

## SUMMARY AND PROGRESS OF FIRST CALL PROJECTS

**Project Title: Identification and promotion of commercial agricultural opportunities for farmers within new Hile Bhojpur road corridor (102/059/060)**

**Co-ordinator:** Mr. Keshab Prasad Shrestha  
**Address:** Agricultural Research Station, Pakhribas, Dhankuta  
**Duration:** 2 years and 8 months [Nov 2003 to June 2006]  
**Budget:** NRs. 1,760,110  
**Location:** Hile to Bhojpur road corridor Dhankuta and Bhojpur  
**Purpose:** Relevant income generating opportunities for farmers in the Hile-Bhojpur road corridor identified

**Outputs:**

1. Existing agriculture situation in the Hile-Bhojpur road corridor for commercial agricultural opportunities assessed.
2. Income generation opportunities identified, prioritised, agreed with stakeholders, demonstrated/verified and adapted.
3. Market opportunities and mechanism for outlay of prioritised commodities explored
4. Research outputs to end-users delivered.

S. N.	Activities	Progress
1.1	Literature Review	Literature review were done from the libraries of IAAS, Rampur, NARC Khumaltar and Singhadurbar plaza, RAP-Kathmandu and Dhankuta; and ARS-Pakhribas libraries to extract the relevant information appropriate of the corp. intervention in the project's target area
1.2	Exploratory visit	Exploratory visit in the Hile-Bhojpur Road corridor. Team members representative of implementing partners like Road Access Program (RAP), District Agriculture Development Office, Dhankuta and Bhojpur, NGO (Social March, Bhojpur and Hekuwharkha Social Services Committee, Yangpang 2, Bhojpur and SOLVE-Nepal Dhankuta) were participated during the visit
1.3	Meeting with different stakeholders	Meeting with stakeholders was organized at ARS-Pakhribas. The major implementing stakeholders participated in the meeting

1.4	PRA and questionnaire survey	PRA questionnaire survey was carried out through semi-structured questionnaire with 35 farmers each three biophysical domains namely High, middle and lower hills. The collected information analysed in the SPSS (Statistical Package for social Sciences). Finding of the PRA survey were presented in the field level workshop for validation.
2.1	Field level workshop	Field level workshop was done in the four locations i.e. Syamsilla and Jarayotar of Bhojpur and Ghorlikharka and Phalante of Dhankuta district. The workshop were validated the information found for the activity 1.4. The workshop also provided guidelines for the further program implementation.
2.2	Field demonstration	Field demonstration was conducted for the selected commodity suitable high, middle and lower altitude, which will complete by next trimester. The demonstration and/or verification of the selected commodities conducted in the members of group which was formed in each altitude domain. During the formation of groups focus were given to the group formed by RAP, DADO and NGo along with women, dalit and disadvantaged farmers were given special emphasis.
2.3	Feedback collection	Regular monitoring visits were carried out to collect the feedback from the farmers during the various crop stages in all the altitude domains as well as commodities. The information collecting through the structured format on the observation in the field and discussion with participating as well as neighbouring farmers.
3.1	Market Visit	Market visit has been done at local haat bazaar (Palpale, Charambi, Yaku, Pyauli, Leguwa, Pakhribas ad Hilr), and regional level market (Dharan, Biratnagar and Damak). Where discussion were made for the marketing of agricultural products of the project area through establishment of a collection centre.
3.2	Meeting with traders of Dharan and Biratnagar	Meeting with local traders and middlemen has been completed. The main agenda was for the collection of farm products and channel of marketing. They agreed to collect at leguwaghat for low altitude and at Pakhribas for the high and middle altitude
3.3	Meeting between marketing intermediates and producers	Meeting between marketing intermediates and producers has been completed. The main agenda was marketing of agricultural products produced by the farmers group. As per the suggestion they made, a collection centre construction committee formed and a Agricultural Products Collection Centre at Pakhribas-9, Dhankuta constructed in collaboration with DADO, Dhankuta
3.4	Marketing network development	Marketing network for the agricultural commodities has been made. Agricultural Product Collection Centre at Pakhribas has started the selling of inputs like seeds and delivery of output like agricultural product to the agricultural Product Market, Dharan
4.1	Farmers training	For the implementation of activity 2.2 and 2.3 training were provided to the farmers which was based on learning by doing or Farmers Field Approach.