

NEWS LETTER

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RESOURCE FARMERS TRAINING CONDUCTED IN PATERA, SALYAN

Capacity building of resource farmers is a continuous process, where all RFs are trained every month on

different topics so as to increase their technical skills and knowledge on different improved practices, tools, technologies and methods through trainings and demonstrations. Project staff train them on different topics at field, which is later transferred to their respective group members through Farmers Field School (FFS). During this period, six different trainings on 'Importance of Saving in Groups', 'Safe use of pesticide', 'Identification and conservation of beneficial insects', 'Tomato cultivation in plastic tunnel', Importance of production data recording' and 'Management of fruit fly' was conducted.



Programatic session during FFS demonstrating safe use of pesticide, Patera, Salyan

Similarly, four trainings on organic vegetable production were organized i.e. one in each cluster. Major topic covered in training included introduction to organic agriculture and its importance, improved methods of preparation and use of Farm Yard Manure (FYM), organic approach to pest management, introduction and use of bio-pesticide and documentary on harmful effect of pesticide. Training was facilitated by resource person from agriculture section of Municipality/Rural Municipality and Project Coordinator of BCES.

Table below presents details of RF training on organic vegetable production.

| Name of training | Date | Venue | Number of participants |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | March 16, 2018 | Siddhakumakh, Patera | 29 (F/M: 20/9) |
| Organic vegetable | March 17, 2018 | Sharda Hotel, Bagchour | 37 (F/M: 20/9) |
| production | May 15, 2018 | Bagchour M-5, Bangelakhuri, Salyan | 26 (F/M: 12/14) |
| | May 16, 2018 | Darma RM-4, Jalekharkha, Salyan | 27 (F/M: 5/22) |

COMMUNITY APPLAUDED CEAPRED/ICIMOD'S EFFORT IN PROMOTING RESILENCE TECHNOLOGIES AT KAVREPALANCHOK DISTRICT

In order to give exposure of various aspects of CSA technologies, practices and institutional innovations in two villages of Kavrepalanchowk – Kalchebesi and Raviopi, CEAPRED and ICIMOD jointly conducted a one day participatory assessment of the pilot RMV intervention on 17th May, 2018. The assessment tried to discuss the impact of CSA approach and practices in the villages to address the demand for increasing agricultural productivity, incomes and building social-ecological resilience of livelihood systems to climate change, while minimizing synthetic inputs in agriculture.

It was basically learning and sharing event, encouraging the farmers to speak out about their

perception on the whole approach adopted during RMV intervention and to seek any potential improvement or adjustments required in the approach. Using FGDs, beneficiary farmers were asked their perceptions of the project intervention and CSA practices in order to help in designing a new approach or to improve, modify and to make necessary adjustments in a new Resilient Mountain Solution.



The farmers both the villages overwhelmingly participated the appraisal and the researchers tried realize participating how farmers in the area

have adopted the resilient technologies and benefit from them. For most of the farmers, the RMV project was a useful tool for learning different CSA practices and interacting with other farmers and stakeholders. The interdisciplinary team in the assessment enhanced the farmers to share their learning experiences, providing explanations and opportunities for discussions for which the farmers had limited knowledge and understanding. All the participants actively took part in the discussion and worked together to document the changes they have faced during the project intervention. They shared about how they dealt with the different practices and how they have been benefitted.



Specific areas where improvements observed included home based bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers in insect pests' management and increasing crop production; adoption of low cost poly-house tunnels for off-season vegetables and using ICT in agriculture together with waste water collection pond and higher representation from women in the intervention. The household income from the farming through resilient practices has increased dramatically, while the use chemical/synthetic inputs have largely been reduced. This has also tremendously helped them introduce their village beyond the district territory and to national and international level for its resilient practices. The villagers were very happy with the visit of high level delegates and ministers from all over the world. They have expressed their appreciation and acknowledged the effort of CEAPRED/ICIMOD for providing support in the village which had been devoid of any developmental efforts for a long time. Some of the participants unanimously, explained how it seemed like a fairy tale when they first heard about farming with low or no chemical pesticides and now after 2 years, they have been able to demonstrate the number of successful plots with Jholmal application.

Some of the potential areas where improvements are needed includ project duration- where the farmers observed that they did not get enough time to absorb all the knowledge that they were learning together with enterprise development at the community level that can ripple through the business and entrepreneurial community because if agriculture fails, farmers will not have income that can sustain business.

At the end, the team members were applauded with the vote of thanks and a beautiful folk songs from the community that explained all the practices they have adopted and the benefits they have gained from the project initiatives.

Training of Trainers Conducted in Dang

KISAN II provided Training of Trainers (TOT) to recently recruited Agriculture Marketing Technicians (AMT) in Dang district from 7-11 May 2018. A total of 24 AMTs, 1 Area coordinator, 1 Irrigation Engineer, 3 irrigation technicians and 3 Agriculture Program Officers participated in the program. The training provided a clear picture of the working approach, market system development, relationships with grantees, AMTs role and responsibilities, new technologies in agriculture and ethics and norms of KISAN II. The sessions were facilitated by technical and finance team of the project, where the AMTs were made clear about their role and responsibilities of KISAN II. Over all the training was very useful in providing new working approach of the project to the participants.



A Brief on Look on SAHAJ- NAMDP Activities

New Partnerships: Sahaj-Nepal Market Development Agricultural Program has signed partnership agreements with twenty-two new private sector companies. It has two new partnership agreements in the vegetable sector, nine new partne rship in the maize sector, ten new partnerships in the goat sector and one new partnership in the crop-protection cross-sector. These new partnerships are geared towards working with Sahaj to co-design and implement interventions for its vegetable, goat, maize, crop-protection and postharvest sectors and cross-sectors. The interventions are designed to ultimately benefit smallholder farmers in the country by creating sustainable interventions designed and led by the partners.

Partner Level Activities: There have been many activities carried out by the partners under the Sahaj programme.

Some of the activities include conducting trainings for the farmers so they develop knowledge on boosting farm productivity to increase their incomes. For example, Dolphin Aadhunik Dana Udhyog, one of the partners of Sahaj, organized maize cultivation training in Kailali on 16 May 2018. The training included 59 participants wherein approximately 50 farmers have agreed to plant maize this season using Rampur composite seed (Pictures 1 and 2). Similarly, Prasiddha Byapar Sewa, another Sahaj partner, organized maize cultivation training at Salyan on 6 May 2018 wherein approximately 40 farmers agreed to plant maize seeds this monsoon using Arun, Rampur Composite and Manakamana seeds.



Co-facilitator Level Activities: Mount Digit, a co-facilitator of Sahaj, is organising a workshop on 'Forage Based Goat Production for Commercial Goat Farmers' at Biratnagar from June 6 - 7, 2018.

Sahaj Level Activities: Sahaj organized a half day learning-sharing event on 25 May 2018. The event was facilitated by Mr. Prashant Rana, Director South East Asia, Swisscontact, to share learnings from other Inclusive Markets (commonly known as the Making Markets Work for the Poor or Market Systems Development) projects including PRISMA and MDF. The event was attended by the programme staff, co-facilitator partners from MADE Nepal, Mount Digit Technologies and DEVTEC Nepal. The learning- sharing focused on the experiences of Inclusive Markets programmes. Sahaj has also conducted two impact studies in the vegetable and post-harvest sector.

Partner Level Activities: Sahaj signed a tripartite MoU between Regional Livestock Services Training Center (RLSTC) and Livestock Breeding Office (LBO) in Nepalgunj on February 14, 2018 to carry out an action research in Nepalgunj. The key objective of this action research was to assess the feasibility of artificial insemination (AI) in goats and to promote the practice for breed improvement at the smallholder goat farmers' level.

Sahaj also supported the first national goat festival organized by the Federation of Commercial Goat Farming Association of Nepal (FEGAN) in collaboration with Department of Livestock Services (DLS). The 10-day training was organized from 28 February – 10 March 2018 in Nuwakot and included over 500 farmers from all over Nepal. The first ever national level goat festival had stalls to promote products relevant to goat farming, and included trainings, paper presentations and discussion forums.

REVIEW WORKSHOP IN BANGLADESH

Annual review workshop of Building Community Enterprises for Smallholders (BCES) project was organized by Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Sylhet, Bangladesh on January 1-5, 2018. A total of 3 participants were present from CEAPRED. The objective of the event Annual review workshop of Building Community Enterprises for Smallholders (BCES) project was organized by



Participants of annual review workshop, Bangladesh, January, 2018

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Sylhet, Bangladesh on January 1-5, 2018. A total of 3 participants were present from CEAPRED. The objective of the event was to review and discuss the project updates, discuss way forward and inter country learning and knowledge exchange. Overall implementation status of project seemed good except slight

deviation done during implementation of project in Nepalese condition. Major decision made during the workshop was that all the activity were smoothly implemented as per plan and project will not go for low cost extension i.e. project activity will be completed within designated time frame and development of one organic cluster will be organized by each partners.

MASS TRAPPING OF TUTA MOTHS THROUGH PHERO-LIGHT TRAPS



Use of light and Wota T Trap in mass trapping of Tuta moths at Banke

With the objective to test efficacy of mass trapping of *Tuta* absoluta moths by light as well as pheromone lure was carried out at Surkhet while the experiment is ongoing in Banke district. 25 watt CFL bulbs were found to be effective than LED bulbs in case of Surkhet in the previous year thus in Banke district CFL bulb were used. Along with phero light trap, TLM lure was used and the lures were being changed within 50-55 days intervals. Data recording of the number of Tuta moth trapped in light as well as TLM lure is being done. Presently the crop is at the harvesting stage in Banke district.

PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIC FAIRS IN BANKE AND SURKHET



Staff of AVM-IPM-IL and ENBAITA describing about the IPM products to the visitors in agriculture fair, Banke

Mass awareness provides essential link between the individual and the demands of the technological needs in the society. With this objective in mind an organic fair was organized in Banke and Surkhet districts where AVMIPM-IL had participated coordination with ENBAITA and SUAHHARA II at Banke and Surkhet respectively. These fairs included display of all available IPM tools and components including various nursery structures, flex containing information like beneficial insects, botanicals used in the preparation of bio pesticide, harmful effects of pesticide and so forth. Farmers,

agriculture entrepreneurs, students, researchers, representatives from NGOs and INGOs and other stakeholders visited the stall. The detail of participation in fairs is given below.

Details of the participation in the fair

| Date | Venue | Organizer | Tentative number of Observer visiting the stall |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|
| January 25- February 5, 2018 | Karkando, Nepalgunj | FNCCI, Banke | 10,000 |
| February 08- February 20, 2018 | Birendranagar, Surkhet | FNCCI, Surkhet | 7,000 |

CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN SALYAN

In order to provide irrigation facility for increased and year round vegetable production, BCES has completed construction of some community irrigation scheme. And to address continuous demand for more irrigation scheme 3 new schemes have been found technically sound, economically viable and were implemented during this period. The project supported for external materials like cements, rods, pipes and skilled labor while community contributed for local materials like stone,



Inauguration of drinking water cum Irrigation scheme, Baihkhada, Salvan, February, 2018

sand, aggregates and unskilled labor. This helped the farmers to cultivate vegetable year round which have helped to improve food and nutritional security. Below is the detail of community irrigation whose construction has been completed during this period.

| S.N. | Group name | Address | Benefitting HH | Command area (ropani) | Remarks |
|------|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Janajarad Krishak Samuha | Darma RM-5, Jalekharkha, Salyan | 35 | 190 | Gravity flow |
| 2 | Saraswoti Krishak Samuha | Siddhakumakh RM-1 | 42 | 75 | Gravity flow (Irrigation cum drinking water) |
| 3 | Mahadev Krishak Siddhakumakh RM-1, Mokha- Samuha la | | 45 | 120 | Gravity flow (Irrigation cum drinking water) |

Training Provided to Primary Coffee Cooperatives/Farmer Groups on Coffee Orchard Management

project, Coffee Under the Hamro Service currently 28 Extension Providers (ESPs) have been providing their various extension services to coffee growing farmers in six project districts. As a part of the program, Extension, service providers have so far trained 60 coffee cooperatives and producer groups, where 2400 coffee farmers were trained in all six districts on integrated coffee production. Through on-site demonstrative trainings farmers



A farmer clicked while washing the freshly plucked coffee cherries

have learnt to use diverse methods of coffee production such as different practices of shading, orchard management, soil fertility management, intercropping and pest management for specialty coffee production. Some highlights of the trainings are given below:

- 150 Improved Coffee harvest bag of capacity eight kg fresh cherry were distributed to marginalized farmers and coffee cooperatives/groups of six project districts. Farmers gave initial good responses to this innovative technology. Bag will minimize the post harvest loss to a good extent covering the cost of bag. It is expected to disseminate in rapid scale with farmers and cooperatives in future.
- A technical committee comprised of eight members was formed in coordination with National tea and coffee development board to validate the drafted manual by coffee consultants. The drafted manual was endorsed by the committee and board. Manual is now under publication phase.

SRIJANA HYBRID SEED PRODUCTION TRAINING, NARC

Successful Participation by Mr. Umesh Paudel, Research Associate NSAFP, CEAPRED in three days Srijana Hybrid seed production training organized by Horticulture Research Division, NARC, Khumaltar, Lalitpur held on 18th March, 2018 to 20th March 2018 at HRD hall.

- With the series of discussion meeting on the concept note preparation and finalization it was
 finally approved on March 23, 2018 with budget for this fiscal year US\$.69293.00 The major
 activities comprised of Support on Technical Troubleshooting Modules, Popularization of
 technology, Local Government Support, Activity Review Meeting, Monitoring and Reporting.
- Stakeholder's Orientation on NSAF Vegetables Intervention: Immediately after approval of concept note and program budget for FY 2017/18 a stakeholder's orientation on NSAF Vegetables Intervention had been conducted in collaboration with the CIMMYT at CIMMYT office on March 27, 2018. The main objectives were sharing of program activities of CEAPRED under Nepal Seed and Fertilizer Project (NSAFP), CIMMYT and exploring possibility of collaborative support in the effective implementation of the program, thereby enhancing the seed value chain system in the country. There were 12 participants in the workshop from Department of Agriculture, Nepal Agriculture Research Council, SEAN, Seed Companies, CIMMYT–NSAFP and CEAPRED

Success Story

Gender and Environment Friendly IPM!!



Mrs. Maya Gurung resident of Bheriganga-10- Jhilmile is a 32 years old woman who is extensively involved in the vegetable farming since last two years. She has 5 members in her family constituting 2 sons, a daughter and her husband. She is the member of Subhakamana Taja Tarkari Utpadan Samuha who owns a farm of 0.07 hectare. Earlier she used to have a cereal based cropping system while her husband went to Malaysia to earn money so as to educate the children and to run the household.

Training and demonstration of IPM technologies was organized by IPM-IL on Subhakamana Taja Tarkari Utpadan Samuha in cucurbit crop where Mrs. Gurung had participated. After the training she showed her keen interest in cultivating the cucurbit crop in her field which was under cereal cropping system since few years. She started the cropping by using IPM package i.e. use of Cue lure for management of Fruit fly, nylon net to prevent the insects and transfer of virus and Tricho-compost during seedling transplanting as well as other bio pesticides. She was quite nervous with the investment to be made but her husband who had just returned from Malaysia supported her and helped her in the cultivation by rejecting the return back visa. They prepared 2 tunnels with PEN in their field covering 12*6 m² by the each tunnel structure. She produced 11 quintals of cucumber in two tunnels which were sold at Rs. 30-60/kg to earn Rs. 54,400 in a single season. She said after the intervention of IPM-IL she was able to earn profit from the land which was earlier under cereal crop with no profit but subsistence only. She is quite satisfied with the return from the tunnels. She also mentioned that she was so happy to have her husband together helping in the cultivation. She has now become a good source of example to the society who is involved with high dedication in vegetable farming. She addressed that behind every successful man there is a woman but in my case "behind every successful women there is a there is a man" because she is so gratified with the support her husband has provided to her in cultivating crops and adopting the IPM technologies.





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