

# Scientific Animation Withour Borders-An information Systems Approach to Scaling Research for Development Innovations in Lentil Cropping Systems

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# What is SAWBO?

- SAWBO (Scientific Animations Without Borders) is a program that creates educational animations on topics like agriculture, health, and women's empowerment to provide free knowledge in developing countries.
- Purdue University program – Scaling for Research/Research for Scaling

Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) was co-founded by **Dr. Julia Bello-Bravo** and **Dr. Barry Pittendrigh** in 2011.

These animations are co-created with experts, translated into many languages, and made freely available through platforms like YouTube, a dedicated app, and USB drives for offline use.

Interested members can assess through: <https://sawbo-animations.org/about/>

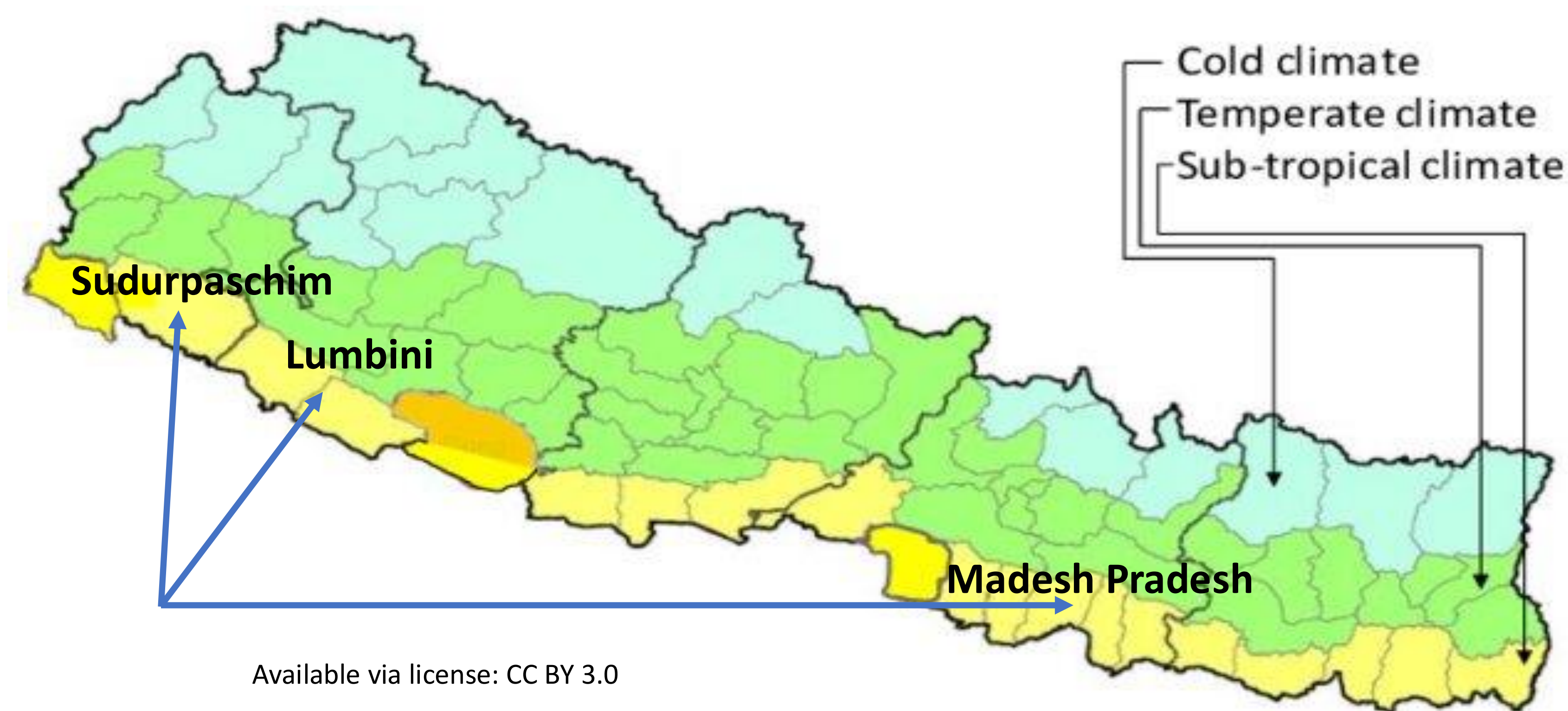
# Background

Legume Systems Innovation Lab and Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) created:

- 15 videos in 13 local languages (for Nepal) focusing on good agricultural practices (GAP) in lentil cropping systems in Nepal
- Videos content was from NARC, Muktinath Krishi Company, Prachiti Agriculture and Research Centre Private Limited and a team of experts
- This work was funded in part by the former United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



# Areas of Focus



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My participation was made possible through the  
generous support of the  
**Delivering for Nutrition 2025 Conference funders**



This project was funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and was terminated for convenience of the US Government on February 26, 2025. Termination for convenience is a decision on policy changes of the government that occurred during a whole-of-government review of funding and systematic change. The termination of the Legume Systems Innovation Lab and the Nepal Lentil Strengthening Activity was not due to lack of performance.





# Approaches

- The intervention collaborated with SAWBO to develop visual educational tools on good agricultural practices in local languages
- Animations overcame literacy barriers
- Videos were disseminated to farmers/stakeholders through the coordinators and cooperatives
- Showed increased adoption of improved practices among trained farmers





# Findings

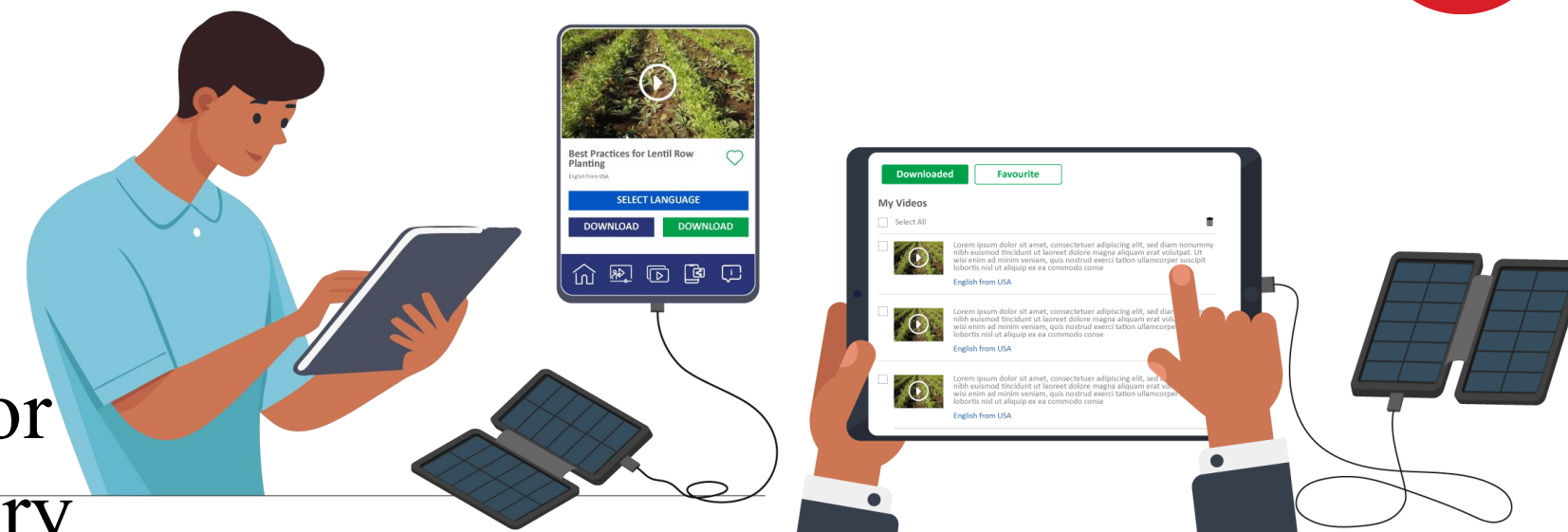
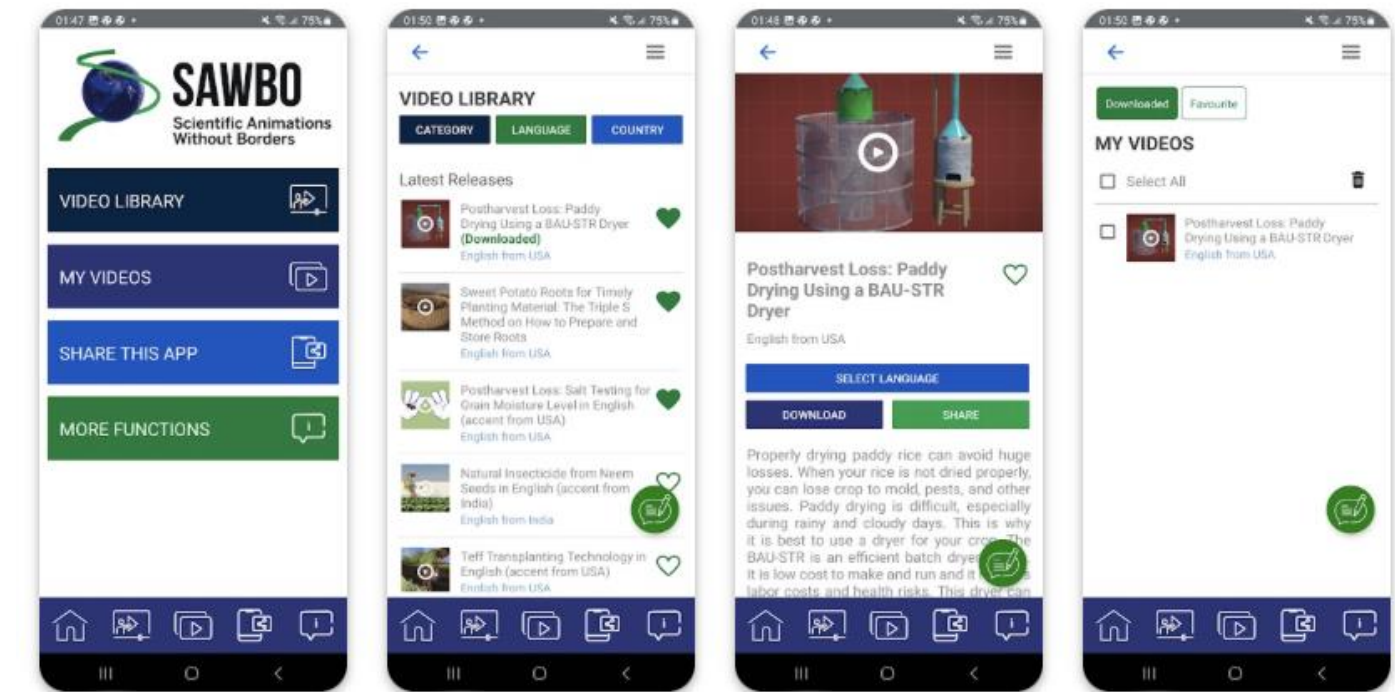
- Demo plots using good agricultural practices yielded 160% higher lentil harvest compared to traditional plots resulting in a 68% increase in revenue (after input costs).
- A campaign to distribute the videos for 2024-25 lentil season trained 947 farmers (598 females and 349 males) for each step of lentil cultivation practices
- Facilitation included collaboration with the Provincial governments, NARC, and Muktinath Krishi Company
- Animations were translated into local languages
- Barriers included limited access to extension services and the inputs promoted in the videos, including improved seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides





# Significance

- SAWBO's educational videos significantly enhance knowledge transfer, promote adoption of improved practices, and address literacy barriers
- They strengthen farmers' resilience and food security
- Farmer networks with a lead farmer, Multi-stakeholder Platforms, and SAWBO videos in addition to traditional extension training meetings are effective
- To scale-up this work, partnerships with farmer networks and lead farmers are critical
- Videos and platform (SAWBO App) freely available for others to scale or download from SAWBO online library





# Systems/Partnerships for scaling up

- Lead farmer, Multi-stakeholder Platforms, extension agents, and SAWBO videos.
- To scale-up this work, partnerships with farmer networks and lead farmers are critical





# All content is freely available

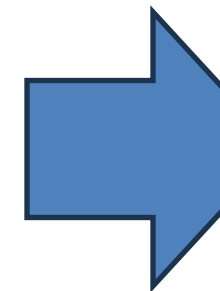
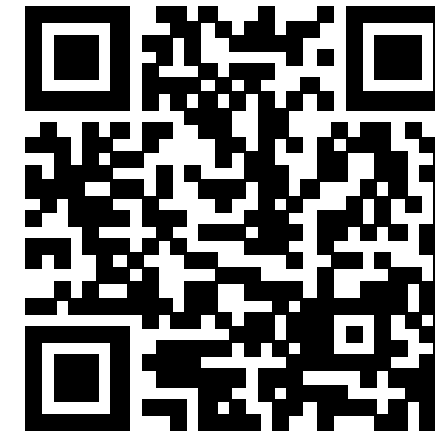
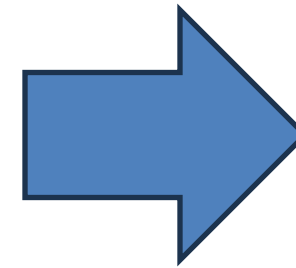
## All content is freely available

Can be used “as is” for free

Downloaded from SAWBO’s webportal system  
(<https://nepal.sawbo-animations.org>) or...

...through its freely available App  
([https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sawbo&hl=en\\_US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sawbo&hl=en_US))

Content can be used on TV stations, TV screens,  
projectors, on Android phones/tablets, etc.





## Team Members

- Barry Pittendrigh
- John Medendorp
- David DeYoung
- Eliud Birachi
- Yvonne Munyangeri
- Muktinath Krishi Company Limited
- Sony KC
- Tanka Prasad Acharya
- Pramod Shah
- Suraj Khanal
- Namita Nepal

**Thank you!**