

# FORWARD Nepal

## Bulletin – 17

May 01, 2019 – July 16, 2019

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### FORWARD Nepal's Bulletin

The 17<sup>th</sup> issue of FORWARD Nepal's Bulletin covers the major activities and events from 01<sup>st</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019. During the period, two projects funded by Plan International Nepal were phased out 1) "Strengthening Community Resilience through WASH & DRR", and 2) "Girls and Boys start live equally". In this reporting period, submission of project concept notes/project proposals has been continued as usual.

### Major project activities during the period

1. Under the project entitled "Regional Programme for promoting a multi-sectoral approach for Nutrition Smart Villages in Bangladesh, Nepal and India", implemented jointly with FORWARD Nepal and Aasman Nepal, following activities were carried out:

- **Training on a participatory planning process:** Two slots of training on participatory planning process was organized during 16-21 May 2019 at Paroha Municipality, Rautahat. A total of 70 participants were present in the training including 18 female participants. The training was important to run the seven steps planning process in an effective way.

2. Under the project entitled "Building livelihood resilience and nutrition security in the Kamala River Basin, Siraha district, Nepal", the following activities were carried out:

- **Project sharing to district level stakeholders:** A district level project sharing meeting was organized on May 16, 2019 by the District Coordination Committee (DCC), Siraha in the chairmanship of DCC Chief, Siraha. Mayors of Karjanha, Kalyanpur, Chief District Officer, and security personnel' and other district level government officials had participated in the meeting. Project team updated the status of the project progress in the last six months and plan of the upcoming period to the team. The meeting has also formed a district level project monitoring team in the leadership of District Coordination Committee Chief. The members of the committee will be District Administrative Office and Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of the respective project municipality. A total of 28 people took part in the meeting.

- **Capacity building on annual participatory planning process:** Two hundred ninety-two elected

representatives and municipal staff were capacitated on annual participatory planning processes (PPP) of local government through three days long workshop (six events). The workshop helped to realize the role of elected representatives and staff on sectoral, and participatory planning process (five sectors).

- **Access to credit facilities and revolving funds to producers' groups:** Revolving fund to the farmers' group, to access the finance for agricultural improvement, was established in the eight cooperatives (three in Siraha municipality, three in Kalyanpur municipality and four in Karjanha municipality), after signing MoU with the co-operatives. Those co-operatives will provide soft loan to the project beneficiaries.

- **Capacity building on repair and maintenance of agricultural equipment:** Forty-one entrepreneurs were developed by organizing five days of repair and maintenance training of agricultural equipment, in three slots. There are 20, 11, and 10 such trained people in Siraha, Kalyanpur, and Karjanha Municipalities respectively.

- **Introduced the climate-smart crop varieties and technology in riverbed farming:** Agriculture Technician of the project provisioned technical services on nutrition management, irrigation and pest management of riverbed crops especially focused on watermelon. Project supported 16 water pumps (six solar water lifting pumps and 10 electric water lifting pumps) and 19 automatic sprayer machines to the 16 riverbed farming groups. It has benefited 331 riverbed farming families of the Kamala river basin.

- **Construction / rehabilitation of small-scale infrastructure:** Construction of five market-shed cum emergency shelter house is underway in Bandipur and Karjanha of Karjanha Municipality, Chikana and Prashahi of Kalyanpur Municipality, and Sarswar of Siraha Municipality. Foundation works were completed in all five sites including the setting of post and trusses. Construction work up to plinth levels has been accomplished in Kalyanpur-5 and Karjanha-11. To ensure construction work, user committees were formed in each site including monitoring committee under the leadership of respective ward chairperson. Procurement of

materials has been accomplished including fabrication of trusses for all sites.

- **Set up irrigation facilities:** A channel gate installation is in progress in Karjanha-8, Gautadi. It supports to improve the access of irrigation water to 126 HHs for increased farm production and productivity.
- **Coordination with local governments:** Three six monthly coordination meetings were organized to share the project progress among local governments in each project municipalities. There were 99 participants in the coordination meetings. There was the participation of Mayor, Deputy-Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and other staff of municipalities and the project. FORWARD Nepal presented the progress achieved during the last six months and the plan (activity and financial) of the project for the remaining period to the participants.
- **Participatory situation and vulnerability analysis of agriculture sector:** The project is in concluding phase on the study of participatory situation and vulnerability analysis of the agriculture sector of project municipalities in Siraha district. The research findings were shared and validated by one day workshop in Siraha, Kalyanpur, and Karjanha Municipalities in participation of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, members of municipality, and thematic section's head or representatives of municipalities. Total 75 people including 10 women attended the workshop.
- **Household targeting based on tablet/mobile based software:** To establish community-based farmers groups, household targeting survey has been conducted by setting beneficiary targeting criteria and using mobile/tablet based Akvo Flow software. Apan Sangi (change agents) of respective wards completed data entry of 44 wards, out of 45 project working wards, covering more than 14 thousand HHs. The data processing has been completed for 31 Wards in this reporting period.
- **Baseline study of the project:** FORWARD Nepal has led to conduct baseline and knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) survey of the project. The final draft report of baseline and knowledge, attitude and practice study for the project has been prepared and shared to consortium partners. Before the final draft preparation, a meeting was organized to share baseline results among 13 staff of consortium partners on April 29, 2019, wherein baseline and indicators for each result were discussed.

### 3. Under the "Dairy for Development in Nepal" project, the following activities were carried out:

- **Annual progress review and planning:** Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Program Manager, Dr. Subhash Chaudhary, Project Coordinator, and Dr. Swotandra Dangi,

Program Officer of Dairy project, FORWARD Nepal, participated in an Annual Progress Review and Planning Meeting of the project from 8-10 May 2019 at Practical Action's cluster office, Bharatpur. Ms. Bijaya Bajracharya (Head - Program Delivery), Ms. Renuka Rai (GESI Specialist), Mr. Bhim Kumar Shrestha (M&E Manager), Mr. Sharad Adhikari (Program Manager) and Mr. Laxman Pandey (Admin and Finance Officer) participated on behalf of Practical Action.

- **Progress review and planning at sub-national level:** Six interaction programs (one each in all the working sites of the project) were organized by the project among local governments officials (i.e. officers of the rural/urban municipality and livestock service sections), local technology suppliers (agro-vets, livestock technicians), dairy cooperatives and dairy farmers to share the project's achievement of the last fiscal year, as well as to get feedback from the stakeholders for the better implementation of the project in second and third fiscal years.

- **Stakeholders' interaction for breed-resource centre establishment:** Three interaction programs (one each in Chitwan, Nawalpur and Makwanpur) among the dairy farmers, dairy cooperatives and Livestock Service Sections of the local governments for establishment of breed resource centres at all the working sites of the project.

- **Forage seedlings support:** The project distributed a total of 5,750 cuttings of Super Napier and 23 kg of Palpa Stylo to the dairy farmers through 25 cooperatives of Chitwan, Nawalpur and Makwanpur, as a part of demonstration of improved production technology.

### 4. Under the "School Safety Initiative for Strengthening Community Resilience to Disaster in Sunsari (SCRSSI)" Project, the following activities were carried out:

- **Capacity development to stakeholders on safe school and gender equality:** Three-day training was organized in four secondary schools in participation of the students representing different clubs, School Management Committee (SMC), Head Teachers, PTA, and Ward Representatives. The training mainly focused on the essentials of the comprehensive school safety framework, the indicators of safe school, gender equality and transformation as a cross cutting issue and also on the methodologies to be adopted to ensure the safety and resilience of schools. A total of 41 participants including 14 females were actively involved in the theoretical and practical group work and presentation sessions to enhance their skill and understanding on safe and resilient school endorsed by gender transformation.

- **Capacity building on disaster and climate risk**

**assessment with a gender lenses:** Three days training on disaster and climate risk assessment with a gender lens training to children, teachers were organized in targeted five schools. In total, 68 children and teachers were trained on disaster/climate risk assessment and gender analysis on climate change/disaster scenario including vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) of school. Five events have been completed in targeted five schools.

- **Update of school improvement plan (SIP) with school DRR:** Supports were provided to five schools namely, Auliya Secondary School Barahachhetra-1, Janak Secondary School Barahachhetra-8, Saraswati Secondary School Barahachhetra-4, Suryakunda Basic School Barahachhetra-1, Suryakunda Basic School Barahachhetra-1, and Chandrakamal Secondary School Ramdhuni - 8 to update the school improvement plan (SIP). In this context, education coordination committee of respective municipality facilitated to conduct one-day SIP update and review workshop and its documentation. Altogether, 122 participants involving girls, boys, female and male teachers, members of school management committee were involved in the event. Each targeted school has SIP with School DRR with integrated plan for safe school and gender equality.
- **First Aid and Responders (FA) development and community-based search and rescue:** Orientation on the basic first aid and first responder was provided to 25 people from targeted schools on 22-23 May at Janak Secondary School Barahachhetra-8 in facilitation of Nepal Red Cross Society, Sunsari. During the period, mock drill on the safety method, prevention skills and first aid and rescue process on earthquake was conducted in Auliya School at Barahachhetra Municipality. Altogether, 356 participants were involved in the event.
- **Video production:** A nine minutes long action-oriented video of SCRSSI project was produced on the basis of accomplished activities and its impact.
- **Inception Meeting in Municipalities:** At the beginning of the project, inception meeting was organized in Ramdhuni Municipality. In the meeting, the project objectives, interventions, budget, legal way of LDCRP making process, and step of the VCA to final document were shared among stakeholders.

Half-day inception meeting was organized at Barahachhetra and Ramdhuni Municipality to introduce the objective of developing gender sensitive LDCRP and CDCRP including the working modality. The municipalities were to lead the overall development of local disaster and climate resilient plan, whereas all the necessary technical support

and facilitation was provided by FORWARD Nepal and Plan International Nepal. The inception meeting was conducted on 8th June at Ramdhuni in participation of 34 participants from the municipality including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, and Focal Person for DRR in municipality, and Education Officer to provide uniform understanding of the objectives, time line, implementation modality and roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.

- **Vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) of municipalities:** Two-day workshop was organized in each ward (nine wards) of Barahachhetra Municipality during April and May 2019. Relevant information on vulnerability and capacity assessment of the wards were gathered from community people. Trained volunteers were mobilized and supervised during its preparation and facilitation. They provided training on DRR, CCA and VCA. There were 470 participants in the workshops wherein VCA report was prepared and shared with the chairperson for discussion and approval from the ward level elected bodies.
- **VCA sharing and planning:** A one-day workshop was conducted in the project working wards, after the VCA workshop, during 7-13 June 2019, for the preparation of the ward-level DRR plan. Altogether 248 community people participated in the ward level DRR planning process at Barahachhetra Municipality.
- **Workshop on validation of VCA in municipality:** After the preparation of VCA in each ward, a one-day workshop on VCA validation was organized in municipality level on 28 June 2019 at Barahachhetra. In the workshop, VCA report was shared and discussion was made on the hazard, risk and VCA findings. Municipality level hazard and hazard ranking, the risk profile of the ward, data collection method and sources of data were discussed in the workshop. Thirty-seven people including Mayor Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, DRR focal Person and Ward Chairpersons participated in the workshop.
- **LDCRP planning and prioritization workshop:** Trained people were mobilized on LDCRP planning and prioritization workshop held on 29 June 2019 at Barahachhetra wherein 33 people including municipality level elected bodies were participated. The workshop was facilitated by the Project Coordinator. The workshop focused on ward- level planning and identification of various activities for preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery for major disaster and thematic plan for local CCA and DRR. The project team encouraged to include activities for climate smart safe school with especial focus on gender imbalance in LDCRP. Discussions

were held on gender matrix and groups ward in gender analysis tools.

- **Documentation of WDCRP/LDCRP and risk profile of municipalities and communities and LDCRP:** Ward-level risk profile of municipalities was prepared and shared with ward and municipality. Similarly, risk profile and LDCRP draft also prepared and shared to LDMC Municipality elected bodies.
- **Support LDMC, CBDMC and School to develop first aid volunteers for first responder (4 days):** 24 community young people were trained on first aid and prepared as first responder of the both municipalities. Municipality level network of the first responders with 13 members was formed in present of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor at Barahachhetra. The training was conducted with the help of district chapter of Nepal Red Cross Society as per its mandate. At the end of the training, five squads of first responders to disaster have been developed with certification of volunteer for first aid. The training has facilitated each school.
- **Partnership assessment by Plan International Nepal:** Annual partnership assessment of FORWARD Nepal's was run by Plan International Nepal on 8th July 2019. Ms. Pooja Shrestha, Mr. Om Shrestha, and Mr. Nooma Dhakal facilitated the assessment process, while Mr. Pankaj Chaudhari, Mr. Suraj Khanal, and Mr. Lokendra Khadka contributed from FORWARD Nepal.
- **Annual Programme Review Reflection:** Plan International Nepal organized annual programme review and reflection meeting during 20-21 June 2019. FORWARD Nepal participated in the meeting of Plan International Nepal Field Office at Itahari and presented report on the SSI Project, DRM project, Girls Agency project and Child Sponsor project of Sunsari. Mr. Lokendra Khadka, Program Coordinator, Mr. Suraj Khanal, Program Officer, and other field office team members, namely Mr. Pankaj Chaudhari, Ms. Sabita Biswas, Ms. Reena Majhi, and Mr. Deepak Paswan, participated in the gallery presentation of annual review program. Overall organizational presentation and progress of implemented projects were highlighted in the event.

#### 5. Sustainable Economic Development of Rural areas (SEDRA):

- **Development of the agricultural tech-cards:** FORWARD Nepal provided Agricultural Expertise on crops and livestock tech-cards development to Business and Finance Consulting. During the reporting period, crop farming tech-cards of 17 crops, and animal farming tech cards of five animal types (Beekeeping, yak, buffalo, pig, sheep and goat) have been developed to facilitate value chain

financing (loan lending by financial institutions) in agricultural sector. The techcards of trout farming is yet to be finalized. The tech cards include monthly cash flow requirement by each agricultural activity of the specified crop; and production cycle of livestock by farmers, by producers' category, with calculation of return over the investment.

- **Capacity building AT:** Training materials on good agricultural practices (GAP) on selected crops and animal types have been developed for organizing Training of Trainers (TOT) to staffs of partner banks and private industries. The schedule of TOT training has been finalized and FORWARD Nepal will conduct follow up activities after the completion of TOTs.

#### Training/Workshop/Meeting/Visits

- **Quarterly Meeting and Revision of Sustainable Integrated Farming System (SIFS) Manual:** Dr. Bedanand Chaudhary, Project Coordinator, Mr. Deependra Adhikari, Agriculture Specialist and Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu, Admin and Account Officer from FORWARD Nepal participated in the 2nd quarterly meeting at Gaur, Rautahat. The following day onward the team worked on finalization of Curriculum for SIFS PLA, revision and finalization of SIFS manual, preparation of NSV project flyer and check lists of NERP and LANN+ from 24-28 June 2019. The team finalized the curriculum, first, and based on it, worked on each session of SIFS manual meticulously to revise and finalize. The team decided to share the final draft of SIFS curriculum and manual to get approval from Mr. Sushil Ghimire, Programme Manager, WHH for publication. The team also prepared final version of NSV project flyer and checklists for NERP and LANN+.
- **Provincial level interaction for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR):** Mr. Bed Prasad Bhurtel, Project Coordinator, participated in the provincial level interaction for DRR in Janakpur, province no. 2. The interaction was organized by Federal Ministry of Home Affairs and provincial government with support from DFID and UN agencies. Two DRR guidelines i.e. disaster preparedness and response planning guideline, 2076 and disaster relief standard, 2076 were presented, discussed and reviewed in the interaction programme.
- **District Coordinator (DC) and Project Coordinators' (PC) monthly meeting:** Mr. Bed Prasad Bhurtel, Project Coordinator, participated in DCs' and PCs' monthly meeting of WHH's NGO partners on June 18, 2019, and April 26, 2019 in Siraha and Mirchaiya, Siraha, respectively. These meetings were initiated for making effective coordination, collaboration and synergy between WHH's NGO partners.
- **Participation on meeting of the humanitarian organization on DRR:** Mr. Krishna Bahadur Bhandari,

Internal Audit and Monitoring Officer (IAMO) participated in a national level meeting of the humanitarian organization on DRR on 16 June 2019 at Sauraha, Chitwan. The programme was organized by Li-Bird and NPP.

- **Technical/general staff meeting:** A technical/general staff meeting was held on 16 July 2019 at FORWARD Nepal's head office where all Head Office staff and some project staff attended the meeting. Prof. Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha, Chairperson and Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa, Founder Member were also present in the meeting.
- **Meeting of Executive Committee of FORWARD Nepal:** The meeting was held on 16 July 2019 at the Head Office, Chitwan. The meeting reviewed the ongoing projects/programs implemented by the organization in various districts. Implementation of new rules of Nepal Government on Social Security for employees at FORWARD Nepal, annual audit of 2075/76 account, removal of old unserviceable assets, closing of FORWARD Consultancy Pvt. Ltd, formation of a new Editorial Board, land use plan of FORWARD Nepal at Bharatpur Metropolitan city – 4, were discussed and suggestions/directions were provided to the management team for the necessary actions.

#### Conference/Visits

- Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Executive Director participated in the GIZ workshop on Inclusive Development of Economy Program closing and launch of Local and Provincial Economy Development Project on 9th May 2019 at Kathmandu.
- • Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane, Programme Director, participated in the Preliminary Mid-term Review of Nepal's Seed Vision 2013-2025 and Validation Workshop on Hybrid Seed Production Guidelines organized jointly by Seed Quality Control Centre (SQCC) and CIMMYT during 2-3 July 2019 at Summit Hotel, Lalitpur. The participants were updated on the current status of the national seed vision based on its performance. The workshop felt that the responsibility for implementation of National Seed Vision was not clearly stated in the document, and this has resulted in underperformance of targeted outputs such as development of Hybrids. This was followed by meeting on the validation of draft hybrid seeds production and certification guidelines. After a thorough discussion among scientists, seed companies, and government personnel, hybrid seed production and certification guidelines for maize, rice and vegetables were validated.
- Dr. Bedananda Chaudhary, Project Coordinator and

Mr. Sudarshan Bist, Agriculture Officer participated in the 3rd IFAD Project Review Meeting held at Bhubaneswor, Odisha, India during 1-5 July 2019. In the meeting, progress updates of the activities implemented during 2016/17 to 2018/19 were presented by different partners from Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The achievements included research and demonstration results. The presenters also highlighted progress on capacity building of the stakeholders on production and processing aspects of pulses, and strengthening capacity & capabilities of Village-based Seed Enterprises (VBSEs) for ensuring production and supply of quality seeds of pulses. Financial statement was also shared by each partner. All partners shared work plan with proposed activities and location to be implemented for the coming year (2019/2020). The meeting was followed by a field trip to the rain-fed rice fallow system in Odisha.

- Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane participated in the conference on "Role of provincial and municipal governments in developing market systems" organized by Market Development Forum Nepal (MDFN) on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Airport Hotel Kathmandu. Hon. Dawa Dorje Lama, Minister for Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Province 3, was the chief guest in the event chaired by Dr. Yogendra K. Karki, Secretary, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture & Cooperatives, Province No 3. The conference was attended by Chairpersons of Municipalities in Province 3, private companies, market actors, INGOs, and NGOs. In the occasion, Dr. Luke Colavito from iDE Nepal welcomed the participants and informed that SDC and Sahaj project facilitated MDFN, a loose organization with 23 members as of now. He suggested Municipalities to mobilize resources for market system development (MSD) and formulation of the policies in support of private sectors. In the occasion, issues like wealth tax concentration at the centre; multiple taxes, uncontrolled taxes, and budget allocated for agriculture development channel to roads construction in some municipalities were discussed in details and suggestions were made for the removal of multiple and unconstitutional taxes, technical skills up scaling, participatory value chain development, and capacity enhancement of local Government on tax education. The meeting suggested for harmonization of policy of the three Governments (Local, Provincial and Federal), flexibility of stakeholders at local level support, and grant support for small farmer aggregation in the context of sustaining Market System Development (MSD). Hon. Dawa Dorje Lama, Minister for Land Management, Agriculture & Cooperatives expressed that the government was positive for the development of agricultural sector and assured to

implement the recommendations of the conference through policy reforms and other supports.

- Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane participated in the 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC) on 8th May 2019 at Nepal Army Officers Club, Kathmandu. State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Ms. Ram Kumari Chaudhary was the chief Guest of the event chaired by Agriculture Secretary, Dr. Yubak Dhoj GC. Member of planning commission, Director General of Agriculture, former Executive Directors, retired and working NARC Scientists, and heads and representatives of different organizations, CIMMYT, INGOs, NGOs, farmers' representatives and Media personnel were present in the occasion. The progress achievement of NARC and videos of NARC highlights were presented. In the occasion, progressive farmers of seven provinces were honoured for their efforts in adoption and use of NARC promoted technologies. Similarly, selected scientists were recognized for their excellent research works/outputs. Suggestions were made to make NARC more responsive to the needs of farmers and a greater collaboration among research, education and extension.
- Mr. Lokendra Bahadur Khadka, Project Coordinator, SCRSSI project, Sunsari has participated in a workshop on Learning Event on Inclusion and Influencing in Safe School programming, organized by Plan International from 28-30 May 2019, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane, Program Director participated in the project learning and sharing workshop organized by ADRA Nepal on 8th July 2019, in Lalitpur, Kathmandu. In the workshop, lessons learnt from two projects, Good Governance and Livelihood (GOAL) and Building Resilience to Disaster Effected Communities (BURDAN) implemented by ADRA Nepal were shared among project stakeholders.
- Mr. Sushil Ghimire, Programme Manager, WHH visited Nutrition Smart Village (NSV) project sites in Saptari during 8-9 July 2019. First day, he was briefed on NSV Project activities in the Office at Rajbiraj. Mr. Ghimire visited Jhukti, Nargho and Malekpur of Saptari district. During the trip, he observed and interacted to NERP Camp, Health Post, FCHVs, Social Mobilizers (SM), EGL, and Barefoot Planners. SIFS trained EGLs established the model farm with diversified vegetables and fruit trees in the homestead garden. Mr. Ghimire get acquainted on the progresses in field, and suggested to work closely with EGLs to make business plan and start developing model farm.
- Two consultants hired by Civil Society Academy

(CSA) visited FORWARD Nepal on 3 May 2019 to document the impact of CSA run training. They made one to one interview to Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Executive Director, Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane, Programme Director, and Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager in Kathmandu.

- Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Executive Director, and Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager, FORWARD Nepal visited Rautahat, Saptari and Siraha district to review the project progresses, facilitation for project implementation, and field observation under WHH funded Siraha livelihood project and nutrition smart village (NSV) project during last week of May 2019. It's observed that FORWARD Nepal and Aasaman Nepal are working closely at field level to achieve the project target. Participants were happy from the ongoing capacity building event on micro-planning process in Rautahat and river bed farming (RBF) on the Kamala river basin in Siraha.
- Mr. Netra Pratap Sen and Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal visited the SCRSSI Project on 23-24 May 2019 and monitored some of the project activities implemented in Barahachhetra Municipality in Chakraghatti. During the visit, the team paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor of above municipality, attended a project partnership review meeting at Plan International Nepal, Field Office, Itahari.
- Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu, Admin Officer visited FORWARD Nepal Regional Office, Itahari on 05 June, 2019 to facilitate the staff selection process. Interview of Account Officer and Social Mobilizer of SCRSSI project. It was conducted in the presence of Ms. Pooja Shrestha from Plan International Nepal. In addition, progress updates of ongoing projects were discussed along with the closing of wash DRM project.
- A staff meeting of Plan-FORWARD Partnership projects was also held on 24 May 2019 at FORWARD Nepal's Branch Office, Itahari and project update was presented by Mr. Lokendra Bahadur Khadka, PC of SCRSSI project and Mr. Suraj Khanal, PO, SCR project whereas Mr. Pankaj Kumar Chaudhary, Finance Officer shared the financial status of each project.
- Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager had visited livelihood project office in April 2019. He has also observed workshop on participatory planning process at Siraha Municipality.
- WHH organized and facilitated four days training on 'procurement and finance management training to its partners' from 28 to 31 May 2019 in

Nagarkot, Kavre in participation of Project Focal Persons, Project Coordinators, and Account Officers. There was the participation of four organizations including FORWARD Nepal. Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager, Mr. Bed Prasad Bhurtel, Project Coordinator and Mr. Dig Bijaya Dhakal, Finance Officer from Siraha Livelihood Project, and Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu, Finance Officer from nutrition smart village project, from FORWARD Nepal had attended this training.

- Project steering committee meeting of WHH funded projects was organized on 1 June 2019 in Nagarkot, Kavre, in participation of Programme Managers, Admin and Finance Manager, and Account Officer of WHH; Executive Directors, Programme Managers, and PCs of Partner Organizations to share the project status and speeding up the processes. Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Executive Director, Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager, and Mr. Bed Prasad Bhurtel, Project Coordinator participated in the meeting, and Account Officers of NPL-1059 and NPL-1058 projects Mr. Dig Bijay Dhakal and Mr. Ram Dayal Tharu, respectively, had also attended the meeting in the financial discussion part of the projects. The meeting was run in two consecutive sessions and some crucial decisions were made.

### Staffing

#### ➤ Staff termination/resignation

- Farewell programme of staff was organized on 6th July 2019 in Regional Office of FORWARD Nepal, Itahari, Sunsari. Since two projects phased out and services of the following staff were also terminated: Ms. Rina Kumari Majhi, Social Mobilizer (SCRSSI Project), Mr. Deepak Paswan – Social Mobilizer (SCR through DRM & WASH), Ms. Sabita Bishwas – Social Mobilizer (SCR through DRM & WASH) & Mr. Pankaj Chaudhary (Finance Officer).
- Mr. Hari Prakash Gupta resigned from the position of Agriculture Officer of Siraha Livelihood Project with effect from 17th July 2019 due to his personal problem. In approval of the resignation of Mr. Gupta, the staff member of the Plan-FORWARD partnership project, Mr. Suraj Khanal was transferred from Morang to Siraha district, for the vacant post of Agriculture Officer. Mr. Khanal joined the project on 23rd July 2019.

#### ➤ New staff

- Following the resignation of Finance Officer, Mr. Pankaj Chaudhary of SCRSSI Project, Sunsari, Ms. Sushila Chaudhary, resident of Bhadaiya - 2, Siraha district, joined as Project Account Officer with effect

from 10 July 2019.

### News

- Agricultural Exhibition and Farmer's Fair 2076 at AFU, Rampur: The fair was organized at AFU Rampur, Chitwan during 15-18 June 2019. It was inaugurated by former Prime Minister and President of Nepal Communist Party (NCP), Mr. Puspa Kamal Dahal and Chaired by Vice Chancellor of AFU, Dr. I P Dhakal. FORWARD Nepal decorated the allotted stall with different posters, SIFS model display, hanging vegetable garden, solar irrigation pump and display of its publications. Posters included different flip charts, sustainable integrated farming system with relevant messages, brief introduction of FORWARD Nepal, riverbed farming, and nutrient expert tool. SIFS model was prepared using art materials and explained the integration of different sub-systems and components. This showed mainly a combination of crops, horticulture and animal husbandry. The event had a huge crowd with students, experts and farmers. More than 300 participants visited every day. Despite hot sunny days, the fair was very effective and encouraging.

### Some Glimpses



Agri-Exhibition at AFU, Rampur, Chitwan



Third Review and Planning Meeting of IFAD ICARDA Regional Project in South Asia ( in Odisha, India)