

Editorial

Strengthening the seed sector of potato, vegetables, and spice crops is essential for enhancing agricultural productivity, ensuring food security, and promoting economic growth in Nepal. Quality seeds are the cornerstone of successful crop production, directly influencing yield, disease resistance, and adaptability to diverse agro-ecological conditions. The National Seed Vision 2013–2025 underscores the need for a holistic and pragmatic approach to develop Nepal’s seed system, focusing on variety development, seed multiplication, processing, marketing, and quality control to achieve self-sufficiency and reduce dependency on imports.

Investments in seed infrastructure, skilled human resources, and public-private partnerships are critical to scaling up seed production and improving seed replacement rates, particularly for vegetables where the target is over 90 percent replacement. Strengthening institutional capacity and regulatory frameworks will ensure the availability of genetically pure, high-quality seeds to farmers, thereby increasing crop yields and farmers’ income. Furthermore, fostering collaboration between national research bodies and private seed companies, along with international partnerships, can accelerate the development and dissemination of improved seed varieties tailored to Nepal’s diverse agro-climatic zones.

Ultimately, a robust seed sector for potato, vegetables, and spices will not only boost domestic production but also position Nepal as a competitive seed production hub in South Asia, opening avenues for export and regional cooperation. This strategic focus aligns with Nepal’s broader agricultural development goals, aiming to transform the seed sector into a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive system that supports farmers and contributes to national food security and economic prosperity.

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