**PROJECT BRIEF**

**Funded by:** Jersey Overseas Aid Commission  
**Timeline:** 1 February 2016 to 31 Jan 2017  
**Target Beneficiaries:** 11,130 people  
- Households - 2100 families  
  - Male - 2160  
  - Female - 2835  
  - Boys - 3027  
  - Girls - 2108

**TARGETED SDGS**

1. No Poverty  
2. Zero Hunger  
3. Good Health & Well-being

**KEY RESULTS**

- 333 hectares of land improved  
- 2,255 farmers across 70 producer groups benefitted  
- 20 rainwater trapping structures constructed, benefitting 348 families  
- 75% of produced vegetables sold  
- 60-70% of unused land around houses now being used as vegetable gardens  
- 285 farmers started farming as a business initiative  
- 330 families started other business ventures such as poultry farming, bee-keeping and goat farming  
- 127 greenhouses constructed and utilised for off-seasonal production  
- 5% decrease in the prevalence of underweight children under five years

**PROJECT FACTSHEET**

Dil Bahadur (48) is a model farmer in his community today. Using a new farming technology called SALT (Sloping Agriculture Land Technology) introduced by World Vision, he led the levelling of 38 acres of sloping land throughout his community. The perimeter of the land was supported by mustard plants to create a natural barrier to retain the fertilisers and crops. “I used to notice crops turning yellow because of the lack of fertilisers that used to flow out, but the field is looking lush and green nowadays. The plant barring has locked the fertilisers to where it is put,” he says. Similarly, plastic tunnel support for vegetable production has enabled him and his neighbours to significantly increase vegetable production. Within two seasons, his community has been able to produce 1,600 kilograms of tomatoes. Dil Bahadur has even started breeding seeds at home because of the favourable growing conditions.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Agriculture is the backbone of Nepal’s economy, employing about 66% of the population and comprising one-third of the nation’s GDP.
- Despite being a major contributor to the nation’s economy, agricultural production depends heavily on the annual monsoon rains; between 2011 and 2016 the agricultural sector’s growth rate was static at 2.41%.
- Although the hilly region comprises 42% of Nepal’s land mass, only 20% is currently under cultivation.
- Approximately 40% of Nepali children have stunted growth as a result of malnutrition. More than 30,000 child deaths are caused due to malnutrition in Nepal every year.

*SOURCE: Government of Nepal, UNICEF*
MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROJECT APPROACH

The project focused on introducing the local farmers with a new farming technology, SALT and providing business skills in product development from locally available crops. The project approach had two interlinked objectives to contribute to improved livelihoods of families, as well as the nutritional status of children.

A Cash for Work programme was introduced for most vulnerable families to terrace their land for increased production. Farmers who were engaged in land terracing were paid in cash distributed through E-Sewa (a legally entrusted e-service for cash transfer) with the support of 70 lead farmers, based on their individual contribution to the task. Furthermore, farmers and their families were trained on improved production practices and product development and supported to develop small scale businesses to sell these products.

The project also helped to raise awareness among project participants regarding the available government services and provisions for farmers and local businesses. Additionally, farmers were oriented on World Vision’s household nutrition model which promotes positive behaviour change for families to make informed choices for quality food consumption across key food groups from their own production.

The livelihoods component was complemented by a nutrition intervention called Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth that works with mothers to improve the health of malnourished children. The approach provided young mothers with the skills to prepare nutritious food and improve feeding practices with locally available food options.

PROJECT LOCATION

15 Village Development Committees (VDC) in Achham

AWARE MOTHERS OF NANDEGADA

These mothers and caretakers from Nadegada VDC were a part of the PD Hearth sessions organised in their community. PD Hearth is conducted over a series of 12 sessions over 12 consecutive days. A typical session involves 10-15 mothers of malnourished children under two learning and practicing how to make nutritious meals using locally produced ingredients, after which the children are fed the product.

147 of the most vulnerable children were selected as primary beneficiaries for the PD Hearth activities, with 22% of those being severely malnourished. On average, these 147 children gained 200 grams by the end of the 12 sessions. The sustainability of this result will be supported through the increase in nutritious crops being produced locally.