

ANNEX 1

1. Modern agro- technologies lower the hand work

Thumara Oad (38), permanent resident of Budhinanda Municipality ward # 1, Pipaldali, Bajura has a family of five members, including 3 kids and her husband. Agriculture is her main source of income to cover the daily subsistence for her family. Her family used to do farming as in traditional way and they used to cultivate only paddy crops since generations. The rice-wheat cultivation is predominant practice of agriculture in the region. However, this was not sufficient to provide for her family year-round subsistence, so her family members were obliged to work in foreign country India for the livelihood of the family. Her family was a landless Haliya family, previously dependent on the works of daily wages.



Figure 1: Couple of Thumara Oad, is doing farm work in their farmland.

Her family was doing traditional farming since years. She engaged with a farmer group being member of Sahara farmer group, formed and promoted by “*Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security Resilience of Disadvantaged Population Groups in Mugu and Bajura Districts, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA)*” project in four years ago. She started then to regularly attend the Farmer Field School (FFS) organized by the project team as monthly basis, which played pivotal role to do commercial vegetable farming in her community.

Since then, she started to sell vegetables in the local market with the fully and dedicated help of her husband, Hikmat Oad (40), who was spent his very important ages for at least one decade in neighbor country India for daily wages works. By attending FFS-SIFS (Sustainable Integrated Farming System) sessions in the farmer groups, she learnt farming technologies for different vegetable crops, preparation of compost manure, bio- pesticides, nursery management, post- harvesting technologies etc.

The project supported her with iron tunnel house, greenhouse plastic, drip irrigation set, seeds, gardening equipment to develop the model-farm in the community. Nowadays, she is selling vegetables regularly with the earning of NPR 80,000 per year and she has planned to expand her farm as well. She thanked to the project for all the efforts, *“we used to do traditional farming, it was just sufficient for our daily consumption, but the modern agri techniques teach us to generate the income and it comfort our livelihood”* said Mrs. Oad. *“We were surprised that, locally prepared bio- pesticide (Jholmol) can manage the pest- diseases, we did not know about the techniques. Nowadays, we regularly follow the Jholmol techniques, thanks for such type of technique”* added Mr. Oad, her husband. The income from the vegetable selling is uplifting the livelihoods of the Oad family.



Figure 2: An agriculture technician is teaching practical in the field of Thumara Oad.

Basically, there is limited income opportunities other than agriculture, therefore the Oad family is properly managing their family income from off/ seasonal vegetable farming. Now, Mrs. Oad with the assistance of Mr. Oad, is supporting other members in good farming technologies.

2. Regular work earns money

Agriculture is the main source of subsistence to feed the family members and to cover the expense of daily necessary goods in Bajura district. The communities of the district exercised traditional farming from many years ago. However, the system was very time consuming to work as well as it was not sufficient to provide for their family sufficiently, as such almost all the community members involved in works of daily wages around the region and sometimes even by travelling to India. The situation of Lopa Karki (36), permanent resident of Budhinanda# 7, Pahelsera, Bajura was the same. She has a family of 6 members, including 4 kids and her husband.

About 4 years ago in 2018, she came into connection with the team of “*Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security Resilience of Disadvantaged Population Groups in Mugu and Bajura Districts, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA)*” project and joined a farmer group as a member in Srijanshil farmer group. She started to regularly attend the monthly sessions of Farmer Field School (FFS) where the project team regularly teach SIFS (Sustainable Integrated Farming System) through Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) approach. And, she learnt about different modern, farming technologies, preparation of *Jholmol* and compost, integrated pest management, harvesting techniques, nursery management etc. It was the turning point in her journey to commercial vegetable farming. Since then, she started to sell vegetable in the local market Pandusain and Kolti by producing local vegetable in her single span of land.



Figure 1: Potato field of Lopa Karki.

The project supported her iron truss house with green house plastic, seeds etc. to develop a model farm in her village.

Nowadays, she is earning more than NPR 100,000 per year by selling vegetables, potato etc. During the reporting period, she earned NPR 68,000 by just selling potato. The project supported her 30 kg potato of *Cardinal* variety, and a field level agriculture technician regularly assisted her to do inter-culture

operation, weeding, grubbing, composting etc. As result, she produced 17 quintal potato during the reporting year. “We practiced potato farming as dropping in plough line (sunken bed), but the actual practice is to cultivate it by making raised beds (*ukera*). And, we did the correct one this year, and made higher production” said Mrs. Karki. “I am happy to engage in SIFS class as we learnt modern farming, thanks to the agencies which involve in the project” she further added.



Figure 2: Mrs. Karki is happy with unexpected potato production.

The project is doing such efforts to uplift the rural livelihoods in the target region.

3. Local government's journey to public hearing

The new constitution declared Nepal as a federal republic by reforming the administrative structures as Rural/ Municipality, Province and the Federal government. Each rural/ municipality further divided into wards, the immediate service provider to the community having team of five politically elected representatives. The new structure itself is very good and convenient to the people but all the systems could not satisfactorily function due to capacities of elected representatives, lack of access in require laws and directives, insufficient personnel etc.

Previously, most of the ward level representatives did not know about the public hearing provisions of ward, even some of the rural/ municipal executive member unknown about the system. It has provisioned in Good Governance and Administration At, 2064 and Regulation, 2065 and Local Government Act 2074 that all the public service offices have to organize public hearing programs in every fourth quarter, but the local government and its service units did not follow the rule in the first year of establishment of local government.

The project, "*Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security Resilience of Disadvantaged Population Groups in Mugu and Bajura District, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA)*", has started to support to organize public hearing of wards and *Palikas* since its inception in 2018. And then, the project supported to organize the programs each year upto 2021. The project has been many times convinced local governing units about the public hearing/ public audit should be done as per policy, some of them now are convincing and organizing the public hearing programs themselves.



Figure 1: public hearing program of Budhinanda Municipality Ward# 3.

"The plan and expenditure of the local government transparently discussed for the year 2076/77" said Ram Bahadur Bohara, ward chairperson of Budhinanda Municipality Ward# 3. *"It fostered ownership among the public and I felt comfortable to publish the yearly budget as being an elected public servant"*, he further smiled and added. Previously, it was practice of deciding about the public hearing in meeting minute with the presence of only service providers, but after the efforts of the project, the service centers such as ward, *Palika*, projects (e.g. construction project) regularly as well as periodically organize

the public hearing in the presence of right holder. *“I heard that public hearing of Budhnanda Municipality never organized till date”* said Sher Bahadur Budha, Chief Executive Officer of Budhinanda Municipality. *“But we organized a public hearing program in close coordination with PeaceWin, the project, other working organization for the fiscal year 2077/78, and I would like to commit for continuation of the same in coming days”* added Mr. Budha.



Figure 2: Public hearing program of Budhinanda Municipality.

The public hearing is one the most crucial activity as it secure the right to information of the right holders. If the programs conducted by the service providers transparently discussed in the public forum, it will foster the ownership. *“We can able to choose the appropriate plan (yojana) whether it is suitable, if the ward announces the accomplished plan through such program (public hearing)”* said Jangabir Rokaya, a citizen from Budhinanda# 3, Bhulena.

4. Community Score Card- A good practice of accountability

Community people directly received the services from their ward offices after the federal reconstruction. They feel comfortable to claim their rights because the service providers are their own representatives compared to previous structure. Ward offices issue various recommendation as well as provide social service allowances from their respective offices. It is possible after the federal reformation in the administrative structure of Nepal. The structure has been divided as Rural/Municipality,



Figure 1: Participants ranked the status of services

Province and Federal Government. The rural/municipality further divided into different wards, which became an immediate service provider to the grass-root level level community, has a team of 5 politically elected government representatives as per the Nepal Constitution as well as Local Government Operation Act, 2074.

The new structure itself very good and convenient to serve the people. However, the newly elected structure could not deliver the services immediately as well as in required quality due to lack of various structures such as insufficient personnel etc. Even ward representatives did not clearly know about what actual provisions enshrined in local government operation act, 2074. In the early stage of the structure formed, most of wards did not have its own office, all of them functioned from *Palika* office.

समुदायिक अंक पत्र
 सेवा प्रदायक सेवा र सेवा ग्राही बीच आफ्नै आफ्नै दलाल
 बुद्धिना मुगु र बाजुरा जिल्ला

14 Feb 2024

क्र.सं	सामा सुचकहरू	सेवा प्रदायक				प्र.सं	कारण	प्रस्तावित सुधार कार्य योजना	कठिने अर्थ	निष्कर्ष
		पारदर्शिता	गोपनीयता	समय	व्यय					
1	सिफारिस सेवा	5	78	5	5	सिफारिस अड्डाहरू अभाव	निरन्तरता दिने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
2	ब्यक्तिगत घटना बर्त	5	48	5	5	संलग्न रजिस्ट्रार कार्यालयमा आवेदन गर्ने ठाउँ अभाव	संलग्न ठाउँमा सेवा दिने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
3	खाना निका सुचक सेवा	5	5	5	5	निकास अड्डा अभाव	निकास अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
4	सोपाना सेवा	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
5	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
6	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
7	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
8	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
9	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
10	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
11	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
12	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
13	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	
14	सोपाना अनुमान	5	70	5	5	सोपाना अड्डा अभाव	सोपाना अड्डा बनाउने	आजै देखि	बुद्धिना	

Figure 2: CSC Scoring along with improvement plan.

The project "Strengthening food and nutrition security resilience of disadvantaged population groups in Mugu and Bajura districts, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA)", implemented through BMZ Germany, Welthungerhilfe and PeaceWin partnership, was worked in Budhinanda Municipality and Himali Rural Municipality of Bajura district. The project was worked with local government to promote good governance through various accountability tool in the project region. Analyzing the ongoing situation, the project introduced community score card (CSC) to enhance accountability and better service provision in all wards of the target region. CSC is an accountability tool in which both service provider as well as citizen directly involve to rank the status of the service delivery system. Initially, there were long list of the services that ward offices lack to proper delivery to the people throughout the CSC, the basic services have been prioritized and ranked as per appropriateness of delivery. Most of the indicators were ranked below of the average. Immediately action plans were prepared for the improvement. The action plan regularly followed-up by the monitoring groups (formed during the CSC practice) till the end of the project. In beginning, even people were facing the problem on recommendation services, to get vital registration etc. Till the end, some of the indicators having 100% achievement such as vital registration, recommendation services were abandoned from the indicator list. It is possible due to regular review and follow-up for the improvement in the CSC practice

"We found the successful way to serve the local people after CSC practice" said Krishna Raj Padhya, ward chair of Budhinanda# 5. "We youths get a platform to raise the development issue for the betterment of services", said Keshar Bohara, a youth leader of Budhinanda# 10.

5. A chekdam protects the productive land and community lives

"A few years ago seasonal floods from Baddigaad khola affected the general life as well as farmland covering nearly 10 hectares of our village (Budhinanda#1, Bajedi)", said Pradip Jaishi, user's committee chairperson of Bajedi Checkdam Construction Users Committee, Budhinanda#1, Bajedi Gaau. "It was our headache to think when and how much our land splash by the floods", added by Mr. Jaishi. "We thank to the agencies who supported us to construct gabion, and our village and farmland are somehow protected from unexpected floods", added Mrs. Kalpana Joshi from the same village.



Figure 1: Gabion protection wall construction in Budhinanda#1, Bajedi

Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security Resilience of Disadvantaged Population Groups in Mugu and Bajura Districts, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA) project was being implemented by PeaceWin with the financial and technical support of German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

(BMZ) and Welthungerhilfe from November 2017 to April 2022. The major thematic areas of the project are good governance promotion, livelihood and value chain development, nutrition awareness and awareness on disaster risk reduction (DRR).

The project strengthened the local level representatives, local governing authorities, community members, as well as local stakeholders in the field of DRR. It supported to construct gabion protection walls (check-dam) in landslide/ flood prone areas as well.



Figure 2: Gabion wall constructed in the starting of Dansaghu Khola, which affects the villages of downstream, Bajedi village is one of them.

The project team visited the landslide/flood affected areas of the project region after the floods damaged village land as well as farmland in Bhadra 2077 in the river way of Baddigad Khola. It found out some affected area to construct the bioengineering structure, Bajedi was one of them. The team discussed with the community people for the possibility of gabion wall construction in January 2021. Community people demanded the same and the project immediately conducted feasibility study, design and estimation by hiring an external consultant. Then, the users' committee formed and the project allocated the budget of NPR 1,060,000 and supported total 125 gabions (2*1*1 sized machine made) for construction works. And then, constructed 110 m long gabion wall in the river bank of Bajedi village with the community contribution NPR 171,966 as kind support totaling NPR 1,331,966 budget. There is more than 5-hectare area protected and 58 households (250 population) benefitted from the structure.

6. Colors of life is changing

"The color of my child has changed nowadays" said Juna Jethara, 31, from Budhinanda Municipality ward #7, Kalegadh village. Ms. Jethara is an active member of Rishidev Farmer Group of the same village formulated by BMZ Germany and *Welthungerhilfe* funded *"Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security Resilience of Disadvantaged Population Groups in Mugu and Bajura Districts, Western Nepal (SAMPURNA in Nepali branding, NPL 1042- 16) Project*. She has 5 family members including 3 son, one daughter and husband.

Her youngest son, born on August/ September 2018 was suffered from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), while the nutrition condition measured by nearest Female Community Health Volunteer (FCHV) due to lack of nutritious food during pregnancy period and lack of supplementary food to the child. *"I didn't use nutritious food during the pregnancy period and I did not have knowledge about supplementary feeding after 6 month of child birth due to poor economic condition of my family and we don't have sufficient land for the production"*, she added. *"His condition was good, but after 6 months he was being underweight and his mother didn't able to breastfeed properly because of lack of insufficient lactation"*- replied Aaite Jethara,



age 38, husband of Mrs. Juna Jethara. The Jethara family fed their child only semi-liquid food (Jaaulo) in those days.

Ms. Jethara regularly join the farmers' field schools conducted by the project staffs from the beginning of the project. While the project staffs came to know the malnutrition status of his child, the project staff facilitated FCHV to measure malnutrition condition of the child on August 2019. The project team facilitated about positive deviance cases to Ms. Jethara and other members of the farmer groups on September 2019. The team listed the possible solutions for the case in discussion with Pandusain health center and FCHV. Health center provided lactogen and other nutritional supplements for daily use, and was doing regularly follow-up.

The project taught her about sustainable integrated farming system (SIFS) through regular farmer field school (FFS). SIFS aims to integrate the farming system amid crops, livestock, fisheries and natural resources to obtain ideally zero wastage in resource optimization scenario in the same land and, it is the most important point that SIFS promotes food diversity and nutrition security. The project supported her some agri-inputs such as greenhouse plastic, nursery plastic, watering can, garden pipe, sprinkler, varieties of seeds as well as skilled up about home-gardening practices, nursery preparation, cooking of nutritious food, feeding practices, as well as appropriate breast feeding practices etc. And, the project also advised her to meet the health centers and FCHV regularly. *"I produced variety of vegetables in my garden and used the vegetable regularly for my children and family"*, she said.



The SAM boy appeared in moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) during the measurement on July 2020 and he has appeared in normal nutrition condition now. Ms. Jethara able to sufficient breastfeed to her child and regularly made supplementary food for her malnourished children during the SAM/MAM conditions. It is possible due to the project taught about multi-storied cropping system, advantages of food diversity and good feeding behavior and natural resources in the regular SIFS classes and LANN classes. *"My child is in normal health condition now, thanks to the project team and health personnel to solve the severe problem of my family"*, added Mr. Aaite Jethara.

