

CIRAMUA

THE TRAIL OF CHANGE



**Uttarakhand Decentralized
Watershed Development Project**

(IDA CREDIT NO. – 3907 IN &
ADDITIONAL FINANCING CREDIT NO 4850- IN)

Acknowledgment

Guidance by

Dr. Rekha Pai, Chief Project Director

Compiled and Edited by

Neena Grewal , Additional Director

Prachi Gangwar, Deputy Project Director

R.S. Negi, OSD

Dr. J.C. Pandey, Environment Specialist

Contributors

W.Longwah, Project Director

B.P. Gupta, Additional Director

V. K. Pangtey, Project Director Garhwal

Gauri Shankar, Project Director Kumaon

Naresh Kumar, Joint Director

Dr. R.P. Kavi, Joint Director

J.P. Tiwari, Deputy Project Director

Akhilesh Tiwari, DPD Agastyamuni

N. S. Burphal, DPD Gairsain

L.S.Rawat, DPD Bageshwar

R.K. Singh, DPD Chinyalisaur

C.B. Tripathi, DPD Vikasnagar

S.K. Upadhyay, DPD Haldwani

D. C. Arya, DPD Gangolihat

V.K. Mittal, DPD Champawat

P. Pantola, Agribusiness Manager

Rajul Pant, Social Consultant

PNGOs ASEED & INHERE

FNGOs Manav Bharti & HSC

All Divisional Support Agencies

All Staff of WMD

Typing support:

Sohan Singh Rawat

Rekha Pant

Estrella

Printing by : Shikhar Enterprises

Published by: Watershed Management Directorate, Uttarakhand, Dehradun

Content

A Successful effort Water Conservation and Recharge	1-3
Low cost interventions LDPE Tanks	4-5
Plantation for Prosperity Increase Fodder availability	6
Harnessing Water energy Gharat rejuvenation	7-8
Expanding dimensions in agribusiness Farmer's Cooperative	10
Towards livelihood assurance Agribusiness activities	11
A way towards income enhancement Vegetable Production	12
A successful agribusiness intervention Off-season Vegetable Cultivation	13-15
Technological interventions Kufri jyoti Potato Cultivation	16-17
Capacity Development changing lives Mastram got a new way	18
Successful Marketing of Local Agri-Products Malta	19-20
A source of livelihood Goatry	21
Success through self motivation From backyard poultry to Brooder Units	22
A Successful livelihood Initiative Brooder Units	23-24
Traditional skills as livelihood source Vulnerable Group Band	25
A tool of Grievance Redressal Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation	26
Equity in gender representation Women Aam Sabha	27
Media coverage and view of people's representatives	28-35

Trail of Change.....

Gramya was an endeavour to bring about change in the life of communities through inputs and interventions in the environment and social fields. The project supported the strategic higher level objectives of (i) adopting a watershed approach to sustainably manage natural resources, (ii) building institutional capacity for the poor through an emphasis on devolution and building local organizational capacity and (iii) encouraging adoption of improved agriculture technologies and diversification to increase productivity and rural growth.

The village community actively participated in the entire project activities from planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation. The project activities covered almost all the spheres of development of rural communities. Major activities which created a trail of change can be broadly classified into-

- A) Initiatives to improve quality of life – like Livelihood initiatives
- B) Initiatives for Productivity enhancement
- C) Technologies for water harvesting and soil moisture conservation.
- D) Capacity building through exposure visits and training.
- E) Initiatives to mobilize community-Emergence of leadership among women.

These initiatives had significant impact in the project area in terms of improving the productive potential of natural resources, increasing the incomes of rural inhabitants through adoption of improved technologies in agriculture & horticulture, various livelihood options and improved administrative capacity of local stakeholders. The affinity of the community with the project has set in this trail of change which has and would continue to create impacts for future generations. The following case studies give an overview of the trail of change set in through Gramya.



Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)



Village Ponds and contour trenches in Ratora hamlet of Selalekh village

A Successful effort Water Conservation and Recharge at Selalekh

In terms of water conservation Selalekh village of Nainital division saw a significant impact. Gramya project brought a change in the life of inhabitants of this village. The region is the catchment of almost all the water sources or the naulas in Lamejar and other hamlets of Gram Panchayat Selalekh. After several parleys of meetings of Village Watershed Management Committee or the “Jal evam Jalagam Prabandhan Samiti” with the village folks and constant motivation from Gramya officials, the villagers were convinced and motivated for respective water conservation activities.

Initially ponds were dugup, to capture and store rain water. To provide an impediment to the rush of rainwater, contour trenches were dug in the surrounding area of the ponds. Each such contour trench measured $3.0 \times 0.5 \times 0.5$ m, thus had a capacity to retain 750 liters of rainwater. This retained water increased the water recharge of the area, on one hand and on the other, acted as a source of water for the proliferating filter strip (of fodder grass) on the other edge of



Naula in the vicinity of ponds during summers

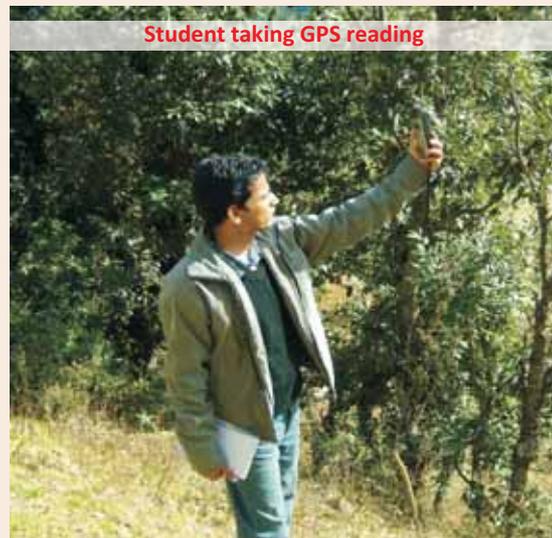


each trench and the plantations beneath. On both sides of each trench two plants of water retaining variety were also planted. Thus, the entire area of 5.0 ha was enriched with plantation of 5000 plants of Quercus (Oak), Salix (Majnu), Khirsoo and Acacia species.

The size of the ponds was such that when fully filled with rainwater the ponds would hold an average of 900000.00 liters of rain water. To reduce the pressure on the side walls, a spillway was also given at the lowest point on the farthest side of the ponds. This allowed the excess rainwater to drain from the ponds in case of overflow during heavy rains. The villagers are now happy as their water sources are not drying up in summers and they receive water throughout the year.

After the World Bank Officials' Review mission at the site, the need was felt to gauge the extent of recharge and the conservation efforts in Ratora hamlet.

The Gramya officials coordinated with the Department of Agricultural Engineering, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, for carrying out a study in the area. The major findings of the study were-



1. The textural analysis of the soil samples revealed that the soil in the area was Sandy in texture indicating high infiltration capacity, which directly effected the water recharge;
2. Their study on Sediment deposition analysis in the staggard trenches in the Ratora and the check dams built on, various sites in the village indicated a deposition to the tune of 7804.16 kg in the trenches and 19200.00 kg in each check dam on an average; exhibiting that a major part of the silt load was being retained in the catchments only and less silt was going downwards;
3. The moisture content analysis of the soil revealed that the staggard contour trenches



Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)

and percolation tanks were effective in water conservation which ultimately is manifested in the form of increased ground water recharge, which again was manifested in the form of increased water discharge level in the village naulas throughout the year. Quite heartening was the finding that the water availability in these naulas was around 15.0 Lpm during the rest of the year, while during the tough summer months too, now it stayed around 12.5 Lpm.



The effect of these conservation efforts is quite palpable because it is being manifested as increased irrigated land areas, shifting of cultivation trends of the area more towards vegetable cultivation, adaptation of High Value varieties, more inclination towards vegetable cultivation etc.



Low cost Interventions

LDPE Tanks

Gram panchayat Malsi is situated in Gairsain division of district Chamoli. It falls in Adibadri micro watershed of Pinder Sub-watershed. In this village Gramya project started its activities in the year 2007-08.

Like the other mountain villages of the state, Malsi had a similar water scarcity problem. Although there were three water sources within the village, but it was difficult for villagers to tap these water resources and get the required irrigation water.

In 2008-09 it was decided by the project team to build a network of low cost water harvesting tanks (LDPE- low density poly ethylene tank) in which the water would be stored and water to these tanks will be carried with the help of Plastic pipes (HDPE-high

LDPE Tank Prepration

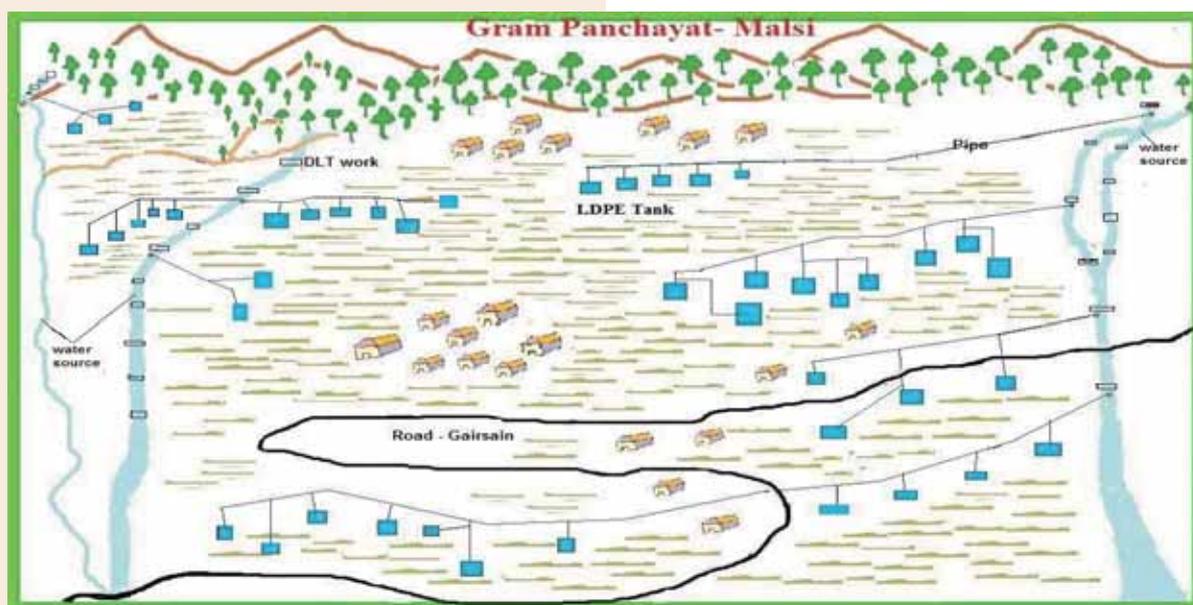




density poly ethylene). Initially four LDPE tanks having a water storage capacity of 85000 litre were demonstrated. Water was carried to these tanks from Dhadora Gadhera which was 1.70 km. away. These tanks were owned by individuals but the water supply pipe line was of common use. A users group was formed of four beneficiaries for O & M.



After this demonstration the villagers understood that how they can harvest irrigation water from distant water sources at low cost . In 2009-10 village Aam Sabha decided to change the previously proposed irrigation channel (in the GPWDP) with that of LDPE tank. Villagers decided construction of 41 LDPE tanks with each tank costing around Rs.15000/ and having a water storage capacity of 18000-20000 litre. Now in Malsi village 45 LDPE have been constructed and 48 farmer families are using water for irrigation and other purposes. Thus about 862 Cubic litre of water is harvested. This increased water availability has also increased the cropping intensity .



Plantation For Prosperity

Increase Fodder Availability

Village Loharna of Maunisigarh micro watershed of Vikasnagar division is situated at the height of 1375 from MSL. This small village has only ten families residing in it. All the families own a considerable number of cattle's. Animal husbandry and agriculture are the only two sources of livelihood for villagers in Loharna. At the time of PRA in 2006, during GPWDP formation it was accessed that the fodder requirement of the village was 173.66 metric tones per year.

In the village the availability of fodder from all sources was 41.5 mt. Hence there was a massive pressure on adjoining forest areas to meet the gap of 132.16 mt. Analyzing the need of the villagers, Gramya officials in the year 2007-08 carried out Silvi-pasture plantation in 5 ha area at Thatkhera tok of the village. Mainly Amla, Banj, Reetha, Bhimal species were planted. Simultaneously to maintain surface water level, 2000 running meter trenches were also dug .On the contour lines and inside trenches, Napier and Ginni grass was planted. The area was protected by the construction of fencing wall and the community also appointed one person as guard from the village. The villager's inclination towards forestry activities now shows its positive impacts. The area has a

good fodder production mainly because of the species planted and the protection provided.

Under the supervision of Van panchayat members & the guard, the villager's harvest the grasses. In first two season villagers collected 620 headlands (180 qt) fodder from the area. The production of fodder has improved considerably. The availability of green fodder in the proximity has reduced the women labor who previously used to go 4-6 km far to fetch it. Now these women spend their saved time for their children, IGA activities and their household works.





Harnessing Water Energy

Gharats Rejuvenation

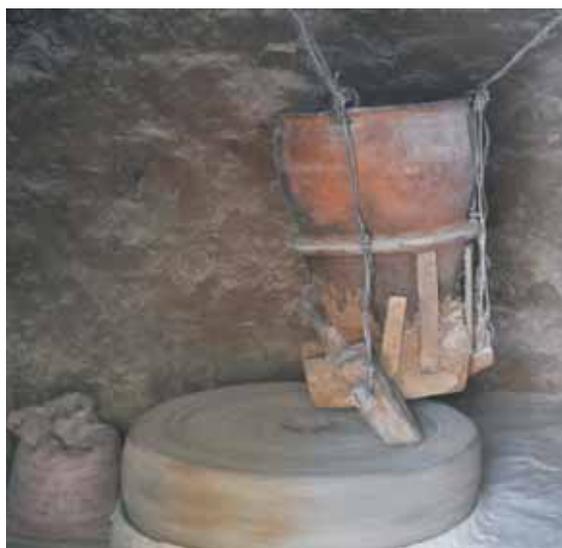
Himalayan regions are well known for their gushing rivers and streams directly fed by the snowy Himalayan Mountains. Besides the melting snows of the Himalayas, there are numerous other rain-fed tributaries that sustain and enhance the water flow in the rivers. In fact, the upper reaches of Uttarakhand are known as the water-repository of India. People in the past realized the natural potential of these gushing waters as an unceasing energy resource and utilized its potential in very many ways. One of the remarkable ways in which they utilized the natural resource was by way of the Gharats. Constructions similar to Gharats and working on a similar principle are known in the west as 'Watermills'.

Most of these Gharats were not in a very good shape. One such case from village Haidakhan, under the Thalari unit, of Gramya project in the Nainital Division was of Smt. Maheshi Devi, who had a large family to support; her husband Basant Ballabh was partially incapacitated and so she had to carry out the grinding work in the Gharat, which was the only source of livelihood for their family of eight people. Haidakhan is situated beside the main watershed known as the Dakshini (Southern)

Gaula. As Mr. Basant Ballabh puts it "this Gharat is the only legacy that our forefathers have left, we have no other option but to maintain it for the next generation."

The gharat of Smt. Maheshi Devi, could grind up to 5-10 kgs of wheat per hour, and grinding for an average of 8-12 hours everyday, fetched not more than Rs. 96.00 to 100.00 per day which meant that she could muster only up to Rs. 2800.00 to Rs. 3000.00 in a month. This by any standards is an insufficient amount to feed a family of eight.

Gramya officials were quite clear from the very inception of the idea that with minor efforts and changes in the water channels, by



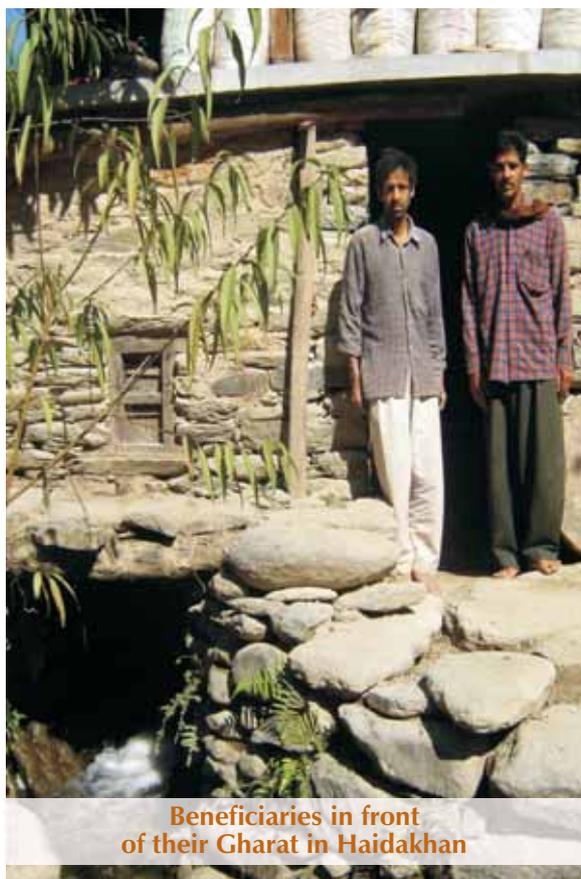


building a few check dams in the vicinity of the water source, or simply helping the villagers to design the correct water channels which led water to their water mills, they could improve on the efficiency of the existing structures, which in turn would directly increase their daily output adding to their daily earnings. During rains of August-September 2010 many channels were washed away and the kutchra buildings where these gharats existed, were also badly damaged, thus, affecting the livelihood of these poor villagers. Gramya officials undertook the task of helping the villagers by

supporting their efforts of rebuilding their watermills.

When Gramya people told in the Annual general body meeting of the Water & Watershed Management Committee (WWMC) that it could help the vulnerable individuals for livelihood support, they all equivocally supported the selection of Smt. Maheshi Devi's project of repairing and improving on the Gharat for bringing a lift to her livelihood. The Gramya officials after ensuring that the Gharat could be repaired, funded the activity of Smt. Maheshi Devi and a cheque of Rs. 25000.00 was given to her through the Gram Pradhan of her village.

The gharat of Smt. Maheshi Devi has now a cemented floor which has improved the quality of the flour ground at her mill. The water channel which led to the mill was also repaired and the old building of the gharat was also partially repaired and now, their efficiency has increased to add to their monthly earnings. Shri Basant said, "Now our daily capacity of milling has increased up to 10-15 kg of wheat per hour, and working for the same duration now fetches us Rs. 150-200 every day." This means that their monthly earnings have now risen up to Rs.4500.00 to Rs.6000.00. The story of funding for gharats improvement in the project area have spread gradually and this led to an effortless self motivation for in situ employment of village youth in setting up new gharats.



Beneficiaries in front of their Gharat in Haidakhan



Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)

Phal Awam Masala Swayat Sahakarita Gairsain “ was formed to venture into commercial Spice & Vegetable production. Presently 54 farmers groups with a total membership of 904 are engaged in commercial spice & vegetable production.

“Phal Awam Masala Swayat Sahakarita Gairsain” is now promoting value addition and the processing of spice products with cooperative brand name “Gairsain Fresh Spices” focusing on knowledge transfer and value addition. The project is helping growers adopt new production technologies and pool resources to access profitable market.

Project has helped a farmers to grow vegetable & spices on a commercial scale. Farmers have been able to organize in to groups, which has made knowledge transfer easier. They are now moving towards collective marketing, which allows them to earn better prices in the market.

In the year 2008-09 the co-operative sold 23.70 tons of produce with a sale value of 2.26 lacs, in 2009-10 it sold 17.8 tons of produce with the Sale price of 7.04 lacs, and in 2010-2011 it sold 22.5 tons of produce with the Sale price of 12.5 lacs.

The impact of these agribusiness activities is clearly visible in Gairsain & Malsi villages. Through simple interventions such as seed multiplication, line planting, improved post harvest handling, storage etc. farmers have started earning more. The project has also tried to negotiate for credit from local banks such as SBI. The cooperative is also trying to create direct market linkage with big retailers across India. The project has setup a processing facility at Gairsain.

The cooperative, which is still recruiting new members, has a bright future for spice in Gairsain region but it has to only establish more reputation in the market. To achieve this, it is developing a business plan that involves buying and processing large quantities and will indicate the profitability of the enterprise. With this plan they hope to convince their local bank to provide a loan for starting up capital.



Expanding Dimensions in Agribusiness

Farmer's cooperative

Gairsain block in the Chamoli district is considered one of the most backward regions in the district. In this area old traditional farming is the main source of livelihood. Farmers here usually produce traditional grains and agricultural produce like paddy, wheat, Jhingora, Mandowa, Ramdana and various types of pulses mainly for subsistence. Local people, particularly young generations have started to migrate in far flung cities for better earnings.

In the year 2004-05, after the initiation of Gramya project, few farmers took to production of off- seasonal vegetables in limited quantity in selected villages of Gairsain division. But no proper transportation and marketing facilities were available and they were not getting good rates for their produce as they were exploited by the middle men.

In 2008-09, GRAMYA project introduced NGO in the form of Divisional Support Agencies in the project area to improve the scope of Agribusiness. In Gairsain division Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC), as DSA was put in place. The DSAs were supposed to provide technical advisory services and forward and backward linkages to the farmers. The DSA teams in the initial stage initiated intensive awareness campaign for organizing the farmers in the region. Awareness campaign intensified in village level to organize the farmer into Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs). 74 FIGs were formed in Gairsain Division with 1341 members. These FIGs were then federated to form a Farmer's Federation. As a result, in 2009, “



Towards Livelihood Assurance

Agribusiness Activities

Smt. Puspa Devi belonging to a middle class family of five members is a native of village Akhoriya Naugaon, Post Mahakaleshwar, Tahsil Chaukhutia, Distt. Almora, residing in her ancestral house in the village.

She is a farmer having 20 Nali (0.4 ha.) of agricultural land. The main source of her livelihood is income from agricultural produce.

Before the Gramya project she was cultivating traditional crops like - wheat, Paddy, Mandua, Jhingura and Black Soyabean. Due to lack of awareness, use of domestic seeds and lack of irrigation facilities she was unable to produce sufficient food grains for their family needs. During the village level farmer's meetings, Smt. Puspa Devi told that she is harvesting nearly 6.0 qtl. of wheat, 7.5 qtl. of paddy, 30 kg. manduva, and 40 kg. Jhingura the whole production nearly fetches around Rs. 14,000.00 per annum.

After agribusiness intervention, she planned to adopt improved package and practices of crop cultivation and incorporate pulses and high value crops to increase crop intensity.

She planned 10 Nali (0.2ha.) for wheat, paddy and traditional crops and another 10 Nali (0.2 ha.) for pulses, Pea, potato and other vegetables like onion, Cabbage, cauliflower and capsicum. By following new cropping pattern and improved practices she started earning double from the same land. From 10 Nali (which was under cultivation of traditional crops) she is getting 4.0 qtl. of wheat, 7.5 qtl. Paddy, 20 kg. Maduwa and 20 kg. Jhingura which costs around 10 thousand per year. From another 10 Nali (which is under cultivation of high value crops.), she is growing Urd and soyabean in Kharif and pea and potato in rabi season. Last year she produced 1.25 qtl. urd, 1.50 qtl. Soyabean, 5 qtl. Green pod of pea and 7.5 qtl of potato.

She concluded that, by adopting new cropping pattern she is earning nearly Rs.30,000.00 per year from the same land which is more than double of the earlier income. She has also installed a poly house in which she is growing seasonal off seasonal vegetable, seedlings of tomato, capsicum, chilly, cabbage, cauliflower etc.

She acknowledged that Gramya project has given her an exposure to scientific mode of farming that will ensure sustainable livelihood for her future.



A Way Towards Income Enhancement Vegetable Production

Chandra Shekhar, a retired army personal native of village Guna ki Taan, Block Gangolihat, Dist. Pithoragarh has set a milestone by adding Rs. 20,000 in his annual income through different viable techniques of vegetable production.

When he retired, after serving Indian Army for 24 years, he decided to come back to his native village rather than settling in big towns and took interest in his traditional occupation but he was nervous and confused about starting it. With the support from the project he started vegetable Production in Poly house and cultivating different vegetables like bhindi, Brinjal, Capsicum, Chilli, French bean, tomato etc in Polly house.

After the intervention of agri-business he got marketing support and tie-up with local vegetable retailer which solved his marketing problems. At present Shekhar is dedicated to this activity and he is earning minimum Rs. 20,000 per annum from it and now he is planning to expand this vegetable business in rest of the cultivated area by making convergence with line departments and tapping various other Government schemes. Today Shekhar is not only an idol to the community but also works as a bridge between Government officials and community by disseminating information and inspiring the local youth for the adoption of this activity.



A Successful Agribusiness Intervention

Off-season vegetable cultivation

Dwarson is a revenue village of Aarey Gram Panchayat at Bageshwar Division. The village is located at a distance of 8 Km from Block Headquarters. There are 49 families residing in the village, which are primarily dependent on agriculture and allied activities. Mr. Mahendra Singh Mehra, one of the progressive and farmer resides in this village. He recalls the past memories and says “I used to receive Rs. 315 only as my pension after retiring from the Indian Army in 1988, in which, it was very difficult to take care of the family needs. Wheat, Paddy and Mandua grown by me were available for the subsistence of the family, for 4-5 months only”. He informed that in 1991, he started growing vegetables in 1.00 Nali to earn some cash income. But in the absence of resources and technical guidance, it was confined to 3.00 Nali only till the project started in the village.

He grows vegetables today and cultivated vegetables in the past too, but today situation is changed. He says, “Earlier, I used to sell the vegetables once a week in Bageshwar market and now I sell vegetable twice a day, in the morning and then in the evening. According to him all his success is due to the resources furnished by Gramya, in the form of high yielding varieties of vegetables seeds, poly-house, vermi-compost, organic micro-nutrients, knowledge and technical guidance. He cultivates all sorts of seasonal



and off-seasonal vegetables, according to the market demand, in an area of 13 Nali. He earned Rs.108223 from the sale of vegetables in Bageshwar Market, during the period July 2010 to July 2011.

Name of crops	Name of variety	Quantity (Kg)	Income (Rs.)
Spinach, Lahi, Ugal, Methi, Coriander, Chaulai	Pahadi Palak, Badshah, VL-7, Local Methi, Pant Dhaniya-1, Multi-cut	1432	53660
Kheera, Marrow, Musk melon, bottle gourd, bitter gourd	Juhi, Champion, Pant lauki-1, Chaman	385	6205
Tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, french bean, capsicum	Hillsona, Snow Crown, Pragati, Contender, Tanvi	1280	22895
Onion, pea, okra, radish	NR-53, Azad Pea-1, Australian Green, Dunagiri	1100	16823
Garlic	Agrifound Parwati	270	8640
Total		4467	108223

Inspired by the progress of Mr. Mahandra Singh Mehra in vegetables cultivation during last 3-4 years, other families of the village are now making efforts to earn cash income from vegetables cultivation. Gramya has helped him to not only take care of his family but also provide his children with good education. His success and hard work rewarded him Rs. 25000 cash as first prize at district level "Kisan Bhusan" awards by Horticulture Department Government of Uttarakhand.

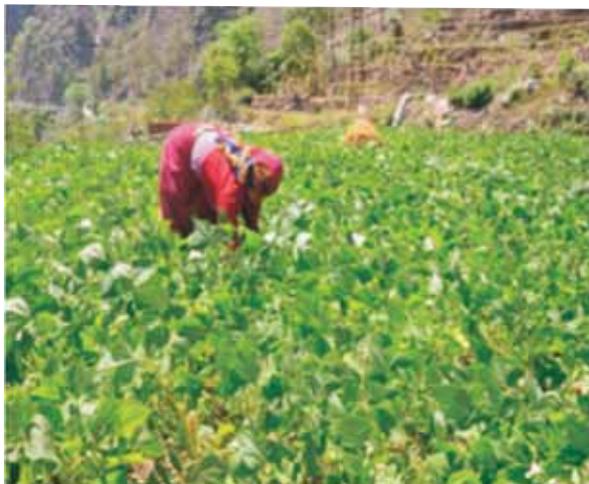




MOTIVATION AND ADOPTION BY OTHER FARMERS

Inspired by the progress achieved by Mr. Mahendra Singh Mehendra in vegetable cultivation, other farm families of the village are now making efforts to earn income from vegetables cultivation. Initially there were only 9 vegetable growing farmers, but now inspired by the success of Mahendra Singh more and more farmers are taking up vegetable cultivation.

Mahendra Singh also facilitated these farmers in selling vegetables in market. Today 38 out of 49 families in the village, produce and sell vegetables in the market as an additional source of livelihood. For around 18 farmers, vegetable cultivation is the only source of livelihood like Mahendra Singh. The fellow farmers look forward to him for inputs on seeds, nursery seedlings and technical knowhow.



SHIFT IN THE AREA TOWARDS VEGETABLES

By the project intervention, the area under vegetables cultivation has been increased from 3.0 Nali to 13 Nali. Earlier, potato, onion and leafy vegetables (spinach and Lahi) were the major crops. Now the farmers grow vegetables (improved variety) like Potato, Onion, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Radish, Pea, leafy vegetables (spinach, lahi, methi, chaulai, coriander and ugal), capsicum, tomato, okra, Gaderi, Cucumber, Marrow and Garlic.



Technological Interventions

Kufri Jyoti Potato Cultivation

Wheelkulwan is one of the Gram Panchayat of Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (GRAMYA) at Bageshwar Division. The Gram Panchayat is 20 Km far from the Block Headquarter and is located at an altitude of 1600-2200 m above mean sea level. There are 120 families, residing in the Gram Panchayat. The average size of the land holdings is 16.33 Nali (0.33Ha). Due to its location (being in high hills) as per Agricultural Ecological Situation (AES), the Gram Panchayat is mainly known for the cultivation of Potato crop. The farmer's group formed by the project in the village is "Gwaldamnag", which has a strength of 20 members.

The seed potato for the cultivation is sown from February to March in the village and harvested from June to July. The seeds for cultivation were brought from Tharali region of the border district of Chamoli, where it is produced locally. The members of the Farmer's Producer Group report that this kind of seed not only yields very low but are sensitive to blight disease.





Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)

During January 2011, 40 Quintals of “Kufri Jyoti” variety of potato was provided to above said group for an area of 80 Nali under the agribusiness component. The objective of providing the seed to the group was to enhance the productivity of potato through crop technological interventions in the village. “Kurmula” is a major insect causing serious and severe losses to potato crops in the Gram Panchayat. To prevent the crop from “Kurmula” insect, the technology “VL Kurmula Light Trap” as developed by VPKAS Almora has already been introduced in the village since last year, which showed better results in prevention of numbers of “Kurmula” Consequently, this year, the group achieved a yield of 384 Quintals from 80 Nali area. Of the total 384 quintals potato, 184 and 144 quintals was marketed to Haldwani Mandi and local markets in Gwaldam and Garur at a rate of Rs 11 and 14 /Kg, respectively.



Impact of Technological Interventions

The members of the group, Mr. Indra Singh Bisht reports, “We have achieved upto 9-10 times more yield from 1.0 Kg of Kufri Jyoti variety as compared to 5-6 times in case of local Long Creeper from the same patch of land”. He further says, “The Kufri Jyoti variety of potato not only yield high but the crop was harvested one month before the time of Long Creeper”. Having seen the positive results by the members of group, the group is expecting to put more area under this crop along with other fellow farmers so that the benefit of technology could be disseminated in the village.

Capacity Development changing Lives

Mastram got a new way

Story of Mastram is an inspirational story of success. Mastram lives in revenue village Sainsari of Vikol Panchayat under Thouldhar development block in Tehari Gharwal District. Most of the villagers of this village are cultivators or labourer. This village is located in a very tough geographical terrain with most of its farming land in slopes. Mastram's main source of livelihood was farming. His main challenge was how to sustain his family round the year from cultivation. Mastram's family used to do traditional farming cultivating manduwa, jhingora and paddy which were sufficient only for three months supply of food for his family.



In 2008 Gramya initiated livelihood augmentation programme in this village by introducing commercial and nonseasonal cropfarming. Himalayan Action Research centre was placed in this division as divisional support agency (DSA) for promoting agribusiness activities. FIG was formed in this village, but due to lack of irrigation villagers were not interested in this project. But determined and laborious Mastram was the only person who kept in touch with the project authorities. He participated in more than a dozen training and tours about vegetable production and storage. During this he acquired knowledge on nursery production, plant preservation, grading and packaging. To increase his experience in vegetable production he took part in geographical tour to Himachal. He also visited many vegetable markets to understand various aspects of vegetable trading. Mastram initiated the formation of Nagraja Fruits and Vegetables producers Association in his area. This association initiated vegetable production using modern scientific methods. Organic vegetable farming was taken up and good crop was produced. The earnings of the association rose every year. In 2008-09 the association earned 15000 Rs. by cultivating vegetable in 2 nali while in 2010-11 the earning rose to 55000 from 8 nali.

Mastram earned good profit by selling his produce in local market. The demand for his vegetable, in local market, increased steadily. Seeing the local demand he adopted a production cycle. He started to meet the market demand at least for six months by producing two crops of Tomato and capsicum. The association gets advance booking for supply of vegetables in marriages and important festivals. For fresh vegetables, buyers from far off places like Chinyalisaur Kandisaur land directly in his farm. His business is growing every year and now he is able to manage his family better. Seeing Mastram's success he was elected secretary Nagraja Fruits and Vegetables producers Association. Now Mastram is guiding more than 200 farmers.

Sucessful Marketing of Local Agri-Products

Malta

Malta is growing in surplus in the Kontha and Tewrisem villages of Kyunjagad unit. However, because of lack of knowledge and resources, most of the Malta was not utilized efficiently. Most of it was sold to local traders at a rate of Rs. 200/- to Rs. 250/- per quintal, which did not even cover the cost of the collection. After the projects intervention marketing of this fruit was organized and streamlined.



Initially a market survey was done for accessing the demand. It was found that GMVN Tilwara, Rudraprayag needed Malta for food processing for their units. Thus 60 quintal of Malta was supplied to them at a rate of Rs. 5.25 per kg. A few constraints were encountered while supplying the produce to GMVN. GMVN being a Government organization makes payments by cheque which usually takes a months' time. Farmers have a lurement for quick cash hence they had to be convinced for supplying their produce to GMVN. The DSA Centre for Business Entrepreneurial Development (CBED) played an important role in acquiring the trust and confidence of farmers.

CBED made linkages with NDDDB for marketing of Malta. The Marketing Executive of NDDDB after a meeting with the farmers in the project area agreed that NDDDB would pay a rate of Rs. 6/- per kilogram to the farmers. Soon, farmers not only from Kontha and Tewrisem, but also from the rest of the project area started supplying Malta to NDDDB.



Later NDDDB got associated



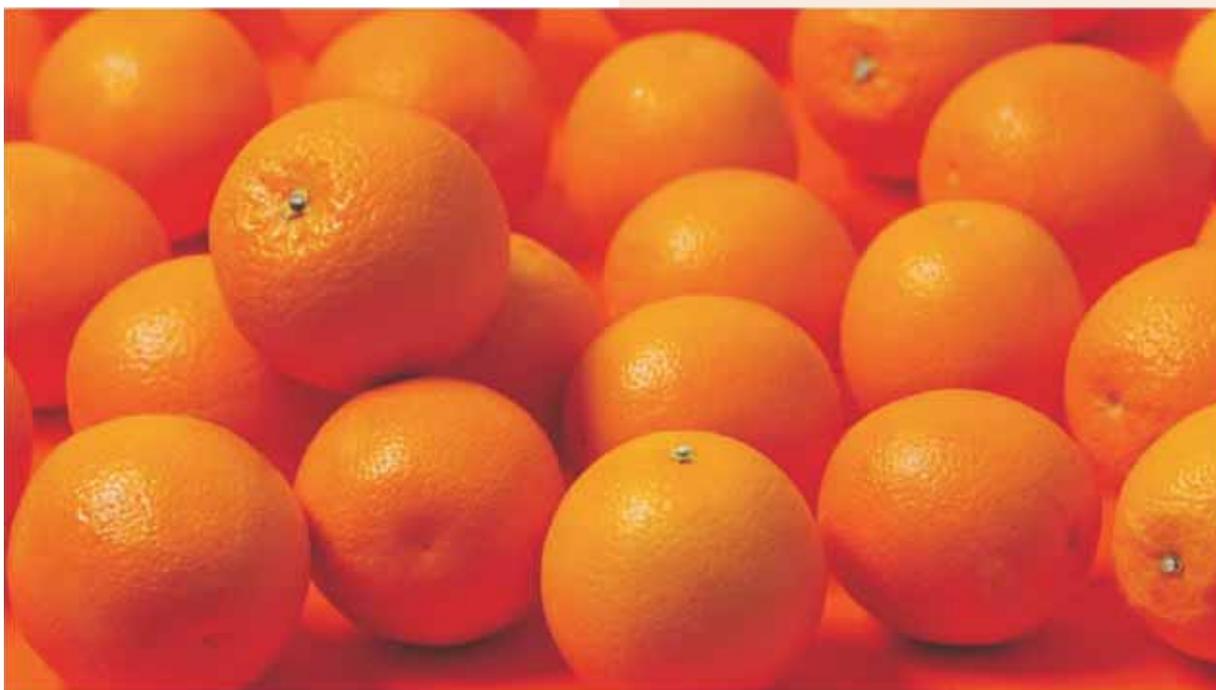
Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)

with the Farmer Federation at Kontha for supply of Malta at a rate of Rs.7.25 per kilogram.

The FF collected Malta from the farmers and paid them immediate cash. Later the FF supplied this produce to various units of NDDDB. In this way, both the farmers and their FA could profit by this venture.

Seeing the success of this venture, the project decided to install a processing unit in Kontha in 2010. The Kontha FF now buys Malta at an agreed rate from the farmers and processes it to prepare Malta squash and selling it under the brand name of Mandakini Valley Fresh. The FF now sells Malta squash along with Rhododendron and Hill Lemon squash as well as pickle. For this a Core Committee has been made in the FF which takes care of the processing activities of the Unit. The rest of the raw Malta is being sold by the FF through market linkages with NDDDB and other markets which fetch them a good price.

This village now stands apart in terms of agribusiness as prime livelihood opportunity for the people of the region. Malta which is the prime produce of the region, once underutilized has now become a prime source of earning.



A Source of Livelihood

Goatry

Deepa Arya is a housewife from Lamejar village in Silalekh GP (Division Nainital). In this Gram Panchayat UDWDP works were initiated in the year 2006-2007. This village consists of families from schedule caste and most of these families depend on farming on their small land holdings. Deepa Arya started participating in project meetings. During one such Gram Sabha and WWMC meeting it was proposed to form a vulnerable women group. She took initiative to form Jagriti vulnerable group of eight women. They started saving Rs 25/- per person every year. Presently this group is having saving of around Rs 9700 and it is revolving this money in the group as inter loaning.



Deepa proposed for Goatry activity under vulnerable group fund. In the year 2007-08 Jagriti vulnerable group received Rs. 16000/- as the first instalment for their activity. All the 8 women beneficiaries purchased 4 goats each. After two months, one day 5-6 goats of her group were killed by Leopard. Group felt very distressed with the incident and due to their poverty they were unable to purchase new goats. The project officials then visited the group and assured them to release the 2nd instalment of Rs 16000/- This time one buck (male goat) of good breed was purchased to increase the progeny and for future sustainability of the group.



Deepa wanted every member of the group to earn and save some money by this activity to improve their economic status. After getting the second instalment of Rs 16000/- the group purchased one buck along with goats and started the business again. After six months the number of goats increased.

The members of the group now have 65 goats in the herd and they earn around 20000 Rs. each (quarterly) by selling goat meat as well as goats. Deepa is quite happy with the project activity. Her family income has increased and her children are going to school. The activities of Jagriti vulnerable group have been quite appreciated by the district authorities as well.

Success Through Self Motivation

From backyard poultry to Brooder Units

Kamal Singh is a native of Gram Panchayat Jaikandi. He used to earn his living by running a small tea shop in Gram Panchayat Kyunja. In the year 2006-07, under the vulnerable group funding he was provided an amount of rupees 17500 for income generation activity. Out of this money, Kamal Singh purchased hundred chicks and spent the rest of the amount on building a coop for the hen and also purchasing feed and medicines etc. In the first year, by selling the hens and the eggs, he made a net profit of just Rs. 4500. But in the next two consecutive years he sold around 9-10 lots of 200 chicks making a net profit Rs. 7500 -8000 per lot.



Motivated by his own success Kamal Singh in the year 2011-12 contacted the project authorities for expanding his business. He was provided with a sum of Rs. 60000 for the establishment of a brooder unit. He established this brooder unit on the first floor of his tea shop. Initially he started with lots of 350 chicks, later he expanded to 400 chicks and made a profit of Rs. 15000 by selling each lot. Thus in a year he sold 3 lots and made a net profit of around Rs. 50000. From the year 2006-07 to 2011-12 he has made a net profit of Rs. 1,24,500/-. This has thus enhanced his monthly income and also motivated people for taking up poultry rearing as an income generation activity.



A Successful livelihood Initiative

Brooder Units

In Bageshwar Division the village Magdistate is situated about 35 km, from district H.Q. The project work started in the village from year 2005-06. On seeing the interest of Mr. Balwant singh in poultry farming, M.D.T. members selected him for 1 week training in poultry farming under E.D.P.

In the year 2010-11 Mr. Balwant Singh submitted a proposal for establishment of brooder unit and in Nov. 2010

his project was sanctioned. The project assisted him with an amount of Rs. 60,000/- and rest Rs. 15,000/- was the beneficiary construction. (in the form of local material and labour) Out of this money Rs. 25,000/- (from project share) and Rs. 15,000/- (beneficiary share) were invested in contribution of brooder house. From rest of the amount in Feb. 2011 he purchased 1,500 chick (Kryoiler sp.) from Govt. poultry farm at the rate of Rs. 20/-chick, total chick costing about Rs. 30,000/- and Rs. 5,000/- were invested in purchase of poultry feed and utensils.

He reared these chick for about 3 month's and after that started to sell them for meat purpose. He sold the hen @ Rs. 130 per hen and earned total amount of approx Rs. 1,80,000.

From his earnings he again purchased 2000 chicks in two lots in July & October 2011(1000 chick/lot.) from Govt. Poultry Farm Hawalbag. After rearing the chicks from 21 to 30 days he started selling them @ 50 Rs. per chicks to the V.G. member of "Backyard Unit" which were established by the project. Total 1800 chicks were sold to the following group and member of V.G.

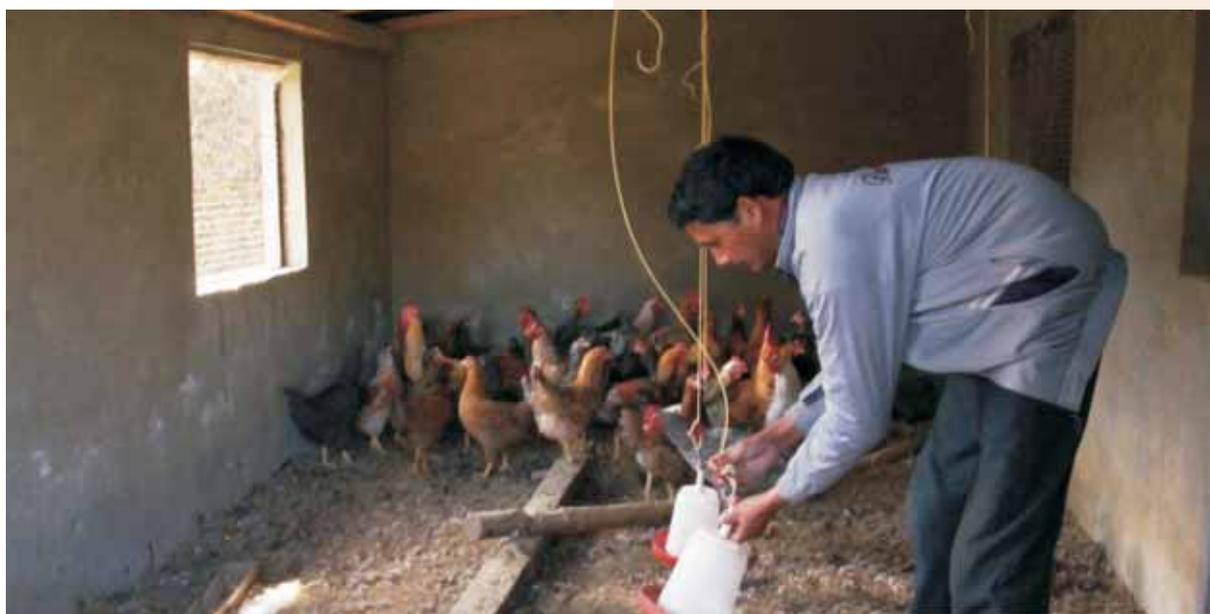




Sl. No.	Detail of group	No. of chick sold	Rate	Total Amount earn (in Rs.)
1	Jyoti Vulnerable Group Chatyani	600	Rs. 50/- chick	30000.00
2	Nav Jyoti Vulnerable Group Magrystate	700	— " —	35000.00
3	Mr. Harish Singh, Village Thapal Bajwad	250	— " —	12500.00
4	Mr. Gopal Ram, Village Rithabaman	250	— " —	12500.00
Total		1800		90000.00

Thus by selling 1800 chicks he earned an amount of Rs. 90,000/-. Out of the remaining stock 150 birds were sold for meat purpose at the rate of Rs. 160/- per bird. Thus he earned an additional amount Rs. 24,000/-. So from these two lots he earned a total amount of Rs. 114,000/-. The total income earn by the farmer from November 2010 to Feb. 2012 was Rs. 294000.

Mr. Balwant Singh is now regularly earning money from his poultry unit and motivating the youth of near by area to adopt any such activity for self employment.



Traditional Skills As Livelihood Source

Vulnerable Group Band

"Wheelkulwan" Gram Panchayat of Bageshwar Division is located at an altitude of 1600 m. and at a distance of 35 km. from Bageshwar. Due to small and scattered land holdings many people of this GP had to migrate to other areas for livelihood and education of the children. Most of the people of Schedule caste in this village have an ancestral profession of Baajgi, playing traditional musical instruments like Dhol, Nagada and Turhi.



These poor people were confined to their parental occupation of being a part of the 'Dhool-Nagari' or band bazza for their survival. But because of poverty these people were unable to purchase new equipments for the band. In the year 2005-06 'Gramya' project came into existence. In 2007-08, during the 'Aam Shabha' meeting Gram Panchyat put forward a proposal for the financial assistance under 'Income-Generation Activity' for the purchase of band equipments and dresses. A group of 12 people was formed for a band baaza and thus in the year 2008-09 a sum of Rs. 80,000/- were financed by the Gram-Panchyat.

Till today this band group has participated in 75 weddings in Kumaon and 25 in Garhwal and have earned about 3.75 lakhs. From each wedding this group deposits Rs. 200/- for the maintenance and purchase of necessary items required for Band Baaza.

A sum of Rs. 12000/- (twelve thousand) is balance in their account. The details of account, booking and expenditure is maintained by band master 'Shri Mohan Ram'. Many time this band participates in the Republic Day functions and other occasions at Bageshwar. Before the formation of the band, each member hardly earned Rs. 150 per wedding and now there earnings has increased to Rs. 700-800 per wedding. The living standard of the band party members has also improved.

A Tool of Grievance Redressal Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

In division Bageshwar the project work was initiated in the year 2005-06. The Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) exercise in the GPs was started from the year 2006-07. Before MTR the first round of PME was conducted in all 47 GP's of the division resulting in creating awareness and a sense of a responsibility in the people. The PME enhanced the analytical and accessing capability of the people. They knew that the project runs for them hence they had to be aware to reap the benefits of the project.

In Kulwan tok of Gram Panchayat Wheelkulwan, during one of the PME exercise, the issue of extension and change of direction of Gul was raised. As in AWP the proposed length of this Gul was 120 mts. but only the fields of 4-5 familie's i.e. approximately 15-20 nalis of land was getting irrigated by this Gul. During PME exercise it was discussed in focus group discussion and then the proposal was made to change the direction of the gul so as to benefit more number of families. Finally with in 15 days of the proposal the construction work of the Gul started. After the completion of the gul now 40-45 nalis of land of 10-15 families are irrigated by this gul and crop intensity has also increased. The village community is thankful to the project, and the PME process which enabled them to share their grievances and its timely redressal.



Equity In Gender Representation

Women Aam Sabha

Dwarson revenue village in Aare Gram Panchayat of Bageshwar district is located 9 km from district head quarters. 49 families reside in this village. In 2005-06 when Gramya project was launched in this village, women were reluctant to attend the meeting. Later due to continuous efforts of village motivator women started participating in Aam Sabha meetings.

In 2008-09 in one of the women Aam Sabha meetings a proposal was made for construction of a path way from Golyun temple to Malijar tok. This path way was used by women every day for collection

of fodder and for fetching water. The path was so narrow and was in such a bad shape that there was a risk of life while crossing it. Initially some male members of the village were reluctant for construction of this path way but due to consistent persuasion of women they finally acceded to it. The labour for this path way construction was volunteered by women folks. This 735 meter pathway was constructed in 45 days with the help of 17 women labours. The total cost of construction was 1.35 thousand with projects share of 1.25 thousand and beneficiary share of 0.13 thousand. Women folks of the village are now very happy because they can now conveniently go through the path way for fetching fodder and water. Each women who contributed as labour fetched an income of Rs.3500/-. Today the women of this village are very confident and ensure full participation in every project meeting. The fact that the path way was constructed by the women and for the women through a proposal made in women Aam Sabha acted as an impetus for boosting up their spirits.





Media coverage and View of People's Representatives





Uttarakhand Decentralized Watershed Development Project (Gramya)

बागेश्वर में कारगर हो रहा है ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू

आय का बेहतर जरिया 'हार्वेस्ट टैक'

बागेश्वर में ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू कारगर हो रहा है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है।

- जल संरक्षण की दिशा में सराहनीय पहलू ला रही है रंग
- पानी की सालभर उपलब्धता ने बढ़ाई किसानों की आमदनी
- जलागम परियोजना ने दिखाई पहाड़ के किसानों को राह

बागेश्वर में ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू कारगर हो रहा है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है।

बागेश्वर-अल्मोड़ा

हार्वेस्ट टैक बनाने पर दिया बल

बागेश्वर में ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू कारगर हो रहा है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है।

बागेश्वर

ग्राम्या की अजूबी पहलू से कारगर होने मालामाल

बागेश्वर में ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू कारगर हो रहा है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है।

18145 2P 1P

अमर उजाला

टीम में दवार से बोर्ड का इनकार 15

उठे हाथ तो बदल गई मालसी की तकदीर

बागेश्वर में ग्राम्या का स्वनात्मिक पहलू कारगर हो रहा है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है। ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना ग्राम्या के स्वनात्मिक पहलू का कारगर होना है।

