

IMPACT EVALUATION

Evaluation of the Impact of Food for Assets on Livelihood Resilience in Nepal

A Mixed Method Impact Evaluation

Annex Vol II – VDC Profiles

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Prepared by IOD PARC with Rupantaran Nepal:

Sheelagh O'Reilly, International Team Leader, Vijay Shrestha, Evaluator and National Team Leader, Michael Flint, Evaluator and Rupantaran, Nepal Field Team

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Table of Contents

VDC, DISTRICT	PAGE NO.
Impact of Road Network Improvements on Livelihoods, Dadeldhura.....	3
VDC Profile: Bhadrapur, Dadeldhura.....	8
VDC Profile: Chipur, Dadeldhura.....	12
VDC Profile: Samejee, Dadeldhura.....	16
VDC Profile: Chhumchaur, Jumla.....	20
VDC Profile: Depalgaun, Jumla.....	24
VDC Profile: Kudari, Jumla.....	28
VDC Profile: Bharta, Kalikot.....	32
VDC Profile: Daha, Kalikot.....	36
VDC Profile: Lalu, Kalikot.....	40
VDC Profile: Harjang, Rolpa.....	44
VDC Profile: Uwa, Rolpa.....	48
VDC Profile: Wadachaur, Rolpa.....	52
VDC Profile: Khanbu, Udayapur.....	56
VDC Profile: Rauta, Udayapur.....	60
VDC Profile: Sirise, Udayapur.....	64
Acronyms.....	68

Note: Throughout the VDC profile the figures given for food (in metric tonnes) and cash distributed values here are taken from data provided by WFP. Field based data was not always complete due to limited availability of data at VDC level.

Impact of Road Network Improvements on Livelihoods, Dadeldhura.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 50 people in total. Including representatives from many VDCs; officials, shop owners, teachers and local people.

Time Frame: 1998 - 2002

Start Date: 1998

Finish Date: 2002

Beneficiaries: The whole community benefited. Micro projects targeted marginalised households, while the road network has benefitted everyone economically either directly or indirectly.



Many people were interviewed about the impact of the roads on their lives including officials and members of the public.

Road Network Situation Summary

Many roads have been constructed within the last 15 years with funding from WFP and others. These roads have contributed to livelihood improvements through increased mobility of people and goods and subsequent markets that have developed. Entrepreneurs have seized opportunities to set up businesses which have thrived in some cases.

Small, livelihood developments which were set up as auxiliary projects to the road developments have been successful only in the short term, with insufficient support to ensure long term improvements.

Road maintenance is also an issue which needs addressing to ensure long term impacts are safeguarded.



Many sections of road not only link populations to markets and each other, but also link resources to them. For example enabling easy access of forest products to the road increases the potential viability of forest enterprises. Similarly, in some places, micro projects were established along the roads to improve the livelihoods of targeted groups with the newly created market access.

Road Section: Bagbazaar to Bagarkot.

What WFP Activities have taken place?

Road track opened in 2000-01.
People initially paid 4kg rice/day. Later paid as a group per distance of road completed (some groups then earned more than 4kg rice/day).
A committee was formed during construction period along with a maintenance fund, but after a few years this ceased to operate.

Other Implementing organisations.

GTZ supported the construction of a bridge and the local VDC provided cash for skilled labour.

The DDC now maintains this road and RRR are implementing a gravelling project on some sections.

Transport services development.

Ugratara Transport company began a jeep service from Bagbazaar to Bagarkot from 2004, which now provides a regular service.

From 2008 a bus service from Mahendra nagar to Bagrakot via Dadeldhura began running (one bus/day).



Movement of people and livestock has been improved as well as building materials and other goods. Journey times have also been shortened.



The road between Bagbazaar and Bagrakot is earthen and was constructed in 2000-01.



Trade related construction along road.

Livelihood impacts of roads:

Access to markets for sale of locally produced goods has been enabled, as well as markets and transport routes for construction materials and food etc.

Transportation costs and times have been reduced.

Access to health facilities, including ambulance services, has been increased.
Increased market access has increased CFUG activities, including more active forest management including resin tapping, increasing local employment and incomes.
As a result of improved access, markets have increased in size and customer numbers, allowing further economic development and enterprising.

Before road construction it was a three hour walk to reach the district headquarters and transportation was only possible with mules.

Focus: Lal Bahadur Bisht's Story.

Lal Bahadur Bisht initiated a transport business in Bagarkot, initially with one tractor, with himself as the driver. 2 years later he was able to purchase a second tractor and expanded his business to include vegetable production. Another 2 years later he sold one of his tractors and bought two jeeps which he now manages, providing local transport services and employment.

Livelihood Improvement, Mirco-Project

The Dalit community of Bagarkot formed the Dhaulamati group (22 HHs) and through coordination with the VDC a patch of fallow land was allocated for the group to cultivate vegetables and create a mango plantation. Land preparation and plantation was supported by WFP, an irrigation pond and community hall for social mobilization were also constructed. The group functioned well for the first few years which a watcher being employed and social mobilisation from local partner. But once these supports were removed the cultivation area and plantation were not maintained and ownership/management was not continued.



Business development including transport services improve mobility of people/goods and provide employment.



The mango plantation fell into disrepair after support from various sources was removed.

Road Section: Pokhara to Belapur.

What WFP Activities have taken place?

Road track opened in 1998.

Food payment was given as a group, based on their performance. Through this system some groups received more than 4kg rice/day and some received less than 4kg rice/day.

A committee was formed during construction period along with a maintenance fund, but after a few years this ceased to operate.

Other Implementing organisations.

The local VDC provided cash (NRs2/kg of rice) for skilled labour for retaining wall construction.

At present the DDC is maintaining this road.

Further, linking roads to other VDCs are also under construction.

Transport services developments.

Ugratara Transport company started a regular jeep service (with two vehicles) from Amargadhi to Belapur.

Trucks are used to transport food and household goods along the road.

Livelihood impacts of roads:

Local markets have developed in Koteli and Manilekh VDCs which lay along the route.

Transportation of construction materials and food is much easier.

Access to markets for sale of locally produced good has been enabled, as well as markets and transport routes for construction materials and food etc.

Transportation costs and times have been reduced.

Access to health facilities, including ambulance services, has been increased.

Increased market access has increased CFUG activities, including more active forest management including resin tapping, increasing local employment and incomes.



The walnut/apple plantation was successful during the initial phase when support was provided by funding agencies. However, after this period it was abandoned and damaged by grazing livestock.



The road has been well constructed in some areas with assistance from technical experts.



Trucks use the roads to transport goods within the VDC as well as to/from markets and settlements.

Livelihood Improvement, Micro-Project

With support from GTZ, the people of Koteli VDC implemented a walnut and apple plantation/orchard. 3000 walnut and 50 apple trees were planted on land selected and deemed suitable. A watcher was appointed and paid for 2½ years by the road project.

The plantation operated well for the first few years with addition of intercropping vegetables by the watcher. When support was withdrawn and the watcher's wages were no longer covered, management stopped and free grazing destroyed much of what had been grown. A lack of management plan and benefit dissemination within the community resulted in a lack of perceived ownership and therefore responsibility for management.

Road Section: Bhatkanda-Asigram

What WFP Activities have taken place?

Road track opened in 2002.

Food payment was given as a group, based on a piece rate.

During the construction of the road, a maintenance committee was formed but only functioned for a few years and was dismissed after the maintenance fund was finished.

Other Implementing organisations.

The local VDC provided cash (NRs2/kg of rice) which was mostly used to pay for skilled labour for retaining wall construction.

The VDC is funding maintenance presently, with the DDC supporting for the provision of a bulldozer in the event of larger landslides.

Link roads to other VDCs are currently under construction, funded by the VDC.

Transport services developments.

Ugratara Transport company started a regular jeep service (with two vehicles) from Amargadhi to Asigram.

Trucks are used to transport food and household goods along the road as well as sand/gravel from the river to the road head.

Livelihood impacts of roads:

Improved transportation of locally produced products e.g. vegetables and beans, sand and gravel from river side to road head.

The opening of a new market place and increased access to markets for rural people for sale/purchase of goods is positive.



Forestry enterprises have been made possible with increased market demand and improved transport of materials.



Markets have developed along the roads e.g. small shops and other facilities. Subsequently income and employment has increased locally.

Conclusions

Road access is the foundation of other developments in rural areas of Nepal. As the mobility of people and products increases, further employment opportunities and livelihood diversity are created.

Maintenance of the roads is crucial, for their on-going contribution to livelihood improvement. Maintenance committees have all ceased to function after a short while due to lack of institutional set-up and linkages.

Livelihood improvement micro-projects also lack sufficient institutional/organisational support/set up to ensure their longevity and continued contribution towards livelihoods.

VDC Profile: Bhadrapur, Dadeldhura.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 45 people in total (15 F/30 M). Bhramin, Chhetri, Dalit, Giri and Thakuri communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Mercy Corps/Nepal Red Cross/Rural Environment Development Centre

Time Frame: between 2 and 4 months (each intervention)

WFP Support: Food (MT): (none)

Cash: 5,698,800¹

CP10093: yes

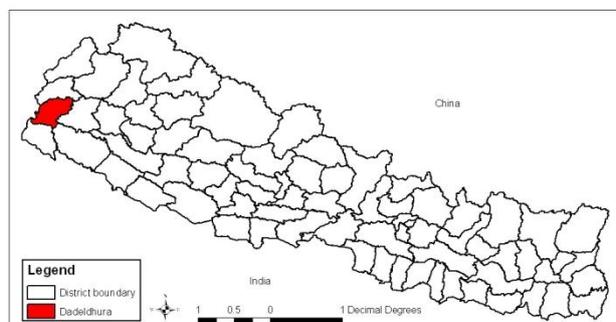
PRRO10676: yes

Start Date: 2008

Finish Date: 2011

Number & types of Assets Created: 11 x community ponds, 2x trails, 1x plantation (fail), 2x community facility, 1x drinking water, 1 x irrigation.

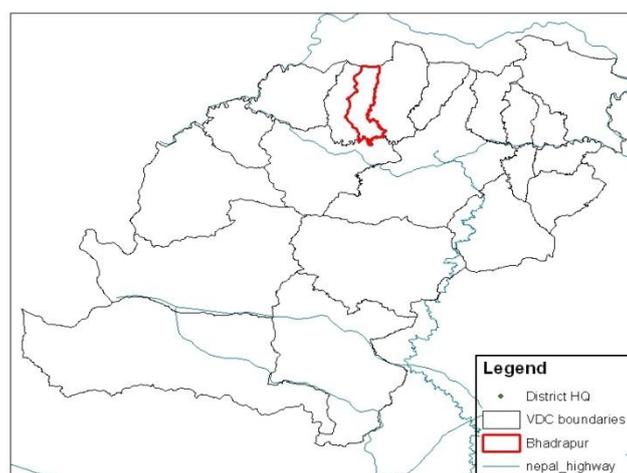
Beneficiaries: Community assets benefiting the local community, the wider community and, in some cases, individuals.



Location of Dadeldhura district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Bhadrapur is located 22KM from the district headquarters (Dadeldhura). A seasonal road is located in the VDC however no regular transport exists. The VDC is a 3 hour walk from the nearest road. The population is 2770 (dominantly Brahmin (38%)) and caste discrimination is still prominent. Literacy is at approximately 66%. 87% of households have access to safe drinking water, 80% to electricity and 80% use toilets. Main cultivated crops are wheat, maize, millet, beans and paddy; mostly in rain-fed fields. Migration to India for work is common and 5-7 families/year migrate to the Terai. There is a sub health post in the VDC. There are two small bazaars; one in Bhadrapur and one in Gunpal.



Location of Bhadrapur VDC within Dadeldhura district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA was carried out in the VDC with the creation of 7 community ponds, 2 drinking water facilities, 2 trails, 1 plantation operation, 1 child development centre, 1 irrigation scheme and 1 school facility.

Implementing Partner(s):

Mercy Corp implemented CFA activities in the VDC through district level NGO partners. In the first phase Nepal Red-Cross Society were the local implementing partner and the Rural Environment Development Centre worked in second phase of the operation. Mercy Corp provided strategic guidance, technical backstopping and monitoring support to local partners. The District level partner facilitated the community to select assets and guided them during asset building.



Community members gather to discuss the impacts of the CFA programme with field staff.



Many of the community ponds designed to supply irrigation water and drinking water are too small for their intended purpose.

Status of Assets created:

Community Pond (Chanali):

Functioning as part of an irrigation system.

Community Pond (Banlek):

Functioning as animal drinking pond – too small for irrigation.

Community Pond (Matela): Semi-functional; used to water cattle and minor use for irrigation.

Community Pond (Thekila): Semi-functional; used to water cattle and minor use for irrigation.

Community Pond (Sirouli): Designed for irrigation, but no supporting infrastructure. Two households use private pipes to irrigate their land.

Community Ponds (x4) (Gunpal): Not functional. Plastic lining was not provided as required.

Community Pond (Danga Pokhari, Gunpal): Functioning well as irrigation source.

Drinking water (Kuinwala): Functional protected water source and reserve water. Created as community asset, but utilised by one individual.

Drinking Water (Gunpal): Not functional; no pipe is supplied to distribute water to settlement.

Trail (Bhadrapur-Matela-Sintola): Since completion has been upgraded to a road with funding from PAF and community.

Trail (Bhadrapur-Gunpal): Since completion has been upgraded to a road with funding from the VDC.

Plantation: Failed. Provision of seedling trees and planting activities, but uncontrolled grazing has destroyed all seedlings.

Child Development centre: Functional as a village clinic/health facility.

Irrigation scheme: Channel functional, but water source insufficient to provide water for irrigation out of rainy season.

School ground: Functioning well as play ground.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Community Ponds: Where functional (Chanali) the whole community benefit from increased production and ability to grow vegetables etc which was previously not possible, adding to their income and nutritional intake. Many ponds provide only enough water for cattle/livestock (Banlek, Matela and Thekila) and a minor amount of irrigation – minor reduction of burden to fetch water for feeding cattle. Some provide irrigation only to a few individuals who are able to adapt the incomplete/dysfunctional asset to benefit themselves (Sirouli) e.g. pipes for personal gain.

Drinking Water: Benefits to one individual as social capital/organisation was insufficient to manage the asset. The dissatisfied majority do not complain for fear of reprisal.

Trails: increased accessibility to markets for sale/purchase of goods. Also visitor access is improved, potentially increasing incomes.

Child Development Centre: Greater access to health services locally for whole community.

Irrigation scheme: Small increase in paddy cultivation productivity as only functional when there is sufficient rainfall.

School ground: Provision of good, safe area for use by school and children to play.

Many assets are non-functional due to being incomplete, poorly designed or badly managed/maintained. No benefits beyond short term employment/food result from these assets.

Effects of Assets on Women

Reduced labour associated with watering livestock. Increased capacity to manage work and money. Also greater confidence gained through consultation of asset choice.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

No benefits specific to disadvantaged groups; some employment/work during construction.



Successful irrigation schemes allow HHs to grow green vegetables which can improve their nutrient intake and their income.



Community members gather to discuss the impacts of the CFA programme with field staff. Women community members are confident to speak out and share their opinions following their involvement in WFP activities.



The trails created with WFP support have since been upgraded by other organisations and have improved access to/from various settlements, allowing ease of movement of people, livestock and goods.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The VDC has development programmes through regular government funding like VDC fund, Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) and as well some line agencies' development programme.

Current Environmental Situation

Seasonal droughts can last for several months (e.g. 8 months in 2011) and cause massive crop loss and health issues for livestock. Landslides also occur in the VDC, often along trails, restricting movement and also occasionally damaging crops.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

A lack of funds for maintenance in some cases, or misuse of maintenance funds e.g. general distribution to community after material purchases and skilled labour wages without the knowledge of project staff.

Users may have to pay for maintenance themselves, however, their lack of capacity in some instances may mean maintenance is inadequate or poor quality.



The drinking water tank at Gunpal is not functional as there was no supporting infrastructure provided with the pond. Therefore water cannot be distributed to the houses where it is needed.



This community pond was not supplied with a plastic lining which was promised to the community. It is therefore not water tight and so offers no benefits for irrigation or livestock water.



The community drinking water pond at Kuinwala has been taken over by one individual who has power and authority within the community. Social systems need to be addressed to ensure that community assets are used to benefit the whole community, as they were intended to.

VDC Profile: Chipur, Dadeldhura.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 73 people in total (35 F/38 M). Bramin, Chhetri, Dalit and Thakuri communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Mercy Corp/Nepal Red Cross Society/Rural Environment Development Centre.

Time Frame: between 2 and 4 months.

WFP Support: Food (MT): (none)

Cash: 5,733,200¹

CP10093: yes

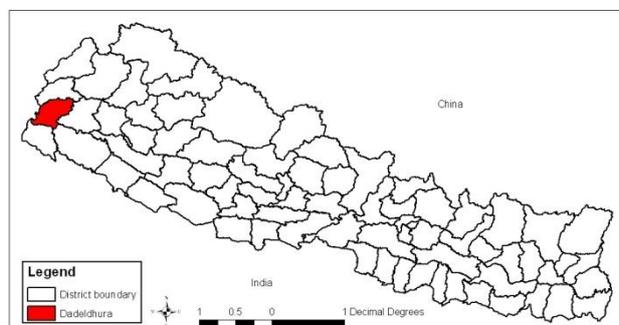
PRRO10676: yes

Start Date: 2009

Finish Date: 2010

Number & types of Assets Created: 3 x drinking water, 2 x community pond, 2x trail, 1 x irrigation and 1 x school wall.

Beneficiaries: Whole communities, targeted, disadvantaged sub-communities and the wider region benefitted from different assets.



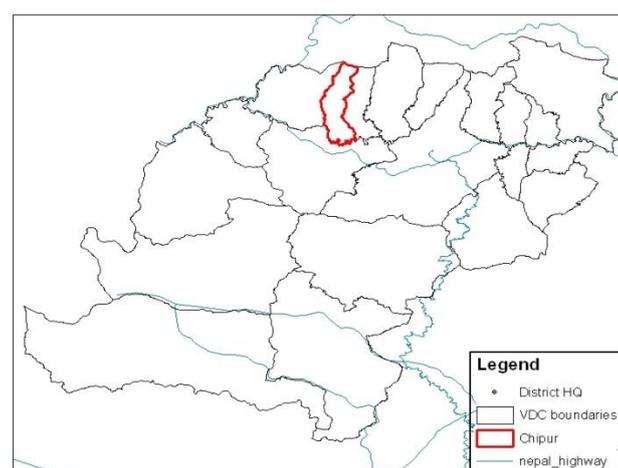
Location of Dadeldhura district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Chipur VDC is located approximately 25KM from the district headquarters (Dadeldhura). A seasonal road exists, however, no regular transport facilities operate so people usually walk for a day to the DHQ, or 4 hours to the nearest road head at Bagarkot VDC. Population is 3012, with 60% Chhetri. Literacy is at approximately 86%. 90%+ of HHs have access to electricity and most use toilets. Data on clean drinking water access is not available.

Wheat, maize, millet, beans and paddy are the main cultivated crops; mostly in rain-fed fields. Approximately 23% have ≤ 3 months food security.

Migration to India for work does occur, however, reliable data is not available. 2-3 families/year migrate to the terai. There is one health post in the VDC and 3 bazaars with small shops.



Location of Chipur VDC within Dadeldhura district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

CFA took place in the VDC with the creation of nine assets. In general all the assets are being used however not all are being used to their full extend due to a range of factors.

Implementing Partner(s):

Mercy Corp was the implementing partner for CFA operations in the VDC which implemented activities through district level NGO partners. In the first phase Nepal Red-Cross Society worked as the local implementing partner and then Rural Environment Development Centre worked in second phase of the operation.



The school wall built with WFP CFA creates a safe environment for children whilst attending school. It is maintained by a school management committee.



The trail built linking Chipur VDC with Bagarkot allows ease of movement of people and goods. This was created as it required no materials to be purchased and so was preferred by the community.

Status of Assets created:

Drinking water (Nwala): Functioning to provide clean drinking water. Used only in the dry season when the water supply in alternative sources is scarce. No functional group, but users maintain it.

Drinking water (Mud): Functional; Providing drinking water to the settlement of Mud including local Chipur bazaar. No formal maintenance system, but user group committee will maintain this asset.

Drinking water (Dhari): Functional; providing clean drinking water to the community. Underground pipes were installed. User group committee maintain the asset.

Community pond (Mud): Functions only after rainfall. This was designed as a storage pond for irrigation water, but water source is too far away and only fills pond in rainy season. No one is responsible to maintain this asset.

Community pond (Tallo Mud): Functioning as intended; to provide animal drinking water. There is no organised maintenance for this asset.

Trail (Chipur-Bagarkot): Functional, allowing people safe access for people to transport goods by foot/mule. Some erosion has occurred in some places. A maintenance fund is available in the bank, but is not being used.

Trail (Chipur-Dhari): Functional; a retaining wall saved the trail from a landslip and has allowed the trail to stay in use. No one maintains this asset.

Irrigation channel: Functioning to allow paddy and wheat cultivation. This asset was only maintenance of a pre-existing channel. No functional group, but users maintain it.

School wall: Functional; compound wall helps provide a safe environment for children whilst attending school. No maintenance fund, but the school maintains this asset.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

The irrigation channel improvement resulted in a slight increase in productivity from paddy, however, as it is only during rainy season benefits are limited.

Trails enable better access for movement of goods and people, e.g. sick people to health post and children to school.

Drinking water provision has improved health and sanitation of users.

Effects of Assets on Women

Cash was given direct to women which empowered them within the community and their HHs. Similarly they were involved in asset groups and user committees, boosting their confidence. Drinking water at Mud reduces burden on women to collect water from further away, saving them time.

Short term employment/food provided.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

The **community pond** at Tallo Mud was targeted to provide drinking water specifically for the Dalit community for watering their livestock. This provides better productivity during the dry season when water is less readily available.

Short-term employment/food was provided during construction.



A women's focus group discussion is held to discuss the specific impact on and involvement of female community members of the assets.



The drinking water facility at Nwala provides clean drinking water to the whole community. It is mainly used during the dry season when alternative water sources are scarce.



The irrigation channel improved with WFP support provides water for paddy and wheat cultivation. However, as it is earthen and the water source is far away, it is only functional in the rainy season.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The VDC has other development programmes with regular government funding like VDC fund, Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) and as well some line agencies' development programmes.

Current Environmental Situation

Droughts can last several months and cause widespread food security issues e.g. in 2011 an 8 month drought caused loss of crops and health problems for livestock.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Dissolution of community groups after asset completion means lack of organisation to mobilise maintenance teams or funds (where they are available); low capacity in terms of skills and availability of/funds to buy materials to maintain some assets.



The drinking water facility created in Mud provides clean water for the whole community. It reduces the burden on women for collecting water from further away. Water sources are scarce.



The community pond at Mud was designed to store water for irrigation, however, it only holds water during the rainy season which massively reduces the benefits it is able to provide.



The community pond at Mud does not hold water apart from during the rainy season. During the dry season, when irrigation water is needed the most, it is not functional.

VDC Profile: Samejee, Dadeldhura.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013.

VDC contact persons: 54 people in total (27 F/27 M). Bramin, Chhetri and Dalit communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Mercy Corp/Nepal Red Cross/Rural Environment Development Centre.

Time Frame: between 2 and 4 months.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 51.8

Cash: 4,791,850¹

CP10093: yes

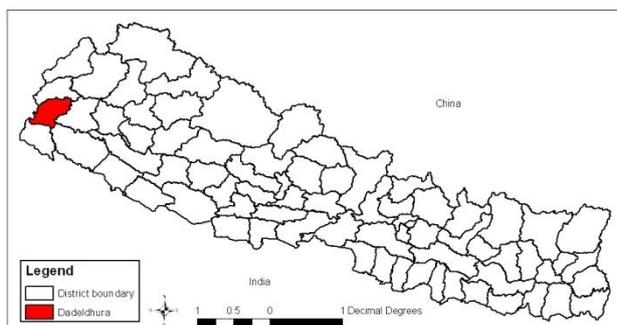
PRRO10676: yes

Start Date: 2008

Finish Date: 2011

Number & types of Assets Created: 3 x irrigation scheme, 2 x road, 2 x school facility, 2 x drinking water, 2 x trail, 1 x bridge, 1 x community facility and 1 x community pond.

Beneficiaries: Some asset benefit selected HHs, some the whole local community and others the wider community. Beneficiary targeting was positive in some cases and poor in others.

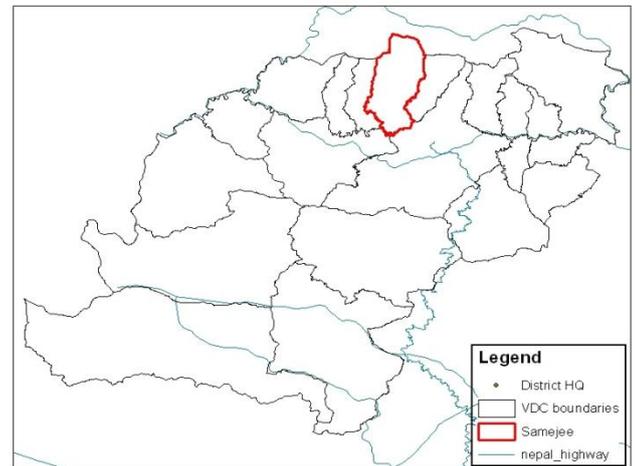


Location of Dadeldhura district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Samejee is located approximately 11KM from the district headquarters (Dadeldhura). A seasonal road exists within the VDC, but no regular transport facilities operate. People walk for 3hrs to the DHQ, or 1hr to the nearest road head at Pokhara bazaar. Population is 2930, with 52% Chhetri. Literacy is at approximately 77%. 89% of HHs have access to clean drinking water and approximately 71% have access to electricity. Wheat, maize, millet, beans and paddy are the main cultivated crops; mainly in rain-fed fields.

Migration to India for work does occur, however, reliable data is not available. 4-5 families/year migrate to the terai. There is a sub health post and three small bazaars in the VDC.



Location of Samejee VDC within Dadeldhura district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

CFA took place in the VDC, implemented through Mercy Corp. in total, 14 assets were constructed in the VDC.

Implementing Partner(s):

Mercy Corp implemented CFA in the VDC through district level NGO partners; in the first phase Nepal Red-Cross Society worked as the local implementing partner and then Rural Environment Development Centre worked in the second phase of the operation.

Mercy Corp provided strategic guidance, technical backstopping and monitoring support to local partners and their field implementation. The District level partner facilitated the community to select the project and guided them to construct the asset as per the plan.



The community pond at Pali is not used as it leaks, it is too small and is not maintained.



The bridge is a community asset improving safe river crossing especially in the rainy season. There is no maintenance however, which may present issues later.

Status of Assets created:

Community pond (Pali): Not being utilised much due to leakage and small size. There is no maintenance for this asset.

Irrigation Scheme (Mahargaun): Functioning to bring water for paddy. No maintenance fund, but users maintain this asset.

Road (Mahargaun): Functioning. Used for access and transportation of goods, livestock and people. Minor maintenance is carried out by users.

School Facility (Pali): Well constructed school building being used as classroom. The school management committee manage this asset.

Bridge (Mudrad): Functioning well to ease crossing of river. Materials were provided by the VDC. There is no maintenance fund or group responsible for maintaining this asset.

Community Building (Puilek): Functioning well as community meeting building. Mostly funded by USAID, VDC and cooperative. No official maintenance group/fund but maintained by the community.

Drinking Water (Pali): Functioning as a water source during dry season. No maintenance fund/group but users maintain this asset.

Irrigation Scheme (Mudrad): Functioning but used only by upper caste families. Created with local materials and skills so easier to maintain; being maintained by users.

School Facility (Mudrad): Functioning and being used as a Primary School.

Trails: Generally functional; one section completed and vehicle accessible, but one section only useable by pedestrians. Minor maintenance tasks carried out by users, but no fund/maintenance group organised.

Drinking Water (Silangi): Renovation work. Functional; providing clean water for whole community. A maintenance fund is used by the drinking water committee to maintain this.

Irrigation Scheme (Silangi): Renovation work, but now damaged by landslides in several places so not used and not maintained due to lack of capacity.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation has increased productivity to some degree where functional. Dry season availability of water for feeding livestock provides some benefit. HH targeting could be improved as benefits are not always shared equally (e.g. Mudrad irrigation).

Drinking water facilities are used to increase vegetable production in home gardens as well as improving health and sanitation and reducing burden of collecting water.

Trails improve access and transport of goods/livestock.

The **school building** provides easy access to education for local children.

The **bridge** makes crossing the river easier, especially in monsoon, providing better access within the VDC.

The **community building** provides a place for the community to hold meetings including collection centre for vegetables, building community unity/social capital.

Effects of Assets on Women

Empowerment of women was achieved through their participation in asset creation e.g. female chair of asset building committee. They also received the payments of the work and so were able to decide how to spend it.



A womens group focus group meeting is held to discuss matters relating specifically to female community members with regards to WFP programme activities.



The second phase of trail creation allows pedestrian access within the VDC. Minor maintenance tasks are carried out by users, however, major maintenance such as after significant landslips are beyond their capacity.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

The Dalit community in Mudrad say that although they were consulted in the first phase of WFP work, they were not for the second phase and upper caste communities made the decisions about asset creation/management. This Dalit community is therefore disillusioned about caste equality. Drinking water facility (Pali) targeted the Dalit community and is used exclusively by them for drinking and kitchen garden irrigation.

Some assets were created with full Dalit input/consultation empowering them and instilling some level of caste equality.



Caste discrimination still exists in Samejee VDC. Here two drinking water facilities exist, uphill is a source for upper caste people, and downhill is a source for Dalits.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The VDC had other development programmes with regular government funding like VDC fund, Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) as well as some other line agencies' development programmes. During the project period a USAID funded project also worked in the VDC.

Current Environmental Situation

Landslides have occurred on several occasions in different locations. These have caused damage to trails, irrigation channels and dross.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Lack of capacity, both skills and/or financial provisions, to purchase materials/cover wages to maintain damaged assets e.g. after landslides. Lack of maintenance group organisation and mobilisation for some assets (primarily community assets with no one taking responsibility for asset maintenance).



The drinking water facility at Pali provides clean drinking water, mainly used in the dry season for drinking and kitchen garden irrigation.



The community building in Puilek provides a meeting place for community groups and encourages social capital development.



Mudrad's irrigation channel is used exclusively by upper caste HHs for irrigation. Dalit community members were not involved in consultation regarding this asset's implementation and gain no benefit from it.

VDC Profile: Chhumchaur, Jumla.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 30 people in total (24M/6F) including user group chairs/members, project chairs, teachers and a plant nursery manager. All were Chhetri.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: IDE/DEPROSC-Nepal/The Mountain Institute/Dolphu Institute/Institute for Community Development/World Vision/Save the Children/Nepal Red Cross Society, Jumla

Time Frame: Between 45 days and 9 months.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 69.99

Cash: (none)

CP10093: No

PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2008

Finish Date: 2011

Number & types of Assets Created:

Beneficiaries: Generally the whole community – geographical targeting rather than targeting groups or individuals.

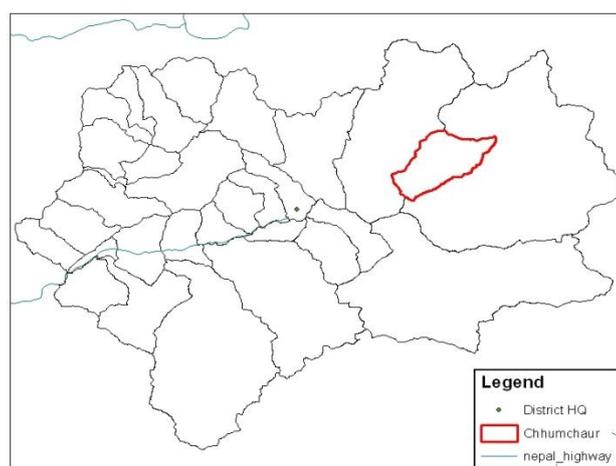


Location of Jumla districts within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Chhumchaur is located 12KM from the district headquarters (Jumla). Road access is limited in the VDC with tractors reaching it with some difficulty. There are no bridges in the VDC so no road links exist linking it to the headquarters. Population is 2810 with 8.5% from ethnic or indigenous groups. Literacy is at approximately 25%. Some migration outside of the district occurs, but this does not appear to be a major issue. 98% of HHs have access to clean drinking water and all have toilets. Approximately 90% have access to solar energy. Barley, wheat, potatoes and buck wheat are cultivated along with rice. 85.2% of HHs have food security for ≤ 6 months with 24.4% being food secure for ≤ 3 months/year. There are no markets within the VDC.

There is 1 Ilaka health post, a birthing centre, 3 village clinics, 1 private health clinic and 11 female community health volunteers operating in the VDC.



Location of Chhumchaur VDC within Jumla district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

FFA was carried out in the VDC with the creation of irrigation/drainage channels, a river embankment, several trails, a lower secondary school building and compound wall, a youth club community building and an NTFP nursery compound wall.

Implementing Partner(s):

IDE/DEPROSC-Nepal/The Mountain Institute/Dolphu Institute/Institute for Community Development/World Vision/Save the Children/Nepal Red Cross Society, Jumla.

These NGOs provided technical support during implementation and delivered food to the communities on time.

Status of Assets created:

Irrigation: Use as drainage channel to remove excess water in waterlogged fields. Despite narrowing and becoming shallower than when created, the channel is still functional although maintenance may be an issue longer term.

River Embankment: Gabion boxes constructed along river bank to prevent flooding. Still functional but showing signs of degradation.

Trails: Functional. Some minor landslips, but still useable. No maintenance mechanism in place, but no maintenance required so far.

School building: Functional. Some minor maintenance issues occasionally.

Community building: Functional. Some minor issues, but being run well and maintained to a satisfactory degree.

Compound wall: Functional in protecting nursery plants from livestock and children.



A foot trail in Chhumchaur was widened with WFP support. It is now easier to walk along, especially for people herding livestock and/or carrying fodder on their backs.



An “irrigation channel” used by the community to drain waterlogged land. As a result, a wider range of crops are cultivatable including earlier-ripening species, avoiding some losses caused by storms.



The river embankment strengthening with gabion boxes. This method worked well for some years, reducing the occurrence of flooding. However, lack of maintenance means the threat of flooding has returned as this asset ceases to be functional.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation: Previously waterlogged fields are now used to cultivate earlier-ripening species which provide harvest before potential damage from hail.

River Embankment: Prevented some flood events by protecting homes, but short lived due to poor maintenance..

Trails: Easier access/movement within the VDC.

School building: Improved access to education for local children.

Community building: Building used by community for group meetings etc, building sense of community etc.

Effects of Assets on Women

Improved trails make collecting fodder and herding livestock easier and safer – a job usually carried out by women.

Women were involved in the creation of all the assets, with the same food payments as the men. Following the asset creation, women claim to feel more empowered and better organised to participate in decision making processes and make their voice heard in the community.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

There was no specific targeting of marginalised groups. All assets created were for community benefit – geographical targeting, rather than social group targeting.



A focus group discussion is held in the VDC to discuss the FFA project activities.



Another trail which allows ease of access within the VDC. The construction is shown in this picture, including the retaining wall.



The compound wall created around the NTFP nursery. This prevents damage to the young plants within from browsing animals and playing children. Its maintenance is carried out by the manager of the nursery.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

An NGO called RIDS-Nepal are promoting plastic houses for vegetable farming in the VDC. These are designed to reduce the impacts of winter temperatures. This activity complements WFP's work which focuses on other issues but not winter temperatures.

Current Environmental Situation

The winter hail storms frequently damage or destroy crops. Winter drought causes further loss of winter crops and flooding during the rainy season damaging crops and property and threaten lives.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

There are no active maintenance committees looking after the assets except for the school and community building.

Lack of resources limits their ability to maintain some assets e.g. gabion boxes.



The Sisne Youth Club Community building is maintained by the Sisne Youth Club. The roof blew off not long after its construction, but was quickly recovered and replaced by the youth club.



Another section of foot trail improved (maintained and widened) with WFP support.



The school building built with WFP support. A 3-room building and compound wall were constructed to add to the school complex. Many of the materials were provided by local groups e.g. timber from forest groups and roofing materials from VDC group.

VDC Profile: Depalgaun, Jumla.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 22 people (14 F/8 M) including members from the Dalit and Chhetri communities.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: DEPROSC-Nepal/Save the Children/Nepal Red Cross Society, Jumla.

Time Frame:

WFP Support: Food (MT): 34.65

Cash: (none)¹

CP10093: No

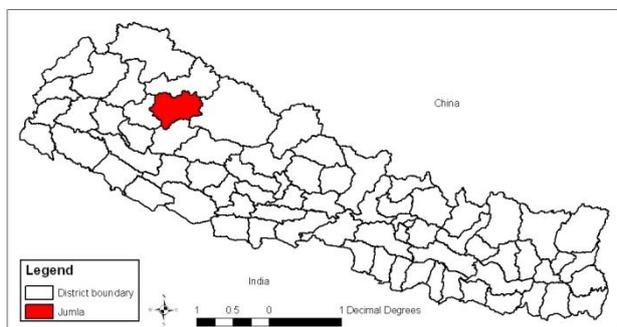
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2008

Finish Date: 2009

Number & types of Assets Created: 2 x stone embankment and 3 x terrace improvement.

Beneficiaries: Individual households were targeted and received direct benefits, while the community gained indirect benefits.



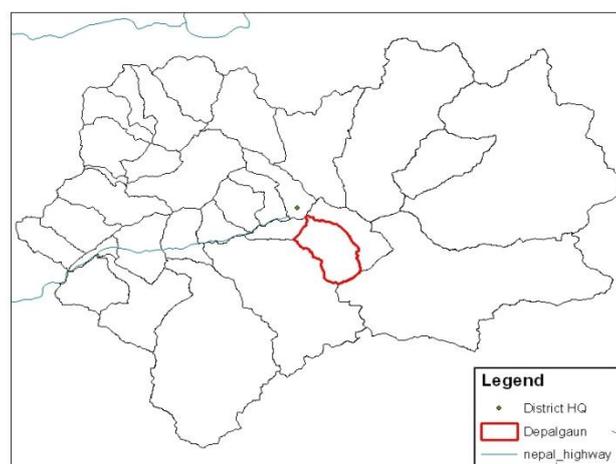
Location of Jumla district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Depalgaun is located next to the district headquarters (Jumla). Track roads have been constructed into the VDC, however, tractors are reaching the VDC with some difficulty. Due to the absence of a bridge over the Tila River (one is under construction) the VDC is not connected to the main road network to the district headquarters. Population is 2393 with 0.2% from ethnic or indigenous groups and approximately 24% Dalit. Literacy is at 46%. Migration both within and outside of the district does occur, but not on a huge scale. 100% of HHs have access to clean drinking water and 47% use toilets. More than 33% of HHs have solar power and 100% have electricity.

Approximately 72% of HHs have food security for ≤ 6 months with 35% having ≤ 3 months food security. There are no markets in the VDC.

There is 1 Ilaka health post and 1 birthing centre operating in the VDC.



Location of Depalgaun VDC within Jumla district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

FFA was carried out in the VDC with the creation of two stone embankments and three terrace improvement works.

Implementing Partner(s):

Save the Children was the program partner for WFP in the VDC, while Nepal Red Cross Society was responsible for technical assistance.

Status of Assets created:

Embankment (Depalgaun): Functional but becoming damaged by cattle movement – no proper foundations were created. No one maintains this asset.

Embankment (Dhita): Functioning but getting damaged by flood water. Some stones have already been washed away. No one maintains this asset.

Terrace Improvement (Depalgaun): Marginally functional – specific homes targeted, but 2/3 are not working the land for various reasons. Open grazing in reducing the productivity of the third HHs land. Where maintenance is carried out, it is by the landowner themselves.

Terrace Improvement (Dhita): Semi-functional. The retaining wall at the bottom of the terrace was not built high enough, so some soil erosion does still occur. There has been no maintenance of this asset.

Terrace Improvement (Kumdi): Functional. Levelled terraces are being used to grow a variety of fruit trees. Owners of the land are erecting fences/ditches to protect their land from livestock. Maintenance is carried out by households who own the land.



The stone embankment constructed at Dhita is still functioning, but is showing signs of disrepair as there is no active management.



The steep gradient of the land in some areas causes soil erosion and make cultivation very difficult. The terrace land improvements improve agricultural conditions for targeted land owners.



Fruit trees have been planted on some of the land improved with WFP support. Beneficiaries have also erected fences in some cases to protect their fruit trees and crops from livestock.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Embankments: Prevent flood water damage to small areas of agricultural land by a selected number of houses. Productivity is marginally improved but the main impact has been reduced chance of homes flooding and associated issues.

Terrace improvements: Where land is at the top of hills with low soil fertility and is no irrigation the impact on productivity is extremely limited and food security is not largely impacted as a result. This is also potentially linked to HHs' capacity to take advantage of their situation; some HHs benefiting from land improvements have increased their income through planting fruit trees and intercropping underneath to increase their food security.

Effects of Assets on Women

Women were involved in asset creation and so received short-term employment/food. Specific targeting of assets in the VDC meant some women were not consulted about asset creation and some were. Women were not the specific target of these assets.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

The terrace land improvement works were aimed at Dalit households who owned small areas of unproductive and sloping land which was improved to increase their productivity. There were varying impacts between households with some being unable to work the land for unrelated reasons and some taking full advantage of the improvements and planting fruit trees and crops to increase their food security and income.



Agricultural land improvement.



Discussions with the local community were held in the settlements to discuss the impacts of WFP asset creation. Here community member discuss the river embankment asset.



One household, whose land was improved with WFP support, has dug a ditch around their land in order to protect trees and crops from livestock – open grazing is an issue which affects many people in the area.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The District Soil Conservation Office constructed additional gabion embankments which added to the stone embankments created through WFP work.

Current Environmental Situation

Seasonal floods and droughts heavily affect the livelihoods of many households in the VDC. Droughts damage winter crops and reduce yields, while floods cause gully formation and soil loss as well as damage to property, crops and threatening of livestock and human life.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

There are no maintenance funds organised within the community. Because the assets were targeting specific households, if those HHs lack the necessary capacity to maintain their asset then they will fall into disrepair.



The terrace land improvement activities involved levelling of land to reduce soil erosion and increase productivity. While productivity is reported to have remained the same, soil erosion has been reduced and cultivation has been made easier.



Agricultural land improvement



The river embankment is showing signs of dilapidation as maintenance is not carried out. Cattle are believed to cause some damage to the embankment as well as the flood water. Willow trees planted along the river bank are believed to provide a greater bank-stabilising service than the stone embankments built under WFP.

VDC Profile: Kudari, Jumla.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 54 people in total (25 F/29 M). Chhetri, Thakuri, Bhramin community members were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Save the Children/Nepal Red Cross Society/DDC/DEPROSC-Nepal

Time Frame: Between 45 days and 6 months

WFP Support: Food (MT): 143.18

Cash: (none)¹

CP10093: no

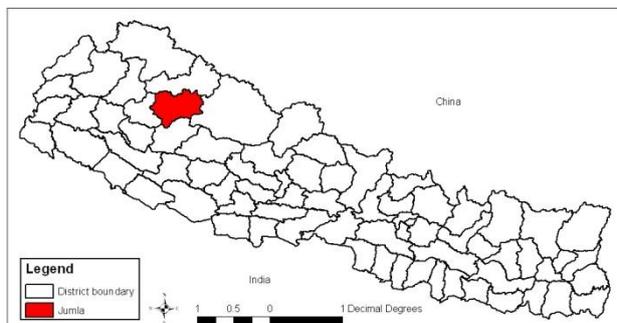
PRRO10676: yes

Start Date: 2007

Finish Date: 2009

Number & types of Assets Created: 4 x school building, 2 x irrigation channel, 1 x community building and 1 x trail improvement.

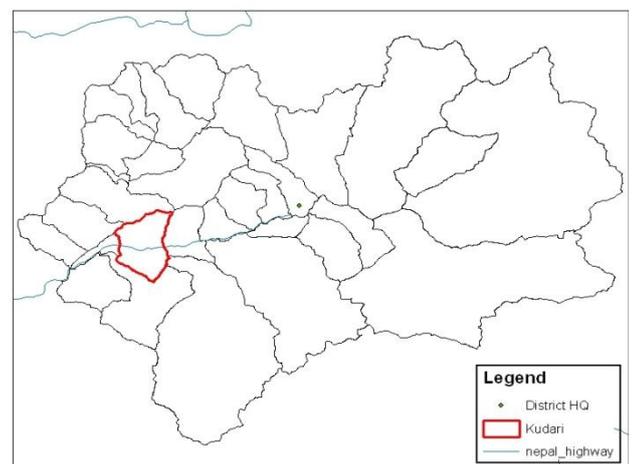
Beneficiaries: Whole community including women and children. Wider community in neighbouring VDC also receive some benefit.



Location of Jumla district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Kudari VDC is located approximately 24KM from the district headquarters (Jumla). There is a district road passing through the middle of the VDC linking it with the wider region. Population is 6203 with 0.1% from ethnic or indigenous groups and approximately 24% Dalit. Literacy is at approximately 77%. Migration within the district does not occur, however migration outside of the district for work does occur to some degree. 100% of HHs have access to clean drinking water and approximately 96% used toilets. Approximately 49% use solar energy but 0% have access to other electricity sources. Approximately 74% of HHs have food security for ≤6 months, with approx. 39% food secure for ≤3 months. There is 1 Ilaka health post and 1 birthing centre in the VDC.



Location of Kudari VDC within Jumla district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA took place in the VDC with the creation of four school buildings (a primary school, two lower secondary schools and a primary school and ECD building), two irrigation channels, a youth club community building and a trail.

Implementing Partner(s):

Save the Children was the program partner with Nepal Red Cross Society providing technical assistance. The District Development Committee was involved through the RCIW programme and DEPRODC-Nepal was also involved in implementing WFP work. Materials for construction of some assets came from local CFUG and the VDC.



The wall of a school building at Chulakot has a large crack in it. This building is no longer in use by the school for fear of collapse.



The community building is fully functional and used by several community groups. The school management committee maintain it.

Status of Assets created:

Gyan Jyoti Primary School

Rawatbada: School building intact and functioning. Access infrastructure is an issue. A school management committee maintain the building.

Jana Jagriti LS School, Chulakot:

Semi-functional. Walls of building are beginning to collapse making the building redundant. Children take some classes outside due to this. Maintenance is beyond the capacity of the school management committee responsible for management.

Nabhidanda LS School,

Sanpulli: Functional but showing signs of wear – cracks in walls and poorly fitted windows etc. Maintenance is not being carried out although school teachers know they are responsible for it.

Panch Shila Primary School and ECD Building:

Functional, however, water seepage is causing some rotting of wooden floor etc. Other agencies are providing additional elements to the school complex including a toilet (Red Cross) and carpets (World Vision). Maintenance is carried out by the school management committee.

Samaj Sewa Youth Club Community Building:

Functional. Being used by several community groups – school class, youth club, women’s group and other community groups – for regular meetings. No maintenance has been carried out yet, but the school management committee are responsible.

Irrigation canal Chulakot: Not functioning. Landslips have blocked the channel in places and a gully transects the channel. Major maintenance works are required. Maintained by users, but it is beyond their capacity.

Irrigation canal Sanpulli: Mostly functional. Some damage has been caused by seasonal flooding however, users have managed to maintain it for the most part.

Trail: Functional. Track was upgraded/widened and is now used by many members of the community for herding livestock and collecting fodder etc. Users are carrying out minor maintenance work.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

School Buildings: School buildings in the settlement make access to education easier for local children. However, poor construction/site choice and lack of maintenance limit the benefits from these assets.

Irrigation: Both irrigation channels have allowed vegetable cultivation where previously not possible and even during low rainfall periods. Production from the land has increase slightly (in the case of Sanpulli). However, lack of adequate capacity to maintain the channels mean the benefits are less than they could be and may be short lived.

Community building: Enables local community groups to meet – building social capital and allowing people to become more organised and work together.

Trail: Improves pedestrian access within the VDC. Herding livestock is now safer due to wider trail and collection of firewood and fodder is easier. It also links the VDC with neighbouring VDC, Malikathata, so benefits are wide reaching.

Food distributed during construction provided short-term food relief.

Effects of Assets on Women

Short-term employment during construction of all assets. Community building provided a location to hold women's group meetings.

As women are generally responsible for herding livestock, the trail improvement benefits mostly relate to women.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

Short term employment/food were provided during the construction of the assets.



A women's focus group discussion takes place with 20 members attending to give their opinion on the WFP FFA programme activities.



A school class takes their lesson outside due to the poor, unsafe condition of their classroom. Lack of capacity to maintain some assets is a major issue.



The irrigation channel at Chulakot shows signs of wear as adequate maintenance is beyond the capacity of the community.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

At the school in Rawatbada, The Red Cross provided a drinking water facility and the VDC and DEO provided support for construction of two more buildings.

The community building has been extended by KIRDARC+ DEO with the addition of another school building.

Current Environmental Situation

Winter droughts have caused damage to crops in the past. Furthermore, consistent, annual flooding during the rainy season has caused damage to agricultural land and property as well as threatening livestock and human life.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Lack of adequate capacity to maintain the assets properly and the constant threat of flooding in the rainy season. Some assets not constructed well enough, e.g. irrigation channel, to stand the test of time so regular maintenance is required which is not within the capacity of the local communities.



An irrigation channel at Chulakot has several sections where landslips have broken and/or blocked the flow of water. Benefits from this irrigation channel are drastically reduced as a result.



The irrigation channel can be seen along the side of the river. Lack of proper maintenance has left sections in poor condition reducing the benefits to the community.



A classroom in the primary school has carpets as a result of additional contributions by World Vision after WFP completed the construction. This is especially beneficial in winter, meaning children do not have to sit on cold floors.

VDC Profile: Bharta, Kalikot.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 72 people (47M/25F) from Dalit, Takuri and Chetri groups, including two user group vice presidents and user group members.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Nepal Red Cross/Helvetas/Hurendec/DEPROSC-Nepal.

Time Frame: Between 3 months and 2 years.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 234.49

Cash: 186,742.2¹

CP10093: Yes

PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2006

Finish Date: 2009

Number & types of Assets Created:

2 x irrigation pond; 2 x conflict affected HHs operation; 2 x road; and 1 x land improvements.

Beneficiaries: Individual HHs in some cases. Community assets were created but are not functional.

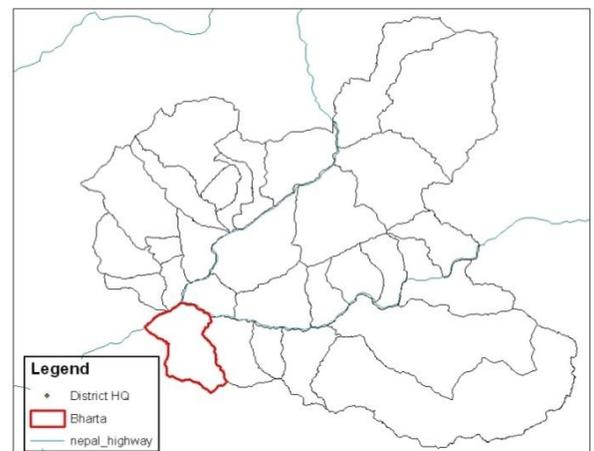


Location of Kalikot district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Bharta is located approximately 15KM from the district headquarters (Mangma). The Karnali highway touches the VDC to the north and a trail has been built from the Sheraghat which is passable on foot (a 3-4 hour walk to Mangma). Population of 6769, 33.51% (66.28 % Bhraman, Chetri and Thakuri, 26.28% Dalit and 6.67 % Janajati [Magar]). Literacy is at approximately 34%. The VDC as a whole has high food security according to the District Food Security Network. Migration is common, with every HH having some members migrating to India for work due to lack of opportunities locally. Access to piped drinking water is 44%, and 51.19% of HHs use a toilet. Solar energy is being used in most HHs for lighting etc. Wheat, maize, millet, beans and paddy are the most common crops, primarily rain-fed with little irrigation.

There are three small market places along to Karnali Highway with shops and collectors of NTFP and firewood products.



Location of Bharta VDC with Kalikot district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA operated in the VDC through the creation of two irrigation ponds, two roads, land improvement works and support to conflict affected HHs.

Two general food distribution operations were also carried out, providing food and material support to conflict affected HHs.

Implementing Partner(s):

WFP C/FFA was implemented by Nepal Red Cross, Helvetas/Hurendec and DEPROSC-Nepal. These organisations organised and mobilised people to work together in asset creation. They also managed the non-food items and provided technical support.

Status of Assets created:

Irrigation pond (Kaneda): Not functioning. Poor location choice lead to conflict locally and removal of distribution pipes. A maintenance fund is available through the committee (in a bank).

Irrigation pond (Chaukipata): Not functioning. Not permanent water source. Pipe to bring water from source 500m away was not available. Maintenance fund misused by a committee member.

Land improvement: Good. Functioning well and has increased food productivity. Contributing towards reducing food insecurity for these HHs. Maintained by user HHs.

Roads: Functional as a walking track – no vehicular access.

Conflict affected HHs: Food and other materials provided to HHs. Good short-term and highly specific/targeting beneficiaries.



Community members stand on the edge of the empty and non-functional irrigation pond created in Chaukipata.



Land improvement activities have created better quality terraces for some HHs. This levelling of the ground improves productivity and reduces soil erosion.



The road created in the VDC is suitable only for pedestrians. There is call from within the community to get it widened to allow vehicles to use it.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation pond (Kaneda): Not functional due to local conflict regarding asset function. High potential for benefits if conflict is resolved.

Irrigation pond (Chaukipata): Not functional so no effects beyond short-term employment during construction.

Land improvement: Food insecurity reduced for HHs where improvements have been implemented – very specific beneficiaries (Dalits). Increased productivity and reduced soil erosion.

Roads: Have improved pedestrian access e.g. to take sick people to the sub health post/cattle to grazing areas.

Conflict affected HHs: Short-term food security and basic needs provided. No long term objectives.

Effects of Assets on Women

Lack of long-term plan to improve food security means many men still migrate for work, leaving women with increased workloads.

Lack of employment opportunities means male migration is still relatively widespread, leaving women to carry out men's roles as well as their own.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

Land improvements and irrigation ponds were targeted at Dalit groups to increase production and therefore reduce food insecurity. Short-term employment was provided during construction phase of assets.



Land improvements have increased productivity of the land. The benefits of this are only delivered to the HHs whose land has been improved.



Short-term, one-off food distribution to conflict affected HHs was a welcome initiative.



Women's focus group discussions were held separately to gain an insight into gender equality with regards to the asset creation and use.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The various implementing partners involved with WFPs C/FFA are working in the VDC however details of their projects were not attained during the field work.

Current Environmental Situation

Severe drought last year and hail storm during the winter.
Irrigation ponds could contribute to water use efficiency and thus reduce negative impacts of drought if properly maintained and local conflicts resolved.
Land improvements have been shown to reduce soil erosion and landslides which are a big problem in some areas during heavy rainfall.
Road/track construction has lead to landslides in many places.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Many of them do not work and are therefore not maintained. Local conflict means ownership and therefore responsibility for maintenance is not clear. Better planning of asset operation would have prevented such issues.

Maintenance of HH scale assets is not an issue as they are maintained by their users.



This is how the land would have looked before the land improvement activities. In heavy rains such as during monsoon, top soil is lost to erosion. Productivity of this land is also lower than where it has been improved.



A landslide across the road further reduces accessibility. Large scale events such as these cannot be dealt with by the local community unaided.



A focus group discussion is held with members of marginalised and Dalit groups.

VDC Profile: Daha, Kalikot.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 29 people in total (7F/22M). Members from Bhramin and Chhetri communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Nepal Red Cross/Save the Children

Time Frame: 60-70 days to 6 months

WFP Support: Food (MT): 32.7

Cash: (none)¹

CP10093: Yes

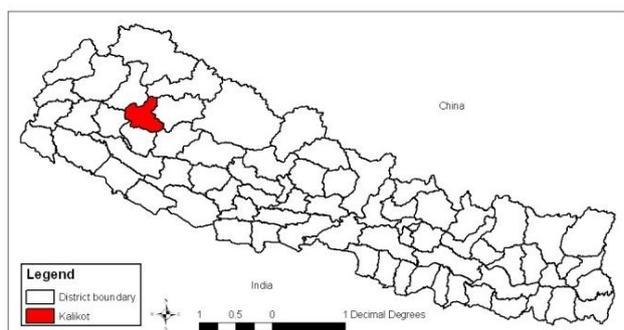
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: January 2009

Finish Date: June 2010

Number & types of Assets Created: 1 x irrigation channel; 1 x school building; and 1 x food for conflict affected children/HHs.

Beneficiaries: Individual HHs in some cases, the local community and wider community in other cases e.g. school.



Location of Kalikot district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Daha is located approximately 10KM from the district headquarters (Mangma). The Karnali highway crosses this VDC where markets have since developed. There are no roads linking settlements to the Karnali highway, but foot trails are used. Population is 6482 (26% Dalit, 28% Bhramin and 46% Chhetri/Takuri). Male and female literacy rates are 61.84% and 38.14% respectively. 95% of households have < 9 months food security.

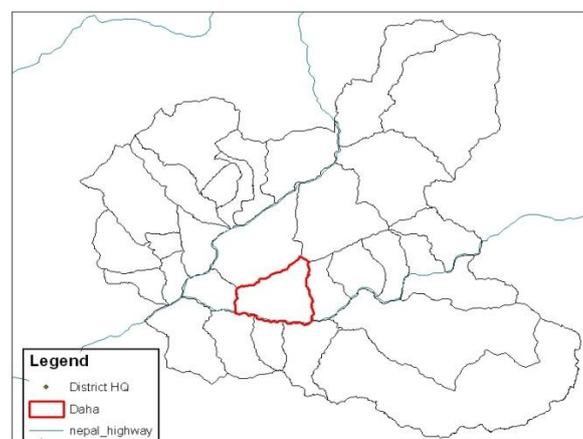
80.27% of HHs have access to pipe water, and just 34.66% of HHs are using toilets.

Wheat, maize, millet, beans, paddy and vegetables are the main crops. Most is rain-fed, however some land is irrigated.

Migration to India for 4-6months is common and longer term migration to the Gulf of Malaysia is increasing due to lack of livelihood opportunities within the district.

There are two high schools and one health post in the VDC. There is also a rang post and a livestock sub-support post however these also serve 4-5 other VDCs.

Poverty Alleviation Fund, Red Cross and the District Education Office are delivering their services and programmes within the VDC, through partner NGOs.



Location of Daha VDC with Kalikot district

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA was implemented through the improvement of an irrigation scheme; creation of a school building; improvement of a foot trail; and general food distribution to support conflict affected households. Local communities were not consulted or involved in the decision making process for the asset collection. They were well informed, but not consulted.

Implementing Partner(s):

WFP program activities were implemented by the Nepal Red Cross and Save the Children. These partners were responsible for organising the user committee, technical design of the assets, backstopping and public hearings.

Status of Assets created:

Irrigation scheme: Working effectively. 2.5km channel renovated with plastic where previously in poor condition. Users are maintaining this asset.

School building: Working effectively. The building is of a simple design and suits the needs of the community. This asset is being maintained by the School Management Committee.

Foot Trail Improvement: Working and in use. The trail was widened along a 5km section to improve pedestrian access within the VDC. There is no maintenance of this asset.



Two community members rest on a stone bench on the footpath that was improved during WFP work. These men were interviewed about the programme's impacts.



A focus group discussion is held with both male and female members of the community.



Lush, green terraces result from the irrigation scheme renovation carried out with WFP support.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation scheme: Food security has improved due to increased productivity. An increase of 1-2 months food production has been achieved. The irrigation scheme also provides a buffer against the negative impacts of drought events.

School building: Increased access to and quality of education for children. Proximity to residential dwellings also reduces the amount of time required for children to get to school, freeing up some time for other activities.

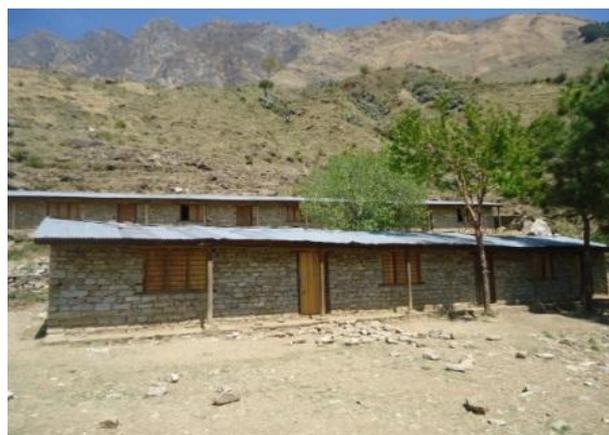
Foot Trail Improvement: Access to the surrounding forest has been improved reducing the burden on those foraging and collecting forest products. Market access has also been improved for sale and purchase of goods.

Effects of Assets on Women

Increased water availability reduced the labour on women in collecting water. Short term, migration was reduced due to work availability, and work load on women was subsequently reduced. However, fewer work opportunities exist now and migration occurs again, leaving women with increased workloads again. Female participation in planning and organising has also been developed through WFP activities. Increased enrolment of girls into school due to changing room and other physical facilities.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

There was no perceived focus on marginalised groups in the planning and implementation of the activities. Employment was available during construction, and some minor maintenance work may be available also.



The school building built with WFP support.



The irrigation channel improved with WFP support.



Crop diversity is now possible where the irrigation channel has been improved. Water availability has increased and allowed the cultivation of some green vegetables.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

Poverty Alleviation Fund [PAF], Local governance and community development programme [LGCDP], local NGOs such as VDSEF (Education), HURENDEC Climate Change and Energy are operating their programmes which are supporting the same community and school.

Current Environmental Situation

Droughts lasting 4 months have caused winter crop failure and subsequent food insecurity in the past. Similarly, hail stones have destroyed winter crops, as has frost. While WFP activities have reduced the impact of drought (through the irrigation scheme improvements) hail and frost are still an issue.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Lack of provision for post asset-creation, long-term maintenance e.g. funds for materials.



A local man explains his feelings about the WFP activities and their impact on the lives of him and his community.



The foot trail improved with WFP support leads along the contours of a steep hillside in the VDC. In the background, irrigation-fed terraces are seen.



The terrain in Daha is mixed, but where steep ground exists, food security is at its lowest.

VDC Profile: Lalu, Kalikot.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 80 people in total (32 F/48 M). Members of the Dalit, Brahmin and Chhetri communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: Nepal Red Cross/SADA/Helvetas /RCIW/Save the Children

Time Frame: between 1 and 4 months

WFP Support: Food (MT): 134

Cash: 195,465¹

CP10093: Yes

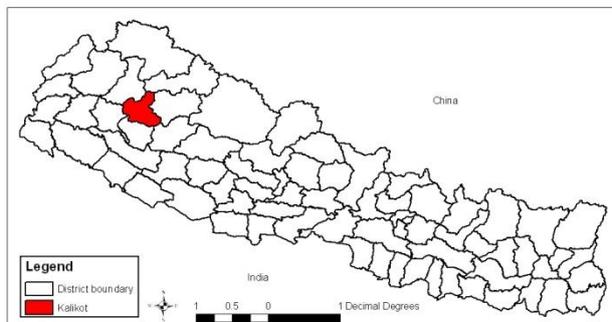
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2006

Finish Date: 2012 (ongoing road construction)

Number & types of Assets Created:

Beneficiaries: Individual households in some cases and in others, whole villages/settlements and the wider community

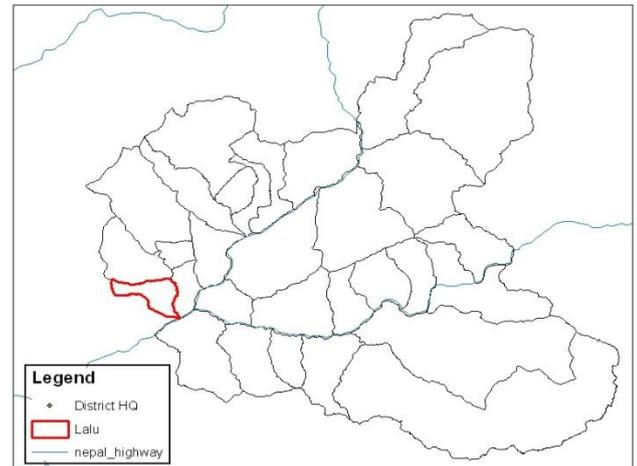


Location of Kalikot district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Lalu is located approximately 30KM from the district headquarters (Mangma). Population is 6482 (68% Brahmin, Chhetri and Takuri, 31% Dalit). Approximately 80% of households produce ≤6months food requirements. Seasonal migration to India for 4-6months is common. 25% of HHs have access to drinking water and slightly fewer are using toilets (~24%). Solar energy is being used in most HHs. Wheat, maize, millet, beans paddy and vegetables are the commonly cultivated crops. Most land is rain fed, however, some irrigation schemes are in place to allow paddy, vegetable and wheat cultivation.

There is a secondary school, one sub health post and three private clinics within the district. Forestry, veterinary and agricultural services are available in adjoining VDCs.



Location of Lalu VDC within Kalikot district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA was implemented in the VDC with the creation of an irrigation pond, a school building with play ground improvement, drinking water facilities and general food distribution for conflict affected households. In addition, two water ponds, a road and an irrigation channel were discovered whilst on the site visit which were not recorded in information acquired before the field visit.

Implementing Partner(s):

Nepal Red Cross, SADA/Helvetas, RCIW and Save the Children implemented WFP activities on the ground. They facilitated committee formation, orientation, provision of technical services such as design estimate and management of non-food items.

Status of Assets created:

Irrigation pond (Bagpani): Not functional; cement tank, which leaks. Only in summer when rains are more plentiful. No mechanism to maintain, poor location and design.

Irrigation pond (Deupatal): Semi-functional; cement tank which leaks a little. Maintenance fund established, linked with DADO – a maintenance worker is hired.

Irrigation pond (Gauterkhal): Not functional; cement tank which leaks and does not hold water. No maintenance mechanism.

Irrigation channel: Functional only in rainy season. 3-4km channel renovated. Maintained by users despite no functional user committee.

School: Functional. Two school buildings and a level playing field utilised by youths. Maintained by the school committee.

Road: Work in progress – foot trail improving access with VDC, but not completed.

Drinking water: Functional. 1 intake and catchment with 3 taps. Variable water discharge rate but generally good. Intake on open, sloping land causing contamination.



The irrigation pond at Deupatal which is the only pond asset in the VDC to function at all. Most have cracks in the cement and leak.



A woman uses the clean water from the drinking water tap. This water is potable and also used to water kitchen gardens which allows cultivation of some vegetables.



The road constructed over several stages. This currently provides no significant benefits to the community as it does not link to anywhere yet. It is believed that work on this road will continue in 2013.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation pond and channel (where functional): Increased production and variety of cultivatable crops including vegetables. Only when sufficient rainfall - poor storage capacity.

Drinking water: As above. Poor storage capacity and limited water supply - only improves livelihoods during rainy season. Water is used to increase productivity of kitchen garden – small scale agriculture.

Food distribution to conflict affected HHs: Short term food security provided.

School building: Short term food and work provided. Improved access to primary education. Playground brings youth together through games.

Road: Food and work during construction. Not completed, so not effecting livelihoods.

Effects of Assets on Women

Women were consulted to a degree – they supported drinking water installation due to requirement, but would have chosen a different location where a larger water source exists. They participated in other asset creation through their desire for work and food, rather than necessarily for the asset itself. Work was provided through asset construction of other assets. Pregnant women were not allowed to work, breastfeeding time was not allocated and dependent children were not allowed at the work site.

Increased water availability has reduced burden of managing the kitchen garden in some HHs.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

They were only consulted on the building of the school, which they supported. They found it hard to talk openly with an outsider who held consultations and locally their voices are not heard.

Short term work and food provided but longer term benefits were not equally shared – not all HHs receive irrigation water for example.



This man was grateful to receive food from WFP under general food distribution for conflict affected households.



A focus group discussion is held with local women's group to discuss the impact of the assets created with WFP support and the participation of women.



The irrigation pond at Gauterkhal which is cracked and not functional. The potential benefits of this asset are significant, however, no maintenance mechanism is in place.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

Helvetas, Poverty Alleviation Fund, LGCDP, RCIW Office are delivery their own services and programmes through partner NGOs.

Current Environmental Situation

Droughts during winter e.g. in 2012 lasting 5 months caused failure of winter crops and subsequent food security. Landslides in the VDC destroy farmland and assets e.g. in 2010 livestock were lost as well as productive land due to a landslide. Similarly heavy rain can make it difficult and dangerous to walk around the VDC e.g. to market.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Focus was on asset creation with little emphasis on planning, designing, operating and ownership so long-term use, maintenance and sustainability is limited.

Short term projects limited the impact and longevity of social mobilisation, empowerment and institutional development of user committees that were initiated during construction.

The road is incomplete and so provides little if any impact on livelihoods. Project and assets must be completed for benefits to be realised beyond short-term work and food provisions.



The irrigation channel at Ghatekhola is functional when there is enough rainfall to be channelled.



The drinking water tap at Thulaghar is used by local people for drinking and watering kitchen gardens. It has reduced the burden on women for collecting drinking water, but the water source is believed to be insufficient.



The irrigation pond at Gautarkhal is not functional due to cracks in the cement which causes leakage. No maintenance mechanism is in place to keep the pond in working order.

VDC Profile: Harjang, Rolpa.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 7 community members from Janajati ethnic group, including 3 females and the user group treasurer. Also a staff member at the District Livestock Service Office, Rolpa.

WFP Nepal Implementation Partnership: GIZ

Time Frame: Two periods of 7 and 3 months respectively.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 45.74

Cash: 914,700¹

CP10093: No

PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2007

Finish Date: 2008

Number & types of Assets Created:

1 irrigation system.

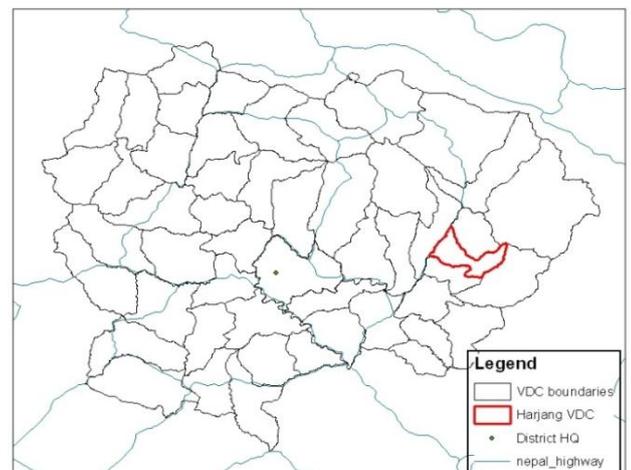
Beneficiaries: Local community/landowners connected to the irrigation system (35 HHs). A further 60 individuals from outside the community benefitted during construction.



Location of Rolpa district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Harjang is located 70km away from the district headquarters (Lilwang). There is no all-season road. There is a seasonal road which links the VDC to nearby markets. There are foot trails to link different settlements, but these are of poor quality. Population of 2781, 57.32% of whom are of ethnic groups, mostly Magar. Literacy is at 40.42% but formal employment is low with 12.47% of households earning below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum. Food security is locally seen as low for around 18% of HHs. Migration is common to other districts and to India, Malaysia and the Gulf. Access to safe drinking water is 43.5%. Solar energy and ICS are being used in some HHs. Maize and millet are the main cultivated crops – poor irrigation means a lack of paddy. Cattle and goats are also reared, with meat prices being very high. During the conflict the provision of support from GIZ and then WFP provided important employment opportunities, especially on the 'GIZ' road.



The location of Harjang VDC within Rolpa District.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

Irrigation channel construction through cash/food for assets. Discussed and decided at community level. Community members from both within the irrigation channel area and outside of it were involved in its construction and were paid for food (2.5kg/day) and cash (NRs 100/day). GIZ implemented and paid for the materials.

Implementing Partner(s):

GIZ implemented WFPs project through community level consultations and asset targeting; facilitation and social mobilisation; technical design; backstopping and technical services; provision of material and non-material support to communities, capacity development training and; overall guidance for user groups in asset construction, from agreement to final completion. Training was also given by GIZ on vegetable cultivation to ensure beneficiaries made the most out of their newly acquired asset. They also carried out follow work after construction.

Status of Assets created:

The asset is functioning correctly and being maintained sufficiently by users despite no on-going external input or materials or other support.

The channel is mainly earthen with cut natural rock sections. It is reported to be fully functional, however, it was not in use during field visit.

Maintenance is carried out by those using the asset, although there is no specific fund set up to cover the costs of this.



Local community members walking along a footpath between cultivated terraces



The irrigation channel where it has been cut into the rock.



The irrigation channel where plastic pipe has been used to carry the water.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation: Increase from 1 crop/year to 2 or 3 crops/year. Greater variety of crops including wheat and green vegetables now grown. Food security has increased from 6/8months to 12 months with some HHS able to sell excess produce. Livestock rearing has been able to increase.

People's capacity to be organised and plan/lobby with other organisations has been developed.

Effects of Assets on Women

Capacity building among woman has enabled them to plan and implement their own activities as well as raising their general awareness of food security and empowerment. They were also involved in the asset construction.

Effects of Assets on marginalised groups

The Magar community make up the majority of the marginalised groups. There was some employment during construction for these groups and minor maintenance work may be sought. This is only possible where costs for materials etc are negligible.



It is possible to grow green vegetables such as cabbages.



Livestock rearing has been able to increase since the implementation of the irrigation scheme.



The irrigation channel is mainly earthen in its construction and is reported to still be functional.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The Nepal Food Corporation have two depots in the district where rice is sold at a discounted rate. Staff from the NFC said that as they do not focus on asset creation, WFPs work is a welcome addition to the work food provisions that they make. The amount of food being purchased where WFP have been working is less than in non-WFP project areas, suggesting greater food security is achieved through WFP work.

Current Environmental Situation

Erratic rainfall has been experienced along with rainy season duration changes. Droughts, floods and landslides occur within the area every year.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Financial support for materials and equipment. This is not a major issue as yet due to the simple, low-tech nature of the asset.



Green healthy crops in the foreground with some bare areas of land in the distance indicating the spatial variation in cultivatable land.



Lush green terraces showing the result of good rains shortly before the field visit.



Crop diversification has been possible since the irrigation scheme was installed, including growing green vegetables.

VDC Profile: Uwa, Rolpa.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 47 people consulted in total (18 F/29 M). Janajati, Madhise, Dalits and Brahmin and Chhetri were interviewed, including a VDC chairperson, two teachers and a head teacher.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: GIZ (in partnership and independently).

Time Frame: Between 1 and 3 months per asset.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 54.16

Cash: 1,131,321.25¹

CP10093: No

PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2007

Finish Date: 2009

Number & types of Assets Created:

2 school facilities, 1 irrigation system, 1 irrigation/drinking water installation and 1 trail improvement.

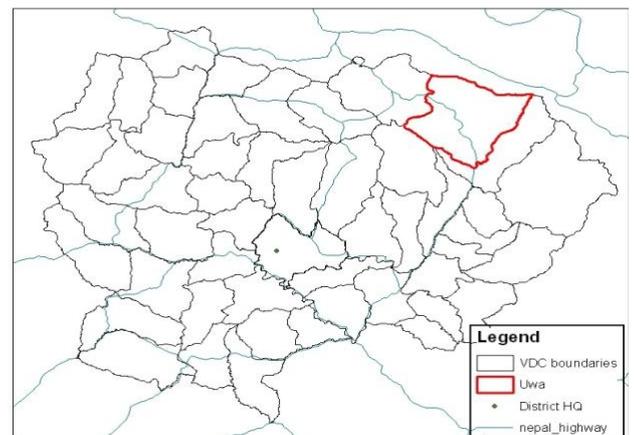
Beneficiaries: Primarily the community in which the asset was built. The school, however, offers benefits to the wider community through formal education and trainings held there.



Location of Rolpa district within Nepal

VDC Situation Summary

Uwa is located approximately 90KM away from the district headquarters (Lilwang). There is a road link to the VDC, with another under construction. Foot trails link settlements but these are of poor quality. Population is 4099, with 89.44% being from ethnic groups, mostly Magar. Literacy is 62.44% but formal employment is low with 20.18% of HHs earning below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum. Food security is seen as low for around 34% of households. Migration is common to other districts and to India, Malaysia or the Gulf. Access to safe drinking water is 81%. Solar energy and ICS are being used in some HHs. Maize and millet are the main cultivated crops – poor irrigation means a lack of paddy. Cattle and goats are also reared, with meat prices being very high. GIV has played a significant role in building support in this community through past projects including 'Kopila' learning centres. During the conflict the provision of support from GIZ and then WFP provided important employment opportunities, especially on the 'GIZ' road.



Location of Uwa VDC in Rolpa District.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

C/FFA operated in the VDC with participatory decision making to identify the types of assets that were favoured by the community. Women were included in these discussions along with GIZ in order to highlight the needs of the local population and chose, plan/design the assets.

Implementing Partner(s):

GIZ implemented WFP activities in parallel with its own activities for maximum impact. They operated Kopila learning centre activities in various settlements, teaching literacy skills to women. They helped the communities to identify, prioritise and implement projects, whilst providing non-material support while implementing WFP projects.

GIZ worked through the conflict where GoN officials could not.

Status of Assets created:

School: Fully functional. No maintenance currently required, but believed to be manageable by community when it is required.

Irrigation: Functional. Minor maintenance being carried out by users.

Trail: Very functional and used frequently. Maintenance carried out by users.

School facility (levelling of playground): Partly functional as a landslide is covering the playground. Community are trying to maintain this, however, they are unable to deal with all the soil from the landslide.

Irrigation/drinking water: Fully functional and frequently used. Maintenance carried out by users.



The trail improved through WFP project support.



The irrigation water storage tank is an above-ground cement structure and feeds the irrigation system for surrounding land.



The school playing field was inundated with soil when a landslide occurred. The local community have been unable to deal with the scale of the incident.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

School: New building(s) have given confidence to parents to send their children to the school. Children from surrounding communities also attend the school. Other trainings and meetings are held in the buildings.

Irrigation: Water is now available nearby reducing labour. Green vegetables can now be cultivated. Food security has risen from 3 months to 6+ months. People's confidence has increased and fear of drought reduced.

Irrigation/Drinking water: Health and sanitation has been improved along with reducing labour of fetching water.

Trail: Improved access has reduced labour input.

Effects of Assets on Women

Drinking water available locally negates the need to start working at 4am to fetch water from far away.

Women have become more empowered and able to organise themselves – e.g. they now rear their own goats and make the decisions on their sale and subsequent cash utilisation.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

The drinking water installation was targeted specifically at the Dalit community, while the irrigation and trail improvement were targeted specifically at the Magar community.

Short term employment was created during construction. Maintenance of the assets will provide a level of employment for some marginalised people.



Green terraces found where the successful irrigation system has been built.



The drinking water installation has reduced labour as it is close to where the users live.



Inside the school built with WFP support.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

The District Education Office offered some level of support towards to school building construction, however, this was not substantial until land had been bought and the main building constructed. Kopila Learning Centre also joined discussions of asset choice and supported the involvement of women in discussions.

None of the assets created in this VDC were linked with the VDC plan despite the community submitting plans to the VDC many times previously.

Current Environmental Situation

Erratic rainfall has been experienced along with rainy season duration changes.

Droughts, floods and landslides occur within the area every year.

Landslides pose a potentially major issue with regards to asset maintenance

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

Minor maintenance can be carried out by the users. However, a lack of monetary funds for purchase of materials and equipment limit their ability to carry out major repair/maintenance work.



Looking down the steep slope at the school/playground where the landslide occurred.



The school building built with WFP support.



Evaluation team members holding a focus group discussion with members from marginalised communities about WFP C/FFA projects and asset creation in their area.

VDC Profile: Wadachaur, Rolpa.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 30 community members consulted in total (11 F/19M). Members from the Dalit, Madhise, Janajati, Chhetri and Brahmin ethnic groups were interviewed, including two chairpersons and an advisor.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: GIZ (in partnership and independently).

Time Frame: Between 3 and 12 months per asset.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 29.03

Cash: 465207.7¹

CP10093: No

PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2007

Finish Date: 2012

Number & types of Assets Created:

1 school facility; 1 irrigation scheme; 1 community pond (drinking water)

Beneficiaries: Whole community, including poor and disadvantaged. Benefits also for those outside the community where asset created.

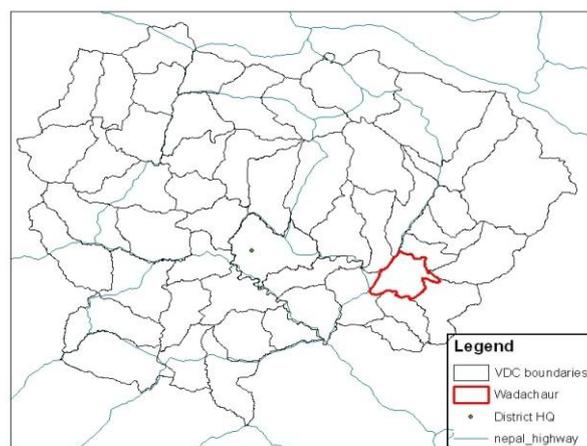


Location of Rolpa district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Wadachaur is located approximately 48KM away from the District town (Liwang). There is no all-season road. The new seasonal road runs through the VDC with local trails to settlements. A 'black top' road is around 1.5 hrs walk. Population of 6230 (approx. 15% of which are from ethnic groups, mainly Magar. Approx. 51% literacy but low formal employment with 41.6% of households earning below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum. Food security is locally seen as low for around 25% of households. Migration is common to other districts and to India, Malaysia and the Gulf. Access to safe drinking water is 81%. Solar energy and ICS are being used in some HHs. Maize and millet are the main cultivated crops – poor irrigation means a lack of paddy. Cattle and goats are also reared, with meat prices being very high.

GIZ has played a significant role in building support in this community through past projects including 'Kopila' learning centres. During the conflict the provision of support from GIZ and then WFP provided important employment opportunities, especially on the 'GIZ' road.



The location of Wadachaur VDC within Rolpa District

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC:

C/FFA has taken place with the creation of a school facility, a community drinking water pond and an irrigation scheme. For the school, meetings were called with representatives from adjoining VDCs as well as from Wadachaur. The irrigation scheme and drinking water pond were decided upon within Wadachaur only as the benefits are had locally and there was much enthusiasm for these two assets within the VDC.

Implementing Partner(s):

GIZ implemented WFP activities in parallel with its own activities for maximum impact. They targeted disadvantaged communities and their specific needs including training, social mobilisation and building of roads, trails and other community facilities.

GIZ worked through the conflict where GoN officials could not.

Status of Assets created:

School: Very good. High quality build. Engineering and technical support during construction has minimised maintenance costs. Buildings kept neat and tidy during use.

Pond: Good quality, working well. Combines drinking water with irrigation water. Perhaps smaller than required as locals have expanded it and are planning to do so again.

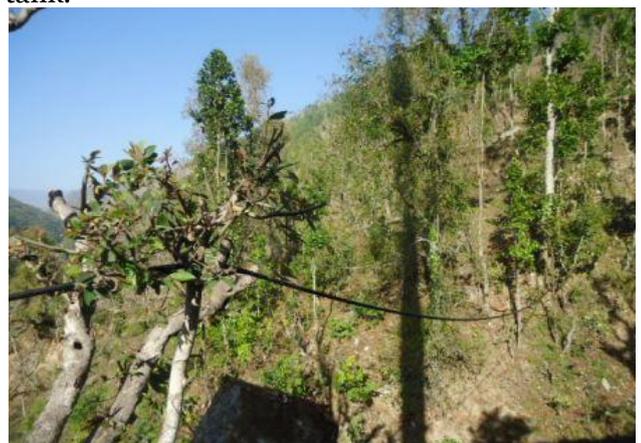
Irrigation: Deteriorating. Arrangement of above- and below-ground plastic pipes. Still in working order, but deteriorating with time. Maintained by those using the water for commercial vegetable production.



WFP logo and text painted on the school building. The text reads “education is the beauty of ugly people”



The community pond used for irrigation. This is filled by overflow water from the drinking water tank.



The irrigation system in places involves plastic piping. Here, piping is secured to trees to transport water across a small gully.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

School: Proximity to population makes sending children to school more accessible, especially for poorer HHs including those in neighbouring villages. This also provides training location for the wider community e.g. tailoring.

Pond: Greatly reduced workload on women/children for collecting water. Health and sanitation have increased.

Irrigation: Cultivation of green vegetables now possible. An Increase from 3 months cultivation to 6+ months has resulted from increased water availability.

Generally people have increased capacity to organise, plan and lobby with other agencies.

Effects of Assets on Women

Drinking water available locally negates the need to start working at 3am to fetch water from far away.

Women have become more empowered and able to organise themselves – e.g. they now rear their own goats and make the decisions on their sale and subsequent cash utilisation.

Effects of Assets on marginalised groups:

The school being in the village allows poor people to send their children there for higher secondary level, which was not previously possible for them.

As the drinking water pond is a community asset, disadvantaged Dalits benefit from clean drinking water. The irrigation scheme benefits landowners mostly, although some landless labourers may gain employment.

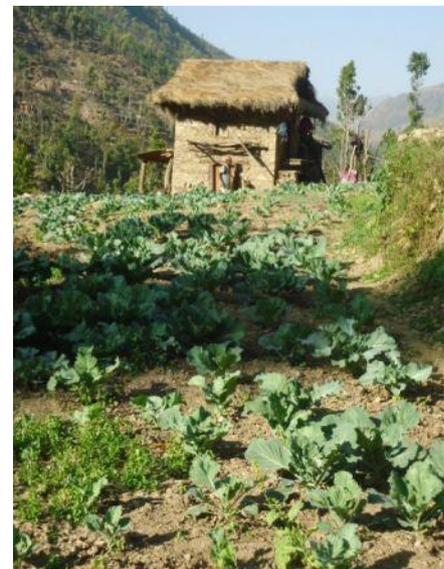
Maintenance work may also provide employment for marginalised groups.



Some of the school buildings built through the WFP project work.



A local woman rests near the drinking water tap created as part of WFPs work.



Crop production has increased and diversity in species has been possible since the irrigation scheme was completed.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

GIZ have been working in the VDC, however there are no other projects currently on-going linked with the assets constructed; according to information from community level that was available.

Current Environmental Situation

Erratic rainfall has been experienced along with rainy season duration changes. Droughts, floods and landslides occur within the area every year.

Water storage and efficient usage is of some concern to local communities. Hence their enthusiasm for the irrigation and drinking water pond. The on-going village road construction using heavy machine have contributed landslide and other environmental hazards.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

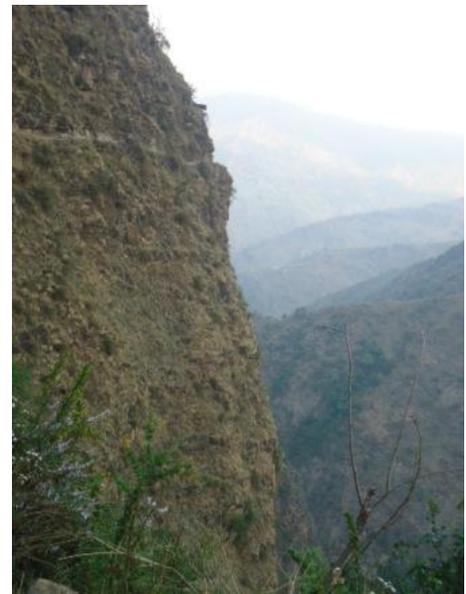
Basic maintenance is not considered to be an issue for any of the assets created as this can be carried out by asset users. Should a major event occur such as a landslide and cause major damage to any of the assets, then maintenance/repair may be beyond the capacity of the users.



A community member washes her hair at the WFP constructed drinking water tap. Sanitation has been improved with this installation.



The typical landscape of Wadachaur VDC.



A road traverses the steep sided mountains in Rolpa district. These gradients coupled with monsoon activity can cause access issues throughout the district.

VDC Profile: Khanbu, Udayapur.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 26 people (14 M/12 F) including members from the Dalit and Janajati communities.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: RCIW, GIZ, HURENDEC

Time Frame: Between 2 and 8 years.

WFP Support: Food (MT): 119.45

Cash: (none)¹

CP10093: Yes

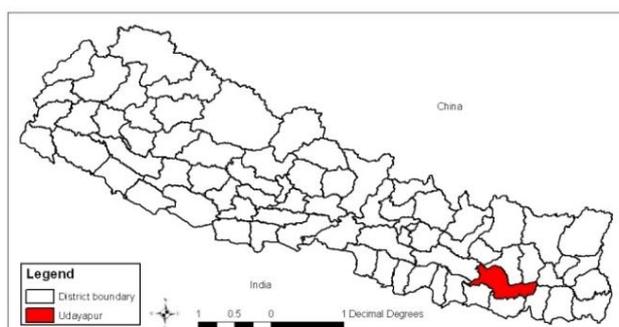
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2002

Finish Date: 2010

Number & types of Assets Created: 1 x irrigation scheme; 1 x agroforestry project and 1 x road.

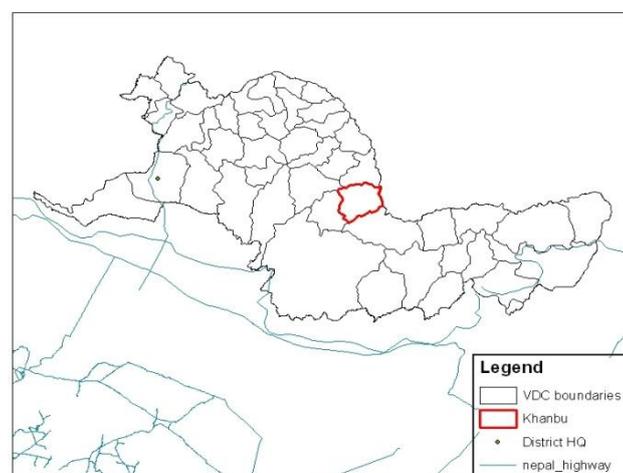
Beneficiaries: The local community benefit from the irrigation system and agroforestry project, while the wider community benefit from improved access associated with the road.



Location of Udayapur district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Khanbu is located 32KM from the district headquarters (Gaighat). Road access is present in most wards, with foot trails connecting all settlements throughout the VDC. The climate ranges from sub-temperate to sub-tropical. Population of 4350, with 80% from ethnic or indigenous groups. Literacy is at approximately 60% (district average is 53%). 29% of households earn below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum and the VDC as a whole has low food security. Migration to other parts of Nepal, or India in search of work has increased due to food insecurity. Access to clean drinking water is 60% and 40% of HHs have access to modern energy services. Many community organisations (male, female and mixed) have been formed in the VDC with start-up support from HURENDEC, through GIZ and Village Development Programme of the DDC and further support from RCIW, ECARDS Nepal, MDI and NESCEP. Similarly, there are many NGOs working in the district to provide assets, services and support.



Location of Khanbu VDC within Udayapur district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

FFA was carried out in the VDC between 2002 and 2010. During this time, WFP supported the construction of a section of road, various irrigation systems and agroforestry projects (e.g. involving the planting of bamboo, broom grass and cardamom).

Implementing Partner(s):

RCIW was the main implementing partner between 2002 and 2010. Its roles were technical design, supervision and final measurement etc. GIZ and partner NGOs (HURENDEC, ECARDS, JDI/NESPEC) had the role of facilitation and social mobilisation.

Status of Assets created:

Forestry/Agro Forestry: Good in case of bamboo and broom grass, but poor in case of cardamom. Maintained by community organisations.

Irrigation: Varied. Some irrigation channels are working properly, however, some are not complete and are in disrepair. Functioning channels are maintained by users.

Roads: Mixed. Generally working, but some sections are in poor condition due to lack of maintenance. No provisions made by WFP/implementing partner for maintenance and insufficient resources locally. Users carryout emergency maintenance in monsoon season, and DDC allocate small funds to maintenance but insufficient.



A group of local community members show the evaluation team the irrigation channel created through WFP supported work.



The location of cardamom planting was not well thought-out resulting in poor productivity.



Lack of provision for proper maintenance has left its toll on many sections of road with erosion causing much damage. Here the drainage channel built alongside the road is now above the level of the road it was built to drain water from.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Increased market access due to roads has allowed sale of more items such as Sinkauli, Iskus, Pharsi, chilli, cucumber etc however, no reported increase in overall land productivity.

Broom grass and bamboo (agroforestry) are growing well, providing some income.

Similarly, increased market access has allowed people to buy food more easily.

Effects of Assets on Women

During construction phase all community members were living in the VDC, since their completion, women are alone as the men have commonly migrated to other districts in Nepal, or to other countries in search of work.

Increased capacity to organise and plan projects and a greater sense of empowerment.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

Marginalised groups were able to gain employment during asset construction. But no long-term employment was created. On-going benefits from the assets are not targeted and so are shared amongst all community members, with no favour for marginalised groups.

General level of awareness of poor and marginalised peoples' rights has been raised both among poor people, but also within other agencies.



Villagers gather to discuss the various assets created through WFPs projects in the VDC.



A WFP project road is seen wrapping around a hillside in the VDC. Note that in general vegetation cover is good surrounding the road, reducing landslide events.



Community members at the irrigation system created through WFP work.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

Various development organisations are working in the VDC. Activities include: drinking water supply; village electrification; leadership development and capacity building; Income Generation Activities; agroforestry and kitchen garden cultivation; family planning and maternal health.

Current Environmental Situation

Occurrence of landslides due to road construction have been minimised with the planting of broom grass and bamboo at roadsides. Some gully formation and landslides do still occur as a result of poor road design and poor maintenance.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

- Completion of the asset (some are have not been completed)
- Maintenance of the asset (including provisions for the work).
- Site selection for agroforestry - choosing sites with appropriate conditions for target species (e.g. cardamom)
- Management of community owned asset – who is responsible for it?
- Land tenure-agroforestry in the public/forest land
- Asset handover to the VDC/DDC/Road Office/Irrigation Office after completion



Broom grass planted with WFP project support. Broom grass is widely used as fodder for livestock and as such is a valuable crop.



Community members inspect part of an irrigation system which is showing signs of disrepair.



Broom grass and bamboo planted along roadsides can reduce the occurrence of landslides and increase the longevity of the road.

VDC Profile: Rauta, Udayapur.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 34 people (17M/17F), including user group chairpersons, secretaries, treasurers and members.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: RCIW, GIZ, HURENDEC

Time Frame: 8 years

WFP Support: Food (MT): 472.991

Cash: (none)¹

CP10093: Yes

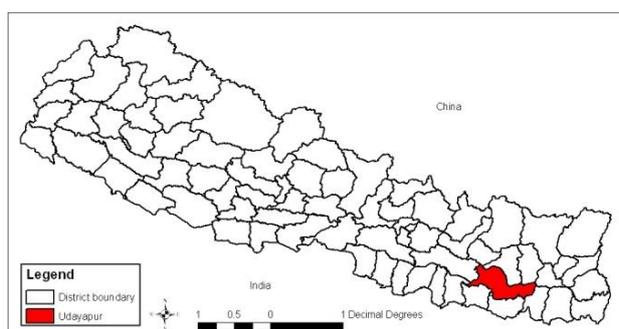
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2002

Finish Date: 2010

Number & types of Assets Created: 1 x road; 1 x irrigation scheme, 2 x agroforestry projects.

Beneficiaries: The whole community benefit. Some assets are communal whilst others benefit landowning HHs only.



Location of Udayapur district within Nepal.

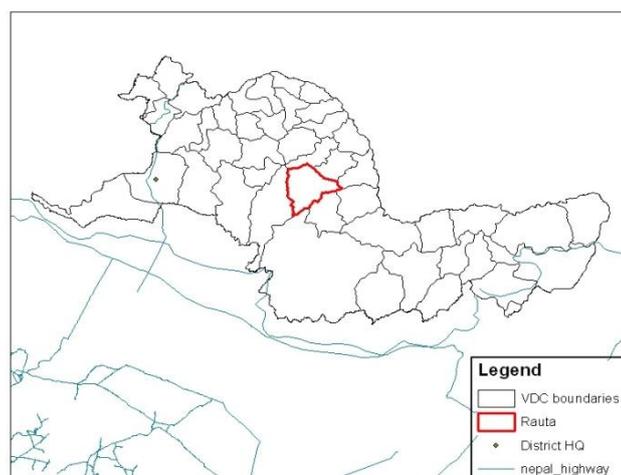
VDC Situation Summary

Rauta VDC is located approximately 25km from the district headquarters (Gaighat). The climate ranges from sub-temperate to sub-tropical. Road access is present throughout the VDC, many were constructed with support from WFP. Population is 6950 with 75% being from ethnic or indigenous groups. Literacy is at 40.99%. 80% of HHs earn below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum. The VDC as a whole has low food security, with the lowest food security being in the hilly, northern wards.

Migration to other parts of Nepal, or India in search of work has increased due to food insecurity. Access to clean drinking water is 90% and 60% of HHs have access to modern energy services.

23 community organisations (mixed m/f) have been established in the VDC with start-up support from HURENDEC, through GIZ and Village Development Programme of the DDC and further support from RCIW, ECARDS Nepal, MDI and NESCEP.

Similarly, there are many NGOs working in the district to provide assets, services and support.



Location of Rauta VDC within Udayapur district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

The creation of a road, an irrigation scheme and two agroforestry projects were supported through WFP's C/FFA programme and observed during the field study. There are other irrigation and agroforestry schemes operating in the VDC that were not observed. Social mobilisation was the cross cutting theme including CO formation and mobilisation.

Implementing Partner(s):

RCIW was the main implementing partner between 2002 and 2010. Its roles were technical design, supervision and final measurement etc. GIZ and partner NGOs (HURENDEC, ECARDSk JDI/NESPEC) had the role of facilitation and social mobilisation.

Status of Assets created:

Forestry/Agroforestry: Good in case of bamboo and broom grass, but poor in case of cardamom due to poor site selection. Maintained by community organisations.

Irrigation: Varied. Some irrigation channels are working properly, however, some are not complete and are in disrepair. Functioning channels are maintained by users.

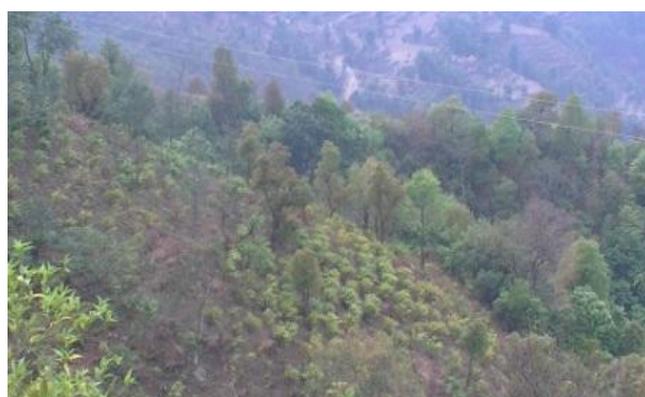
Roads: Mixed. Generally working, but some sections are in poor condition due to lack of maintenance. No provisions made by WFP/implementing partner for maintenance and insufficient resources locally. Users carryout emergency maintenance in monsoon season, and DDC allocate small funds to maintenance but insufficient.



Community members involved with WFP C/FFA stand by cardamom plants, planted with WFP support. Many of these plantations are not growing well due to poor siting.



The irrigation channel is incomplete and some places – incomplete sections that are not used are left to fall into disrepair, while completed sections are maintained by their users.



Agroforestry practises can be seen on a hillside in the VDC. The choice of crop plants appropriate for the specific site is an issue raised in many discussions with communities.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Irrigation: has resulted in increased productivity due to sufficient and timely water availability.

Road: has improved access to/from communities has made it easier to buy/sell goods including food.

Agroforestry: Increased availability of fodder for livestock and greater diversity in saleable products to help raise monetary income. Erosion control through planting of bamboo, cardamom and broom grass is believed to reduce occurrence of landslides and aid soil conservation.

Effects of Assets on Women

As women were involved at each level of planning and implementation, they have developed their capacity to organise themselves and have a better standing in the community. Women's groups have been set up as a result of women's work with WFP.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

Marginalised groups were not specifically targeted through the creation of any asset in the VDC. They benefit equally from harvesting of agroforestry products and improved access due to the road. Irrigation however, only benefits landowning HHs, which often does not include marginalised groups. The awareness level of poor and excluded people in the community was increased and is benefiting other development interventions by different service providers in the district.



Discussion with community members about the status of WFP supported assets and their impacts on the lives.



The evaluation team and locals inspect an irrigation channel constructed with WFP support.



A road built using WFP support. These roads have helped link communities with markets to buy and sell food and other goods.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

Various development organisations are working in the VDC. Activities include: drinking water supply; village electrification; leadership development and capacity building; Income Generation Activities; family planning and maternal health.

Current Environmental Situation

In some areas road construction with WFP support has resulted in gully formation due to poor design or lack of maintenance. Where broom grass and bamboo have been planted along road edges (usually on neglected land) these impacts have been reduced.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

- Completion of the asset (some are have not been completed)
- Maintenance of the asset (including provisions for the work).
- Site selection for Agroforestry - choosing sites with appropriate conditions for target species (e.g. cardamom)
- Management of community owned asset – who is responsible for it?
- Land tenure for agroforestry on public/forest land
- Asset handover to the VDC/DDC/Road Office/Irrigation Office after completion



A road can be seen in the background traversing a hillside, while agroforestry is practiced on slopes in the foreground. Coordinating the construction of different assets to complement one another is key to their mutual success.



Fodder plants planted at the side of footpaths allow ease of access and transport to the livestock that consume it.



Inclusive group discussions involving all members of the community, from both genders were held during the evaluation field work.

VDC Profile: Sirise, Udayapur.

Evaluation Team's Engagement

Visit period: March 2013

VDC contact persons: 12 community members (6 M/6F), including user group members and a chairperson. Dalit and Janajati communities were represented.

WFP Nepal Implementation

Partnership: RCIW/MDI/NESPEC

Time Frame: 9 months

WFP Support: Food (MT): 75.85

Cash: 2968.2¹

CP10093: Yes

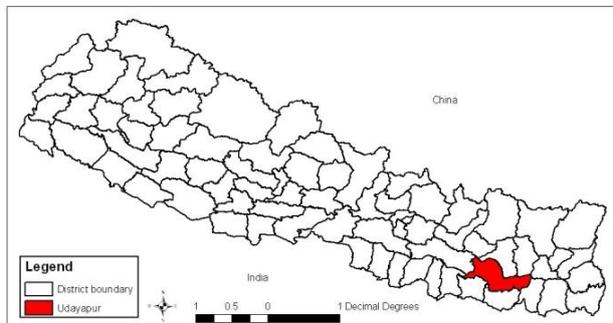
PRRO10676: Yes

Start Date: 2009

Finish Date: 2010

Number & types of Assets Created: 1 x fish pond; 1 x irrigation; and 1 x agroforestry.

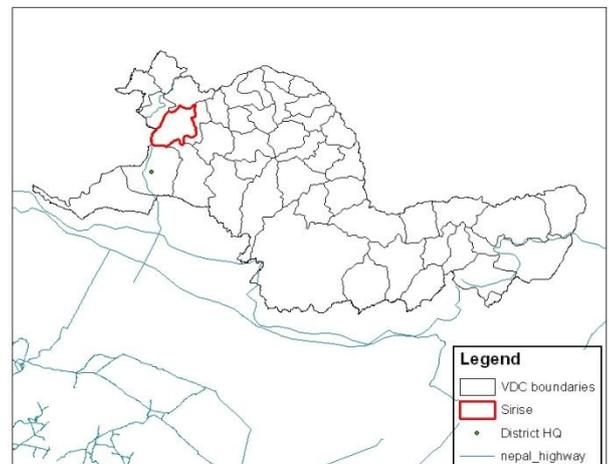
Beneficiaries: Individual households for some assets e.g. fish pond and irrigation. Agroforestry benefits the community as a whole including the landless.



Location of Udayapur district within Nepal.

VDC Situation Summary

Sirise is located approximately 100KM from the district headquarters (Gaighat). Road access is present in three wards, with foot trails linking all settlements. The climate ranges from sub-temperate to sub-tropical. Population 5034 with 75% being from ethnic or indigenous groups (mainly Magar). Literacy is at 50%. 90% of households earn below the extreme poverty rate of NRs 25,000/annum and the VDC as a whole has low food security. Permanent migration to the Terai is not significant, but temporary migration for work has increased. 96% of HHs have access to safe drinking water, and 74% have access to modern energy services. 15 community organisations have been established with support from MDI/NESPEC and RCIW (for 9 months). A VDC level mechanism responsible for planning and monitoring of WFP supported activities has also been formed. Similarly, there are many NGOs working in the district to provide assets, services and support.



Location of Sirise VDC within Udayapur district.

What WFP Activities have taken place in the VDC?

WFP's C/FFA took place in the VDC with the creation of fish ponds, irrigation schemes and an agroforestry projects. These assets were created on both private and public land with direct, individual beneficiaries in some cases, and community level and indirect benefits in other cases.

Implementing Partner(s):

RCIW implemented for 9 months (2009 to 2010). MDI and its partner NESPEC had the role of facilitation and social mobilisation for the effective implementation of the activities and community organisation for community empowerment. NESPEC is still providing support to the community on a small scale: e.g advisory support.

Status of Assets created:

Forestry/Agroforestry: Good in the cases of banana, bamboo and broom grass. Maintenance is carried out by individual HHs.

Irrigation schemes: Working correctly. These are maintained by their users.

Fish ponds: Working well. Have been replicated by other HHs and income from fish is increasing. Maintenance is carried out by individual HHs.



A 3 level system of livestock rearing, with chickens in the top and pigs below; their waste falls to add nutrients to the fish pond at the bottom removing the need to buy feed for the fish.



Agroforestry practises in the VDC. A local man shows a successful broom grass crop. This species has been adopted and planted outside WFP project areas as people see the benefits of growing it.



Bare terraces between cultivation phases, awaiting irrigation from the WFP irrigation scheme.

Effects of Assets on Livelihoods (generally)

Positive impact on food security and employment. Irrigation has increased productivity and diversification of income generating activities as also increased income/food security. Fish ponds and plantations on neglected/roadside land has increased water and soil conservation respectively. Broom grass plantation has increased the yield from livestock and created income through the sale of broom.

Many of these assets have been replicated by individual households due to their success.

Effects of Assets on Women

Workload of women has reduced due to near-by provisions of fodder. Increased income has resulted from increased land and livestock productivity. Broom grass collection time has also been reduced.

Empowerment and capacity building of woman have made them more aware of decision making processes and have greater ability to join in discussions etc.

Effects of Assets on Marginalised groups:

Increased awareness and capacity of marginalised people have made them more able to join in group discussions and contribute towards decisions.



A woman carries broom grass collected locally for her goats and cattle. Before WFP implementing plantations on neglected land, much longer journeys were required to gather such necessary resources.



Agroforestry activities occurring on a hillside in the VDC. Many of these plantations have not only provided income for locals, but also reduced soil erosion and landslides.



A woman stands next to a fish pond created with WFP support. The struts can be seen coming out of the water which hold a small livestock building for chickens and pigs over the water.

What other Programmes are operating at the VDC and how do these link to the C/FFA work?

Various development organisations are working in the VDC. Activities include: drinking water supply; village electrification; leadership development and capacity building; Income Generation Activities; family planning and maternal health. Many of these are being implemented by the same NGO as were implementing WFPs work, i.e. NESPEC.

Current Environmental Situation

The VDC is generally well vegetated with few landslides. During asset creation, environmental aspects appear to have been taken into consideration. Agroforestry interventions have helped to stabilise the soil, reducing erosion and helping to improve water quality.

What are the critical issues facing the user groups in the maintenance of assets created under the C/FFA programmes?

- Land tenure for agroforestry on public/forest land
- Very short programme in the VDC – no follow-up support or maintenance provisions.
- Technical support for fishery
- Support to the Community organisations formed for their mobilisation
- Marketing support for their product from the intervention and replication



A fish pond created with WFP support. These ponds have increased the income of local people through the sale of fish. Addition of faeces from adjacent livestock reduces the cost of rearing the fish.



A focus group discussion being held in a community. A pile of firewood in the background indicates people's dependence on natural resources.



Bamboo plantation on at the side of a foot trail on neglected land provides many benefits in terms of resource production as well as soil stabilisation.

Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AIN	Association of International NGOs
ALNAPB/C	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance Brahmin/ Chhetri
BCNT	Brahmin, Chhetri, Newar and Thakali)
BOG	Basic operating Guideline
CA	Constitution Assembly
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CC	Climate Change
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CFA	Cash For Assets
C/FFA	Cash/Food for Assets
CFUG	Community Forest User Group
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMI	Chr. Michelsen Institute
CO	Community Organisation
CP	Country Programme
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CPE	Country Portfolio Evaluation
CPN-M	Communist Party of Nepal – Maoist
CRPD	Convention of the rights of Persons with Disabilities
CSI	Coping Strategy Index
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of OECD
DADO	District Agricultural Development Office
DDC	District Development Committee
DEO	District Education Office
DEPROSC	Development Project Service Center
DFID	Department for International Development (UK government)
DHQ	District Head Quarters
DOLIDAR	Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads(Nepal Ministry of Local Development)
DRILP	Decentralised Rural Infrastructure and Livelihoods Project
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSCO	District Soil Conservation Office
EB	Executive Board
EC	European Commission
ECARDS	Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EDI	Ethnic Diversity Index
EEC	European Economic Community

EM	Evaluation Matrix
EMOP	Emergency Operations
EPR	End of Project Report
EQAS	Evaluation Quality Assurance System
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FF	Food Facility
FFA	Food For Assets
FFE	Food For Education
FFT	Food For Training
FFW	Food for Work
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FSI	Food Security Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GESI	Gender and Social Inclusion
GESIOS	Gender and Social Inclusion Strategy Operational Strategy
GFD	General Food Distribution
GFEI	Global Food for Education Initiative
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIZ	Deutsche fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GoN	Government of Nepal
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HDI	Human Development Index
HH	House hold
HHESS	Himalayan Health and Environment Services Solukhumba
HHS	Households
HQ	Head Quarters
HTSPE	International Programme Management Consultancy
HURENDEC	Human Rights and Environmental Development Centre
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICS	Improved Cooking Stoves
IDE	International Development Enterprises
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IE	Impact Evaluation
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
INTRAC	International NGO Training and Research Centre
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IR	Inception Report
IRG	Internal Reference Group
ISD	Institute of Development Studies

JDI	Japan-Deane International
KIRDARC	Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre
LAPA	Local Adaptation Plans of Action
LDI	Language/Ethnic Diversity Index
LFP	Livelihoods and Forestry Programme
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
LGCDP	Local Governance and Community Development Programme
LH	Livelihood
MCHC	Assistance to Mother and Child Healthcare
MERET	Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions to More Sustainable Livelihoods
MDI	Manahari Development Institute
MFWR	Mid and Far Western Region
MNP	Micronutrient Powder
MoFALD	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
MUS	Multi User System
MT	Metric Tonne
NA	Not Applicable
NAPA	National Adaptation Plans of Action
ND	Not Demonstrated
NDI	National Democratic Institute
NEFDIN	National Foundation for the Development of Indigenous Nationalities
NeKSAP	The Nepal Food Security Monitoring System
NESPEC	Nepal Social Development and People Empowerment Centre
NFC	Nepal Food Corporation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NNGO	National Non-Governmental Organisation
NORAD	The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NPC	National Planning Commission
NR	Nepal Rupee
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSAC	National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Products
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OE	Office of Evaluations
OECD/DAC	The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development Assistance Committee
OEV	Office of Evaluations
OHCHR	Office of United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

PAF	Poverty Alleviation Fund
PLIC	Protecting Livelihoods in Crisis
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
QIP	Quick Impact Projects
QM	Quality Management
QUIP	Quick Impact Projects
RAP	Rural Access Programme
RCHC	Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator
RCIW	Rural Community Infrastructure Works
RIDS	Rural Integrated Development Service
RIW	Rural Infrastructure Works
RRR	Rural Reconstruction and Rehabilitation
RVWRMP	Rural Village Water Resources Management Project
SADA	Social Awareness and Development Academy
SAPPROS	Support Activities for Poor Producers of Nepal
SCF	Save the Children Fund
SDC/DRSP	Swiss Development Corporation
SEBAC	Social Empowerment and Building Accessibility Center Nepal
SER	Summary Executive Report
SLF	Sustainable Livelihood Framework
SNA	Social Network Analysis
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation
SO	Strategic Objective
SOFA	State of the World's Food and Agriculture (report)
SPA	Seven Parties Alliance
SPR	Standard Project Report
SWAp	Sector Wide Approach
SWC	Social Welfare Council
ToC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference
TYIP	Three Year Interim Plan
UG	Users Group
UN	United Nations
UNCERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNMIN	United Nations Mission in Nepal
UNRCHCO	UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator's Office
USAID	United States Aid (US Government)
VAM	Vulnerability Assessment Mapping

VDC	Village Development Committee
VDSEF	Village Development and Save the Environment Forum
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
Watsan	Water and Sanitation
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Program
WTO	World Trade Organisation

Office of Evaluation
www.wfp.org/evaluation



World Food Programme