

The Glacier Trust

Enhancing Community Capacities for Learning and Adaptation to Climate Change (ECCLA)

2nd Quarterly Report



Period: Nov 2017 to Jan 2018

***Submitted by :* Himalayan Community Development Forum (HICODEF)
Kawasoti ,Nawalparasi ,Nepal**

**Enhancing Community Capacities for Learning and Adaptation to Climate Change
(Nov 2017-Jan 2018)**

Background

HICODEF has been partnering with The Glacier Trust (TGT) since 2009 for the climate change and water management issues with rural farmers of Nawalparasi district of Nepal as 100% of rural community of Nepal depend on agriculture for their survival. The project ECCLA 2nd phase has covered 150 families out 196 families in three locations called Satakun and Durlunga Baseni of Hupsekot rural municipality 5 and also from this fiscal year the old project site Dhabaha has also been included in this project considering that there are still people, who need the support for capacity development and marketing of agriculture products.



Nun Maya with her vegetable farming

The proposed project will impart climate change knowledge to communities both formally and informally, and will begin the process of translating understanding into livelihood practices. It will enhance local Traditional Ecological Knowledge (known as TEK) through teaching and demonstration of modern, sustainable agricultural and conservation techniques, and climate change/environmental awareness. Special focus will be given to the implications of outdated practices and climate change for rural livelihoods through education and improvement of skills in adaptive natural resource management, such as water storage and management, agricultural practice, and market mechanisms.

This report accounts for the activities implemented between Nov 2017 to Jan 2018 in the community of Dhabaha, Satakun and Durlunga villages of Hupsekot Rural Municipality.

Here are the components of the project in this period

1. Farmer's field school
2. Irrigation system monitoring and management
3. Marketing coordination workshop
4. Climate change orientation
5. Volunteers (OJT) Mobilization
6. Monitoring



Harvesting Bottle gourd

Activities implementation and achievements

1. Farmer field school (FFS)

Process

Farmer's Field School (FFS) is the core activities of the project. It is an informal learning process where groups of farmers stay together normally monthly and discuss and practice on agriculture works in the farmer's field. In this phase 2 there are 3 sites Dhabaha (old site), Satakun and Durlunga where we have started from last year. All together 93 farmers (M 44, F 49) involved in FFs in all three sites. There are 3 demo plots in all FFS sites where farmers gain practical knowledge and skill after learning theory classes. All the theory class starts from short welcome and review, agenda collection and expectation of the class. The classes run using participatory techniques as much as possible. The facilitator organizes games, singing, dancing etc to make the class interesting and lively. After the class all the participants and facilitators visit demo plot to observe and carry out practical exercises such as nursery bed preparation, weeding, pest control etc. The LRP has prime responsibility for regular monitoring and support to farmers. There are 3 OJT volunteers in each location, who also attend the FFS class and practice in the field. They have roles and responsibility to look after 10 farmers each to apply the knowledge and skill in the farm in practical manner. They have collected all the data of agricultural works and submitted to LRP. The most of the FFS has focus on organic vegetable farming as much as possible. The farmers have gained knowledge and skill on modern agriculture techniques like tunnel with mulching technology, use of sprinkle irrigation which is very adaptive method to the climate change as the vegetable grows in the tunnel which maintains the temperature.

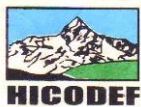
Achievements

- 2 sessions in December 2017 and 1 session in Jan 2018 of FFS have been conducted in all 3 sites and all 93 farmers attended the classes.
- In this period the project distributed 5610 gm of cucurbits vegetable seeds to 93 farmers. It will also increase the production of vegetables.



Gopi Ram Rajali family are collecting tomato for the market

One of our FFS participants Mr Tek Bahadur Rajali of Baseni village migrated to Belani the plain land of Hupsekot Rural Municipality for commercial vegetable farming. He has started in 5 kattha of land there and invested Rs 42800.00 and in this period he is able to earn Rs 175275.00. "I have learnt properly for vegetable farming in FFS class run by the project and develop my confident to earn money to uplift my livelihood so I migrated to plain land with proper irrigation facility for commercial farming" he said.



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- In this period the FFS focus on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on vegetable farming as well as cereal crop like wheat farming. The farmers are now able to identify pests and also possible solution to control them using bio pesticides and also able to use chemical pesticide properly if needed.
- They have now capacitated for offseason vegetable farming. The farmers also developed their capacity on selection of good quality seeds, soil treatment etc. Likewise they have prepared nursery bed for different vegetable spices in this season.
- Sprinkle irrigation has been started in the area so that they can irrigate the vegetable farming properly by managing water resources.
- They have proper knowledge on tunnel farming. Project supported 15 poly plastic for tunnel now they have been cultivating in 50 tunnels.
- They have using 90 plastic carriers to bring vegetable to market that minimise the possible damages of vegetables while transporting as earlier they have faced difficulties.
- Some of the farmer constructed plastic pond in his own for irrigation that indicate that now they have believed on vegetable farming.
- The farmers of Satakun bought 500 metres of plastic pipes worth Rs 18300.00 by their own for sprinkle irrigation in their farm so that we can imagine they now started investing in vegetable farming. It will also indicate the sustainability of the project outcomes.
- Total 9.38 hector land are using for vegetable farming there are no practice of vegetable cultivation before.
- 6009 KG production till Jan 2018 and able to earn 302555/- from Oct 017 to Jan 018. Uttam Khamchaha one of the participants of FFS earned highest amount of Rs 58400/- in this period.
- The HHs able to consume 10807 Kg of vegetable. That helps them for healthy life. There are still 40% of vegetables remaining in their farms.
- Paddy production increased in our area. It produced 775 gm/ m² in Dhabaha and 760/m² in Satakun and Baseni. It was 390 gm/ m² in Dhabaha and 570/ m² in Satakun and Durlunga in our baseline.



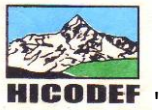
Technology for offseason Veg. Cultivation

Challenges

- Because of stream cold some the beans vegetable damages.



Sticking for Tomato



- 2 tunnels couldn't be constructed because the farmers don't have plain land now they are trying to manage it.
- All the farmers produced in same time create transportation problem to bring the products in the market as the rural road in this period not working properly.

Future plan

- Conduct 2 sessions of FFS in all 3 sites.
- Transplantation of cucurbits groups of vegetables.
- Construction of 2 remaining tunnels.

2. Irrigation System monitoring and management

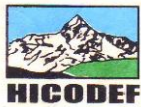
The project has supported to construct the irrigation cum drinking water scheme in Baseni as the community of Baseni village has been suffering by the lack of clean drinking water as well as water for irrigation therefore the project has constructed small scale irrigation cum drinking water scheme there. It has only support till the RVT 1 as the project didn't have sufficient fund to construct whole scheme as per design and demand. In other hand we do believe that the local government authority should take initiation to support their people so we have discuss several time to make them realize the need of the scheme and eventually the authority agreed and committed to support the scheme. It has agreed to provide NRs 200000/- which is not enough to construct RVT 2 and other supply channels so the community will take whole responsibility to completed by collection rest of the amount and we have also committed to support remaining balance of the previous project that is almost NRs 150000.00 to construct remaining part of the scheme.

Achievement

- The water scheme has been running smoothly so that the 29 HHs are using clean drinking water regularly. It will enhance their health and hygiene as the water is nearby.
- The total of 0.84 hecter of land irrigated as this period 0.18 hecter of land added in previous land coverage by irrigation scheme.
- The community of Baseni purchased 300 m poly pipes of NRs 12000.00 by 3 farmers for sprinkle irrigation purpose so that the community has shown their interest on utilising resources by their own.



Sprinkle irrigation in Baseni



- The water user's community already kept the water pipes inside the motor road to protect from damage.
- The Hupsekot rural municipality has already made agreement with the community to provide NRs 200000.00 to construct RVT 2.

Challenges

- Even if the irrigation management committee has been formed but they are not able to collect the tariff so far. But they have committed to collect from next month. There should be the massive follow up and motivation needed to collect the tariff.



Plastic pond for irrigation

Future plan

- Massive community mobilization to construct RVT 2 by maintaining close coordination with local govt body. After the completion of RVT 2 all 34 HHs gets the irrigation facility of Durlunga.
- Facilitate and motivate community to collect the monthly tariff so that they can utilize the fund for regular maintenance.
- Regular maintenance of the scheme.

3. Marketing coordination workshop

One day marketing coordination workshop has been conducted on 26 Jan 2018. The objective of the workshop was to establish market mechanism to sell the agriculture product through the local cooperative. Likewise the capacity development of the cooperative for marketing by identifying actors, role and responsibilities of all the stakeholders as well as the farmers to support and ready to sell through the cooperative. Once we have set the market mechanism it will help to reduce the time of farmers that helps them to focus on better production and also they get good price as there are no middle person and able to sell directly through cooperative. 21 farmers, 2 government officials, 5 cooperative members, 3 local traders, 1 Heifer International staff, 2 agro-vet entrepreneurs and 3 from HICODEF/ECCLA project all together 37 participants (19 female and 18 Male) attended in the workshop. The orientation



Chief of Hupsekot Rural Municipality showed their commitment to construct collection centre

has been conducted by the expert and discussion has been made regarding the existing marketing modality of the country and also experience sharing on marketing of vegetables.

Achievements

- Participants are more aware and realised the importance of marketing.
- The farmers realised that the commodities should be produced as per the demand in the market.
- The linkage and coordination enhanced among all stakeholders such as local government body, cooperative, traders, donors and farmers.
- Local government body are ready to support to construct collection centre.
- The local cooperative named Lekhbesi Social Entrepreneur women cooperative is ready for marketing.
- The farmers also agreed to sell the products through cooperative as they understood the marketing modality.
- The agriculture department of local government body is agreed to register farmers groups.
- The plan has been formulated to operative market mechanism.



President of the cooperative Mrs Manrupa Pandey is addressing the workshop.

Marketing Plan of Action

Date	Activities	Group/Institution	Responsibility
Feb 2018	Data collection of production of commodities and producers	By agriculture group	Group president and secretary
Feb 2018	Compilation of data	Cooperative	Staff and executive committee of cooperative
March 2018	Review workshop of Marketing	3 farmers from all 3 groups 9 person, ward chairperson from all 6 wards of Local authority 6 person, traders 6 persons, Local Authority 5 person, Commercial farmers 6 persons, Advisory committee of cooperative 5 persons, Cooperative 3 persons, HICODEF/ECCLA 3 person total 42 persons	Lekhbeshi Cooperative
March 2018	Agriculture group registration in Government	3 groups from ECCLA/ HICODEF project and 3 groups from Cooperative	HICODEF and Cooperative

	Authority		
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Challenges

- Farmers are coming from a long distance delayed the program so that we have shortage of time for deep discussion.
- Absence of Commercial farmers.
- Local political leaders and other stakeholders didn't attend the workshop.
- Creating favourable atmosphere for marketing is very difficult task as every stakeholder should be supportive and committed to their role and responsibility.

Learning

- Cordial relation should be maintained with commercial farmers including other stakeholders for proper participation to realise their role and responsibilities.

Future Plan

- Follow up the plan of action formulated in the workshop.
- Develop close relation with traders.
- Facilitate to open collection centre.

4. Climate change orientation

1 day CC orientation has been conducted in all three sites Dhabaha, Satakun and Durlunga in January 2018. The FFS participants are the primary participants of the workshop but other villagers also participated in the event as they were very much enthusiastic on it. Altogether 96 participants (57 F, 39 M) including OJT volunteers participated in the workshop. The workshop has been organised locally and try to make it more practical. The workshop has been conducted in very participatory manner including brainstorming, related video documentary show, pictures exhibition and history recall localising the issues as well as review the previous action plan they had made 1 year back. Furthermore they also have prepared new action plan after revising previous action plan.

Achievements

- 87 farmers and 9 OJT students capacitated on the issues of climate change in practical manner.
- The communities are aware on the impact of climate change and possible risks and also the



CC orientation workshop at Satakun

- adaptation measures to overcome the problems.
- The communities shared experiences with each other and show their determination to implement the plan of action.
 - They have reviewed the previous plan of action and prepared 3 local level adaptation plan of action on the basis of previous plan by themselves.

Future plan

- Follow up the community adaptation plan of action (CAPA) prepared by the communities.
- Support communities to implement the plan activities in the ground.
- Encourage communities to identify addition plan for adaption to climate change.

5. OJT volunteers mobilisation

9 Plant JTA volunteers have been mobilising regularly in all three sites of the project. They have regularly attended the FFS class and also support the farmers in their farm land. All the volunteers placed in the sites so that the communities are getting support on time in the other hand they also enhance their knowledge and skill practically to tackle the problems. Overall we are developing skill human resource in the sector of agriculture besides the community being capacitated by them. It will help us for execution of strong social mobilisation in the communities to obtain desire result. They are working as a bridge between community and the project. Likewise we can maintain record keeping of all the commodities in the farm, individual farmers record and also support for reporting. They have very cordial relation with the communities as they live there is additional support to the project to execute the activities. And monitoring is one of the challenges of every project. In this project we should have very strong monitoring system because the farmers are always busy in their farm land and need support on time. To short out the issues the volunteer's mobilisation is one tool to mitigate the challenges.



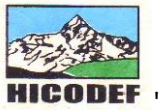
OJT volunteer is monitoring tomato plants

6. Monitoring

In this period the Co-director of The Glacier Trust Dr Morgan Phillip along with executive director Mr



Field monitoring by Dr Morgan in Dhabaha



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Narayan Dhakal of Eco Himal one of the partner of TGT in Nepal, Mr Dinanath Bhandari of Practical Action, Executive director of HICODEF paid their visit in all 3 sites of the project. They have observed the development in the field, discuss with the communities, users committee, volunteers, local people and staffs regarding the outcomes of the project, the challenges they have faced, utilization of the resources provided by the project. At the same time they have observed the RVT 2 sites and realized the importance of constructing it as it has cover plenty of land for cultivation which enhanced the livelihood of the community. They also interviewed OJT volunteers for their experience after involving in this project, learning and future plan. In the mean time the Co-director of TGT also made video for fund raising purpose. As the executive director of Eco Himal accompanied the team it created the cross learning opportunities for both of the partners of TGT. At the end they expressed that they have satisfied looking at the development of the project so far.

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