



# Caritas Nepal

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Ref - 31- 2023/24

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2023

## Call for Master's Thesis Grant Support under

### Nepal Livelihood and Resilience Program- Phase II (NLRP II)

Caritas Nepal is currently implementing the Nepal Livelihoods and Resilience Program-Phase II (NLRP II), generously supported by Caritas Australia and Australian Aid. This program is being implemented in 10 locations across six provinces in Nepal, spanning from July 2023 to June 2028. The goal of the program is to improve the social well-being and resilience of vulnerable farming households and communities.

Ten locations are as follows:

- 1) Illam- Rong Rural Municipality
- 2) Jhapa- Kankai Municipality
- 3) Lalitpur- Bagmati Municipality
- 4) Nawalpur- Devchuli Municipality
- 5) Kaski- Rupa Municipality
- 6) Banke- Baijanath Rural Municipality
- 7) Bardiya- Rajapur Municipality
- 8) Surkhet- Panchapuri Rural Municipality
- 9) Dailekh- Bagwatimai Rural Municipality
- 10) Kanchanpur- Laljhadi Rural Municipality

Within the framework of NLRP II, the Food Security and Climate Change theme has been collaborating with various community members to enhance household food security through homestead production and bolstering resilience to climate change.

Within the context of the food security and climate change theme, NLRP II envisions collaborating with university graduates by offering assistance for their master's research. With the objective of nurturing research and bridging the gap between research outcomes and farmers, Caritas Nepal invites master's students to express their interest in research funding by submitting their proposal on following priority areas of research.

### **Priority Areas of Research**

In this announcement, priority will be given to the study of the following areas.





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- 1) Homestead farming and nutrition
- 2) Food safety in relation to pesticide use and hygienic practices in vegetable farming.
- 3) Testing effectiveness and mass production of biological solutions for pest and disease management, soil management and seed treatment.
- 4) Testing climate smart technologies on farmer field.
- 5) Women's drudgery in agriculture.
- 6) Small scale mechanization in agriculture

Focusing on:

- Innovation and piloting new ideas
- Sustainable agriculture farming
- Replicability and wide use for the farmers
- Value of money
- Preferably field research

#### **Provision of Thesis Grant:**

The amount of support is NRs 150,000 for one student including Tax. Thesis draft should be submitted by June 2024 to Caritas Nepal.

The provision can be used for the following indicated account heads.

- Food, lodging, rent, travel cost in the field locations for thesis proposal development and actual thesis research.
- Food, lodging and travel costs for student advisors (1-2 people) to visit field locations.
- Stationary, computer usage and thesis printing.
- Sharing workshop of thesis research findings upon successful defense of thesis. This will be done in relevant forum and location.

#### **Criteria of selection:**

- Relevance of the PCN with the priority area of research.
- Strong recommendation from relevant faculty and departments.
- Good education track record and willingness to undertake research in above indicated area.
- Willingness to undertake research in NLRP II locations.
- Willingness to spend time in research location and community for necessary investigations.





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- Willingness to conduct field research will be given more priority.
- Application will be accepted by October 20.

As per provision in the project, Caritas Nepal will undertake direct contract with the students. As already noted, students will have to obtain strong recommendations from faculty members or head to receive the grant.

## **Address to send application:**

The candidates are required to submit their application (by e-mail or courier or by hand) to the following address no later than October 20, 2023.

### Courier

Program Coordinator  
NLRP II  
Caritas Nepal Central Office, Dhobighat, Lalitpur, Nepal  
Phone: 01-5438172, 01-5439344  
Mailing address: GPO 9571, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Please put subject of email or mail (outside envelop) - Thesis Grant Application/NLRP II

### Email

Please email to following.

To: [vacancy@caritas.org.np](mailto:vacancy@caritas.org.np) with mail subject of "NLRP II Masters' Thesis Grant Support"

Sincerely,



Sr. Cecilia Durga Shrestha  
Executive Director  
Caritas Nepal