

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL PERSPECTIVES OF WATER RELATED VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE : BAGMATI RIVER BASIN IN NEPAL

K. L. SHRESTHA<sup>1</sup>, K. SHERCHAND<sup>2</sup>, B. K. SAPKOTA<sup>3</sup> AND M. GHIMIRE<sup>4</sup>

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*Analysis of available hydro-meteorological data for the lower part of the Bagmati River Basin in Nepal has revealed the areas to be most vulnerable to climatic extremes including summer floods. A micro level survey conducted in the flood hit areas indicated a very low coping capacity of the region due to the small size of landholdings and low income levels of its residents. The prevalent coping actions were mainly of emergency response nature. The flood hit people meet the rehabilitation cost by either their previous savings or by loans and selling properties that seem to place them in a vicious circle of poverty and make them further vulnerable to uncertainties of livelihood and the damaging impacts of climatic extreme events.*

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