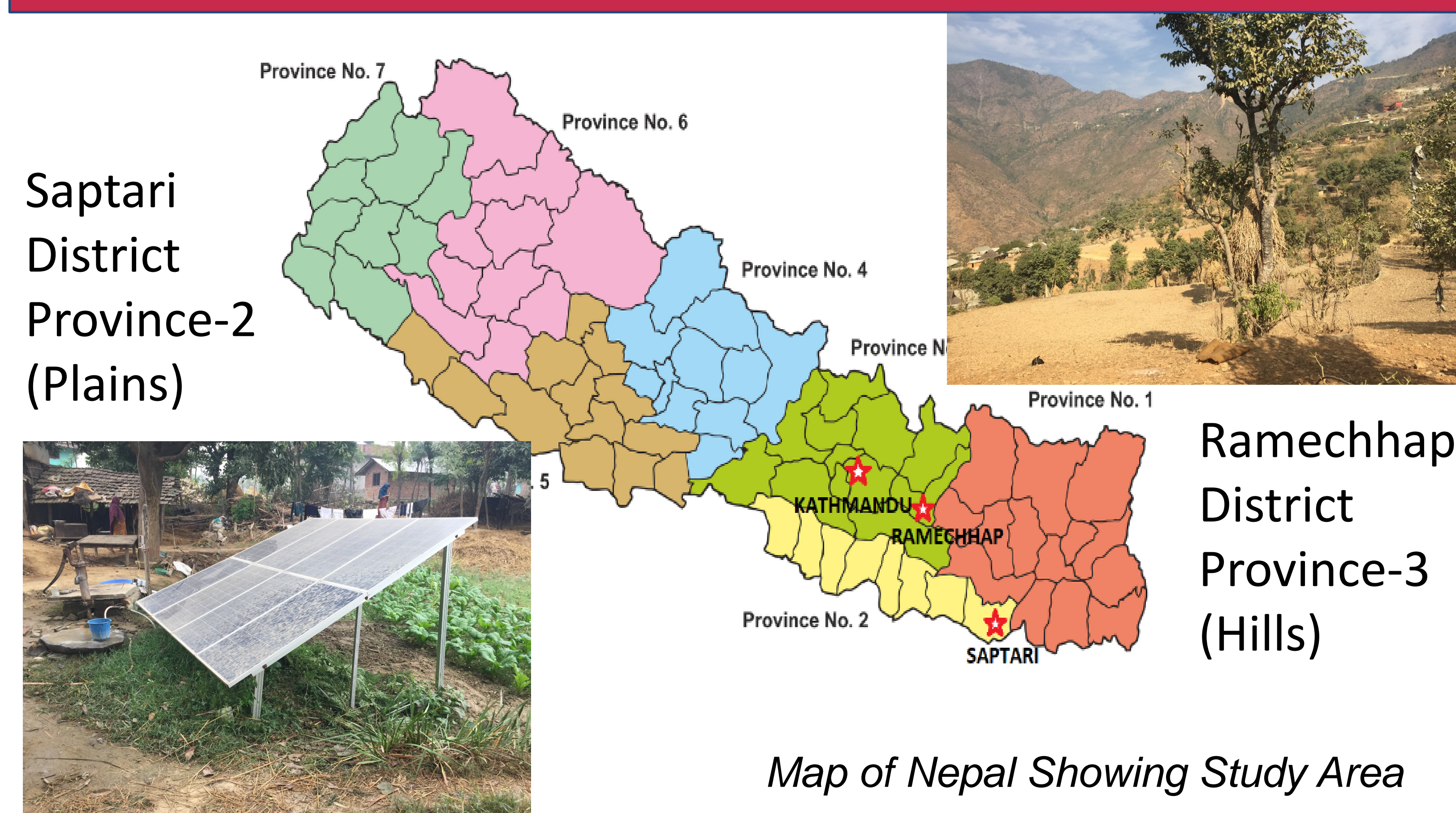


Figure showing three pillars of CSA

Research Questions

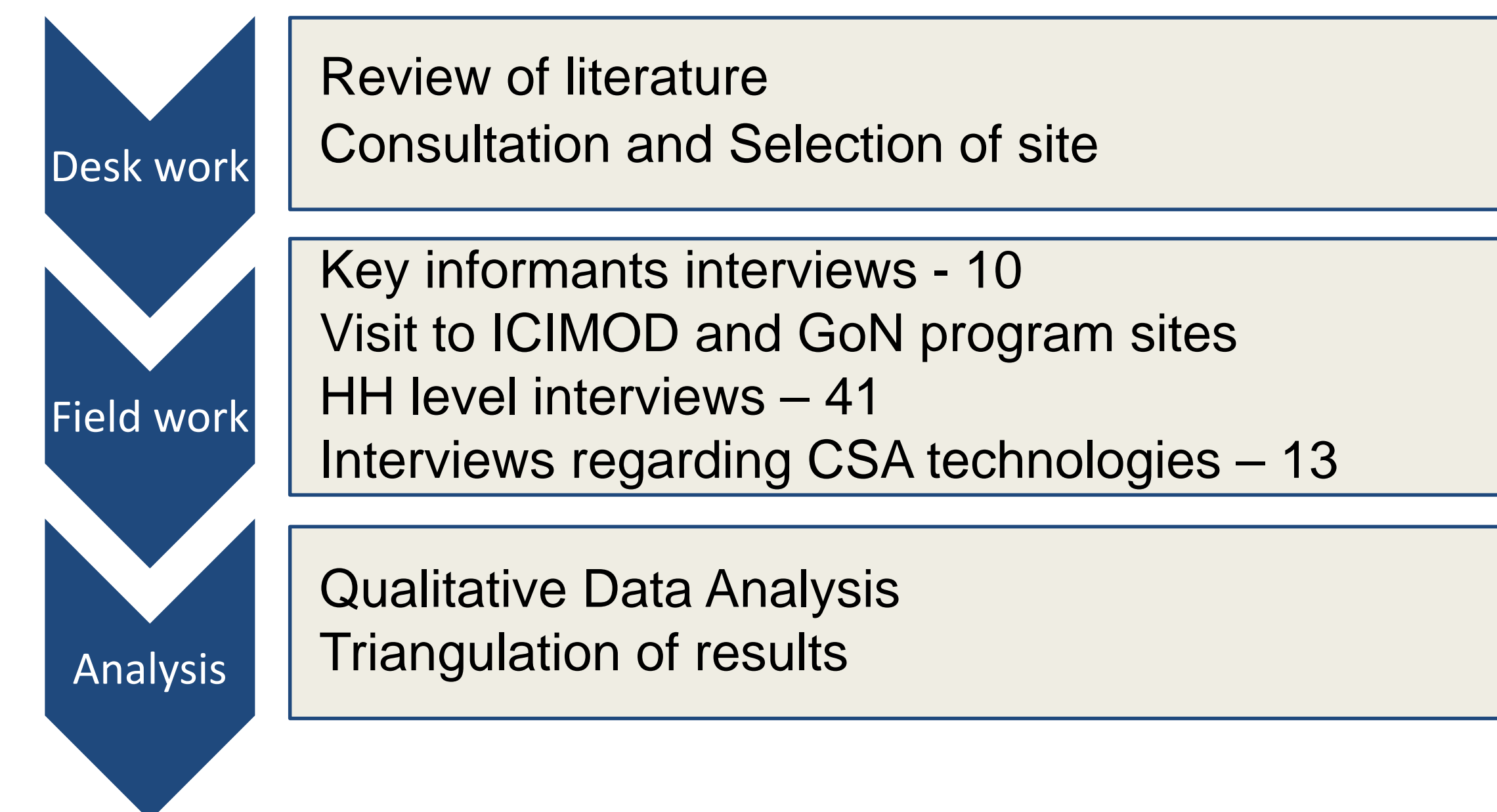
- How has CSA translated from global discourse to local practice and how implementing organizations at the local level innovate the idea
- What are aspirations of farmers regarding technologies used and implementation mechanism of CSA being practiced

Study Site



Map of Nepal Showing Study Area

Methods and Data



Results

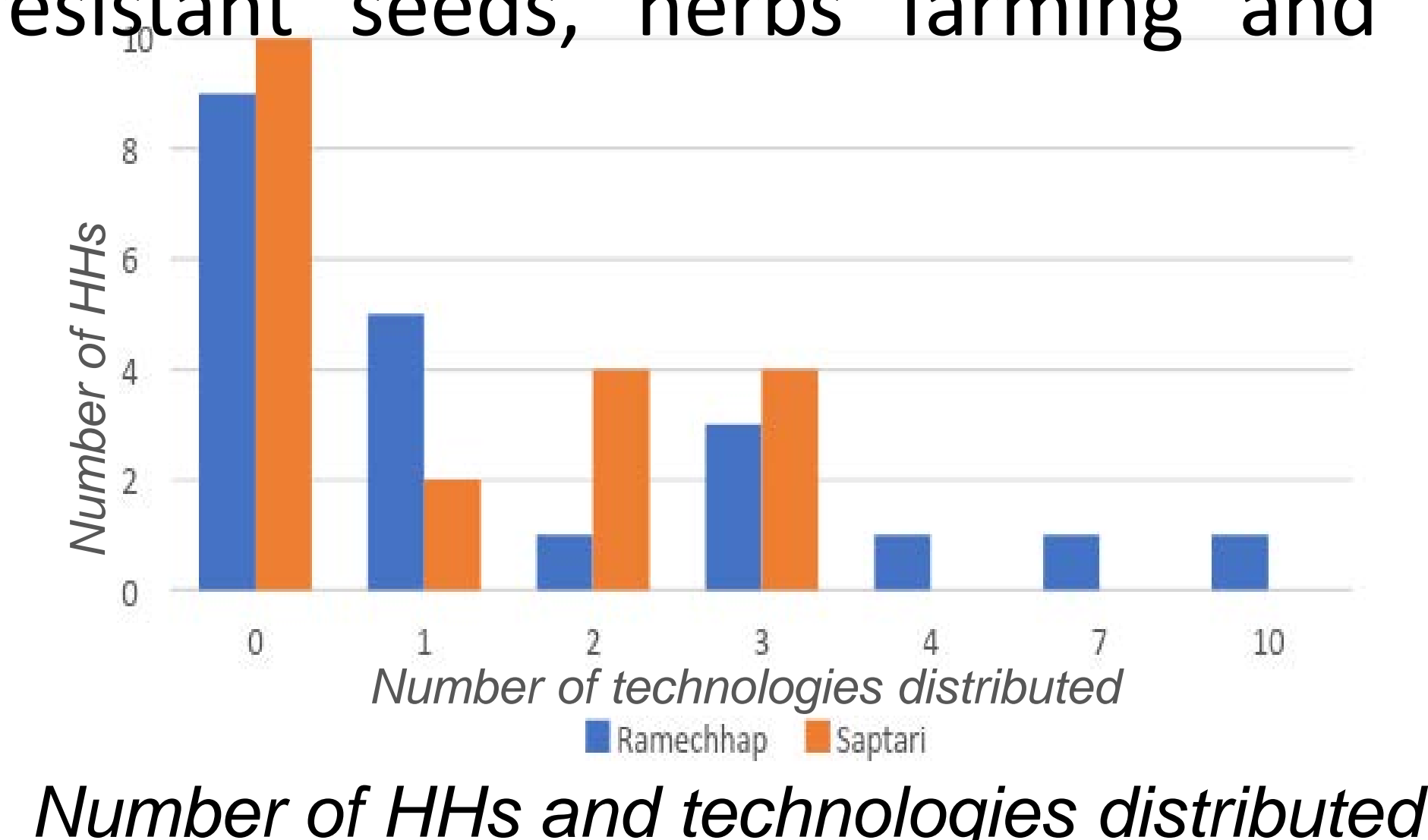
- Five programs related to CSA programs were identified
- Climate Smart Village (CSV) of GON started from FY 2016/17

STRENGTHS OF CSA

- Gender and social inclusion is introduced as a new pillar and community engagement is valued
- Learning attitude of implementors - programs evolving
- More encouragement to locals and local organizations
- Recognition of simple and small technologies
- Coordination among institutions and learning from each others

- Six technologies provided at Saptari were also provided at Ramechhap: water tank, improved cooking stoves, rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, cattle shed improvement and solar irrigation
- In addition, at Ramechhap five other technologies were provided: plastic pond, organic pesticides, plastic tunnel, drought resistant seeds, herbs farming and plantation

- Technologies not entirely new, success depends on how they are packaged and distributed



Number of HHs and technologies distributed



CHALLENGES FOR CSA

- Vulnerable places too hard for technologies proposed
- Triple benefits almost impossible esp. mitigation
- Losing grasp on agriculture
- Difficulty in reaching major crops
- Hard to penetrate food insecure areas
- Engagement with farmers and incorporation of local knowledge
- Define list of practices or leave it open
- Subsidy required but can also limit social learning
- Continuity of the program in same area in question
- Reflexivity and public participation in science

Conclusion

- Most commonly promoted approach of CSA at Nepal is the Climate Smart Village (CSV)
- While CSA technologies have remained largely the same in all programs, each program differs in terms of implementation mechanism and priorities
- Small simple technologies defy traditional evaluation approaches such as efficiency, effectiveness and equity
- Government should own CSA to scale it up but with caution as the government mechanism is different from other institutions

Reference

Chandra, A., McNamara, K. E., & Dargusch, P. (2018). Climate-smart agriculture: perspectives and framings. *Climate Policy*, 18(4), 526-541.
Liper et al. (2014), Climate-smart agriculture for food security, *Nature Climate Change*, 4: 1068-1072.
<https://csa.guide/>

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