

Developing a Participatory Approach for Road Side Protection of Rural Roads in Nepal

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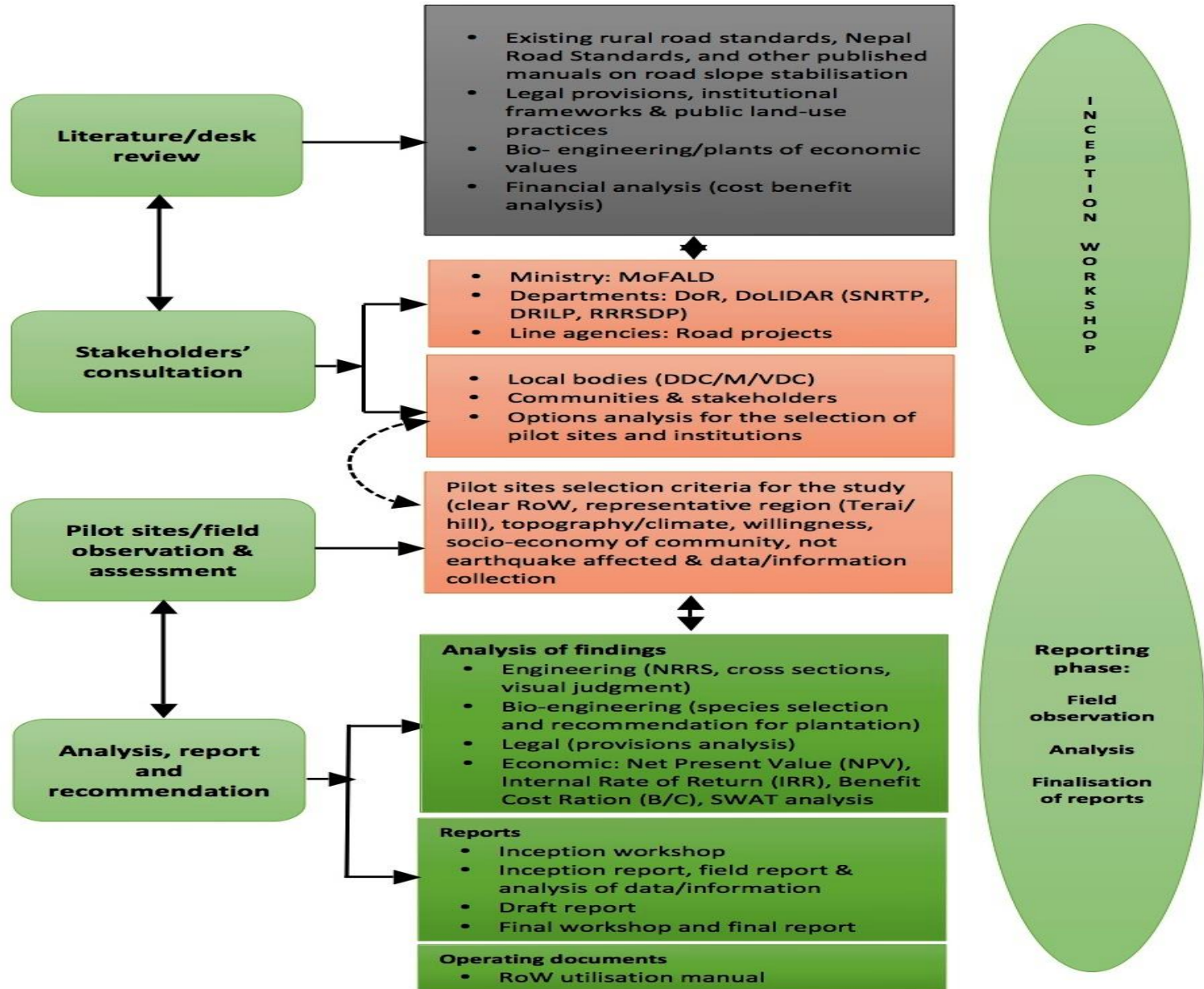
Context

- District, Village and Agriculture Roads estimated to 50,944 Km. in Nepal.
- Out of this 21,500 Km fall under **District Road Core Network (DRCN)-under** Department of Local Development and Agricultural Roads (**DoLIDAR**)
- Legally, DRCN roads require a 20m wide Right of Way (RoW), 10m on either side of the road centre-line.
- About **21,000ha of land (Row)** available **in these roads**.
- Such land can be managed for the income generating activities of the poor and road can be managed sustainably

Objectives

- Identification of project districts and project sites in Hill and Plain Regions
- Develop a pilot project for implementation
- Identification of legal arrangements and required agreements
- Design suitable infrastructure
- Selection of suitable plant species
- Recommendations on how such plants can be planted, protected, maintained and harvested
- Develop innovative approaches for the successful management of RoW land
- Draft Manual on Participatory Roadside Protection
- Develop a business plan incorporating benefits and costs

Methodological flow chart for the research project



Methodology

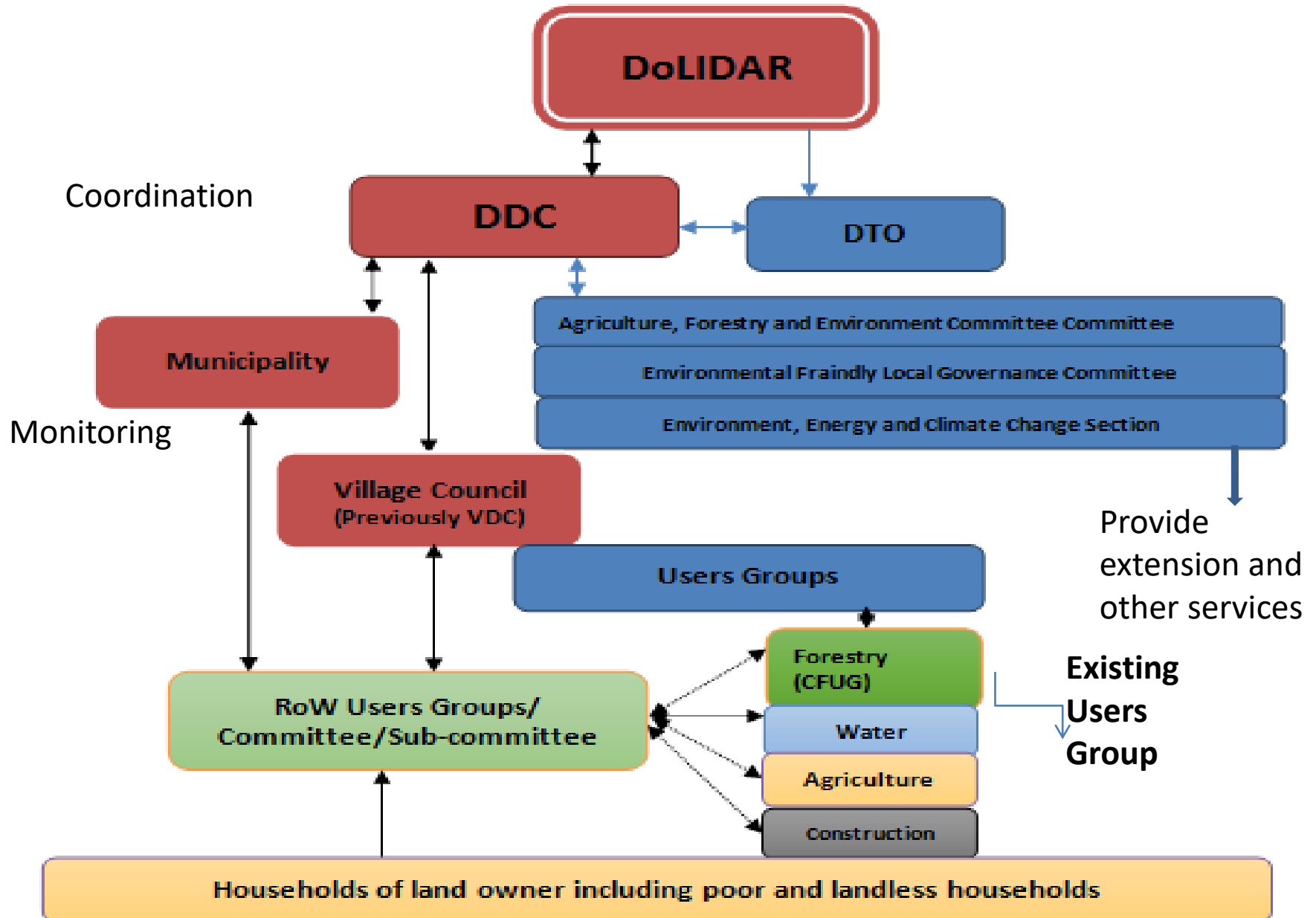
The project methodology was based on the following main pillars:

- Desk and literature review and stakeholder consultations
 - Rural road standard, discussion with MoFALD, DoR, DoLIDAR, Different Road Projects
 - Major relevant legal provision reviewed (Forest Act (1993) and Rules (1995), Irrigation Regulation 2000, Electricity Act 1992, Public Road Act 1974),
 - Bio-engineering plants,
 - Literature on financial analysis
- Inception workshop
- Field observations and assessments-Focus group discussion, identification of users group, wealth ranking
- Criteria for district selection and plant selection developed
- Financial analysis –(Cost benefit, NPV, IRR, SWOT, Market chain)

Findings

- Sukhad –Bhajani Road of Kailali and Hile –Chhintang road of Dhankutta were selected
- A small section of the road (about 1 Km) was selected for the pilot implementation.
- Banana with lemon grass in Kailali and Broom grass in Dhankutta were selected for plantation.
- Only 20-50 poorest households will be selected for the plantation
- The additional annual average income for the RoW User Group in Kailali, would be about NRs 333'264 and NRs 262'725 in Dhankutta
- If the User Group is formed with 25 HHs, one HH would receive NRs 13'331 annually in Kailali and NRs 10'509 annually in Dhankutta
- Local existing UGs can organize sub-group for RoW utilization

Proposed Institutional Set Up



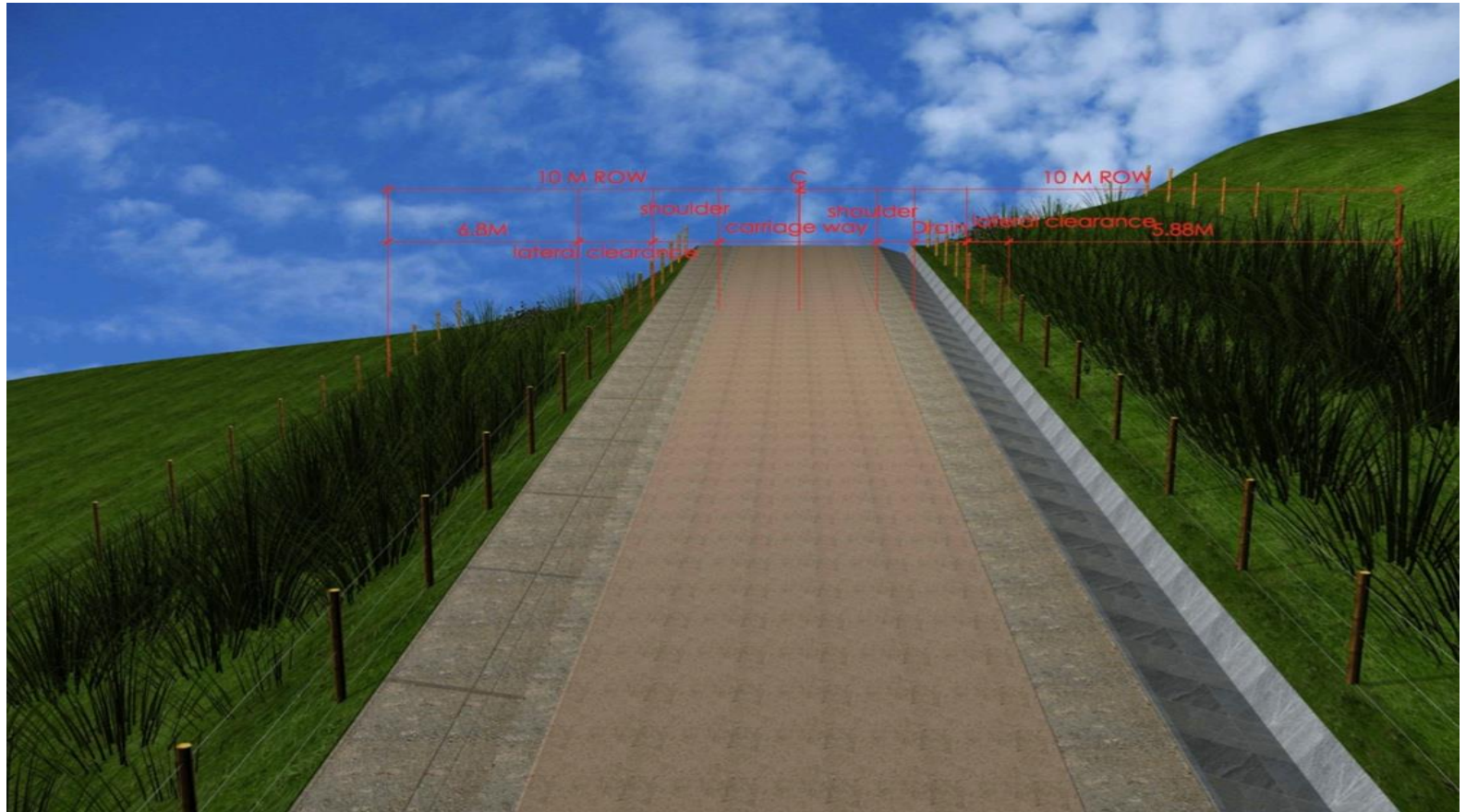
Proposed future activities

- Application of more labour intensive technique
- Formation of a project-implementing Task Force
- Interaction with concerned stakeholders, to develop the required institutional setup and finalisation of institutional setup.
- *Design and conduct capacity building activities*
- *Finalisation of road section in consultation with the community*
- *Negotiation with the community for cost and benefit sharing mechanism*
- *Tripartite MoU between the DoLIDAR, DDC and the Community*
- *Agreement between the DDC/Municipality/VDC and the Community*
- *Baseline study on socio-economic conditions*
- *Develop water management*
- *Completion of physical works on site*
- *Completion of plantation*
- *Regular maintenance*
- *Regular monitoring and supervision*
- *Documentation of the pilot project implementation*
- *Mid-term and final evaluation*

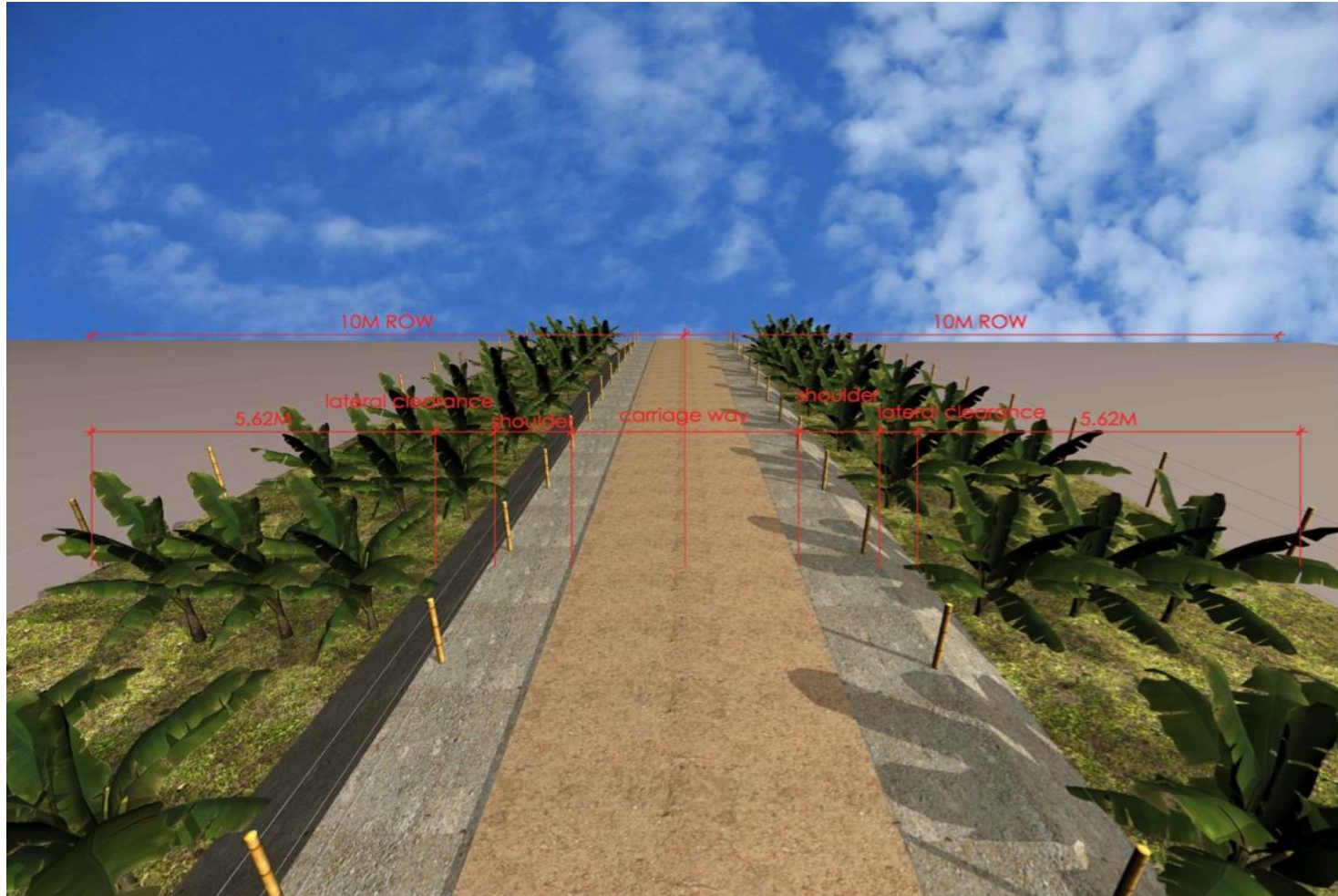
Focus group discussion in Sukhad Bhajani Road, Kailali



Visualisation of Hile-Chhintang road stretch after pilot implementation in Dhankutta



Visualization of Road stretch after plantation in sukhad Bhajani road



Team taking cross sections along the Devasthan Chhantang section of Hile –Chhintang road



Socio-economic analysis of the pilot area in Kailali

Discussion with CFUG at Bhajani



Discussion with CFUG of Devasthan Chhintang section



Local banana Plantation in Kailali



Thank you for your attention!



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