

# A Field Study on Project Implementing Under Nepal Development Marketplace 2008

## Going Organic from School to Home

Shankhu, Palubari, Kathamandu



# Going Organic from School to Home

## 1. Context

After going through this visit, we have impressed with the program particularly in the following areas:

Firstly, the project has designed with a view to disseminate technology for organic farming through school students who has taking responsibility to make aware their parents. In this regards, the program has been changed traditional farming system. Some of farmers belong to parents of the students have realized and started doing organic farmers. This organic farming experience makes it clear that sustainable soil improvement and make it healthy environment of this location can only be achieved through the mobilization of the school students into the self interest and desire of a better life.

Secondly, this program itself seems to



motivation program that encourages the local farmers to adopt organic farming through the school children. To achieve this objective, the teachers of that school are going to develop curriculum on organic farming as reference for school students. With that reference the students train and convince who suppose to tell about organic faring first to their parents and hence the knowledge disseminate to the whole villagers and name to be called organic village.

Finally the concept which the program envisaged is to develop a training centre which is being constructed.



## 2. Objectives

The main objective of this visit was to pay final but routine monitoring prior to release its final payment for which that PO had requested;

However, the visit was purposive having set of the following objectives:

- a. Organize meetings along with project beneficiaries and its staff members in Palubari, where going organic from school to home project has been running;
- b. Observe community owned training centre which is situated at Chihandanda; where the concept of organic farm is piloting which is developed as demonstration plot;
- c. Studied on this program in which degree and how the model program could effectively mobilize local people on organic farming successfully and transferred its knowledge from school students to parents and parents to community;
- d. Collects necessary information regarding this programme;



The main objective of this second visit was to verify whether the PO working as per set objectives under NDM agreement or not.

## 3. Project Location

The main project site is in ward no 8 & 9 of Palubari VDC, and Bishambhara, near Shakhu bazaar;

## 4. Duration

The first visit was made on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2009  
The Second visit was made on 20 Kartik, 2066;



## 5. People Accompanied

- Mr. Arun Pandey
- Mr. Pravin Manandhar
- Mr. Manoj Gupta

## 6. Methodological Approach

In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the field visit team adopted the following methodologies

- Organized Meeting with those members who directly involving in this project;
- Carried out field verification at working domain (the main demonstration site) where organic farming is being piloted;
- Made interaction with students which are supposed to be main agent to disseminate this concept starting from their own family ;



## 7. Important Person Met

- Raj Kumar Poudel-Project Support staff
- Govinda Mall Thakuri-Social Mobilizer
- Josh Hardy-Volunteer from USA
- Adrienne Klug-Volunteer from USA
- Krishna Raj Subedi-Chairperson of Cooperative of parents of those whose children are studying in this school;
- Anuj Poudel- Principal of the school
- Gopal Pandit - Cook of the school;

## 8. Summary Achievements

### Under First Visit

Through first observation the training \ demonstration plot (Nursery), we accomplished the followings:

- About 10 ropanies of land is being used for this training sites
- Developed 5 nursery plots and constructed 2 number of ponds within this land ;

- 2 out of 5 nursery sites have been fully covered with plastic sheets and they started to grow organic vegetables;
- 3 out of 5 nursery sites have covered only on the top with plastic;
- Constructed meeting shelters at the centre of this site.

### Under Second Visit

- **Institutional Development:** To this reporting date, 336 households are organized into 19 organic groups with over 50 per cent are representatives from Janjati community particularly from Tamang community; 6 households are from Dalit; so far about 400 ropanies of kitchen garden is being practiced as organic farms. In an average about half ropani land per household using as organic kitchen gardening.
- **Capacity Building:** About 150 targeted farmers have been trained through training on organic farming under 3 events and each event lasted for 1 to 2 days intensive trainings package;
- **Human Resources:** Mrs. Lakpi Sherpa who hired for providing technical backstopping particularly to aware on seasonal vegetable farming plan for 4 months, besides 3 social immobilizers under the leadership of one project coordinator named Mr. Deepak Poudel who is also board member of this organization.
- **Infrastructure:** Under contracted land lease basis, about 10 ropanies of land plot has being used as training centre at Chihandanda. Within the areas, there are two fish ponds with water capacity of 200000 lt. and 5 plastic tunnels which have been constructed. Land area has been fenced. Under tunnel so far different varieties of fresh vegetables like Capsicum, tomato, cucumber, radish, brinjal, bitter gourd, cauliflower are being produced with adaptation of organic farming ways and started to sell at local market too;. This is a demonstration site as a part of proposal.
- **Linkage/coordination/cooperation:** besides Lakpi Sherpa, the project has facilitated by establishing linkage with District Agriculture Office from which JTA and Agriculture scientist who were visited the site and backstopped when necessary.
- **District Agriculture Office** has recently donated a large sum of equipments like power trailers; threshers, generators to Sankhu Palubari Cooperative Ltd as a result of motivation to organic farming;

## 9. Results/Impact

- The community owned chihandanda demonstration site was visited by many visitors with learning purpose; recently a team organized by DAO, over 75 farmers who represented from 75 districts, has also been visited in this site.
- Sankhu Palubari Cooperative Ltd that belongs to 19 groups has also started collecting various types of non-pesticide vegetables from the community people of Sankhu and started selling it in the market of Kathmandu city.
- Formed four organic clubs from the schools of Sankhu Palubari and Bishambhara with a view to create awareness about advantage of organic farming;
- Developed school curriculum approved through to disseminate the knowledge on advantages of organic farming at students level hence transfer into their parents and parents to their neighborhood;
- At training centre informal classes are beginning;
- District Agriculture Office has recently donated a large sum of equipments like power trailers; threshers, generators to Sankhu Palubari Cooperative Ltd as a result of motivation to organic farming;



## 10. Visited Schedule

### 03 March, 2009 (First Visit)

- Moved to Sankhu on office vehicle;
- Arrived at Palubari Village , Santol VDC in Kathmandu
- Organized meeting to understand on going programme activities;
- Interaction made with the representatives;
- Observed demonstration plot where organic farming is being piloting;
- Carried out meeting with students of school who involved in this project;

### 2066.07.20 (Second Visit)

- Arrived to Sankhu around 9.30am in the morning to monitor **Going Organic from School to Home** NDM project that carried out by '**Hoste Ma Haise**' under NDM..
- Organized meetings with key stakeholders and also with staff members, about 12 participants were presented during the interaction;
- Observed training centre which is situated at Chihandanda, takes 1 hours sharp ascending distance from Palubari office.

## **11. Comments/Remarks/Issues to be address**

Found, there are no fundamental serious issues that to be addressed. Due to absence of core representatives from Hoste Ma Haise, found that implementing PO has shown less presence, is being lacked in coordination with them. However, the study team found satisfactorily.

## **12. Summary Conclusions**

- Release its third installment only after receiving audit report;
- Activities according to project agreement is completed