

A Fact Finding Study on a Project Implementing Under Nepal Development Marketplace 2008

Waste Banana Stump Based Micro Enterprises

Mirgaulia-5, Morang

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**Application of Banana Sumps for
Consumable Product Generation, Income
Generation, Energy Generation, Organic
Fertilizers Production and Sustainable
Rural Development in Nepal**

Waste Banana Stups Based Micro Enterprises

1. Background

A proposal on Application of Banana Sumps for Consumable Product Generation, Income Generation, Energy Generation, Organic Fertilizers Production and Sustainable Rural Development in Nepal developed by Nepal's one of renowned Person Dr. Ridhi Bir Sing for Sana Kishan Sahakari Sansthan Limited of Mirgaulia-5, Morang. The majority of this organization's members are not only the poor but also have their small land holding size. Dr. Singh developed the proposal for NDM-2008 and was awarded under Nepal Development Market Place to carry out the project activities in Mirgaulia-5, Morang as pilot phase for the period of one year from 1 July, 2008 to 30 June, 2009. This



report describes mainly on undertaken activities like technology transformation through organizing trainings, status of social mobilization, situation of installed machines, and other tangible results from this observation and interaction with executive members of this project at site. This report is prepared in this shape after paying a number of visits in these areas where we carried out formal and informal interaction meetings with beneficiaries including project beneficiaries.



2. Objectives

1. The main objective of the field visit was to assess their overall progress and evaluate internally from PAF side so that we can assist management to take decisive decision on
 - a. Firstly, extending its project period which has been dead after date on 30 July, 2009;
 - b. Secondly, releasing its second payment which is pending still due to crossed the deadline of its contract situation and lack of communication and reporting from project implementing partner side;
 - c. and consequently release its final payment or not;
2. The routine monitoring whether it satisfy the proposed activities or not in line with project objectives;
3. Also assess the tangible impact after this observation in project sites;



3. Methodological Approach

The mission adopted standard procedure suitable for fact finding study on this project. It is based on an analysis of the project agreement documents, submitted progress report, findings of previous visit. Besides these in the field work, undertaken individual interview with the project team members, representatives of the NGOs: Cooperative Organization involved in the project field operation and dialogues with the beneficiaries in the project sites.



4. Original Project Planning

In brief, the project concept is the combination of four core elements in the heart of which is social mobilization of the poverty target group who harvest banana farming or small farmer members of cooperative at local level. These are promoted by economic measures for economic generation and training on technical as well as organizational matter to become self-reliant in managing operation of this project.

The entire project activities start up beginning with the banana stumps after harvesting banana fruits. The following steps will be carried out.

Unit-I

Collect banana stumps;

- a. Cut down stumps and leaves as per required shape and size;
- b. Feed cutting pieces into the decorator machines;

Produce raw banana fiber from the machine

- c. Further process to generate fine fiber thread
- d. Fiber is spanned by machine to produce yarn

Produce weave cloths using such a yarn

- e. Dyed to produce value added product by using natural color;
- f. Banana fiber , yarn and other products can be produced for farm yard economic activities

Unit-II

Use of banana slug, which is by product of decorate machine, to product bio gas

- g. Wasted banana slug feed directly to bio-gas plant;
- h. Regular operation of plant generate bio-gas energy;

Unit-III

- i. The effluent of the plant will be recovered to generate the bio-fertilizer
- Organized interaction meeting with beneficiaries of project and organization staff at project site;
- Observed the physical progress: like trainee made banana thread and decorative weaver products, functioning bio-gas; and other machine which is being installed in site;
- Site verification whether or not installation of require machine to run this project (thread making machines, extension of 3-phase line, under constructing project site such as toilet, boundary wall, main gate, bio-gas plant as per mentioned in proposal;

1. Visited Schedule

SN	Date	Undertaken Jobs (Assigned)	Night Stop/Remarks
1	9 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Back to Biratnagar on reserved maruti van’;▪ Communicating and gathering information about visit ;▪ Preparing for Mirgauliya visit;▪ Stayed at Biratnagar hotel;	Biratnagar
2	10 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Taken reserved Maruti Van for a day▪ Moved to Mirgaulia▪ Observed the site and monitoring its various machines which have been installed there;▪ Conducted meeting and interacted with the key person of the organization sharing about the delaying matter; given suggestions▪ About 80 % activities have completed such as▪ Returned back to Birtnagar after 3 hours meeting▪ Back to Biratnager hotel ;	Biratnagar
3	11 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Moved to Birtamode (on reserved van to reach)▪ Stayed at Birtamod, Jhapa;	Birtamod

2. Recent Monitoring

The visit was made from PAF side by Prabin Manandhar from (7-11) January, 2010 at Mirgaulia-5, Morang district.

This was probably third visit from PAF. Two previously completed field visits were also paid on different occasions from the staff of Poverty Alleviation Fund, Nepal.



3. A Summary Achievement

During the visit the following progresses have seen:

- Have installed thread making machines (number-two);
- Being upgraded physical structures such as thread making building, improving the boundary wall with used of bricks and cement with a view to protect the project site and the main entrance gate (iron) etc;
- Have installed bio-gas plant and also have tested bio-gas production ;
- Being started to make thread from banana waste product, a above picture is the sample production made from banana waste stumps;
- A series of trainings have also been conducted under the technical supervision from Dr. Ridhi Bir Singh; It is come to known through the interaction with concerned beneficiaries, it has also been come to know that Dr. himself visited and spent and supervised throughout the period while undertaking activities;



- Locals' people have trained on spinning thread from raw threads and product weaving from such thread; the picture below showing some handcraft product being shaped its final. It has created local employment



- Similarly, for the observation of the site , the study member also discussed on encountered problems while giving this shape
 - Lack of communication between consultant and this organization;
 - Tarai Bandh, make it delayed to operate in time;
 - Lack of supervision from the side of Dr. Ridhi Bir Singh and not fulfill commitment what he has mentioned in the contract papers;
- The picture of project site where construction of toilet and site of bio-fertilizer collection site after producing bio gas the slug used for fertilizer known as bio fertilizer very good for using in farm land.



4. Interaction with chairperson of the project

- Chairperson represents from poorest of the poor community
- Very positive and innocent to run this project and fully dependent on consultant who conceived this project;



- The first picture shows the test of bio gas plant, while the second one is inspecting spinned making from raw thread of banana stumps;

5. Impressive Remarks

Personally, I am very impressive with this project and fulfilled the following milestones

- Ownership felt by organization of the poorest of the poor farmers;
- From this project, there is tremendous opportunity to replicate this technology in other districts or location where banana farming exist;
- This project will create employment for 9 to 10 local people as permanently;
- Waste banana stumps used innovatively turning to cash and produce bio gas and organic fertilizer further widen not only for revenue increasing but also helps to increase agriculture production with use of bio fertilizers;



6. Summary Conclusions

- Release its second installment which is being pending since more than six months;
- Contract agreement to be extended additional four months before releasing second installment;
- Third installment can be released after paying one more visit;