

Skill & Technology Transformed a House Farmer to a Commercial Vegetable Producer

A 50 years old farmer, Rabilal Dhakal is currently residing in Birendranagar-04, Bhairabsthan with his six family members. His main occupation is agriculture. Being unaware about modern farming technologies, his yearly income was only approx.115 Euros for the vegetables he grew in 500 sq. m of land. Therefore, he had to work on a daily wage basis to fulfill his needs.

In July 2020, Mr. Dhakal gained a membership in 'Naretapar farmers group'- an initiation of Skill Up! During the training, he acquired knowledge on the use of IPM approach, soil and nutrient management, preparation of bio-pesticides and organic manures (jhol mal, bokase mal, EM, etc.). He also gained knowledge on other useful technical skills, marketing skills and



Mr. Dhakal in his field

learned about business plan development. In the adoption phase, support on different technologies, advices and input supplies for the vegetable productions were provided to all farmer.

After the training, Mr. Dhakal decided to grow vegetables on around 2000 Sq. m land for a commercial purpose with the support from project team. To his surprise, Mr. Dhakal was able to grow various seasonal and off seasonal vegetables in his farm, such as, cauliflower, cabbage, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, long beans, bitter gourds, pumpkins, sponge gourds, bottle gourd, various leafy vegetables, etc. "The FFS training has developed my confidence and knowledge to help me grow as a commercial farmer" said cheerful Mr. Dhakal. Post training, his income has risen to approx. Euro 2000 annually.



Project team supporting Mr. Dhakal in soil management techniques

Further, he added that the training has helped him produce vegetables in a healthy manner, which in turn, helped him get an access to good markets and consumers.

"I have realized that knowledge, skill and technology are vital to be a commercial vegetable producer. Hadn't I participated in the farmers' group school, I would still be working for others" said now a commercial farmer Mr. Dhakal.