

# **Agriculture and food security Nepal's perspectives for Upcoming 18th SAARC Summit**

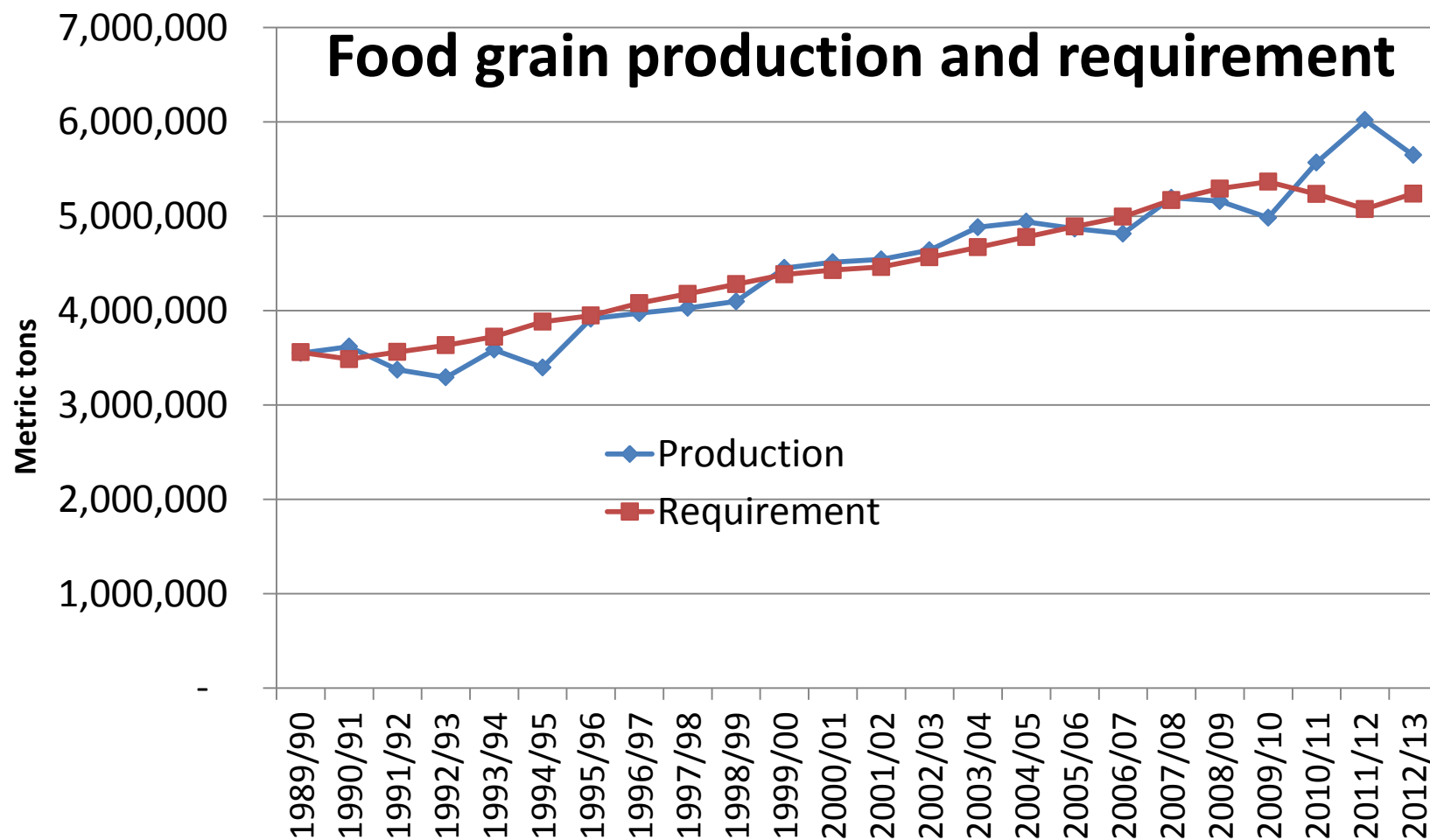
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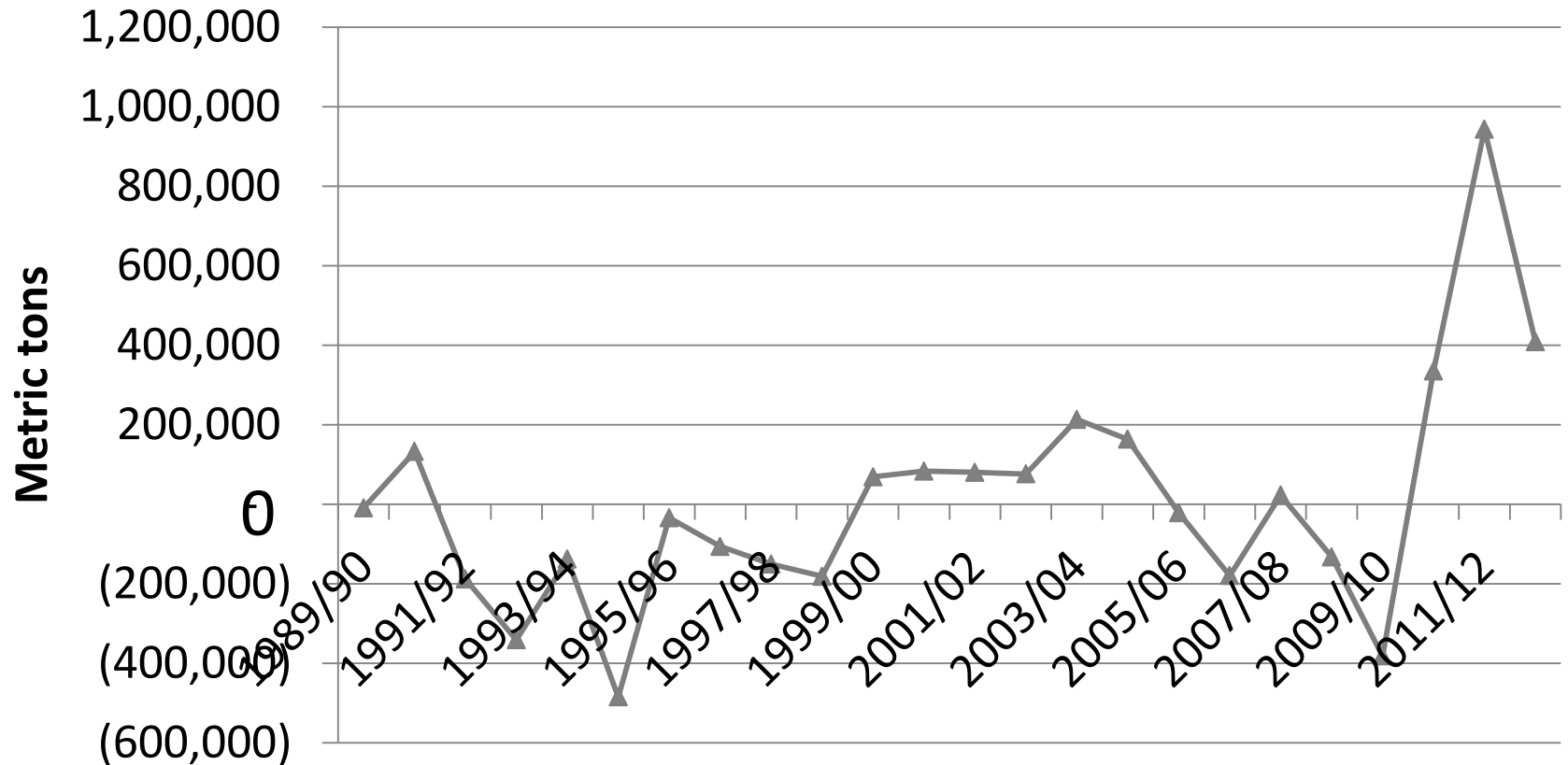
# Outline

1. State of food security in Nepal
2. Government efforts and prospects of regional cooperation
3. SAARC and food security
4. Nepal's agenda for regional cooperation on food security

# State of food security in Nepal



# Food Grain Balance



## Import 2012-13

Rice 426,000 t

Wheat 67,000 t

Maize 222,000 t

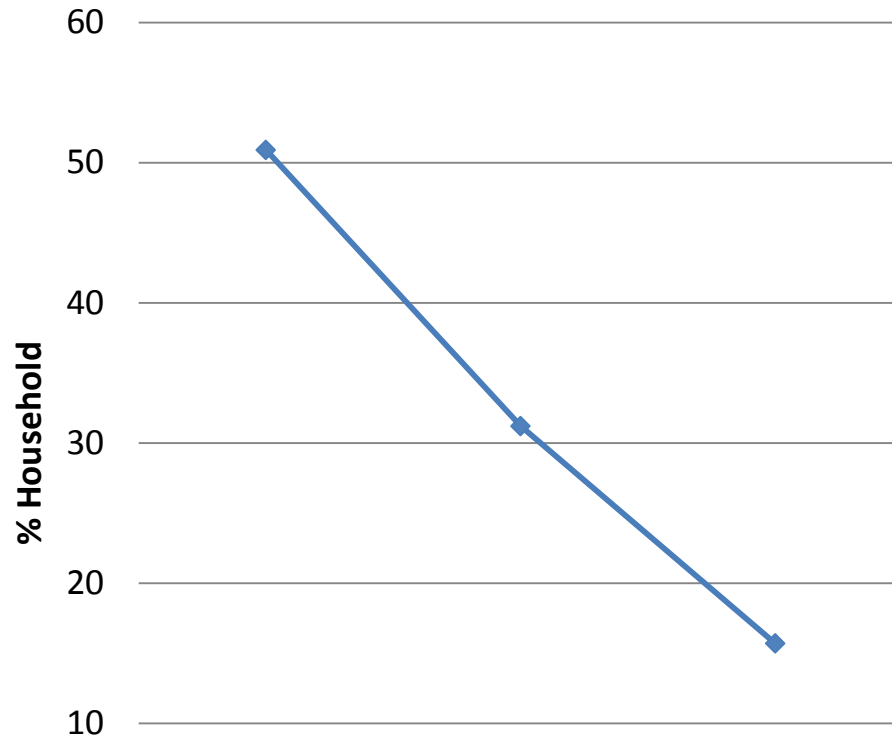
# Food Deficit districts by 1000 tons (2012/13)

| <10  | 10 to 20   | 20 to 30                           | 30 to 40   | >40   |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------|---|
| 16 districts   | 7 districts  | 3 districts                        | 1 district | 5 districts   |
| Panchthar, Sunsari,<br>Rasuwa, Makwanpur,<br>Mustang, Kaski, Dolpa,<br>Humla, Jumla, Rukum,<br>Pyuthan, Jajarkot,<br>Bajhang, Darchula,<br>Achham, Dadeldura | Udaypur,<br>Dolakha,<br>Chitwan,<br>Kalikot, Rolpa,<br>Bajura, Baitadi | Dhading,<br>Mahottari<br>, Sarlahi | Bhaktapur  | Saptari (55),<br>Rautahat<br>(56),<br>Lalitpur<br>(63), Siraha<br>(72),<br>Kathmandu<br>(338) |

Out of 32 food deficit districts, 50% are deficit by less than 10,000 metric tons

# Household Food Insecurity

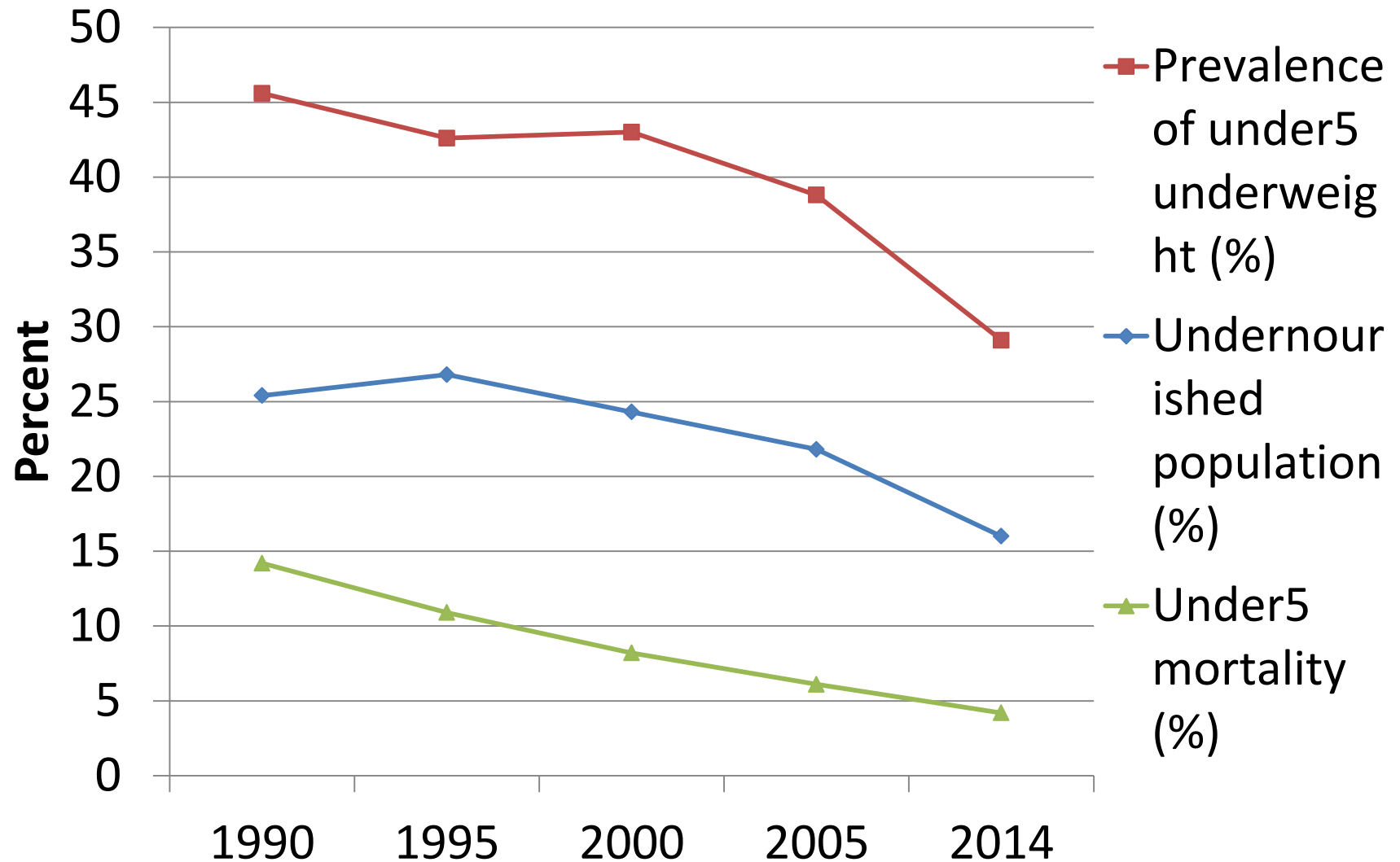
**% HH reporting “less than adequate”  
consumption of food**



|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|         | 1995/96 | 2003/04 | 2010/11 |
| Series1 | 50.9    | 31.2    | 15.7    |

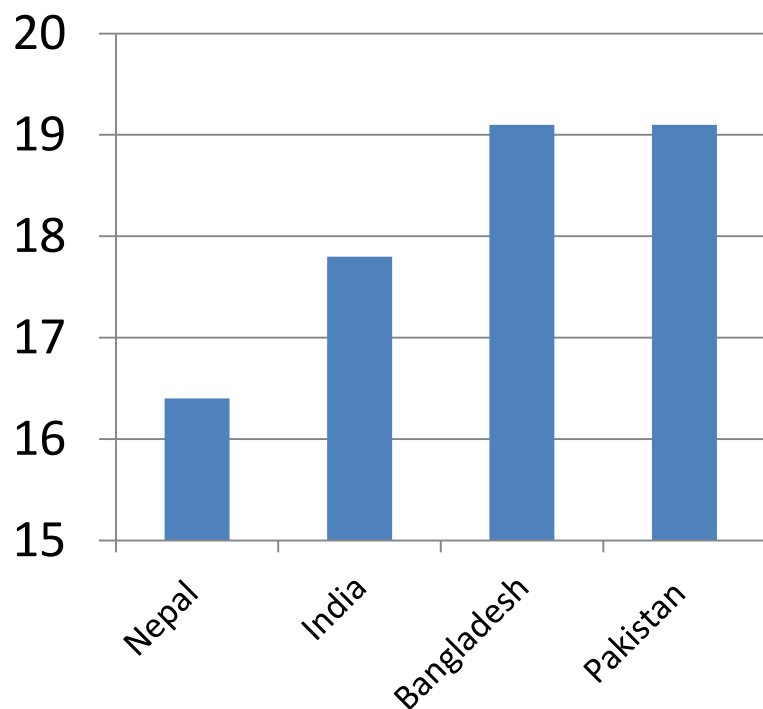
| Coping strategy for food inadequacy | % HH |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Borrowing food or money             | 68.4 |
| Purchasing foods on credit          | 57.1 |
| Eating less expensive foods         | 50.9 |
| Eating less for each meal           | 41.5 |
| Skipping meals                      | 33.4 |

# Improving Food Security Situation Nepal

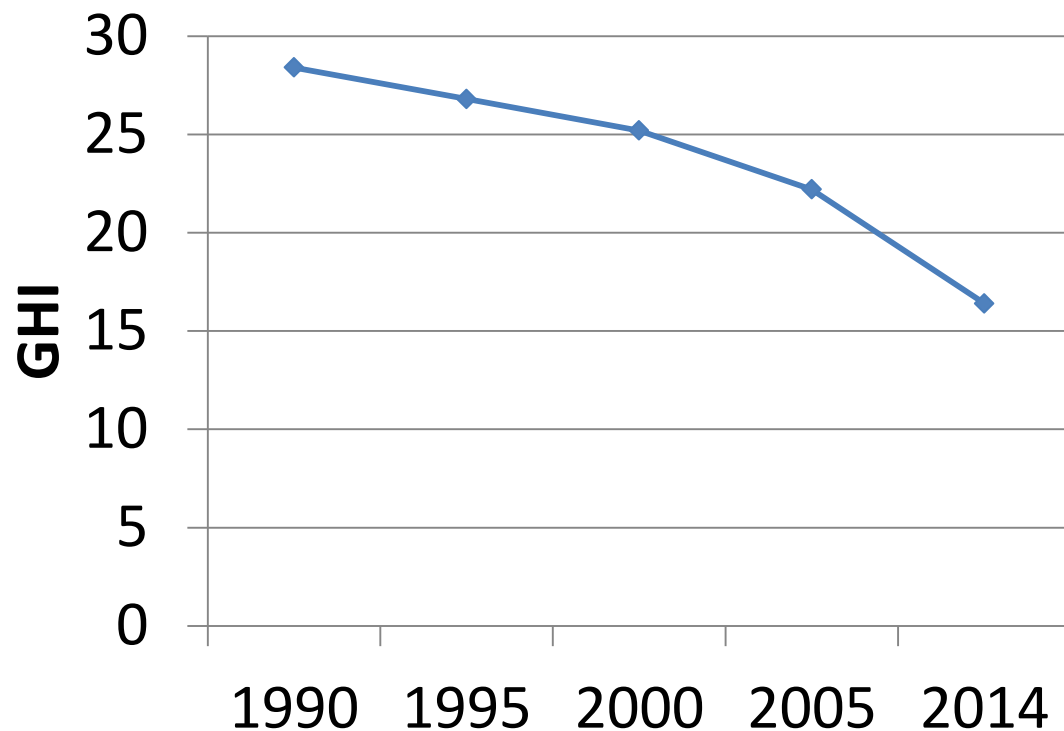


# Declining GHI in Nepal: Alarming to Serious

**GHI 2014**



**Global Hunger Index (GHI)**





# Reasons for Food Insecurity

- Less competitive agriculture
- Food price volatility
- Competition by non-food crops for land and water resources
- Climate change
- Failure to scale up technology adoption
- Green revolution technology not fitting well to hills and mountains
- Small size of land holdings, Low productivity,
- High transaction costs
- Post harvest losses and wastes
- High prevalence of poverty

# Government efforts and prospects of regional cooperation

- Trade liberalization
- Increased budget to agriculture
- Agricultural commercialization
- Rights-based approach to food security
- Collaborating on agricultural research,
- SAARC seed bank
- SAARC food bank

# SAARC and food security

- SAARC has made regional efforts in food security
- SAARC Food Bank (2007)
  - For emergency and food **shortage**
  - Simplified **procedures** for withdrawal and release of food grains
  - Provisions for **price negotiation**
  - A **Food Bank Board** to administer functioning of the Bank with authority to develop guidelines for price determination
  - **Designated Nodal Point** at national level
  - To provide **regional support** to national food security efforts
  - To foster inter-country **partnerships** and collective actions.

# Member's contributions to SAARC Food Bank

| Country     | Food reserve (1000 tons) | % Contribution |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Afghanistan | 2.84                     | 0.58           |
| Bangladesh  | 80.00                    | 16.47          |
| Bhutan      | 0.36                     | 0.07           |
| India       | 306.00                   | 63.01          |
| Maldives    | 0.40                     | 0.08           |
| Nepal       | 8.00                     | 1.65           |
| Pakistan    | 80.00                    | 16.47          |
| Sri Lanka   | 8.00                     | 1.65           |
| Total       | 485.60                   | 100.00         |

Source: SAARC Secretariat 2012

# Nepal's agenda for regional cooperation on food security

1. Facilitate technology transfer
2. Cooperate in weather forecasting
3. Cooperate in managing transboundary spread of pests and veterinary diseases.
4. Improve Seed Bank to include sharing genetic resources and breeds
5. Operationalize SAARC Food Bank
  - Establish secretariat, Reduce trigger level, improve price setting mechanism, linkages to PDS,
6. Strengthen SAFTA towards facilitating food trade
7. Harmonize standards for food products
8. Facilitate signing mutual recognition agreements

Thanks for your kind attention

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