

Climate vulnerability and adaptation in Karnali and Sudharpashchim provinces, Nepal

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Introduction

This study assesses the vulnerability of Karnali and Sudharpashchim provinces in Nepal to climate change and explores adaptation strategies. The focus is on agricultural systems, which are crucial for the livelihood of local communities.

Research questions

- What is the current level of climate change awareness among farmers in Karnali and Sudharpashchim?
- How has climate change affected agricultural productivity in these provinces?
- What adaptation measures are currently in place, and what further measures are recommended?

Methodology

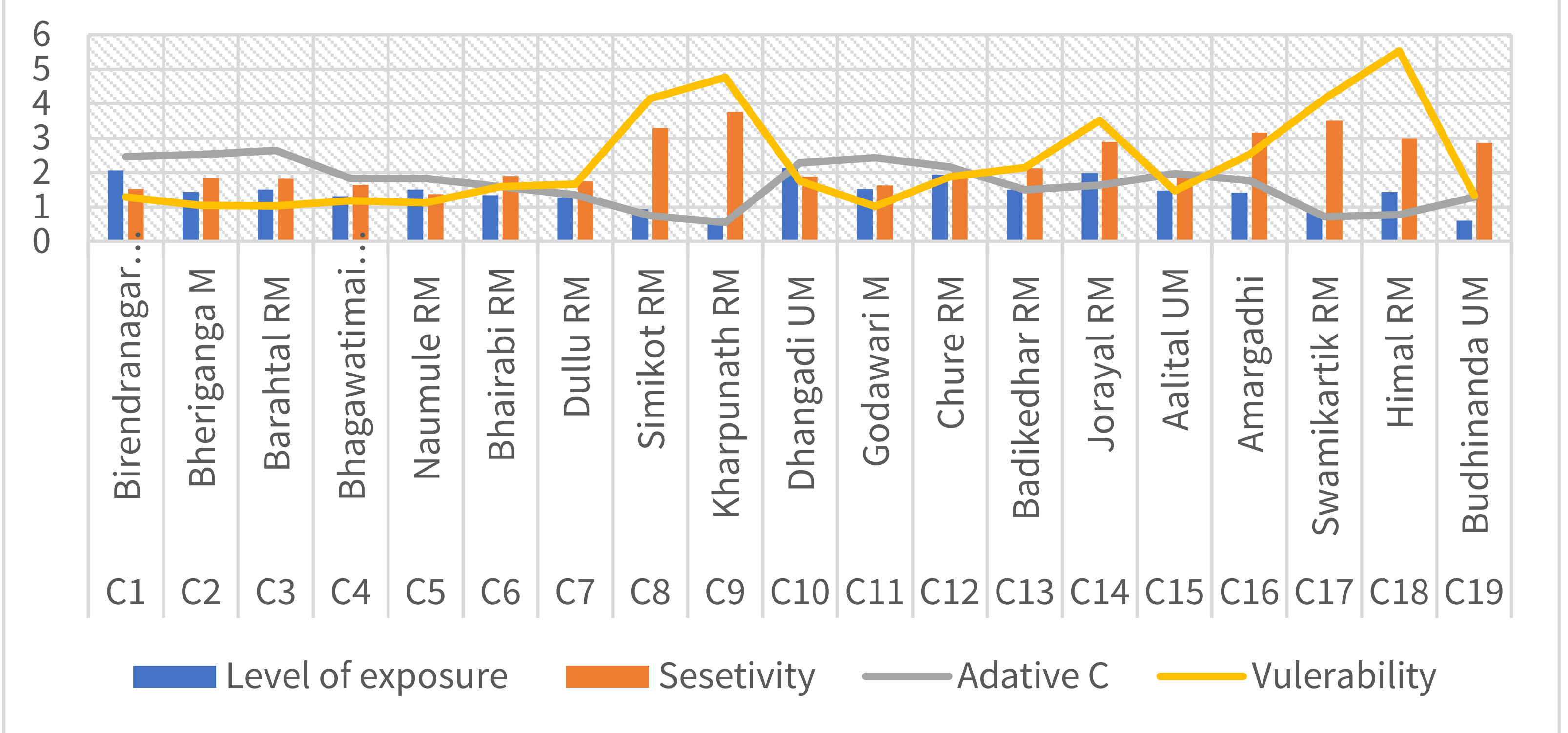
Data were collected through focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs), and household surveys in 19 communities. Both qualitative and quantitative data were analysed to assess vulnerability and adaptation capacity.

Key findings

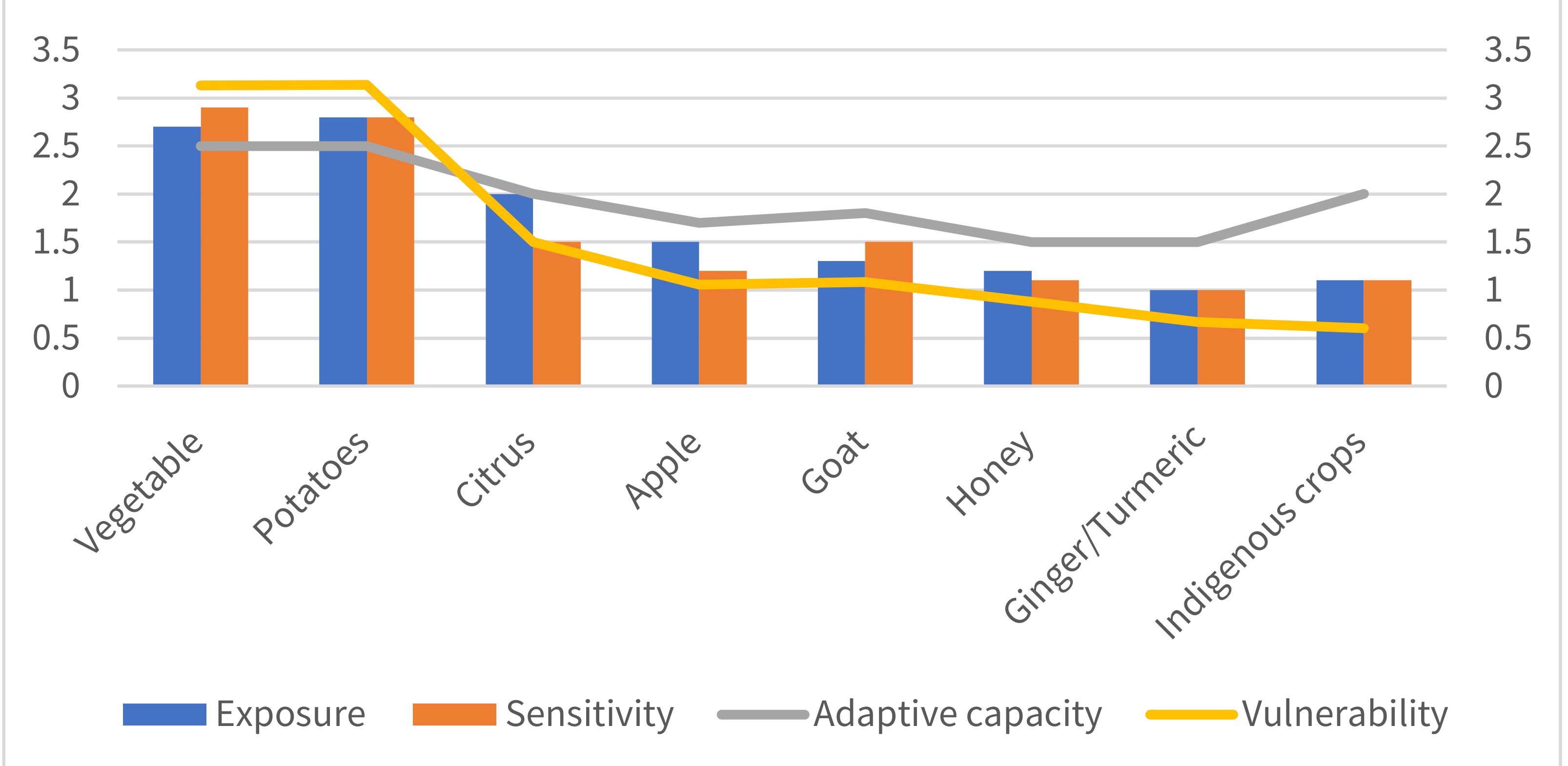
- High awareness of climate change (96%) among farmers, mainly through mass media.
- Increased temperatures and erratic precipitation patterns have negatively impacted agriculture, particularly affecting potato and vegetable yields.
- Existing adaptation strategies include the use of chemical inputs and traditional farming methods, but knowledge gaps and resource limitations persist.



Level of Exposure, Sensitivity and Vulnerability of different Communities



Level of exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity, and vulnerability of different commodities



Conclusion

The communities in Karnali and Sudharpashchim are highly vulnerable to climate change, particularly with respect to agriculture. Strengthening adaptive capacity through improved access to technology, knowledge dissemination, and sustainable practices is critical.

