



FORWARD Nepal Brief

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Current Update at Glance

FORWARD Nepal's Bulletin

The 8th issue of FORWARD Nepal's Bulletin covers the activities and news from April to July 2016. During the period, the activities of the various projects were implemented smoothly. Some projects have been phased out and some new projects have been initiated. The projects completed during the period are: (i) Renovation of Earthquake Damaged Primary School at Siddhi-2, Lotanti, Chitwan, which aimed at providing access to better and safer basic education for the children through proper functioning of the earthquake damaged school; (ii) Enhancing Food Security through Scaling up of Climate Smart Agricultural Practices in Rice-lentil System, which aimed to uplift food security of smallholder farmers through increase in food production; (iii) Child-centered Climate Change Adaptation (4CA) in Morang and Sunsari districts, with the objective of increasing awareness and capacity of children, youths and communities on climate change and associated disasters; (iv) Multi Stakeholder Forestry Programme (MSFP), for the establishment of forest-based enterprises in Bajura and Doti districts. A new project entitled "Improved Flood Resilience of Communities in Morang and Sunsari Districts (CR project)", aiming to enhance communities' skills and capacities for managing flood response, has been started from 1st April 2016.

Major activities during the period

- District level orientation meeting of "Rural Women Economic Empowerment Programme (RWEE)" was organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on 5th to 7th April 2016 in three Programme districts (Sarlahi, Sindhuli and Rautahat) with the objective to create common understandings and ownership among all stakeholders of RWEE Programme and update the stakeholders on contents, activities and progress of the Programme, and gets feedback and commitment for future participation during its implementation. Representatives from DDC, CDO, DADO, DLSO, WCDO, WFP, and FORWARD Nepal participated in the meeting. In this programme, FORWARD Nepal is involved for implementation of Rural Community Infrastructure Work (RCIW) Programme with World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nation.
- FORWARD Nepal's second Board Meeting was held on 14th May 2016 under the chairmanship of Prof.

Dr. Madhav Kumar Shrestha, Chairperson of the Executive Board (2016/17 to 2019/20) of FORWARD Nepal.

- Following the Board meeting a joint meeting of Board members and senior staff members was held at Hotel Royal Century to discuss on the revision of core values, vision, mission, objectives, and strategies of the organization, so as to make it smarter and relevant to the present context. A brainstorming exercise was also done on its concept and all participants were requested to review the present statements thoroughly and contribute for its revision at the earliest possible.
- Three events for exchanging knowledge among farmers and school students were conducted in Banke under the "Project Community Practice in School for Learning Climate Change Adaptation" (COPILA) as (i) Shree Laxmi H.S. School, Kachanapur - participation of 24 students (16 female & 8 male) and 4 teachers, (ii) Shree Bhagwati High School, Titihiriya - participation of 18 students (11 female & 7 male) and 3 teachers, and (iii) Shree Saraswati H.S. School, Baijapur - participation of 35 students (17 female & 18 male) and 4 teachers.
- RWEE field team at Rautahat, Sarlahi and Sindhuli district received weighing machines for the monitoring the body weights of children and pregnant and lactating women.
- RWEE Project team received 28 metric tons "Super Cereal" delivered by the World Food Programme (WFP) in the respective district warehouse. The food has been distributed to MCHN beneficiaries as pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children's below the age of 23 months.
- Under the "Building Community Enterprises for Smallholders in Bangladesh and Nepal" (BCES) project funded by Welthungerhilfe (WHH), two pipe irrigation and one lift-irrigation schemes have been completed in Siddhi VDC-8 and Kalika Municipality-1&3, while one pipe irrigation scheme is under process in Kaule VDC.
- A team of representatives from HELVETAS Nepal, DDC, VDC, and journalists visited the River Bed Farming project site for monitoring and evaluation as well as to take the farmers feedback in Banke on 26th May 2016.
- A flip chart guideline, "Training of Farmers-Sustainable Integrated Farming System" (SIFS) (कृषकहरूका लागि तालिम निर्देशिका- दीगो एकीकृत कृषि प्रणाली) was developed under the BCES project. Orientation of project staff on the training manual was held to

enhance the knowledge of field staff so that they could disseminate the information of the manual to farmers more effectively.

- Construction of a Collection Centre has been initiated in Kaule VDC under the BCES project.
- Three events of the local level exit meeting of MSFP Project were conducted in Kolti, Bamka and Martadi in Bajura district, and 6 events of VDC level exit meetings were conducted in Barchhain, Sarswatinagar, Ranagaun, Daud, Ghanteshwor, and Chhatiwan VDCs of Doti district.
- District level exit workshops for the formal closing of the MSFP were conducted in Bajura (26th May 2016) and Doti (30th May 2016).
- Central Coordination meeting (CCC) of the ELIVES project was organized at ADRA Nepal on 23rd June 2016 to review the progress of the project, revise the detailed implementation plan (DIP) and budget for the 2nd year. The meeting decided to arrange joint monitoring of district partners by Finance/Accounts Officials of ADRA, IDE and FORWARD Nepal in order to enable district partners to prepare and submit the financial reports in the proper way.
- Under the “Dairy-Good Manufacturing Practices” (GMP) project, to capacitate the value chain actors and implementation of the major project activities by themselves (e.g. household level trainings, supervision, and internal control system for hygienic milk production, etc.), agreements had been made (June 2016) with the six cooperatives/milk industries as (i) Tanahun Milk Producers Cooperative Union TDMPCUL, Damauli, Tanahun, (ii) Dumarwana Milk Producers Cooperatives (DMPC), Bara, (iii) Manakamana Milk Producers Cooperatives (MMPC), Makwanpur, (iv) Setidevi Milk Producer Cooperative Society Limited (SMPCSL), Kavre, (v) Timal Mahabharat Multipurpose Cooperative Limited (TMMCL), Kavre, and (vi) Gyanodaya Dairy Udhog (GDU), Sunwal, Nawalparasi.
- Similarly, field work on baseline study on farm practices, personal hygiene and behavior, and milk quality parameters has also been completed. Data analysis and documentation part is underway.
- Six joint -sub-projects, one from each selected partner MCC, have also been formulated; three of them signed and rolled out for implementation under partner’s leadership with FORWARD/Samarth-NMDP’s technical assistance and facilitation. Provisions have been made in the agreement for creating a GMP fund for scaling up that will be created by making contributions based on per unit volume of milk traded (e.g. NPR 0.25/liter of milk). MCC partners and processors have expressed their commitment for long-term sustainability of the intervention and its scaling up.
- The Closing Meeting of the MSFP was held at FORWARD Nepal Head Office on 14th July 2016 with the objective of sharing the learnings and experiences in the MSFP implementation in Bajura and Doti.

- The construction of Seed Storage Structure in Padampokhari, Chhatiwan and Hatiya VDCs in Makwanpur district have been completed. Whereas, the construction of the Potato Rustic Stores in Agra and Bajrabarahi is at the completion stage.
- Construction of 600 livestock sheds in Makwanpur district has almost been completed; about 90% of the task has been finished. The project team and the Construction Workers have been putting extra efforts to complete the work very soon.
- Under “Household Economic Security Project” (HES) project, supports for fish pond construction and fingerlings, feeds, vegetable seeds, fertilizers, tree saplings for agro-forestry, poultry, and fruit saplings for home gardening had been made in 18 VDCs of Morang District.
- The Annual workshop of IPNI was held during June 09-10, 2016 in Biratnagar with the objectives of reviewing the project progress in the first year and planning of activities for summer rice in 2016. Workshop participants included DADO of Jhapa and Morang, Regional Director of Agriculture and Regional Director NARC/Tarahara, Local NGOs, farmers’ representatives, FORWARD Staffs, Dr. Kaushik Majumdar (Director, IPNI, South Asia), Dy. Directors Dr. Suryanarayan T, and Dr. Sudarshan Dutta (IPNI), and Dr. Jagadish Timsina, Advisor from NRNA Australia. The results of the first year field trials showed higher grain yields of rice, maize and wheat in plots receiving fertilizer as per NE recommendations. The workshop highlighted the importance and the need of upscaling the Nutrient Expert (NE) tool through the existing extension system.
- Market Planning Committee (MPC) formed under ELIVES project at Bara has successfully completed the construction of vegetable collection center in Haraiya, Bara. The Collection Centre has started to buy vegetables from group members and sell the produce to Birgunj.
- One day orientation meeting of GMP project partners was held at Hotel River Crown, Gaidakot on 11th July 2016 to orient the representatives (20 participants) from the concerned cooperatives/dairy industries for implementation of household level training, internal control system, management of partner contributions for implementing the agreed activities, the data keeping and reporting.

Staffing

Staff termination/resignation

- Er. Dilli Raj Limbu resigned from the post of District Coordinator (Civil Engineer) of the RWEI project (Sarlahi) effective from 7th May 2016.
- Mr. Anup Adhikari resigned from the post of Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of the MSFP project effective from 27th May 2016.

- Ms. Swati Shrestha resigned from the post of Information and Publication Officer, effective from 28th June 2016 & went to USA for study.
- Mr. Uttam Aryal resigned from the post of Project Coordinator of the CR project effective from 30th June 2016.
- Dr. Dipesh Chhetri resigned from the post of Field Coordinator (Makwanpur & Bara) of the GMP project effective from 1st July 2016 and returned to the AFU at Rampur, Chitwan.
- Ms. Rajani Sapkota resigned from the post of Field Officer (Rautahat) of the ELIVES project effective from 15th July 2016 & went to USA for study.
- Mr. Ram Bahadur Bhujel, Area Programme Manager, successfully accomplished the assigned duties and responsibilities, with completion of the MSFP in Bajura and Doti. After the completion of the project, he left FORWARD effective from 16th July 2016.

New staff

- Er. Shyam Sundar Rajbhandari joined as District Coordinator of the RWEE project (Sarlahi) effective from 8th May 2016.
- Er. Hari Krishna Acharya and Mr. Manoj Singh Dhama, Mr. Krishna Bhatta and Ms. Heman Paneru Joined FORWARD Nepal as Field Coordinator and Monitoring & Verification Officer respectively, for the Community Development Programme (CDP) Project effective from 1st June 2016.
- Mr. Bijaya Adhikari has been appointed as Overseer of the RWEE project (Sindhuli) from 18th June 2016.
- Mr. Santosh Adhikari joined FORWARD Nepal as Information and Publication Officer, effective from 28th June 2016.
- Mr. Rajesh Shrestha joined FORWARD Nepal as Field Coordinator (Makwanpur & Bara) of the GMP project effective from 8th July 2016.
- Ms. Pratistha Thapa has been appointed as Project Coordinator of the CR project in Morang and Sunsari effective from 21st July 2016.
- Mr. Santosh Bhandari, MSc Agri-Economics student of the Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU), joined FORWARD Nepal as Intern. Mr. Bhandari has been receiving the MSc Thesis Grant for the period of six months (May-October 2016) and working for the management of the baseline data and report under the Dairy-GMP project.
- Ms. Louise Legein, Postgraduate student of Brussels University, Belgium, joined FORWARD as Intern from 8th July 2016. She is associated with IPNI-NRFA funded project "Socioeconomic Study on Maize Production and Evaluation and Dissemination of Nutrient Expert+ Tool based on Farmer Typologies in eastern Terai of Nepal" in Jhapa and Morang.

News

Honourable Minister for Agricultural Development, Mr. Haribol Gajurel, visited the riverbed farming project sites in Jhapa District, interacted with farmers and learnt their experiences in the riverbed farming. Hon. Minister Gajurel visited Shree Hanuman riverbed farming site and Shree Shiva riverbed farming site located in Bhadrapur Municipality. During the visit, Hon. Minister said that the government has kept the riverbed farming in the priority because the landless people and the people who lost their land due to the flooding could be benefitted by farming in the riverbeds and could uplift their living standards. Moreover, he added that the government has been preparing a long-term plan to promote the riverbed farming technologies in different parts of the nation.

Trainings/Workshops

- A training to Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW), 22 persons from the ELIVES project districts, was organized from 11th March 2016 to 14th April, 2016 at Animal Health Training and Consultancy Services (AHTCS), Pokhara.
- Annual Review and Planning Workshop of the ELIVES project was organized by ADRA Nepal during 18th to 20th April 2016 at Hotel View Bhrikuti, Godavari, Lalitpur. Focal Persons, Project Coordinators, Accountants, Technicians, and Senior Officials of ADRA and IDE Nepal participated in the workshop. Review of overall project activities of the first year and planning of the activities for the second year (April 2016-March 2017) was done during the workshop.
- Dr. Ujjal Tiwari (Focal Person) and Mr. Ram Bahadur Bhujel (Area Programme Manager) participated in the MSFP Cluster/Regional level Exit Workshop organized by the MSFP-Service Support Unit (SSU) Surkhet Cluster in Surkhet on 2nd June 2016. Subsequently, they also participated in the MSFP National level Exit Workshop held in Kathmandu on 16th June 2016.
- Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Program Manager and Ms. Ashmita Pandey, Program Officer, participated in International Conference "Global civil society dialogue on ending hunger: making sustainable development goal 2 work" organized by CSA, Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Germany on Kathmandu from 1st to 3rd June 2016.
- Ms. Ashmita Pandey, Program Officer, participated in a training "Evaluation and Way forward" organized by the Civil Society Academy (CSA)/WHH in Dhulikhel, Kavre on 19th to 22nd July 2016.
- Mr. Netra Pratap Sen, Executive Director attended in a training workshop "Exceptional Civil Society Leadership" organized by Civil Society Academy (CSA)/WHH from April 5th to 10th April 2016 at Cambodia. Likewise, he attended the second model of training workshop "How to Become an Exceptional Civil society Leader" at Hattiban, Kathmandu from 6th to 10th June 2016. Similarly, he also participated in the exhibition - Hatemalo: Hand-In-Hand - Celebrating the Nepal and

UK Development Partnership: 50 years in photographs at Kathmandu on 20th May 2016. He also attended Helvetas Intercooperation Nepal's 60th ANNIVERSARY, Celebrating 60 years towards a better Nepal programme on 21st June 2016 at Lalitpur.

- Mr Ram Krishna Neupane, Program Director participated in the USAID FTF Nutrition Innovative Labs' Fourth Annual Symposium held on 18-19 July 2016 at Kathmandu and presented a poster on the Nutrient Expert (NE) tool.
- TOT trainings on GMP roll out: A total of 90 lead farmers, dairy personnel and Paravets (41 females) received trainers' training. These trainers will deliver ground level training to farmers and CC/MCC personnel to cover 6000+ outreach in GMP adoption across five districts of the six MCC partners.

Meetings and Visits

- A monitoring visit was carried out by the team comprising ELIVES Team Leader, Dr. Salil Bhattarai, ADRA Nepal, Admin and Finance Director, Mr. Yubraj Chaudhary, ELIVES Project Cluster Coordinator, Dr. Santosh Karn (ADRA Nepal) and ELIVES Cluster Coordinator, Mr. Parmananda Jha (iDE Nepal) from 6th to 8th April 2016. The team visited all four project districts (Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari), met the Chairpersons and Board Members of District Partners. Field Officer, Pradip Lamichhane, Rajani Sapkota, Durga Basnet and Samir Sharma from FORWARD Nepal accompanied the team during the visit.
- ADRA Nepal Program Director Ms. Bidya Mahat and ADRA South Asia Regional Office personnel Mr. Brandon Alvine Aster together with Mr. Anil Chaudhary (ADRA Nepal M&E Officer) and Mr. Rakesh Kumar Shah (Project Coordinator, ADRA Nepal) made a monitoring visit during 12th to 13th May 2016 to different groups, collection centers, and business literacy classes of Bara and Rautahat districts of ELIVES project. Field Officer, Pradip Lamichhane and Rajani Sapkota from FORWARD Nepal accompanied the team during the visit.
- A monitoring visit from the FORWARD Head Office to the ELIVES project sites had been made by Mr. Ram Krishna Neupane (Program Director) and Dr. Ujjal Tiwari (Planning Director) during 24th to 27th May 2016. They also participated in the monthly meetings of the district project teams in four districts (Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari) and interacted with field staffs to review the project activities and learning. They also visited fields in the four districts to monitor the project activities.
- Under the MSFP, members of the District Forest Sector Coordination Committee (DFSCC) and journalists visited Laxmi Allo Bhangro Prashodhan Kendra (Dahkot), Srijana Masala Tatha Sisnu Powder Udhog (Badimalika) and Rosani Shitake Mushroom Production Farm (Badimalika) in Bajura on 25th May 2016. Similarly, members of DFSCC and journalists

visited Ghanteshwar Sisnu Prashodhan Udhog (Ghanteshwor VDC) and Nawa Durga Duna Tapari Udhog (Chhatiwani VDC-8) in Doti on 29th May 2016.

- Mr. Ram Bahadur Bhujel and Dr. Ujjal Tiwari participated in the MSFP Implementing Agencies (IAs)-SSU Meeting in Kathmandu on 7th June 2016. The main purpose of the meeting was to collect the IAs' feedback/reflection on the MSFP.
- Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, Programme Manager had participated various meetings at WFP in relation to implementation of RWEE project. Likewise, he attended Emergency Preparedness meetings at different dates at WHH, Country office, Kathmandu.

Snapshots



Strategy planning meeting of FORWARD Nepal



Minister of agriculture Mr. Haribol Gajurel, in riverbed farming project sites, Jhapa



Partners orientation of GMP at Nawalparasi