PRESS RELEASE

The Government of United Kingdom of the Great Britain through Department for International development (DFID) has agreed to provide a grant assistance of total Pound 91.5 million (approximately NRs 12.19 billion) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of two programs: "Strengthening Disaster Resilience and Responding to Humanitarian Emergencies in Nepal (Pound 46 million)" and "Climate Smart Development Programme (Pound 45.5 million)". Memorandum of Understanding, (MoU) between these two Governments was signed and exchanged at the Ministry of Finance today.

The main objective of "Strengthening Disaster Resilience and Responding to Humanitarian Emergencies in Nepal" is to reduce risk and build resilience to natural hazards, particularly to earthquakes, both locally and at a national level. The program is expected to support to system, policy and mechanisms for disaster resilience, capacity building of institutions and communities for disaster resilience in Nepal and support for building disaster resilience community infrastructure. The duration of this program will be until 31 March 2023.

Similarly the main objective of "Climate Smart Development Programme" is to accelerate climate resilient and low carbon development in Nepal. The program is expected to increase investment and improve planning for climate smart development via support to people, businesses, national policies and learning mechanisms related to climate change resilience. The duration of this program will be until 31st July 2021.

These grant agreements were signed and exchanged by Mr. Baikuntha Aryal, Chief and Joint Secretary, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division (IECCD), Ministry of Finance and Ms. Gail Marzetti, Head of the Department for International Development, DFID Nepal on behalf of their respective Government.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of United Kingdom of the Great Britain through the Department for International Development (DIFID) for this grant assistance and their continued support in the socio economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance Singhdurbar, Kathmandu 24 May, 2017 (Jestha 10Th, 2074)