

Nepal

Climate Change effects

As temperatures increase, glaciers will melt resulting in increased run off of melt water and this will lead to more flooding. There is a particular threat of glacial lakes being unable to contain melt water and bursting resulting in catastrophic flooding in valleys. In mountainous regions, slopes will become more unstable and landslides will increase. This will result in lower yields as terraced crops are destroyed. There will also be increased rainfall particularly during the monsoon period.



Practical Action project



Nepal is a very mountainous country and many people live in very remote areas. The only way to get goods to market is by carrying them down very steep paths. Due to climate change there is more flooding and landslides so the paths get washed away making the journey even harder or sometimes impossible.

Aerial/Gravity Ropeways

Practical Action has helped villagers build ropeways (pulley systems) to get their produce to market more quickly. People can put their produce in the basket and it reaches the market more quickly.

The produce which arrives at the market is fresher and not bruised so farmers can make more money. In addition, the ropeways allow more food to reach the markets so there is a greater choice, quantity and diversity of food.

When there is a good season people are able to make enough money to invest money in their farm, buy more fuel for heating and send their children to school. The ropeway also allows farmers to spend more time farming the land.



Personal Story

Dharma is 55 years old, and has a wife and three children. He grows vegetables on a small plot of land in Janagaon village. He says,

'It takes two hours to get down the mountain trail to the main road, and during the monsoon, accidents are frequent. Now we have the gravity ropeway, the time saved means I can earn three times as much from selling my vegetables. With that extra money I can afford to buy farm animals, too. But I'm not just glad for me – the whole village is prospering thanks to the ropeway.'



Ropeways enable farmers to convey fresh food to market in this difficult terrain