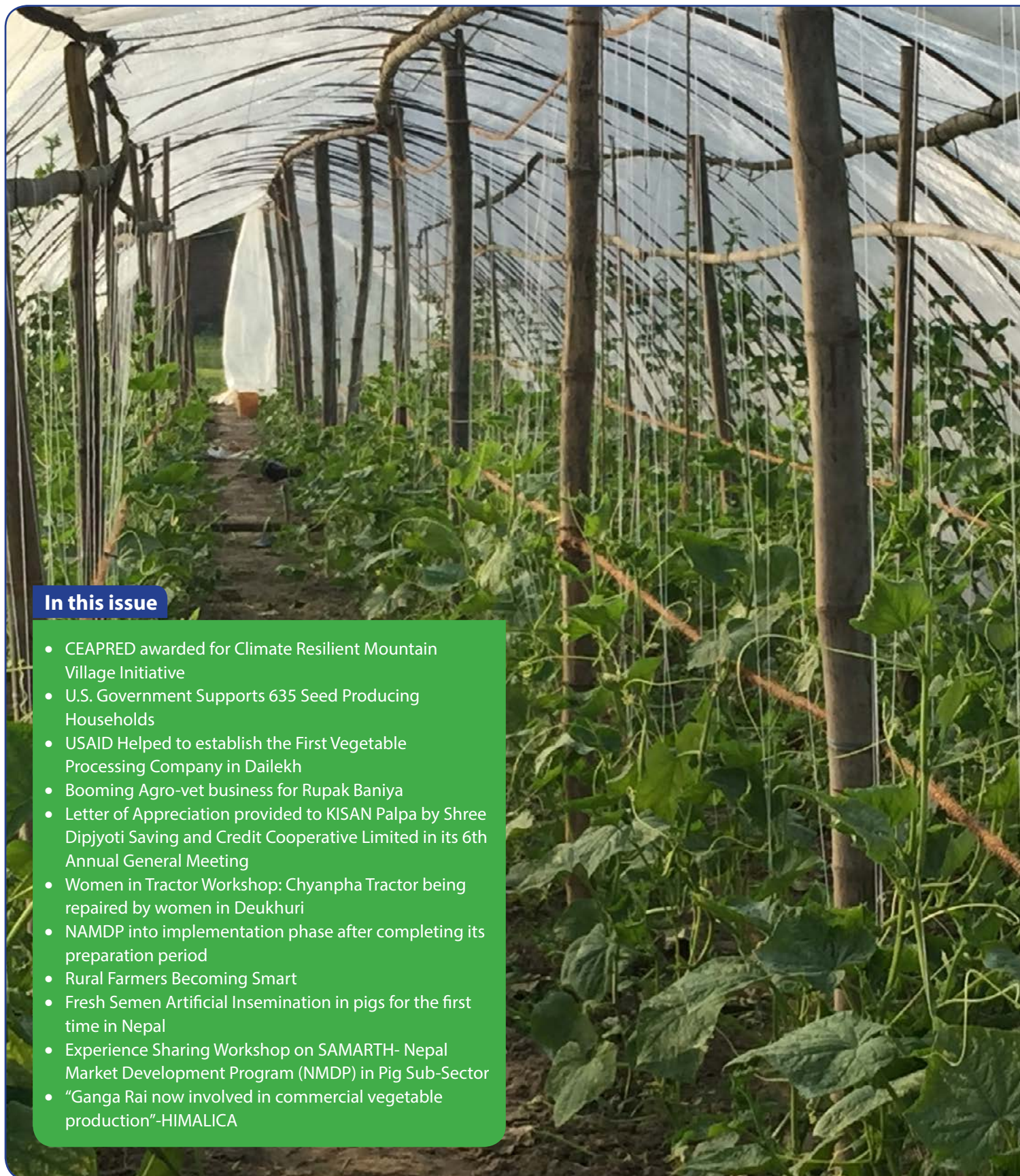




July – December 2016

# Newsletter



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*Vegetable production under plastic tunnel at Gobari, Kapilvastu, KISAN Project*



## CEAPRED awarded for Climate Resilient Mountain Village Initiatives

The Center for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development (CEAPRED) received the Protsahan Puraskar (Encouragement Prize) for pilot project on Resilient Mountain Villages (RMV). The Protsahan Puraskar, awarded as part of the Adaptation at Scale prize, by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), for successful implementation of climate change adaptation initiatives in Nepal with high potential to scale up.

The RMV approach is being implemented across four VDCs and one municipality of Kavre district in partnership with ICIMOD under the Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Program (HICAP) being initiated by ICIMOD in the Hindukush Himalayan countries. In Kavre, the pilot project works with 40 farmers' groups, which include 1,089 households represented by over 80% women mostly from marginalized communities. It follows a dynamic and evolving learning mechanism



*Mr. Roshan Subedi receiving the "Protsahan Puraskar" on behalf of CEAPRED*

based on field experience, as well as the latest research in the field of climate resilience.

RMV, earlier referred to as the Climate Smart village, is an integrated approach for development in mountain areas that combines economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development with climate change adaptation, resilience, and preparedness for future risks.

At the prize giving ceremony held on 16 December 2016, the Hon'ble Minister for Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, Mr. Jay Dev Joshi handed over a token of appreciation and a cash prize of GB £10,000 to CEAPRED. The prize amount will be used for up-scaling of the RMV initiatives.



*CEAPRED wins Protsahan Puraskar for pilot project on Climate Resilient Mountain Villages (RMV).*

## U.S. Government Supports 635 Seed Producing Households

USAID's Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition (KISAN) project and the U.S. Government's Pacific Command (PACOM) recently supported 635 seed-producing households (organized under two cooperatives) in Bardiya District to improve their seed production and storage capacity. KISAN provided seed production trainings to cooperative members and facilitated the establishment of contracts between the cooperatives and seed companies. PACOM supported the construction of a covered seed unloading and storage platform for Krishak Upakar Multipurpose Cooperative and a two-room cooperative building and seed warehouse for Hare Krishna Krishi Sahakari Sanstha Cooperative. These two cooperatives together produced 242 metric tons of rice, wheat, and lentil seeds last year. As a result of KISAN and PACOM's support, the cooperatives will be able to increase the quantity and quality of their seed business in the years ahead.

## USAID Helped to establish the First Vegetable Processing Company in Dailekh

With a grant from USAID's Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition (KISAN) Project, Jawalgadhi Masala Udyog has become the first vegetable processing agribusiness to be established in Dailekh. The company entered a contract farming arrangement with 600 farmers to produce tomato, chilies, and pumpkin for processing condiments, such as tomato ketchup and spices. Jawalgadhi Masala Udyog will have access to a steady supply of inputs needed for his condiments, and farmers are assured that they will have a market for their produce at competitive prices. Kabiraj Khatri, owner of Jawalgadhi Masala Udyog, aims to collect more than 20 tons of tomatoes and chilies per month. He expects that this contract farming arrangement will expand the area under commercial vegetable production from 15 to 45 hectares in the five village development committees. KISAN is helping the company to develop a farmer extension support system, upgrade its equipment, and strengthen hygienic and safe food processing, branding, and marketing of the condiments. The condiments will initially marketed in the Karnali districts, making ketchup much more affordable than the imported brands currently sold in teashops of the region.

## Booming Agro-vet business for Rupak Baniya

He used to have small business of seeds, pesticides, fertilizers and similar agricultural inputs in weekly market (Hat Bazar). After the support from KISAN project, he has started the agro-vet center of his own at Taulihawa, Kapilbastu. He has given 6 events of one day training to KISAN beneficiaries on safe handling of pesticides, disease and pest management in plants and so on. His initial transaction was 30 Lakh and now his transaction is more than 40 Lakh. He has participated in interaction meeting and pesticide retailer training conducted by KISAN. After linkage with KISAN project, his customer has increased to 1500, of which KISAN's direct beneficiaries are more than 150. He now supplies agricultural inputs to 27 agro-vets and 5-7 cooperatives.



Rupak Baniya in his own Agro-vet Centre

## Letter of Appreciation provided to KISAN Palpa by Shree Dipjyoti Saving and Credit Cooperative Limited in its 6th Annual General Meeting.

During the 6th Annual General meeting of the cooperative, Dipjyoti saving and credit cooperative limited provided a letter of appreciation to KISAN Palpa for its contribution to provide technical knowledge to its members since last three years.



## Women in Tractor Workshop: Chyanpha Tractor being repaired by women in Deukhuri



News Published on Rastriya Dainik Patra on 15th December 2016, Thursday

Rajkumari Chaudhary from Satavariya, Deukhuri, Dang, ward no. 5, found her Chyangpha tractor broke down in the field and the women didn't know what to do. The three days training program (first of its kind) for the users was conducted by the USAID funded KISAN project in cooperation with Farmer's Trade and Suppliers, Lamahi. Rajkumari Chaudhary said that now they are happy because they not only know how to ride a tractor but they also know how to repair it. She has been driving the tractor since 3 years. The mechanics of the Farmers Trade and Suppliers, Balbahadur Chaudhary and Santosh Chaudhary, gave the training regarding Chyangpha repair, maintenance along with knowledge about the gear box and the agriculture tools used in Chyangpha. The Training program was organized for 22 people from 6 districts (Dang, Banke, Bardia, Kailali, Kanchanpur and Kapilvastu), of which, eight were women trainee.

Rajkumari Chaudhary said that after the three days training given to the users in Lamahi, she has been able to open the engine, do the servicing, open the pump filter and carry out other repairing by herself. According to Kamaladevi Chaudhary from Kanchanpur, the training about the repair, maintenance and use of the Chyangpha tractor has made them more skillful and now they can repair their Chyanpha tractor themselves.



## Rural Farmers Becoming Smart

Suntali Danuwar, from Kavre, Mahadevsthan, Bhoterumti, along with her husband, works in their Kitchen home garden. Looking after the vegetables has become their daily chore. She and her family has been involved in vegetable farming since two years and earn around 3 lakh rupees a year. After the vegetable farming started to do well, her husband, who was in Malaysia, returned back for good and started working as a farmer. Now they even hire people to work for them. All of her five daughters were illiterate but, Suntali, now encourages her grandchildren to go to school. Suntali's family can be considered as one of the examples of drastic change occurring in a lower class farmer's family in a very short time. This type of change has occurred not only in her family but in other thousands of family in Kavre. This is all due to awareness and new technology on environment friendly agriculture that have been developed and adopted in the villages.

Since two years, the farmers in the village have stopped using harmful chemical pesticides. Instead, they have switched to Jhol Mal which can be easily made in their homes. The villagers do not have to go to the city to sell their vegetables any more as the traders themselves come to buy them. They also do not have to be worried about being conned by the traders as the value of the vegetables in Kalimati, Kathmandu can be easily accessed from their mobiles. The information about the weather, vegetable seed-sampling, pesticides and fertilizers can also be gained from their mobiles. 18 farmers group in the village, where discussions on women empowerment, environmental friendly agriculture, fertilizers, seed-saplings, market, cleanliness etc are carried out. Hence, due to technology and empowerment, hundreds of people like Suntali have been able to earn 2-3 lakhs per year. To bring such a massive change, ICIMOD and CEAPRED have been working in cooperation with Nepal Government. After the success in Kavre, the government has planned to initiate such programs in other 14 districts of the country as well.

According to Laxmi Datta Bhatta, Ecosystem management specialist from ICIMOD, Climate Resilient Mountain Village (CRMV) program is being conducted in eight villages from four VDC, in which 1,089 households have actively participated. In the program, the main attraction for the farmers was the use of Jhol Mal. Once Kavre was known for high use of harmful pesticides due to which not only the users but the farmers themselves complained, now, things have completely changed after the use of Jholmal. It is simply a biological fertilizer made by mixing dung and urine of the cattle, bacteria and water. According to senior agricultural technician Ramdev Shah, Jhol Mal can be made in three different way which not only work as a fertilizer but also help to decrease the incidence of harmful diseases and insects occurring in the plants. In order to avoid the shortage of water, they have



News published in Nagarik newspaper on 18th December 2016, Sunday

constructed plastic ponds. Jhol Mal assures good health, helps save money and increases the fertility of the soil. It can be used in all kinds of farming. The farmers have demanded different pricing system for vegetables grown with and without the use of Jhol Mal. According to the joint secretary of the Agriculture Ministry, Kashiraj Dahal, the government has been continuously carrying out test in Kalimati, Kathmandu since 2, years in order to separate the vegetable grown with or without the use of harmful chemical pesticides and the results showed a declining trend in harmful chemical pesticide use. The Crop Protection Directorate has also been working in raising awareness to stop the use of harmful chemical pesticides in the crops. Since the farmers get the price of the vegetables through SMS in their mobile, the probability of them getting into loss has decreased. They also get the weather forecast due to which it becomes easy for them to plan work if the program becomes successful in bringing modernization in agriculture, reduction in the use of harmful chemical pesticides and conservation of soil and climate, then similar program will be conducted in other districts as well.

Other achievements of the climate friendly village are the enhanced awareness and women empowerment as in the 18 farmers group, 75% participation is of women. Earlier people were hesitant to participate in the farmer's group but now since they know its importance, everyone wants to be a part of it. Now the farmers are quite aware about how to avoid the future loss or accidents so they have also started adopting agricultural insurance policy especially for their livestock.

## NAMDP into implementation phase after completing its preparation period

NAMPD undertook a quick economic exploratory survey in April 2016. Following this, the detailed analysis of the five different commodities markets/sectors (Vegetable, Maize, Spices, Meat and Citrus) and three cross-sectors (Post harvest management, Crop protection and Mechanization) were conducted. On the basis of the in-depth analysis, final selection of three commodity markets/ value chains on vegetable, maize, goat, two cross-sectors- post-harvest management and crop protection were completed by the end of the project's eight months' preparation period. The implementation period began from 1st November, 2016. To get more clarity on several issues as crop variety registration, status of agro vets in the project districts, maize seed status, crop protection inputs status etc. some specific studies have been planned which will be conducted in the first YPO of the project. At this stage, the project



*With DCCI Okhaldhunga*

is focusing more on finding potential private partners and negotiating deal with them. The project has finalized project manual, communication guideline and completed the

recruitment of the project's core staffs. Monitoring and Results Measurement (MRM) manual and Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) manual are also under preparation.

## Fresh Semen Artificial Insemination (AI) in pigs for the first time in Nepal

**Itahari** – The Fresh Semen AI technology has been initiated at five nuclear pig farms including the regional agricultural research center Tarahara situated in Itahari, Sunsari. The center has been able to develop

and use fresh semen AI in pigs for its own farm and for the neighboring farmers for the first time with the technical assistance from CEAPRED/ SAMARTH pig sector market development program.

In this technology, the semen from improved boars is collected, diluted and used in female pigs (sows) in heat. According to centre's scientist Ramdev Pandit, in natural fertilization one mating is just for one female animal, but if fresh semen AI technology is used, one ejaculation of boar can inseminate up to 10-15 female pigs (sows). The agricultural research center has been providing this service to the farmers of neighboring villages of Eastern region who has been rearing pigs.



*Semen collection for Artificial Insemination at RARS Tarahara, Itahari*

According Dr. Hari Krishna Shrestha, Director, RARS Tarahara the development of the fresh semen AI technology will help for quicker dissemination of better germ plasm which will result to higher income generation of the farmers. He claimed that the cross bred animals born from AI could weigh up to 110 kilograms in 7 months. In order to take the technology to the community, the centre has trained 15 people from the nearby community itself.



## Experience Sharing Workshop on Pig subsector, implemented by CEAPRED under SAMARTH-NEPAL

The Experience Sharing Workshop of CEAPRED-SAMARTH Nepal Market Development Project (NMDP) on pig sub sector managed by ASI, UK and implemented by CEAPRED was held at Hotel Himalaya on 26th-27th December, 2016. The workshop was aimed to share the project's learning, challenges and to identify the future strategy. The event was participated by high level officials from the government ministry and departments, non-government organizations, market players and the project staff. The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Annapurna Nanda Das, Secretary, Ministry of Livestock Development (MoLD). The opening session of the event was chaired by Dr. Y. R. Pandey, Executive Director of NARC.



*Chief Guest – Dr. Annapurna Nanda Das, Secretary, Ministry of livestock Development*

Ms. Srijana Rana from SAMARTH welcomed the participants and highlighted the contribution of the Pig Sub-Sector in Samarth-NMDP. Mr. Shyam Paudel, Joint Secretary in MoLD, highlighted the progress achieved during the first year of MoLD. Mr. Keshab Prasad Premi, Joint Secretary, MoLD shared the future possibilities in Pig sector. Dr. Bimal Kumar Nirmal, Director General, Department of Livestock Services highlighted the need and the constraints for operation of slaughterhouses designed by CEAPRED-SAMARTH/NMDP and showed his commitment to make

them operational within the next two to three months. Keshab Acchami shared the future plan in pig sector development especially the operation of pig parks in the proposed two districts. Dr. Nanda Prasad Shrestha presented the project achievements made by the project during the period and highlighted the key challenges and recommendations for the future. Mr. Dan B. Singh highlighted the achievement in frozen to fresh semen AI in pigs carried out by the project and Dr. Bhoj Raj Joshi showed the importance of disease management and bio-security in the pig farms and the process adopted for PRRS testing. Using this platform, Mr. Madan Tamang shared his experiences on small scale slaughter house operation and its impact in the pork market of Dharan and issues faced for quality certification. Mr. Pravin Man Shakya also reflected on the design and operationalization of small pig slaughterhouse in Nepal. Mr. Kumar Chalise and Mr. Sandeep Shrestha delivered the information on pork recipe for various food items.

The second day of the workshop was mostly focused on presentation of consultancy/technical reports carried out through the project, which included code of practice for slaughterhouse operation and pig and pork transportation, design and operation of small pig

slaughterhouses, pig and pork marketing and processing of pork and pork recipe. These presentations were followed by group discussions on three issues: policy issues, processing and marketing and production and productivity improvement. The group leaders presented the outcome of discussions and the synopsis was presented in the closing session. The closing session was chaired by Mr. Jaya Mukunda Khanal, Executive Director, CEAPRED with Dr. Annapurna Nanda Das, Secretary, Ministry of Livestock Development (MoLD) as chief guest. Remarks were made on the achievements of the project and the need to continue the achievements of the project in future program of government. The concluding remark was made by the chief guest on the continuation of the good work done by the project and build upon the foundation laid by the project. Mr. Jaya Mukunda Khanal highlighted on the successful completion of the partnership between CEAPRED and SAMARTH and its contribution on the Market system development in pig sub sector, which has laid the ground work for the development of the sector. He also expressed his satisfaction on the successful partnership to achieve the project outputs. Mr. Khanal also facilitated Dr. Das on his upcoming retirement from the civil service and wished him a happy retirement life.



*A group photo of all the participants of the Experience Sharing Workshop on Pig subsector implemented by under CEAPRED-SAMARTH -Nepal Market Development Project (NMDP)*

## "Ganga Rai now involved in commercial vegetable production"-HIMALICA

Ganga Rai, a 41 years old inhabitant of Triyuga Municipality -8, Khairatar, Udayapur, is an active farmer of Khairatar Farmers Group which is supported by CEAPRED-HIMALICA project. This is the first time he has ever become a member of any institution (Group). There are four members in his family, his spouse and two sons and he is solely responsible for all the financial management of the whole family.

The HIMALICA staffs formed new groups in Khairatar, where Ganga Rai became the chairperson. Before participating in groups, he used to grow vegetables for his home consumption, but after the intervention of HIMALICA, he participated in nursery management and demonstration training and established vegetable nurseries for crucifers (early season) in 4 kattha of land. The idea of building nurseries proved to be very successful so he further transplanted cauliflower in 3 kattha of land and cabbage in 1 kattha. This made him able to earn Rs. 95,000 from the sale of vegetables. For the next season he again repeated the cultivation



*Improved Cowshed Management*

of crucifers in 4 kattha. Besides crucifers he also cultivated beans, bitter gourd, pumpkin and okra. The earnings encouraged him to get involved in the commercial vegetable production.

The improved technology he used included:

- Establishment of improved nursery maintaining 1m width, raised bed and sowing of seed in line with proper depth.
- Proper use of compost with land preparation.

- Planting in raised bed.
- Preparation of Jholmal, used as pesticide and soil nutrient.
- Use of pheromone trap to control fruit fly.
- Mulching
- Irrigation through pipe and drip.
- Use of plastic house.

Now he actively participates in formation of new Market Based Agriculture Cooperative and also in cooperative training. There are two local vegetable collectors who collect and sell all the vegetables of Khairatar. Ganga Rai has now improved cowsheds from where he collects urine and cow dung for the preparation of Jholmal and Jhol bisadi. He expresses his happiness and thank the technical support of HIMALICA project and the field staffs due to which he could build his confidence in Vegetable production by adapting to climate smart technologies.

*He says "I have made a detail business plan to extend the area of land for vegetable production for this season with an income target of NRs 716000.00 net, learn other new technologies from such projects and request other farmers to adopt new technologies as well"*



*Improved Nursery established by Ganga Rai*





*Winnowing of cereal seeds in Raikawarbichwa in Kanchanpur - KISAN Project*



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