

- Project:** Chepang Mainstreaming Programme (CMP)
- Project area:** Chitwan, Makwanpur, Dhading and Gorkha
- Project Period:** November 2004 - June 2007
- Target group:** *Immediate target group:* 344 Chepang groups
Ultimate target group: 5,355 households of 32 VDCs
- Partners:** Inter-Church Organization for Cooperation - Netherlands, Nepal Chepang Association (NCA), Center for Agro-Ecology and Development (CAED), Community Development Organization (CDO)
- Project goal:** To improve food security, income generation and natural resource management capacity of the Chepang community.

Key activities and Implementation modalities:

Project was implemented by a consortium of four NGOs under the leadership of NCA for reaching targeted population through increased coordination and linkage with service providing organizations. FORWARD provided technical assistance in two among the seven specific objectives of CMP: food security and income generation and natural resource management

The main activities were: Promotion of root crops, home gardening (HG) and cropping system demonstration, promotion of commercial fresh vegetable production, vegetable seed production, Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), goat raising, spice crop production, promotion of conservational farming system and outcome assessment study.

Major Achievements

- Introduced new varieties of crops and vegetables and Identified some potential pocket areas for low volume high value crops
- Supported two she-goats per household and one breeding buck per group and under kid revolving scheme, household returned two kids to groups and supported to new members
- Established six village level resource nurseries and 16 community nurseries as Local Resource Centers (LRCs) in four districts
- Promoted environmentally friendly farming practices as Bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides like liquid manure, improved compost, legume integration, hedge-row plantations and agro-forestry
- Developed 344 grass-root level groups, 33 Leader Farmers and 9 model farmers
- Promotion of home gardening contributed improving the food security, vegetable intake/family increased from 1.18 kg to 1.58 kg per day.
- 21.15 percent of total households adopted one or more measures of conservation farming
- Project supported 80 non-Chepang households

Impact

Overall mean food secured months of target people increased from 6.34 to 7.96 and mean gross annual agricultural production and income per household improved along with the capacity enhancement of Chepang communities
