Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rainfed Farming Project

(P179357)



Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF)

By Watershed Management Directorate, Uttarakhand

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DPMU District Project Management Unit

ESMF Environment Social Management Framework

ESA Environment and Social Assessment

FGD Focused Group Discussion

GP Gram Panchayat

GPRP Gram Panchayat Resilient Plan

IEC Information, Education and Communication

IPs Indigenous People

IPPF Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework

IPPF Indigenous Peoples Plan
 MDT Multi-Disciplinary Team
 M&E Monitoring & Learning
 MF Marginalized Families
 MI Marginalized Individuals

PD Project Director

PME Participatory Monitoring & Evaluation

PMU Project Management Unit
PRA Participatory Rural Appraisal
RVC Revenue Village Committee

SA Social Assessment

TNA Training Need Assessment TP Transhumant Population

UCRRFP Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rainfed Farming Project

UG User Group

VLI Village Level Institutions

VP Van Panchayat WAS Women Aam Sabha

WMD Watershed Management Directorate, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

WWMC Water & Watershed Management Committee

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1. Introduction

The World Bank will be supporting Watershed Management Directorate, Uttarakhand (WMD) in implementing the Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rainfed Farming Project (UCRRFP). The objective of the project is to *Improve resilience of production system to make mountain farming emission competitive and profitable in selected micro-watersheds of Uttarakhand*.

UCRRFP, will be implemented in 06 hilly districts and 02 plain districts of Uttarakhand covering about 1000 villages and comprising of 58 Micro watershed clusters.

The following Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are proposed for measuring the core outcomes of the project:

- KPI 1: Reduction in GHG emissions from representative cropped land parcels (CRI).
- KPI 2: Increase in productivity of selected crops.
- KPI 3: Increased water discharge in sample springsheds.
- KPI 4: Farmers adopting climate smart agriculture technologies and practices promoted by the project (CRI).
- KPI 5: Farm Income at HH Level with / without UCRRFP.

Project Components. A summary of the project components and main activities supported by the project are presented below-

Component A- Developing Resilient and GHG Efficient Production Systems

This component aims to enhance productivity through land treatment and development, while increasing fertilizer efficiency, water productivity, and reducing GHG emissions. To this effect, the multi-expert task team at the district level will help in preparing micro plans that will be implemented in a phased manner. Commodity-specific advisories will come from the respective technical agencies having domain knowledge.

The component provides the foundation for the project to shift cultivation towards optimal input usage pattern, leading to reduced input costs and enhanced average income of farmers.

Component B – Science-Based Development of Resilient Spring-sheds

The objective of the component is to improve spring-shed efficiency by investing in (i) undertaking comprehensive catchment treatment around spring-sheds; (ii) improving quantity and stability of spring flows through drainage management; and (iii) increased volume of water stored for farm use in farm ponds. With technical inputs from consortia partners, this component will support enhanced participatory micro-watershed planning, incorporating spring-shed treatment; rehabilitation of degraded common land; and water harvesting/storage from improved spring flows. It will enhance water supply and reliability, ensuring more timely input with water budgeting for each crop, for improved farm productivity under Component A.

Component C- Enhancing Income Resilience through Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship

The objective of the component is to promote investments in agribusiness to increase the stability and diversity and thus resiliency of incomes of rural and agricultural households in the project area (designated micro-watersheds). This will be through value addition of farm-based produce and

enterprise development, tapping into the State's rainfed areas' opportunities and relative strengths, also for the most vulnerable households, and tapping the surpluses from productivity gains and agriculture expansion arising resulting from Component A and B.

This component will make investments through three subcomponents: (i) Supporting Agribusiness Promotion Centers; (ii) Micro-Enterprise Development; and (iii) Income Generation Support for Vulnerable Groups.

Component D - Project Management, Monitoring & Evaluation, and Learning

The objective of this component is to (i) strengthen the institutions associated with the project; (ii) deliver effectively and efficiently project outputs in a timely and accountable manner with adaptive learning, and (iii) generate and disseminate cutting-edge knowledge on a range of issues related to climate-resilient agriculture.

This component will ensure a proactive and responsive project management and coordination, with well capacitated staff. A systemic management effort will also be made to institutionalize project developed approaches, partnerships, and systems. In addition, this component will create an institutional learning and sharing mechanism for mainstreaming resilient agriculture systems at all levels across the participating departments related to the project.

Component E: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC).

The project will include CERC with a zero allocation at project approval. This arrangement shall permit a rapid project restructuring should a disaster strike and allows the Bank to support recovery efforts quickly, if required.

1.1 Purpose of the IPPF:

The purpose of the Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework (IPPF) is to establish the requirements of ESS7, organizational arrangements, and design criteria to be applied to sub-projects or project components to be prepared during project implementation when Indigenous Peoples (IPs) may be present in, or have collective attachment to, the project area. Following identification of the sub-project or individual project components and confirmation that Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are present in or have collective attachment to the project area, a specific plan i.e., Indigenous People Plan, proportionate to potential risks and impacts, is prepared. Project activities that may affect Indigenous Peoples (IPs) do not commence until such specific plans are finalized and approved by the Bank. The IPPF will cover all activities under the project and would focus on creating an 'enabling environment' through intensive and extensive awareness creation among community members, mandating their participation in planning, management, and operations, ensuring equity in all project interventions and equities.

The objectives of IPPF are to: i) avoid or minimize adverse impacts on the Indigenous Peoples (Schedule Tribes-STs) community and to suggest appropriate mitigation measures; ii) ensure that the project engage Indigenous Peoples (IPs) communities/tribal people in all relevant stakeholder consultation sessions throughout the entire process of planning, implementation, and monitoring of project. iii) identify the views of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) people regarding the proposed project and ascertain broad community support for the project; and iv) ensure that project benefits are accessible to the IPs communities living in the project area.

This framework primarily operationalizes ESS7 for Indigenous Peoples (Scheduled Tribes—STs) present in, or with collective attachment to, the project area. Issues relating to transhumant populations are addressed separately through the Transhumant Action Plan (Annex A) under ESS1 and ESS10. The provisions of this IPPF, including the FPIC requirement, apply specifically to Indigenous Peoples under ESS7.

1.2 Context: In the UCRRFP project area, which covers a population of 368,016 across eight districts, Scheduled Tribes (STs) account for 5,059 individuals—approximately 1.38% of the total population. While overall ST representation is low, districts like Haridwar (12.13%) and Uttarkashi (2.95%) have relatively higher concentrations, mainly due to the presence of tribes such as Tharu, Buksa, and Jaunsari. The remaining districts—Almora, Pauri, Nainital, Rudraprayag, Tehri, and Udham Singh Nagar—have less than 1% ST population each. These figures highlight the need for targeted inclusion of ST communities, especially in areas where they form a more significant portion of the local population.

Scheduled Tribes (STs) make up about 2.9% of the state's population (around 2.9 lakh people). The main tribal groups include Tharu, Jaunsari, Buksa, Bhotia, and Raji. These communities mostly live in remote districts like Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Dehradun, and Udham Singh Nagar. STs have a relatively high rate of participation in work, especially women (36.3% compared to the state average of 26.7%). However, they continue to face many difficulties. ST literacy is lower than the state average (73.9%), and even lower for women (63.9%). Most STs work in marginal farming or daily wage jobs, and they have limited access to better employment, education, and health services.

District-wise data on Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) populations in Uttarakhand, as per the 2011 Census, is presented in **Table-1**. The **Table-2** highlights the SC and ST population distribution within the UCRRFP project areas.

Table-1: SC and ST Population in Uttarakhand

		Populatio	and ST Pop		Populat			ST Po	pulatio	n
District	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	•	% of Total
Uttarkashi	305781	24305	330086	76875	3692	80567	3374	138	3512	1.06
Chamoli	332209	59396	391605	68000	11317	79317	9046	3214	12260	3.13
Rudraprayag	232360	9925	242285	46279	1400	47679	309	77	386	0.16
Tehri Garhwal	548792	70139	618931	94628	7502	102130	630	245	875	0.14
Dehradun	754753	941941	1696694	119123	109778	228901	101475	10188	111663	6.58
Garhwal	574568	112703	687271	109576	12785	122361	1952	263	2215	0.32
Pithoragarh	413834	69605	483439	109541	10837	120378	15915	3620	19535	4.04
Bageshwar	250819	9079	259898	69842	2219	72061	1874	108	1982	0.76
Almora	560192	62314	622506	140931	10064	150995	750	531	1281	0.21
Champawat	221305	38343	259648	41725	5658	47383	1084	255	1339	0.52
Nainital	582871	371734	954605	137906	53300	191206	5780	1715	7495	0.79
Udham Singh Nagar	1062142	586760	1648902	174919	63345	238264	117381	5656	123037	7.46
Hardwar	1197328	693094	1890422	307320	103954	411274	5249	1074	6323	0.33
Total	7036954	3049338	10086292	1496665	395851	1892516	264819	27084	291903	2.89

Table-2: SC and ST Population in UCRRFP areas

District	Households	Total Population	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
Almora	11497	54024	14308	67
Pauri Garhwal	7159	29100	4615	21

District	Households	Total Population	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
Haridwar	5331	29875	4173	3625
Nainital	17649	86515	20480	109
Rudraprayag	11127	50279	10006	29
Tehri Garhwal	8462	44791	6015	5
Udham Singh Nagar	6276	34022	6546	39
Uttarkashi	8317	39410	9909	1164
Grand Total	75818	368016	76052	5059

While the State's ST population is relatively small and unevenly distributed, seasonal and circular mobility is significant in several districts. Transhumant groups—some recognized as ST (e.g., segments of Bhotiya) and some not (e.g., many Van Gujjars)—use shared natural resources, traverse multiple GPs, and face distinct access and service-delivery barriers. The project therefore treats transhumance as a specific vulnerability requiring tailored engagement and benefits alongside ESS7 measures for Indigenous Peoples (IPs)

Additionally, Transhumant pastoralists, who seasonally migrate with their livestock across high-altitude grazing routes, are present in many of the UCRRFP project areas, particularly in districts like Uttarkashi, Chamoli, and Pithoragarh. As these groups pass through and temporarily settle in project villages, they share natural resources such as grazing lands and water sources with the local communities. This often leads to both cooperation and occasional conflict over resource use. Given their mobile lifestyle, transhumant communities face heightened vulnerability due to limited access to public services, shrinking grazing areas, and increasing climate variability. Recognizing their presence and interactions with settled communities, the project aims to include transhumants as a vulnerable group to be supported through targeted livestock-based interventions, improved service access, and resource-sharing mechanisms. This will promote sustainable use of natural resources, reduce conflict, and enhance climate resilience for both transhumant and resident populations.

In Uttarakhand, several departments collect partial or related data depending on their mandates. The Forest Department maintains grazing permits, seasonal migration routes, and livestock details for groups like Van Gujjars, though records are usually manual and stored at the range or division level. The Animal Husbandry Department collects livestock census data every five years, which may indirectly reflect migratory patterns but doesn't distinctly classify transhumant populations. The Tribal Welfare Department holds information on Scheduled Tribes such as the Bhotiya or Van Gujjars, though it focuses more on settled populations.

Several transhumant communities traditionally practice seasonal migration with their livestock across altitudes, forests, and pastures. These groups are often categorized by ethnic identity, livelihood pattern, or pastoral practice. Here are the major transhumant communities:

1. Van Gujjars

• Region: Terai and lower Himalayan foothills (Rajaji National Park, Corbett, etc.)

- Livelihood: Buffalo herding; migrate seasonally from lowland forests (winter) to higher pastures (summer).
- Status: Traditionally nomadic; now facing resettlement pressures. Many are Muslim pastoralists.
- Issues: Land rights, forest access, grazing permits, recognition as Scheduled Tribe (in Uttarakhand they are not recognized as STs).

2. Bhotiyas

- Subgroups: Marchha, Tolcha, Jadh, Shauka
- Region: High Himalayan border regions (Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi)
- Livelihood: Historically engaged in trans-Himalayan trade and seasonal migration.
- Migration pattern: Move to high-altitude villages and pastures (May–October) and return to lower altitudes or Dharchula/Joshimath for winters.
- Status: Recognized as Scheduled Tribes.
- Current trend: Many have now settled, but seasonal movement for livestock grazing still exists.

3. Van Rawats (Rajis)

- Region: Pithoragarh and Champawat districts
- Livelihood: Traditionally hunter-gatherers and forest dwellers; limited seasonal mobility.
- Status: Recognized as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)
- Current trend: Now more sedentary due to government welfare programs, though some retain forest-based livelihoods.

4. Garhwali and Kumaoni Shepherds (Gaddis, Bakarwals)

- Region: Higher altitudes of Chamoli, Uttarkashi, and Pithoragarh
- Livelihood: Seasonal sheep and goat herding.
- Migration pattern: Move between summer bugyals (alpine meadows) and lower valleys.
- Not a distinct ethnic group like Gujjars or Bhotiyas, but part of broader transhumant pastoralism.

5. Nomadic Pastoralist Families (Non-Tribal)

- Groups: Some non-tribal pastoralist families in Garhwal/Kumaon also practice seasonal migration.
- Status: Not organized into a named community but engaged in traditional movement with herds.

Based on the above information, transhumant-related data from the Forest Department based on the maintains grazing permits, seasonal migration routes, and livestock details has been collected in the UCRRFP project areas, as presented in the table below.

S.No.	Name of the Division	Name of the Nomad Group	Season	From	То	Animal Type	Animal No.	НН	Population	Project Location Area
		Van Gujjar	Summer	April	August	Cow, Horse, Buffalo	164	12	57	Brahamkhaal, Dunda/Pipli
1	Uttarkashi	Gaddi/Bakarwals	12 Months	Jan	Dec	Sheep, Goat, Horse	13505	93	101	
2	Decidence	Van Gujjar	Summer	April	Sep/Oct	Cow, Horse, Buffalo	2518	22	121	Listwalta, maikhanda, dharpudi, lastar
2	Rudraprayag	Gaddi/Bakarwals	Summer	March/April	Sep/Oct	Goat	2105	4	18	khankara, Rudraprayag
3	Pauri	Van Gujjar	Summer	March	October	Small Reminant	3000	20	85	Farsadi/Syunsi/Maithanadhaar
4		Gaddi	Summer	March-April	Oct-Nov	Sheep, Goat	3530	11	35	High Himalayan Area.
			Winter	Oct-Nov	March-April	Sheep, Goat	3530	11	35	Bhutsi, Manjgaon (Satyo Unit)
	Tehri		Summer	March-April	Oct-Nov	Sheep, Goat	20400	35	152	Tentative Two month in
			Winter	Oct-Nov	March-April	Sheep, Goat	20400	35	150	Project Area.
		Gujjar	Summer	March-April	Oct-Nov	Buffalo	1560	42	210	
			Winter	Oct-Nov	March-April	Buffalo	1560	42	210	
5	Nainital	Gaddi/Bakarwals	Winter	November	March	Sheep, Goat	3400	23	-	Vijay pur Forest Bandarjuda/Kaladungi Forest Range
		Van Gujjar	Summer	April	March	Cow, Buffalo	89	11	40	Lamachor Khas
		Gaddi/Bakarwals	Winter	November	March	Sheep, Goat	1210	-	-	
		Van Gujjar	Summer	April	March	Cow, Buffalo	3395	101	270	Naini forest aam Pokhra range
		Gaddi/Bakarwals	Winter	November	March	Sheep, Goat	750	4	-	Naini forest manora Range
							81116	458	1484	

2. Legal and Policy Framework

The following national laws and policies are relevant to the protection and inclusion of Indigenous Peoples (Scheduled Tribes) in India, and are applicable to the Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rainfed Farming Project (UCRRFP):

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989	Provides legal protection against discrimination and violence towards SC/ST communities.
The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996	Empowers Gram Sabha's in Scheduled Areas with rights over natural resources and self-governance.
The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006	Recognizes the individual and community rights of forest dwellers, including transhumant and Van Gujjars, over land and forest resources.
The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR) Act, 2013	Provides safeguards for Scheduled Tribes in land acquisition processes, ensuring consent and rehabilitation.
The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (as amended in 2006)	Affects access and rights in protected areas; relevant for Van Gujjars and other groups residing in or near wildlife sanctuaries.
National Policy on Tribal Development, 1999	Provides the framework for integrated socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes.
Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)	A strategic initiative to channel plan funds and benefits to tribal areas.
73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1994 (Panchayati Raj Act)	Mandates decentralization and inclusion of marginalized groups in decision-making through PRIs.
Relevant World Bank Policies (e.g., ESS7 or OP 4.10)	The project complies with Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7) for Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities. FPIC applies to Indigenous Peoples where significant impacts on lands, resources, cultural heritage, relocation, or consent-dependent aspects are proposed. For transhumant populations that are not legally recognized as Indigenous Peoples (Schedule Tribes-STs), the project applies ESS1 (assessment and management of risks) and ESS10 (stakeholder engagement) to ensure inclusion, risk mitigation, and culturally appropriate benefit-sharing.
Other Applicable International Conventions (e.g., ILO 169, UNDRIP)	In alignment with international best practices, the project recognizes relevant global conventions such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). While India is not a signatory to ILO 169, the principles of dignity, participation, cultural preservation, and benefit-sharing outlined in UNDRIP will guide the project's engagement with Indigenous communities. In applying UNDRIP principles, FPIC commitments in this project remain specific to Indigenous Peoples as defined in ESS7; for Non-IPs, the project applies robust informed

consultation and broad community support consistent with ESS10.

3. Identification of Indigenous Peoples

The identification of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) under the project is guided by the criteria outlined in World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7). As per these guidelines, communities are recognized as Indigenous Peoples or Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India if they meet some or all of the following characteristics:

- Self-identification as members of a distinct cultural group and recognition of this identity by others
- Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories and natural resources.
- **Distinct social, economic, cultural, or political institutions** separate from those of the mainstream society or culture.
- Distinct language, dialect, or cultural expressions.
- Traditionally governed institutions and customary laws that influence their lifestyle and community decision-making.

In the context of Uttarakhand, the Indigenous Peoples primarily include communities notified as Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution of India. Prominent Indigenous Peoples (IPs) groups in the state include the **Van Gujjars, Bhotiya, Raji, Tharu, Jaunsari,** and **Buksa**, among others. These communities maintain strong ties with forested landscapes and pastoral or semi-nomadic livelihoods, particularly in hilly and border regions.

Within the UCRRFP (Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rain fed Farming Project) areas, Indigenous Peoples (IPs) populations have been identified in selected Gram Panchayats across various districts. Their presence and attachment to the project area have been assessed through:

- Household Survey
- Village-level Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises.
- Wealth Ranking and Vulnerability Assessments conducted during GPRP preparation.
- Data collected from Forest Department, Census 2011.

3.1A Identification of Transhumant Populations

Transhumant groups will be identified using practical criteria: (i) seasonal/cyclical livestock movement across altitudes/GPs; (ii) shared use of grazing lands, forests, and water; (iii) recognizable migration routes and halting points; (iv) distinct livelihood practices and social organization; and (v) evidence from Forest Department grazing permits, Unit/GP records, and participatory mapping. Where a transhumant group is also recognized as ST, ESS7 applies and an IPP will be prepared; where not, the Transhumant Action Plan will apply.

4. Potential Impacts of the Project

Positive Impacts:

The UCRRFP is designed to strengthen climate-resilient agriculture, improve natural resource management, and enhance livelihood security, particularly in rain fed and hilly regions of Uttarakhand. Indigenous communities such as the Bhotiya, Raji, Tharu, and Van Gujjars many of whom are dependent on traditional farming, forest-based livelihoods, and pastoralism are expected to benefit from improved access to climate-resilient practices, infrastructure, and support services.

The project emphasizes community participation, which will ensure that Indigenous Peoples (IPs) have representation in local planning platforms like WWMC, RVC, and Gram Sabhas. By facilitating inclusive decision-making and supporting capacity building, the project will also promote the socio-economic upliftment of these communities.

Further, project interventions such as improved irrigation, soil and water conservation, pasture development, and livestock services will reduce climate vulnerabilities, while enhancing food and income security for Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households. The emphasis on cultural sensitivity and use of traditional knowledge wherever applicable will help preserve Indigenous identities while integrating them into climate-adaptive development.

Potential Adverse Impacts:

No land acquisition, physical relocation, or involuntary resettlement of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) is envisaged under UCRRFP. The project will primarily work through existing community institutions and on common or government lands. Any sub-projects requiring acquisition of private land, causing cultural harm, or impacting Indigenous People's traditional access to natural resources, including migration routes, sacred sites, or grazing areas, will be placed on a **negative list** and deemed ineligible for financing.

However, certain risks may arise if adequate safeguards are not implemented. These include:

- Social exclusion due to geographical remoteness, lack of representation, or illiteracy.
- Restricted access to forests or pastures due to project-supported interventions that alter land use
- Loss of traditional practices if external technologies are introduced without community acceptance.
- **Gender-based or caste-based disparities** in benefit sharing, particularly among vulnerable sub-groups within Indigenous Peoples (IPs) communities.
- Disruption or narrowing of traditional migratory routes, halting points, and access to watering/grazing areas used by transhumant groups.
- Heightened inter-community tensions over resource use if benefit flows or use rules are not co-designed and transparently disclosed.

To address and mitigate these risks, the project will implement the provisions outlined in the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), which emphasizes free, prior, and informed consultations and the use of culturally appropriate engagement strategies. In the context of UCRRFP, specific formats have been developed for identifying individual and group-level activities, forming groups, proposing activities, and establishing contracts between Gram Panchayats and marginalized individuals or groups. Additionally, tailored guidelines and pre- and post-implementation reporting formats have been created specifically for transhumant populations. The project is also committed to ongoing monitoring of social impacts and ensuring responsive grievance redressal through institutional mechanisms operating at the village, district, and state levels.

The project will not finance activities that restrict Indigenous Peoples' traditional resource access or that close established transhumant corridors without (i) prior risk assessment; (ii) agreed mitigation (e.g., alternative routes, watering points, timing protocols); and (iii)

documented FPIC where Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are affected, or informed consultation and broad community support for Non- Indigenous Peoples (IPs) transhumant groups.

5. Guidelines for Social Assessment

The Social Assessment (SA) is a core component of the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), aimed at understanding the socio-economic, cultural, and institutional dynamics of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) within the project area. It facilitates the identification of both positive and adverse project impacts and ensures that project planning and implementation are inclusive, culturally appropriate, and equitable.

Process for Conducting Social Assessment:

The SA will begin with a household baseline survey during the preparatory phase of sub-project implementation. This assessment will follow a participatory and inclusive approach, involving direct interaction with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households and their representative institutions. Both qualitative and quantitative data will be collected to:

- Capture the demographic, socio-economic, and cultural profile of Indigenous communities.
- Assess existing vulnerabilities, gaps in access to services, and development needs.
- Identify potential project benefits, risks, and outline appropriate mitigation measures.

Following the identification of Indigenous Peoples, a vulnerability assessment will be undertaken through participatory rural appraisal (PRA) methods such as wealth ranking. The SA will explicitly map both Indigenous Peoples and transhumant populations. Tools will include seasonal calendars, route/halting-point mapping, and conflict-sensitivity analysis of shared resource use. SA outputs will specify whether an IPP (ESS7) or a Transhumant Action Plan (Annex A) is required, or both.

Based on the outcomes of the Social Assessment and vulnerability mapping (e.g., through PRA and wealth ranking), eligible Indigenous households or groups will be supported through culturally appropriate and locally relevant livelihood interventions.

Indicative individual livelihood support options may include traditional trades such as blacksmithing, carpentry, tailoring, poultry, goat rearing, and others as identified through community consultations. Group-based enterprises may include cultural performance groups, fruit preservation, handicrafts, or other collective economic activities.

Similarly, transhumant groups may be supported with basic kits, veterinary supplies, and capacity-building efforts based on seasonal mobility patterns and needs identified during assessment.

All such support activities will be finalized in the **Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)** or **Transhumant Action Plan (Annexed-A)** specific to the sub-project, following consultations and screening in accordance with the IPPF.

6. Consultation and Participation Strategy

The UCRRFP is committed to ensuring that Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and other marginalized communities are meaningfully consulted and actively engaged throughout the project lifecycle. This strategy is guided by the principles of **Free**, **Prior**, **and Informed Consent (FPIC)** and emphasizes culturally appropriate and equitable participation.

FPIC will be undertaken with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) prior to the design and implementation of any subproject that may affect their lands, resources, cultural heritage, or require relocation, in line with ESS7.

For transhumant populations not recognized as Indigenous Peoples (IPs), the project will implement culturally appropriate, mobile consultations aligned to migration calendars (timing, locations, languages) and seek broad community support under ESS10. Consultations will be documented with attendance, issues raised, and agreed measures, including resource-sharing protocols with GPs.

Guidelines for Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):

- FPIC will be ensured through community-level consultations prior to the design and implementation of any sub-projects or activities.
- Project information will be shared in local languages using culturally appropriate methods (e.g., storytelling, pictorial IEC, community meetings).
- Community consent will be obtained voluntarily, documented, and respected, particularly in areas with Indigenous populations or collective resource use.

Strategy for Inclusive Consultations with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) Communities:

- Special efforts will be made to ensure inclusive participation of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households, particularly women, elders, youth, and the landless.
- Participatory methods such as FGDs, key informant interviews, and PRA tools will be used for planning and decision-making.
- A Village Motivator—preferably from the local IP/marginalized community—will serve as a
 key facilitator to ensure the inclusion of marginalized households in committees, groups, and
 consultations. This person will also help bridge communication between project staff and
 community members. Together with the Unit Social Facilitator, the Village Motivator will
 facilitate consultations, ensure culturally appropriate materials, and document participation
 and decisions, including FPIC records where applicable.
- Representation of Indigenous Peoples will be ensured in all relevant community institutions and project-supported platforms such as WWMC, SHGs, User Groups, and RVCs.

Mechanism for Continued Engagement:

- Community engagement will be ongoing, not a one-time event. Regular meetings will be held at the village level to track implementation and incorporate feedback.
- Consultation records and decisions will be documented and shared with stakeholders at each level of governance to ensure transparency and trust-building.
- Landless IPs, who often depend on traditional and seasonal livelihood practices, will be supported under the Marginalized Group Activities component of the project. This support will include alternative or supplementary livelihood opportunities that align with and help sustain their cultural practices and traditional knowledge systems.
- Accountability: Unit Officers submit monthly consultation/FPIC status updates to the DPMU;
 DPMU verifies and includes a quarterly summary in district reports to the PMU."

This inclusive strategy ensures that Indigenous communities are not only consulted but also empowered to shape and benefit from the project in ways that respect their identity, culture, and livelihood systems.

7. Mitigation Measures and Benefit-Sharing

To ensure effective risk management and inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples (IPs), the project will adopt the following actionable strategies:

Risk Avoidance and Mitigation:

- All sub-projects will be screened to prevent land displacement, cultural disruption, or exclusion of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) communities.
- Activities likely to negatively affect Indigenous cultural practices, resources, or habitats will be excluded as per the project's negative list.

Culturally Aligned Benefits:

- Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households will be prioritized under livelihood support interventions suited to their traditional knowledge and practices (e.g., herding, handicrafts, herbal medicine, etc.).
- Landless Indigenous families will be supported through customized income-generating schemes that preserve their cultural identity.

Inclusive Development Actions:

- Indigenous Peoples (IPs) will be integrated into community-level planning, implementation, and monitoring structures (e.g., WWMC, RVCs).
- A dedicated budget line for Marginalized and Transhumant Activities will finance individual/group-based interventions customized to Indigenous Peoples (IPs) needs in livelihoods, education, and basic services.
- In GPs with transhumant presence, the GP/RVC, Unit Officer, and community representatives will agree written, publicly posted resource-sharing protocols (e.g., watering points, grazing windows, route safety) to prevent conflict and ensure predictable access.

Institutional Mechanisms:

- Village Motivators will ensure representation of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) in every village institution and facilitate their access to entitlements.
- Social Facilitators and MDTs will guide the planning and execution of benefit-sharing activities at the community level.

Conflict Sensitivity and Do-No-Harm: Subprojects will incorporate measures (signage, route demarcation, watering points, community liaison) to minimize friction between resident and transhumant users, monitored through the GRM.

8. Institutional Arrangements

This section clarifies who does what, when, and with what authority to implement the IPPF in line with ESS7, including FPIC, inclusive planning, implementation oversight, grievance redress, and results monitoring. Responsibilities are defined at PMU, Regional, District (DPMU), Unit/Block, and Gram Panchayat/Revenue Village levels.

Level	Lead Roles	Responsibilities	Decision Rights
State Level – PMU	Project Director (PD); Project Manager (PM), Social Development Specialist (SDS); Public Information Officer (PIO)	• Approve IPPF guidelines, annual Indigenous Peoples (IPs) /Transhumant workplans, and budgets; issue directives on inclusion and FPIC. • Review subprojects with Indigenous Peoples (IPs) presence; clear IPPs/Transhumant Plans before disbursement. • Design and deliver capacity-building programs on ESS7/FPIC, culturally appropriate engagement, inclusive GRM, and data disaggregation for all project tiers. • Maintain state Indigenous Peoples (IPs) Dashboard; consolidate district reports; submit semi-annual updates to the Bank. • Ensure culturally appropriate, survivor-centred SEA/SH pathway; track escalated grievances. • Commission spot checks, social audits, and independent reviews of IPP implementation quality.	Approve IPPs/Transhumant Plans and budgets; issue no objection for subproject implementation where FPIC is confirmed.
Regional Level – Garhwal & Kumaon Offices	Regional Directors;	 Supervise and coach DPMUs and Units on screening, FPIC documentation, inclusion in WWMC/RVC/SHG platforms. Validate quarterly inclusion and grievance trends; trigger corrective actions. Facilitate cross-district learning; troubleshoot interdistrict migration/route issues. Support capacity building and awareness programs for district and unit staff. 	
District Level – DPMU	Deputy Project Director (DPD); District Social Coordinator; District PIO	• Ensure GP/Unit micro plans document IP presence, risks, mitigation; verify representation targets (incl. women from Indigenous Peoples (IPs) HHs).	District clearance of GP/Unit plans prior to PMU approval of IPP budget lines.

Level	Lead Roles	Responsibilities	Decision Rights
		 Confirm ESS7 screening outcomes; ensure IPPs and Transhumant Plan prepared with FPIC documented. Provide technical support to Units/GPs; verify timely delivery of benefits. Monitor GP/Unit GRC performance; ensure timely closure and quality feedback. Lead awareness-building efforts in the community; provide guidance on Indigenous Peoples (IPs) inclusion. Submit quarterly Indigenous Peoples (IPs) inclusion and GRM reports to Regional 	
Level	Unit Officer; Social Facilitator; Public Information Officer (Unit)	Office/PMU. • Mobilize IPs families; ensure meaningful participation in PRA, planning, and WWMC/RVC/UG/SHG forums; document attendance and decisions. • Organize culturally appropriate FPIC consultations; document consent/concerns; escalate issues. • Coordinate delivery of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) /Transhumant benefits; maintain registers and photo/geo evidence. • Register/classify grievances; acknowledge ≤3 days; aim ≤15 days resolution; escalate as needed. • Support awareness-building and capacity development for Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households on project processes, rights, and grievance mechanisms. • Submit monthly updates on inclusion, FPIC, benefits, grievances to DPMU.	
Gram Panchayat /	Gram Pradhan/Panchayat	• Ensure equitable representation of	

Level	Lead Roles	Responsibilities	Decision Rights
Revenue	Secretary; WWMC;	IPs/marginalized HHs (≥40%	
Village	RVC; Village	women) in all GP bodies and	
Committees &	Motivator; SHG	user groups.	
Community	women's representative;	• Identify IPs needs through	
Platforms	Indigenous Peoples (IPs)	PRA; incorporate into micro	
	community	plans; co-implement and	
	representatives	verify delivery/quality.	
		 Host consultations; sign 	
		minutes/attendance; retain	
		FPIC records locally; ensure	
		public accessibility.	
		Operate village GRC	
		monthly; record, track, close	
		cases; ensure survivor-centred	
		SEA/SH handling.	
		• Support awareness-building	
		for Indigenous Peoples (IPs)	
		households on participation,	
		FPIC, benefits, and grievance	
		procedures.	
		 Display budgets, beneficiary 	
		lists, and grievance statistics	
		publicly.	

These arrangements ensure that Indigenous Peoples are not only beneficiaries but also active participants in planning, implementation, and monitoring throughout the project lifecycle.

9. Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

A dedicated and culturally appropriate grievance redress process is established to ensure that Indigenous Peoples (IPs) can raise their concerns in a respectful and accessible manner. The mechanism prioritizes transparency, inclusion, and timely response. Village-level facilitators and motivators—preferably from the local IP community—will act as the first point of contact. Complaints may be registered verbally, in writing, or through community meetings.

To ensure cultural sensitivity, grievance redress committees at the Gram Panchayat or RV level will include representation from Indigenous Peoples (IPs) communities. Additionally, a district-level grievance redress officer will oversee unresolved issues and ensure follow-up. All grievances will be recorded, tracked, and resolved within a defined timeline, with feedback provided to the complainant. Awareness campaigns and regular consultations will be held to ensure that Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are informed about their rights and the redress process.

The designed UCRRFP Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is as follows-

Step 1: Submission of Grievances

Grievances may be submitted through multiple channels, including:

- In writing (via complaint boxes placed in each Gram Panchayat)
- Verbally during community meetings or consultations
- By phone, email, or postal mail to the Watershed Management Directorate (WMD)
- Through the project website (www.wmduk.gov.in)

• Via designated project staff or Village Level Institutions

Anonymous grievances will also be accepted and addressed. Information about the GRM will be widely disseminated through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials and community outreach.

Step 2: Registration and Classification

All grievances will be recorded in a centralized grievance logbook or digital database maintained at the Gram Panchayat and All project offices levels. Grievances will be classified based on their nature (e.g., environmental, social, labor-related, SEA/SH) and the profile of the complainant (e.g., vulnerable groups, women, transhumant populations). An initial acknowledgment will be provided within 3 working days of receipt.

Step 3: Resolution at the Gram Panchayat Level (Stage 1)

A local Grievance Resolution Committee (GRC) will be established at the Gram Panchayat level. The GRC will meet at least once a month to review and resolve complaints. The committee will include:

- Gram Pradhan
- A representative from the WWMC
- Representative of each RV
- A women's representative (preferably from a Self-Help Group)
- A social facilitator or MDT member

The GRC will aim to resolve grievances within 15 days. Meeting minutes will be documented and signed by all parties. If the grievance is resolved, the complainant will sign a closure form. If unresolved, the complainant will be informed of the next steps.

Step 4: Escalation to District and State Levels (Stage 2)

If a grievance cannot be resolved at the Gram Panchayat level, it may be escalated to the District Project Management Unit (DPMU) or the Project Management Unit (PMU) at WMD. The DPMU/PMU will review the grievance, consult relevant stakeholders, and provide a resolution within 30 days. The complainant will be informed in writing of the outcome.

Step 5: Legal and Other Mechanisms (Stage 3)

If the grievance remains unresolved, the complainant may seek redress through formal legal channels, including:

- Filing a complaint under the Right to Information (RTI) Act
- Approaching the State Ombudsman or Lokayukta
- Seeking judicial remedy through civil courts

In summary: the Unit PIO ensures registration and acknowledgment in ≤3 working days; the GP GRC targets resolution in ≤15 days; DPMU handles escalations with resolution in ≤30 days; PMU oversees state-level escalations and SEA/SH cases.

Special Provisions for SEA/SH Complaints

Complaints related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) or Sexual Harassment (SH) will be handled with strict confidentiality and sensitivity. Such complaints will be addressed through a survivorcentered approach, and referrals will be made to appropriate support services.

Dedicated SEA/SH focal points will be designated at **PMU and DPMU** levels. The Unit Social Facilitator ensures survivor-centred referral and confidentiality at the first contact.

GRM Focal Point and Contact Information

The GRM Focal Point at the PMU will be responsible for:

- Maintaining the grievance database
- Coordinating with field teams and GRCs
- Ensuring timely resolution and reporting

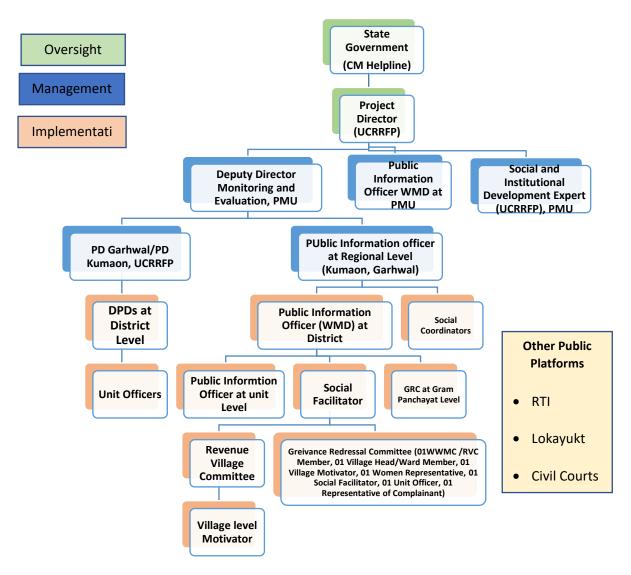
Contact details:

- Email: wmd-ua@nic.in
 - Postal Address: Chief Project Director, Watershed Management Directorate, Indira Nagar Forest Colony, Dehradun, Uttarakhand – 248006
 - Website: www.wmduk.gov.in |

Monitoring and Reporting

All grievances and their resolution status will be tracked and reported in the project's quarterly and annual reports. The PMU will maintain a grievance dashboard and share updates with the World Bank as part of regular implementation support missions.

Role clarity: GP GRC \rightarrow monthly registers; Unit \rightarrow monthly consolidated log; DPMU \rightarrow quarterly performance report; PMU \rightarrow state dashboard and semi-annual disclosure.



Grievance Institutional Management and Implementation Process

To ensure timely, inclusive, and transparent grievance redressal under the UCRRFP project, a multitiered mechanism has been instituted across all project levels—ranging from village to PMU. This mechanism defines clear responsibilities at each level of project governance to address and resolve community grievances effectively.

At the Revenue Village Level, suggestion boxes and grievance registers will be installed to capture feedback at the most local level. The Village Facilitator, with support from the Social Facilitator, will ensure that these tools are operational in each Revenue Village. The RVC will review received grievances during their meetings and forward unresolved issues to the WWMC. If a grievance remains unresolved at the WWMC level, it will be escalated to the Unit level for further action.

At the Gram Panchayat Level, a local Grievance Resolution Committee (GRC) will be formed to address community concerns in a participatory and transparent manner. This committee will meet at least once a month to review all registered complaints and undertake necessary steps for their resolution. The GRC will include a representative from the Watershed Management Committee (WWMC) or Revenue Village Committee (RVC), the Gram Pradhan or Panchayat Secretary, a representative of the complainant (if applicable), a women's representative—preferably from a Self-Help Group (SHG), and a Social Facilitator or Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) member. Suggestion boxes and grievance registers will be installed in each GP to encourage community feedback. The Social Facilitator will be responsible for ensuring these provisions are in place and functional. If a grievance cannot be resolved at the GP level, it will be escalated to the Unit level.

At the Block/Unit Level, Unit Officers and Public Information Officers will be responsible for handling grievances emerging at the Gram Panchayat or unit level. Regular review of new and pending grievances will take place in scheduled meetings at the GP, block, and unit levels. Suggestion boxes and grievance registers will be maintained at this level, as per the project format. The Social Facilitator will assist with tracking and monthly reporting of grievances. Cases that cannot be resolved at the unit level will be forwarded to the district level.

At the District Level, the Deputy Project Director (DPD) and district officials will be responsible for addressing grievances reported within their respective areas. Grievances will be reviewed during monthly coordination meetings with block/unit officials. A suggestion box will be installed at the District Office to collect community feedback, and a grievance register will be maintained in the prescribed format. The Social Coordinator will assist the DPD and PIO in tracking grievance resolution and compiling updates in monthly social reports. Grievances that remain unresolved at the district level will be escalated to the PMU through the respective Regional Director (Garhwal/Kumaon).

At the Regional Level, Regional Officers in Garhwal and Kumaon divisions will oversee the grievance redress process within their jurisdiction. They will monitor district-level progress and provide necessary support to ensure the timely resolution of cases.

At the PMU Level, designated officials will be responsible for handling grievances received directly at the state level. If a grievance is received at the PMU, the Deputy Project Director (Monitoring & Evaluation) will forward the case to the Public Information Officer (PIO), who will coordinate with concerned field officials to gather relevant details and ensure timely resolution. The PMU Social Expert will assist the PIO in tracking grievance progress and facilitating follow-ups. In cases where grievances remain unresolved despite repeated efforts, the PMU may constitute a three-member Supervision Committee to investigate and resolve the matter in an impartial and transparent manner.

Open Access Provision: Any individual who is dissatisfied with the resolution process at any level may directly approach the PMU or raise the matter through public platforms such as the Chief Minister's Helpline, RTI Act, or the Lokayukt. This ensures transparency and empowers stakeholders to seek redress beyond the standard institutional channels.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will focus on tracking the inclusion, participation, and benefitsharing of Indigenous Peoples across all project activities. Specific indicators such as the number of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) households included in planning, representation in committees, participation in livelihood activities, and grievance resolution will be developed.

Village Motivators and Social Facilitators will collect and validate community-level data, which will be consolidated at the Unit and District levels and submitted quarterly to the PMU. The PMU will ensure data is disaggregated by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) status and gender to support evidence-based decision-making. Third-party evaluations and social audits will serve as independent mechanisms to verify data accuracy, assess the quality of inclusion measures, and provide recommendations for adaptive planning.

Village Motivators and Social Facilitators **collect and validate** sex/tribe-disaggregated data at the GP level; Unit Officers compile **monthly** submissions; DPMU consolidates and **validates quarterly**; PMU maintains the **state IP Dashboard** and submits **semi-annual** reports.

Here are **indicators** specifically aligned with project activities through **PRA**, **Marginalized Household and Transhumant support**, including Indigenous Peoples (IPs):

Indicators	Definition	Frequency	Source	Disaggregation
Number/Percentage of IPs and marginalized households participating in PRA.	IPs/marginalized HHs attending at least one PRA ÷ total IPs/marginalized HHs in the GP ×100.	Quarterly	GP registers; Unit monthly reporting.	Caste, tribe, gender
Number of separate FGDs/mapping exercises with IP groups	At least one women-only FGD per IPs community where feasible.	Quarterly	GP consultation registers.	Sex, caste, tribe.
Number of IPs-specific needs identified through PRA & integrated into plans	Count of distinct needs from PRA with corresponding actions in GPRP/micro-plan or IPPs.	Quarterly	PRA and Micro Plan documentation.	Caste, tribe, gender
Percentage of IPs & marginalized HHs included in wealth ranking	HHs included ÷ total HHs in GP ×100.	Yearly	PRA/wealth ranking records.	Caste, tribe, gender.
Number of contracts signed between GP & marginalized HHs/groups	Contracts signed with IPs/marginalized HHs; track Amount disbursed vs. planned.	Quarterly	GP/Unit contract registers	Caste, tribe, gender
Number and Percentage of IPs/marginalized HHs covered under livelihood activities	IPs/marginalized HHs supported ÷ total eligible HHs ×100; report both number and percentage.	Quarterly	GP/Unit livelihood registers.	Caste, tribe, gender.
Percentage % of IP/ marginalized persons represented in user groups/committees	Ratio of IPs/marginalized persons represented; target ≥40% women where IPs present.	Quarterly	Committee membership records	Sex, tribe
Number of customized trainings for	Count of trainings; track attendance by sex/tribe; include satisfaction score if feasible.	Quarterly	Training registers; feedback forms.	Sex, caste, tribe.

IPs/marginalized beneficiaries				
Percentage of women from IPs/marginalized HHs participating in project activities	Women from IP/marginalized HHs in ≥1 activity ÷ total IPs/marginalized HHs ×100; track leadership separately.	Quarterly	GP/Unit participation registers.	Sex, tribe, leadership roles.
Transhumant population coverage and support	Monitoring will include: (i) # of transhumant families identified & documented (linked to route segments, no double counting); (ii) # of seasonal movement plans developed in coordination with groups; (iii) % of transhumant HHs linked to livelihood support (≥1 support as per TAP Annex); and (iv) # of traditional transhumant livelihoods supported (evidence of veterinary kits, watering points, shelters, etc.).	Annual for (i, ii, iv); Bi-annual for (iii)	GP/Unit records; DPMU/TAP reports; Forest Dept permits.	Tribe, gender, type of livelihood.
Percentage of grievances on IPs/transhumant mobility or access resolved	Cases resolved ÷ total cases ×100; also track average days to closure.	Quarterly	GRM database.	By grievance type (route, grazing, water, genderbased).

The PMU Social and Institutional Development Expert (SDE) is accountable for indicator definitions and quality assurance; DPMU Social Coordinators are responsible for completeness and timeliness; Unit Officers are responsible for accuracy of source registers.

11. Capacity Building

To ensure effective inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and marginalized communities in project planning and implementation, a structured capacity-building and awareness strategy will be adopted.

Key Activities:

- Training Needs Assessment (TNA): A systematic TNA will be conducted at the district and GP/RV levels to identify knowledge and skill gaps among implementing staff and community members.
- Capacity Building of Project Staff and Institutions: Project staff (PMU, DPMU, Unit Officials, Village Motivators) will be trained on:
 - IPPF provisions and social safeguards
 - Participatory tools (PRA, wealth ranking, social mapping)
 - Inclusion strategies for Indigenous and marginalized households
 - Monitoring and grievance redress mechanisms
- Capacity Building of Indigenous and Marginalized Communities: Customized training sessions will be organized for:
 - Landless and women-headed households on kitchen gardening, backyard poultry, tailoring, mushroom cultivation, and processing of NTFPs (Non-Timber Forest Products)
- Awareness Programs for Transhumant Communities: Special awareness programs will be organized for transhumant families focusing on:
 - Accessing schemes and entitlements

- Preserving traditional livelihoods
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
- Health awareness for transhumant families.
- Animal Health and Veterinary Awareness.
- Education and Child Enrolment etc.
- Awareness Building and Rights Orientation: Indigenous leaders and marginalized group members will be oriented on their rights, available benefits, grievance systems, and representation in decision-making bodies (e.g., RVCs, WWMC).
- **Use of Local Resource Persons:** Village Motivators will serve as facilitators to support ongoing learning and awareness creation.
- Monitoring and Follow-Up:
 - Refresher trainings, experience sharing, and regular impact reviews will ensure continuous improvement.
 - Indicators related to participation, training coverage, and inclusion will be tracked and reviewed in a timely manner by implementing teams at various levels.

Roles and responsibilities: The **PMU Social Development Expert** designs the annual curriculum; **Regional Offices** coordinate delivery; **DPMU Social Coordinators** ensure 100% attendance of Unit Officers and Village Motivators; **Unit Officers** coach WWMC/RVC/SHG representatives locally.

Minimum Annual Training Package:

Each year, all project staff, facilitators, and community representatives should receive training covering these essential topics:

- The requirements of World Bank Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7) and how to obtain consultation from Indigenous Peoples.
- How to operate an inclusive Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and respond to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) complaints in a survivor-centered, confidential manner.
- Techniques for culturally appropriate facilitation, ensuring that outreach and consultations respect local customs, languages, and traditions.
- Methods for collecting and reporting high-quality data, with results broken down by gender, tribe/caste, and other relevant categories.
- Approaches for engaging transhumant populations and managing resource-sharing in ways that prevent or resolve conflicts between mobile and settled communities.

12. Budget for IPPF Implementation

S.No.	Detail	Amount
1	Transhumant Support	2000000
2	Marginalized (focused on Indigenous) Support	20000000
	Total	22000000
		(Rs. Twenty Two Crore only)

13. Disclosure Arrangements

In accordance with the ESMF principles, the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) will be disclosed to ensure accessibility, inclusiveness, and transparency:

• **Publicly Disclosed** at state, district, and village levels through Gram Sabha meetings, notice boards of GP/RVs, project websites, and local institutions.

- **Disseminated in Local Languages** (including dialects used by IPs communities) and in **simple**, **easy-to-understand formats** such as pamphlets, pictorial posters, and audio-visual material.
- Shared Directly with IPs Households and community representatives through community facilitators, village motivators, and social facilitators during PRA exercises and planning sessions.
- **Uploaded Online** on the official website of the project for broader accessibility.

14. IPPF Consultations with IPs

At the time of preparing this document, the household survey under the project is ongoing. Out of approximately 50,000 surveys completed and updated in the MIS, a total of **271 households have been identified as Indigenous Peoples (IP) households**, of which **189 families are residing in Veerpur village, Dunda Unit, Uttarkashi District.**

Therefore, a consultation was organized to understand the key **issues**, **suggestions**, **and potential activities** relevant to the IP households. The insights and findings emerging from this consultation will serve as a **roadmap for preparing the Gram Panchayat Resilient Plans (GPRPs)** in villages or Gram Panchayats where Indigenous households are present.

The details of the consultation are provided below:

IPPF consultation with IPs

Project: Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rain-fed Farming Project (UCRRFP)

District: Uttarkashi **Block/Unit:** Dunda **Location:** Veerpur

Date of Consultation: 12th November 2025

Indigenous Group Present: Bhotia

Number of Participants: Total: 160 out of which Male - 59 | Female - 101 (Attendance Sheet Attached)

Category: Scheduled Tribe (ST)

1. Information Shared with the Community

At the beginning of the consultation, the following key points were shared with the Indigenous community:

- Project objectives and overall purpose of UCRRFP
- Proposed activities under GPRP and special provisions for marginalized families
- Potential benefits for Scheduled Tribe / Indigenous households
- Possible risks and impacts related to land, forest access, grazing, water, livelihoods, and cultural sites
- Mitigation measures and grievance redress mechanisms available under the project
- Rights of Indigenous Peoples under ESS7 and relevant Indian laws

2. Process of Consultation

After sharing the project details, participants were divided into small groups to discuss and identify local issues, challenges, and potential solutions. The concerns were documented based on the discussions held with each group.

3. Concerns of the Indigenous Community (Veerpur)

- Most families do not have agricultural land and depend mainly on goat and sheep rearing for livelihood.
- Women are engaged in stitching and handicraft work but lack proper equipment, modern machinery, and workspace.
- Families migrate frequently in search of grazing areas and face hardship due to lack of basic facilities such as tents, feeding tools, and water sources.
- Many families struggle to afford government forest charges, affecting their income and access to grazing areas.
- Artisans face low returns despite hard work because of poor market linkages and limited exposure to buyers.
- Machinery and raw materials are not locally available, forcing them to purchase from distant towns or cities.
- Lack of exposure to modern design techniques and advanced equipment affects product quality and competitiveness.
- A few families with small landholdings face frequent crop losses due to wild animal attacks, limiting production to self-consumption only.

4. Suggested Activities / Interventions by the Community

The community proposed several practical measures to address the above concerns. These may be incorporated into the **Gram Panchayat Resilient Plan (GPRP)** or taken up under **Marginalized Support activities** of UCRRFP:

- Promote **livestock-based livelihood groups** (goat and sheep rearing) and provide training on improved practices, vaccination, and fodder management.
- Provide portable tents, feeding troughs, and temporary shelters (Chhanis) for migrating families and their livestock.
- Establish Common Facility Centers (CFCs) for women artisans equipped with sewing, embroidery, and finishing machines.
- Organize **skill upgradation and design improvement training** through different institution or local NGOs to enhance product quality.
- Develop **market linkages** by connecting artisans with fairs, exhibitions, online platforms, and design institutions.
- Create **local supply and repair centers** for equipment, raw materials, and stitching tools to reduce dependency on distant markets.
- Coordinate with the **Forest Department** for concessional or community-based access to grazing areas and forest produce.
- Introduce **modern tools, digital literacy, and product design exposure** to improve efficiency and innovation among artisans.
- Promote wildlife-resistant cropping practices, solar/trench fencing, and mixed farming systems for sustainable land use.
- Support **branding and packaging initiatives** such as "Veerpur Handcrafted" to enhance visibility and value of indigenous products.

5. Next Plan of Action

The project team will ensure that all findings, issues, and suggestions emerging from this FPIC consultation are adequately reflected in the **Gram Panchayat Resilient Plan (GPRP)**. Special consideration will be given to livelihood diversification, women's enterprise development, and mitigation of challenges faced by the Indigenous Bhotia community of Veerpur.

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Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rainfed Farming Project (UCRRFP) Transhumance Guidelines / Action Plan Format (Annexure-A)

Objective:

To identify the needs of transhumant communities arriving in the project area and provide them with necessary support during their seasonal migration.

A). Procedure

1. Identification of Transhumant Communities:

- As per the 'Transhumant Report Format Part A,' clearly identify the migration routes, halting points, and temporary settlement areas of transhumant groups.
- Gram Panchayats will be sensitized and oriented in this regard.

2. Needs Assessment:

- Conduct group discussions, site inspections, and interviews to assess issues and requirements of the community.

3. Support During Migration:

- Summer Season: When transhumant groups move towards high-altitude alpine pastures (bugyals), support will be provided by the relevant division officials in coordination with Gram Panchayats along their route.
- Winter Season: When they migrate from high-altitude areas to lower valleys, support will be extended by the respective lower-altitude division officials.

4. Post-Support Reporting:

- After providing assistance, a report will be prepared as per the format given in Part - B, documenting the type of support given.

5. Avoiding Duplication of Services:

- Ensure that no services (such as health camps, first aid kits, etc.) are duplicated by different agencies. If any service has already been provided earlier, repeat assistance should be avoided.

6. Compliance with Financial Guidelines:

- All activities will follow the project's financial rules and instructions. No service or support will be repeated unnecessarily.

B) Proposed Support Activities

1. Health and Veterinary Services

- Organize health and veterinary (animal health) camps.
- Provide vaccination, deworming medicines, and distribute first aid kits.

2. Fodder and Water Management

- Distribute concentrated animal feed.
- Provide portable water storage cans/canisters for water arrangement.
- Coordinate with the Gram Panchayat for fodder development on community land.

3. Material Distribution and Support

- Distribute tarpaulin/polythene sheets for shelter of migratory livestock.
- Provide tents for human use.
- Distribute raincoats, blankets, and other essential items for human use.
- Provide feed tubs for animals.
- Distribute buckets.
- Provide solar lanterns.

4. Other Support

- Conduct awareness campaigns on health, hygiene, and animal care.
- Provide training to project staff/women facilitators/social coordinators.

C) Duration of Stay of Transhumant Communities

In the project area, the estimated duration of stay of the transhumant communities and the types of livestock they have have been identified. This information can be used as a reference while preparing the initial plan.

S. No.	District	Name of the Nomad Group	Season	Animal Type
1	Uttarkashi	Van Gujjar	Summer (April-August)	Cow, Horse, Buffalo
1	Ottal Kasili	Anwal/Bhotia	Winter & Summer (Jan-Dec)	Sheep, Goat, Horse
		Van Gujjar	Summer (April-Oct)	Cow, Horse, Buffalo
2	Rudraprayag	Goat Herder	Summer (April-Oct)	Goat
3	Pauri	Van Gujjar	Summer (March-Oct)	Sheep, Goat
4		Anwal/Bhotia	Summer (March-Oct)	Sheep, Goat
	Tehri	, tilway Brieda	Winter (Oct-April)	Sheep, Goat
			Summer (March-Oct)	Buffalo
		Van Gujjar	Winter (Oct-April)	Buffalo
5	Nainital	Anwal/Bhotia	Winter (Nov-March)	Sheep, Goat
		Van Gujjar	Summer (April-Oct)	Cow, Buffalo

D) Monitoring and Evaluation

A record will be maintained for each support/service/activity provided. For example — the list of beneficiaries, number of health camps organized, and feedback, etc., which will be submitted through reports. Details of the health check-ups conducted during the health camps and the list of medicines provided in the first aid kits will be compiled separately and submitted along with the report.

Details of Proposed Activities to be Conducted-

- Organizing human health camps.
- Organizing veterinary health camps.
- Distribution of first aid kits for human-beings.
- Distribution of first aid kits for animals.
- Distribution of concentrate animal feed.
- Distribution of tarpaulin sheets/poly-sheets.
- Distribution of tents for human-beings.
- Distribution of feed tubs.
- Distribution of solar lantern.
- Distribution of portable water storage cans/canisters.
- Distribution of shoes, blanket etc.

Transhumance / Nomadic Group Plan Format

Part - A

(To be used at the time of the group's entry into the project area)

	on (Village / Gram Panchayat Division Name:				
1.	Group Information				
•	Date of Arrival:				
•	Duration of Stay (From – To	o):			
•	Name of Livestock Owner /	' Group Leader:		_	
•	Identification Number of G	roup Leader:			
•	Contact Information:				
•	Number of Families:	Male:	Female:	Children:	Boys:
	Girls:				
•	Number and Type of Anima	als:			
	1.		(Number)		
	2		(Number)		
2.	Group History & Migratory	/ movement pa	ttern mapping.		
	2. 1 Group History				
	2.2 Develop a map for grou	ip migratory mo	ovement		

3. Details of Current Practices:

- Gather information about the facilities available for the stay of the group and livestock, such as tents, water, and food supplies.
- Gather information about the health-related issues of individuals, availability of treatment, and medicines.
- Gather information about the health-related issues of livestock, vaccination, treatment, and availability of medicines.
- Understand where the produce obtained from the livestock during migration is sold.
- Gather information on safety measures adopted for people and livestock where they stay, and what measures are taken to protect them from wild animals.
- Gather information about the education of children living within the family.
- Document in detail the key challenges faced by the group (e.g., impacts of climate change such as drought, floods, land-use restrictions and access to resources, economic pressures, and market access issues).

Part − B (To be filled after the group has received support under the project)

A) Support provided under the project – (Write the number in front of each type of support provided)

S. No.	Description	Date	Quantity	No. of Beneficiary Livestock	No. of Beneficiary Persons
1	Distribution of tarpaulin sheets/poly sheets for sheds				
2	Distribution of tents for people				
3	Distribution of feed tubs				
4	Distribution of buckets				
5	Distribution of first aid kits for people				
6	Distribution of first aid kits for animals				
7	Distribution of fodder grass				
8	Distribution of Solar Light				
9	Meetings, trainings, or workshops under the project (attach report)				
10	Assistance received by the group through Government/NGOs				
11	Any other support from UCRRFP				

B- Impact Assessment:

(List the impacts on the livelihood of the group due to the provision of resources and settlement in the area. Record the group's feedback in detail through photographs and reports/feedback forms.)

- Improvement in Living Standards
- Availability of Health Facilities
- Availability of Protective Measures
- Availability of Fodder

C)- Future Opportunities and Related Activity Suggestions

S. No.	Opportunity	Activity Suggestions
1	Increase in income level	
2	Improvement in food security	
3	Adoption of new practices	
4	Changes in migration patterns	
5	Integration of traditional knowledge	
6	Integration into community gatherings or	
	festivals	
7	Additional needs and support	
8	Long-term climate adaptability measures	
9	Potential responsibilities	
10	Importance of traditional knowledge and	
	conservation	

- D) Conclusion: Summarize the key findings and write the overall impact of the project.
- **E) Note:** Attach photographs, route maps of migration, charts, reporting formats, and Part-A monitoring questions along with this report.