

# Monitoring Report of (Low Cost Organic Farming a new way of life.) NDM Project 2008, Lalitpur , Lubu

## Description of the Project:

The sustainable Low-Cost Organic Farming ILOFTRE project is intended to promote the economic viability of organic farming, wind mill and solar powered irrigation; and renewable energy bio-gas; as an appropriate method and technology for increasing participation by the communities of Lubhu, Tikathali, Siddhipur and surroundings; and small farmers in the farming sector. ILOFTRE will also provide a model for promoting environmental management and improved nutrition both in rural and urban communities.

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disproportionately impacted small farm communities of Lubhu and surrounding area. A growing awareness of environmental injustices and health sacrificing exploitation has spawned an embryonic environmental justice movement all over the country. The movement needs to solve the technical problems related to environmental degradation. This ILOFTRE could serve as a foundation for widespread economic, environmental and health problem solving.

## Status of the Project

Most of the work as per the project document has been successfully completed. The construction of the two model farm has been almost completed. Resource mobilization is satisfactory. Vegetable produced from the farm has been sold. Initial Market contact has

been established (The organic Product has been sold to Samit Hotel). There is high demand for the organic product and so far there is no problem of market.



### Comments/ Remarks / Issues to be Address:

- The completion of the model organic integrated farm that included the proposed bio gas plant, the solar energy and wind mill.
- The dissemination of the know how to the local community as envisaged in the proposal.
- Coordination with the local bodies (DDC and VDC), line agencies, other donors that are dedicated to child welfare and Organic Agriculture.
- The measurement of achievement in terms project documents (Social Cohesiveness, Economic Farming, Environmental aspect in terms of natural resources used.



### Suggestions/ Recommendations for Future:

The construction of must be completed stipulated project resources must be as stated in the The successful spread to the population as per



the model farm within the period. Additional met to complete it project documents. practice must estimated project documents.

Also as per the vision of the document the sign of the sustainability must be depicted to run the orphanage by the proposed model organic farm. Before the end of the project period. Another concerned is the propagation of the know-how to the targeted areas which is still not up to the expectation and as per the project documents. The social



impact which was promised in the project documents are also yet to be documented. The concrete plan for its sustainability as well as for the replication to other parts of the country is also not visible. This is very significant for the PAF and it must come at the end of the project

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The recent food-price hike and the contribution rising fuel prices have made to it highlight the importance of making agriculture less energy and external input dependent. Enhanced transition to sustainable forms of agriculture in general and organic agriculture in particular, needs to be part of an effective response strategy to escalating food prices and environmental pollution. To foster organic farming, partnerships between farmers, farmer groups, NGOs and CBOs, organic movement organizations, governments and certifying bodies at all levels is of utmost importance. In order to facilitate the spread of organic agriculture there is a need to work at all levels: local national and international, as well as to encourage more links between governments, NGOs and the private sector.

Organic farming is not directly and specifically supported by government and agricultural policy in most Nepal; indeed, it is sometimes actively hindered by policies advocating the use of high-input farming management practices. If organic agriculture and its associated positive side-effects are to be scaled up, an enabling policy environment is critical. Integrated organic farming, whether certified or non-certified, is more management- and knowledge-intensive, and so necessitates building the learning and cooperative capacity

of individuals and groups. This requires investment in developing the social capital at the local level if organic agriculture is to spread.

In retrospect, it can be stated that ILOFTRE can increase agricultural productivity and raise incomes with low-cost, locally available and appropriate technologies, without causing environmental damage. Furthermore, evidence shows that organic agriculture can build up natural resources, strengthen communities and improve human capacity, thus improving food security by addressing many different causal factors simultaneously. Improving agricultural sustainability through adoption of organic agriculture in Nepal may not be a solution to all the food problems, but considerable progress has been made in recent years.

Whether organic farming will result in enough food to meet current and future needs in response to continued population growth and development in Nepal can never be totally certain, but is certainly a step in the right direction. Evidence indicates that productivity in organic farming can grow over time. With further specific support, the benefits to food security and related natural, social and human capital improvements to could spread to much larger numbers of farmers and rural people in the coming decades.



Not to say, ILOFTRE is getting increasing attention from various academic, farmers, researchers and development stakeholders in Nepal. There are indeed several challenges and constraints ahead due to the weak enabling environment, lack of research information and marketing infrastructure. However, organic agriculture has maintained its pace of development and recognition within the country and outside. Many actors i.e. government organizations, NGOs, private sector and farmers are involved in different steps of organic agriculture promotion and consolidation. All these efforts from several stakeholders would provide a strong backing in the days to come for the further

institutionalization of organic agriculture in Nepal. The most important factor that will enable organic agriculture to usefully contribute to food security is the attitude of decision-makers. Organic agriculture must be discussed with an open mind, with the advantages and disadvantages being clearly considered.

All in all, ILOFTRE is a model for promoting environmental management and improved nutrition both in rural and urban communities for the improvement in the quality of life through the creation of sustainable communities, able to manage and use resources efficiently, to tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy and in the end ensure peace, prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion and overall development.