

Place: Katehriya, Bardiya
Farmer Group: Milan
Chairperson: Loutan Chaudhary

As the population started increasing and land remained the same, people of Katehriya started doubting on the sufficiency of cereals (Rice, wheat & Maize) for their families. With the passing of time, they even knew only vegetables from kitchen garden were not adequate. While seeking of opportunities in farming, farmers of Katehriya encountered with staffs of KISAN project. By seeing the potentialities of the land and enthusiastic farmer of that area, KISAN project helped them in farmer group formation and started providing trainings on different improved technologies to multiply the production from same limited land.

Farmers of the Katehriya are now happy to produce commercial vegetable all year round unlike 6 months of cereals cultivation they used to follow before. Vegetables like tomato, cabbage, cauliflower has good price at market. However, due to problem in transportation and fluctuation of market price has caused insecurity in commercialization. At one season, the farmers of Milan farmer group also faced the problem of low price due to higher production of same vegetable. Sometime farmers did not get the price for the products at all which lowered their self esteem. To address this problem, farmers were facilitated to make the agreement with the vegetable traders and Hattemalo cooperatives. The agreement assured the sale of the vegetables in the prevailing price.

The farmer group was also awarded 50% subsidy in power tiller by DADO. The collective fund was raised among the group to fulfill the remaining half of the cost. The each member of the group saves Rs 25 per month so as to utilize them as a loan in purchasing seeds or insecticides as per need.

One of the female members expressed "I do not have to ask money with my husband if I want to buy some cosmetics for myself. Also, I do not have to restrict myself for any recreational activity"

(I have not included income or production per season)