



NEWSLETTER

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भोल मलको 'ब्रान्डिङ' गर्दै किसान

जर्मन मन्त्री नेपाली किसानको खेतमा

CEAPRED greets Governors from the Kingdom of Bhutan and faculty members of Rural Development Training Centre

CEAPRED's Executive Director Mr. Jaya M Khanal along with Program Director, Mr. Keshab Datta Joshi, on 30th April, Sunday, welcomed Governors of Bhutan and faculty members of Rural Development Training Centre (RDTc). They had come to Nepal to attend a training organized by ICIMOD and visited CEAPRED to discuss on climate smart technologies adopted by a pilot project - Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Program (HICAP) being implemented in Kavre district by CEAPRED with the support of ICIMOD.

The interaction program started with an enriching presentation by Mr. Keshab Datta Joshi. In his presentation he explained how the Climate Resilient Mountain Village (CRMV) program has encouraged and motivated farmers to cultivate seasonal vegetables using climate smart technologies which have doubled their income as compared to the past. He also explained the benefits of Jholmal and how it has been fully adopted in the project sites.

Governor Mr. Dawala, complimented CEAPRED's efforts for such an outstanding outcome and termed it as a holistic approach. He added how such simple and easy to use techniques have changed a village that was once known for the use of abusive chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Another visiting Governor Mr. Harkas Tamang shed light on the climate smart techniques used in Bhutan and added that there was a striking similarity between the approaches used in Nepal and Bhutan. He was impressed by the use of liquid bio-fertilizers (Jholmal) instead of harmful chemical fertilizers and was interested in learning its preparation process and the plant species used for bringing it into play in Bhutan. In concluding remarks, ED Mr. Khanal thanked the guests for their interest on RMV and visiting CEAPRED headquarters.



An interaction with the Governors of Kingdom of Bhutan at CEAPRED head office

Impossible is nothing in Kapalleki VDC, Doti

Men and women of a Dalit community in Kapalleki VDC, Doti, has been attracted and motivated towards the Agriculture business. KISAN project has been providing various trainings to the community in partnership with DADO Doti, on vegetable farming and livestock rearing. The trainings provided by KISAN project have benefitted the Dalit community as their barren fields are now covered with seasonal vegetables.



Vegetable productions in Dalit community in Doti

Registered under the name Suryamukhi agricultural group in Malligum, Kapalleki VDC, ward no.2, with 25 dalit and non-dalit members, the leader of the group - Laxman Bahadur Luhar says, "Before we knew nothing about agriculture, let alone the seasonal and off seasonal vegetables, but after KISAN project provided us with numerous trainings on vegetable farming and its benefit, we started with little vegetable cultivation just on a trial method. Having followed all the training methods, the cultivated vegetables turned out really well and from that



day onwards there was no turning back” he says. Unlike other farmers, who worried about not getting a proper market to sell their vegetables; vegetables produced by Malligum farmers didn't have to go to search for markets as the villagers line up to buy the vegetables produced by them.

Far West is still with racial discrimination. Despite the awareness, warnings and even declared punishments towards such act, the problem still persists. Dalits are humiliated now and then by referring them as beggars - the ones who should beg for their living. But due to the skills provided by KISAN project people in Dalit community can earn their living by selling their own vegetables and don't have to beg for living. Another such example is of a female farmer, Saru Luhar, who has been successful in cultivating about 350 kg cabbage in her small land of .01 ha (4 anna). Similarly, Laxman Bahadur Luhar has grown potato, cabbage, coriander and radish in 2 ropani (0.1 ha) land, from where he earned enough to take care of his family of 12 members. He said, he earned about 20-25 thousands from the farm where he barely grew one pathi (4 kg) wheat. This is the first step of success in his life and that he is extremely happy and wants to thank KISAN project from the bottom of his heart.

KISAN's First Solar Irrigation installed in Kanchanpur

Known as the pocket area for vegetable production, the Tharu community from Krishnapur Municipality, ward no.9, has been involved in vegetable farming for few years now. Initially the people in the community had no idea about commercial vegetable production (on and off season), but, with the technical help from USAID's KISAN project 3 years back, everyone in the community has been involved in vegetable farming that has now become the major source to earn their living.

However, with major water crisis in the area, Damodar Chaudhary from Baluwafata's Sayapatri Farmers group says, the water crisis poses as a major concern in the community as they earn their living from farming. To address the problem, the villagers had united to install electric motors to obtain water through 'deep well boring'; but that was still not enough to solve the problem as they couldn't get enough water for their vegetables timely due to load shedding. To tackle this crisis, KISAN project helped the farmers by linking them with 'Ghaampaani Nepal' who provided these farmers 8 panel Solars on cost basis but without any interest. Today, 22 farmers of Sayapatri group along with neighboring group Indrayeni have no water shortage for irrigation.

The solar panel of 1.5 horsepower is able to produce 5 lakh litres of water in summer and about 4.5 lakh litres of water in winter. This is the first Solar panel in Kanchanpur, which was installed in Damodar Chaudhary's field in Baluwafat.

Partnership agreement between Sahaj-Nepal Agricultural Market Development Program (NAMDP) and Agri Care Nepal Pvt. Ltd

Nepal Agricultural Market Development Programme (NAMDP), branded as Sahaj, is being implemented jointly by Swiss contact and Centre for Environment and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development (CEAPRED). Mandated by Swiss



Mr. Navin Dahal, Team Leader of Sahaj- NAMDP with MD of Agri- Care Nepal, Mr. Rabin Adhikari

Agency for Development and Cooperation, it follows the Inclusive Markets approach which facilitates an improved agricultural market system that will benefit poor and disadvantaged smallholder farmers. Sahaj- NAMDP partners with the private sector for tangible and sustainable development.

A major constraint identified for low productivity is

unavailability of soil fertility improvement inputs and crop protection inputs, and inadequate information regarding these topics. Input suppliers can play a strong role in improving farmers' access to knowledge and quality inputs. But they have limited interest in expanding their sales with extension services as there are multiple risks involved. Sahaj-NAMDP intends to help bridge this gap by introducing interested input suppliers/companies to potential markets where they can connect directly with agro-vets and cooperatives, and introduce their extension services in the districts.

The partners aim to work together and share resources for improving vegetable, maize and goat farmers' access to knowledge and quality inputs (micro-nutrients, bio/organic fertiliser, bio-pesticides and veterinary products).

Agri Care Nepal, a leading agriculture and input manufacturer, is interested to expand its coverage to more districts. Accepting the need to increase technical knowledge and access to information, Sahaj-NAMDP and Agri Care have agreed to join hands to ensure that vegetable and maize farmers get the required information about bio/organic fertilisers, micro nutrients and bio pesticides. The technical team from Agri Care will promote its products as well as Live Care's, which is its sister organisation producing veterinary medicine.

An implementation partnership agreement was signed between Sahaj-NAMDP and Agri Care Nepal on February 2, 2017 at the Swiss contact Nepal office in Kathmandu. Mr. Navin Dahal, Team Leader of Sahaj-NAMDP and Mr. Rabin Adhikari, Managing Director of Agri Care Nepal signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

German Minister visits CEAPRED's project site in Kabhre

Germany's Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation, Construction, and Atomic Safety, Dr Barbara Hendrix, was impressed by the techniques adopted by Nepalese women in Kalchebesi of Kabhre district to fight the adverse consequences of Climate Change in agriculture. Minister Hendrix visited the fields and interacted with women farmers of the Resilient Mountain Village project being implemented by CEAPRED with the help of ICIMOD/Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Program (HICAP). The participating women farmers have set an incredible example of how the issues of climate change can be successfully handled using knowledge, skills and resources that are locally present in their community.

Speaking to the women groups gathered in Patlekhet -8, Kalchebesi; Minister Hendrix remarked that their knowledge regarding climate change and the adaptation skills had impressed her immensely.

Minister Hendrix, who was on a 4-day visit to Nepal, went to Kavre to visit Kalchebesi of Patlekhet VDC on



News published on 5th April, on Nagarik Daily Newspaper, Nepal

4th April 2017 to observe the new farming techniques. She was accompanied by nine other delegates from



Dr. Hari K. Upadhyaya with German Minister Dr. Barbara Hendrix at RMV site, Kalchebesi, Kavre, Nepal

Germany including the German Ambassador to Nepal. The Director General of ICIMOD together with his team and the Chairperson of CEAPRED with his team facilitated the visit.

CEAPRED, with its expertise and long experience in the

region has been implementing the RMV project in the mid hills affected adversely by the Climate Change. Resilient Mountain Village Project is being implemented in 4 sites of 3 VDCs viz. Nayagaun, Mahadevstan, Patlekhet and Panchkhal municipality of Kavre district.

Kavre farmers branding Jholmal

Jholmal – initially used for the vegetable and crop production, by the farmers of Kavre, has now become the source of income for them. It all started 2 years



Jholmal News published on Nagarik Newspaper on Falgun 21

before, when CEAPRED's senior agriculture technician Ramdev Sah explained the benefit of Jholmal made out of homely available products like cow dung and cow urine says Ganga Nepal, President of Sayapatri farmers group. She says, at the time when farmers had used every type of chemical fertilizers to improve their vegetable and crop production, but could still see no improvements; they didn't

quite believe in the benefits claimed by Jholmal. But after witnessing drastic improvements in their crops after its use, they not only used it in their farms but also sold them by branding it as Jholmal 1, 2 and 3 in the market.

Following the traditional farming practices, the women of Kavre were introduced to the techniques of Jholmal with support from CEAPRED. CEAPRED is trying to change four VDC and one Municipality of Kavre into Resilient Mountain Village using climate friendly approaches. With increasing awareness on the harmful effects of chemical insecticides/pesticides, farmers slowly started opting for Jholmal as the non chemical pesticide/insecticide, which was safe for usage without any threat. Today, every household has a plastic drum where different types of Jholmal are being prepared for their crops and also for selling in the market.

40 farmers groups from the selected project area have been involved in preparing Jholmal today. Till date, 900 women and 189 men have already been provided with the Jholmal training. A total of 2,400 farmers have been informed about the benefits of Jholmal in the course of 14 trainings given till now. Due to this, farmers have also managed their cowshed properly and have made a separate urine collection pit in order to prepare Jholmal. Jholmal has been very effective in controlling 'Laahi Kira' and moreover, study has shown that Jholmal has been successful in stopping the use of extremely harmful (Red) chemical pesticides/insecticides. On the one hand, it increases the production of vegetables and crops and on the other hand, the farmers didn't have to spend money to buy it as they can prepare it from their household materials. Along with maintaining the pH level of the soil, Jholmal has also shown positive results due to which

farmers have incorporated it into one of their major components in farming today says Roshan Subedi.

President of the Sayapatri farmers group, Ganga Nepal while explaining the participants of the training (organized by DADO) about the countless benefits of Jholmal. She, along with her group members have recently started to sell Jholmal branding it as Jholmal 1, 2 and 3. The response from the buyers has been very encouraging, due to which they plan to sell it more in far-reaching places. Direction of use has been clearly mentioned in the bottle itself which has helped the first time users for its appropriate use. Sayapatri Group farmers have been selling Jholmal 2 at Rs. 50 per bottle and Jholmal 3 at Rs. 60 per bottle. They have expressed their happiness and gratitude on how CEAPRED's support has overturned their farming experience for good.

Success Story:

We will transfer the skills of vegetable production to our next generation

Mr. Yagya Kumar Tamang
Bagaha, Udayapur

Centre for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development (CEAPRED) in partnership with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has been implementing HIMALICA project in Udayapur district. Yagya Kumar Tamang, president of the Ekata Farmer's group and Milijuli Agriculture Cooperative Ltd, (an initiative supported by the project) has a total of 20 members in his

group (8 males and 12 female). He says, "Fresh vegetable production and sale has been the major source of livelihood for our family of four sons, three daughter-in-laws, one granddaughter, one grandson, my wife and myself".

He owns 30 kattha (one ha) of land, out of which 10 kattha (0.33 ha) has been used for fresh vegetable

cultivate traditional cereal crops like maize, finger millet, and mustard and hardly earned about Rs. 20,000 a year. "Instead as I started vegetable production, I earned ten times more from the same piece of land," said Mr. Tamang with a glow of satisfaction on his face.

Tamang has taken various trainings provided by the project from Nursery

years there would be dust and nothing else could be seen in this field during this time of the year. We would have to wait for Baishak and Jestha for a glimpse of greenery. But today, there is greenery everywhere. Moreover, use of Jhomal has stopped us from using any other chemical, insecticides/pesticides that has benefitted our health. She further added, now, taking loan has become a thing of past as we are able to manage our household needs easily with the income we get from vegetable sale. In the past, we just had Gundruk and rice and fresh vegetables were rare in our meal, but today, our family has 2-3 different types of vegetables every day.

"I have no word to express my happiness and gratefulness to CEAPRED and HIMALICA program, which has benefitted us immensely, said Mr. Tamang. CEAPRED should have come here 20 years before, and we would have been much



Mr. Yagya Kumar Tamang in his field

production and 18 kattha (0.6 ha) is occupied with cereal crops like wheat and maize. Tamang also owns the kitchen garden in front of his home has planted fresh vegetables like, cauliflower, cucumber, cabbage, tomatoes, brinjal, bitter gourd and chilly. Tamang claims that he has earned about Rs. 2 lakh during this year so far by selling fresh vegetables and expect to earn Rs. 50,000 more from his ongoing production this season.

"I have already paid back the loan of Rs. 1,25,000, which, I borrowed for sending my son to Kathmandu for his higher education. Besides, my other expenses like Rs.22,000 for education of other children, festivals expenses, household expenses and others have been covered with the income I am getting from my vegetable crops" claims Mr. Tamang. In the past, he used to



management to marketing and has been privileged to visit inter farmers group both inside and outside the district. Today, he is also able to go to different HHs and provide them his technical knowledge. His wife, sitting right beside him expressed her happiness saying, "Before two

more richer by now and would have much more land with us. "says Mrs. Tamang]" Tamang says with no limitation of happiness on her face when wholesalers pay for vegetables at her own home, 'money is there in our farms. He plans to extend his vegetable production land from 10

katthas (0.33 ha) to 18 katthas (0.6 ha) very soon. The Tamang family is not only thankful and grateful to CEAPRED as they no more have to live in shortage of cash but also expressed their gratitude by saying, “we remember CEAPRED every time, when we go to our fields and every time our family members sit together to have a meal with fresh and wholesome vegetables.”

“The skills provided by CEAPRED for vegetable production will never be forgotten and they will be passed to my sons and daughter-in laws, the next generation working with us, because they see money in it” expresses Tamag optimistically.

Farewell to the KISAN Team

On 29th June 2017, a farewell

program was organized for the centre staff of KISAN project to honor their hard work and contribution in the project. The

Executive Chairman of CEAPRED, Dr. H.K. Upadhyaya, appreciated the hard work put by the staff for the successful implementation of KISAN project, which was very much appreciated by all. The program was followed by brief discussions on the achievements and accolades received by the project and also the key learning which would act as the asset for the upcoming projects of CEAPRED. The staffs were provided with a certificate of appreciation from the Executive chairperson.



Two New Projects launched

i. Hamro coffee

HAMRO COFFEE- Expanding Opportunities for Nepalese Coffee Farmers and Traders' project is an EU funded project to support the development of coffee sector in Nepal implemented in partnership with ICCO Cooperation and NCPA. HAMRO COFFEE project was launched from 15th March, 2017 and will work in coffee production pockets of six districts (Syangja, Kaski, Nuwakot, Sindhupalanchok, Kavrepalanchok and Lalitpur). The project aims to bridge the gap between the potential rewards and current productivity of the sub-sector by creating an enabling environment for the key stakeholders across the coffee-value chain to form a sustainable, well-managed and integrated coffee production. The overall objective of HAMRO COFFEE is: “Increased income of small holders through an enhanced market driven specialty coffee sector”.

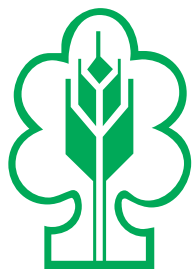
The project will contribute to enhance the quality and quantity of coffee cherries produced through improved farming techniques and affordable access to quality inputs and services, thereby providing the means for a sustainable income for 4000 smallholder farmers directly. Project will also help to conduct market study and promotion, including tourism activities in coffee growing areas.

ii. Development of Climate Change Resilient Agriculture in Nepal (DCRA)

Development of Climate Change Resilient Agriculture in Nepal (DCRA) was launched from April, 2017, in three districts namely Kavre, Sindhuli, Sindhupalchowk with the financial assistance from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy in partnership with ASIA, ONLUS. The project aims to promote a sustainable and environmentally friendly production model in traditional vegetable crops, vegetable seeds, fruits and spices. DCRA aims to build the capacity of 45,000 HHs which can respond to climate change through the cultivation of highly adaptable local varieties and ecotypes. The Specific objectives of the project is to increase the market share for traditional agricultural products (vegetables and seeds) which conform to the Organic Certification Nepal guidelines through a Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) which stimulates demand and raises market awareness and to propagate conservative, sustainable agricultural practices for the production of traditional agricultural produce which have a low environmental impact in terms of their carbon footprint and water consumption.



Winnowing of cereal seeds in Raikawarbichwa in Kanchanpur - KISAN Project



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