Reproducing Vulnerability Through Climate Change Adaptation? Policy Processes, Local Power Relations and Food Insecurity in northwestern Nepal

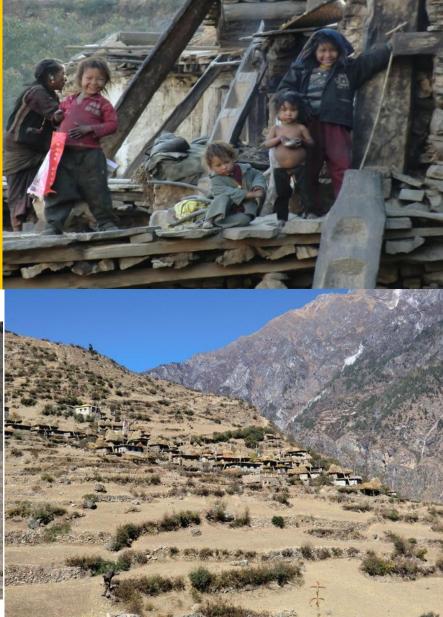
> Sigrid.nagoda@nmbu.no Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

### The multi-dimensionel aspects of vulnerability



#### Research area: the Humla distict in Northwestern Nepal





### Main Findings:

## 1. Social structures and power relations are key drivers of local vulnerability.





# 2. Humanitarian aid influences on preexisting social and power relations that shape vulnerability patterns



3. Mechanisms by which most vulnerable are marginalised in policy processes are sustained by apolitical approaches.



**Discussion:** What are the spaces for adaptation policies to truly address the power structures and inequities that drive vulnerability?

• <u>First</u>, all interventions take place in a complicated political space.

•<u>Second</u>, the concepts of "Local Participation" and "Community Participation" disguise the strong intra-community forces of discrimination and inequality that determine vulnerability.

• <u>Third</u>, Being neutral does not mean being a-political. We need to identify – and create - a real space for the transformation of the social structures that make people vulnerable.



### Thank you