



NEPAL

"Partnering for Values-based Development"

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL-NEPAL



Vol. 6 Issue 2 July-Dec 2007

Measuring The Means

Since 1993 until Dec 2006

❖ 11,034 families benefitted from Heifer Project Nepal gift of animals.

❖ Livestock Distributed*

Goat	16,568
Water Buffalo	570
Pig	1007
Rabbit	158
Sheep	111
Bee (Hives)	192

* It includes pass on gifts.

❖ 649 girls supported for their schooling since 2000.

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Women Recognized with Awards

The international 'Women in Livestock Development (WiLD)-2006' award ceremony was held on 27 April in Itahari. Sabitra Guragain, project participant of Itahari, received the award for the outstanding achievement she has made in the social and economic aspects of her life and also for her contribution in the community. There were over 2000 attendees present at the ceremony, including government dignitaries and officials, media, local people, Heifer project partners and staff.



Chabial Biswokarma, Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, remarked that Sabitra's achievement is a pride for the

country and that her success could inspire more women in the community to follow in her footsteps. Ganesh K. C., Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives expressed that Heifer Nepal has truly been able to empower women and build community through its Values-based Holistic Community Development model.

National Awards

Women's Group Coordination Committee, an NGO in Chitwan formed by Heifer women's groups, was awarded with national level WiLD -2006 awards for its commitment and dedication to women's empowerment and community development since 1993.

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From Prison to Reform House

The project partners of Heifer Nepal, SEED Nepal and CDRF, organized a book handover program for the inmates in Parbat district in which books and book-shelves were given to the inmates. This was carried out under the "Gift of Cornerstones to Prisoners" project, which is very different from the regular projects of Heifer Nepal, particularly in terms of the project participants. The project was implemented under the request of the district-level government authorities who had witnessed the impact of the Cornerstones on the lives of Heifer women's groups.

After handing over books and shelves to the prisoners, Kamal Kant Regmi, Chief District Officer - Parbat said, "Our search for knowledge should transcend the prison walls and bring about positive changes in each of our lives. We are very fortunate to have received such an opportunity from Heifer Nepal and I hope that our inmates will make the most of this project." Gopal Man Shrestha, District Superintendent of Police said, "This project will be extremely helpful to transform the prison to a reform house and I strongly believe that this undertaking will be a fruitful one. I am highly impressed by the Cornerstones training conducted for the inmates." Ganesh Gurung, Heifer Nepal Regional Program Coordinator, stated that the inmates should be able to internalize the Cornerstones and set an example for others like them. Since this is an entirely new



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From the album of HPI Nepal



Heifer Project Participants from Belsi, Chitwan performing their cultural dance.

endeavor for Heifer Nepal, he said the success of this project will be decisive for future projects of similar nature. The program took an interesting turn when Bhim Bahadur Pariyar, an inmate convicted of rape two years back, announced that the inmates would make a monthly contribution of USD 1.2 to the education fund created by the Heifer women's group for needy children. While handing over the cash, Pariyar said, "This is my small attempt to set an example to the world outside and also to express my gratitude to the women's group that has inspired us by treating us like brothers."

The Cornerstones training has brought about positive changes in the inmates. They have given up smoking and have begun to maintain cleanliness and hygiene within the premises of the jail. The inmates have already started passing on their knowledge to new inmates. The environment of the jail has changed and in response the inmates are also being treated with more respect and kindness.

Indicating Impact

"Caste discrimination has been gradually declining. As a result, I was able to sell buffalo milk in the collection center, which traditionally a dalit would not be allowed to do."



Self-reliance for Emancipation

Forty-two-year-old Bimala Nepali belongs to a dalit community. Dalits are the so-called untouchables and marginalized caste (often the most deprived people in Nepal) who live in grinding poverty and are assigned to the most menial jobs. "Being a dalit woman, I had to endure the double oppression of a being woman and dalit.

However, it's ironic that people consider us untouchables but have been taking occupational services from us for generations.

"Before Heifer came to our life, we had to eke a living as bonded labor and serving as a tailor. My past life was mired in debt, poverty and discrimination. The turning point in my life came when I joined a Heifer group in 2005. I received trainings, goats, and other agricultural inputs from Heifer. The Cornerstones training gave a new meaning to my life and made me realize the potential within and around me. The knowledge that I was responsible for my own development was liberating, and it provided me hope of a better life.

Goat-raising has been a lucrative occupation and I have been able to earn USD 928 by

selling goats. I bought a buffalo with that income and have been making an annual income of USD 571 by selling buffalo milk. Due to the impact of the Cornerstones training in my community, caste discrimination has been gradually declining. As a result, I was able to sell buffalo milk in the collection center, which traditionally a dalit would not be allowed to do. We grow enough vegetables in the kitchen garden to manage our need and have also made a good income from ginger farming.

I also invested in a tailoring machine for my husband, which has given us self-employment and a good regular income. My husband gave up drinking after he received Cornerstones training and has been able to internalize Cornerstones in his life. I have been able to build a house and a toilet with the income. I have already passed on two goats to other needy women's groups and I have six goats in the pen. The Values-based literacy program (VBLP) has made me literate and has also helped me to internalize and reinforce Cornerstones in my life. I want to establish a cooperative in the future that will mobilize the social and economic capital of the community in a more effective way. I want to thank Heifer for the change in my attitude, without which I would never have been empowered in this way."

Indicating Impact

"The children in the community also get the opportunity to use the library's space for combined studeis and other activites."

International Cornerstones Training Conducted



Heifer Nepal organized two international Cornerstones trainings during the last six months. Cornerstones trainings have been effective in Nepal

because the participants get the first hand experience of the remarkable community-level impact made by the Values-based Holistic Community Development model. In the first training, the participants were from Mozambique, Uganda, Northern America, Africa, USA, Mexico, China, Philippines and Thailand. The second Cornerstones training held in Chitwan was organized for existing project partners from India, Bangladesh and Pakistan

library by performing deusi-bhailo (singing and dancing during Tihar festival). Heifer Nepal also supported the youth group for their initiation. The youth group constructed a facility with locally available material and has been collecting books for the library. The children in the community also get the opportunity to use the library's space for combined studies and other activities

HPI Nepal Program Vision Statement

HPI Nepal Program vision slogan is "In Partnership, Let's Build Happy Community by Alleviating Hunger and Poverty"

....HPI Nepal has a vision that HPI-HQ, Government of Nepal, donors, partners and project participants recognize it for its efficient and effective program.

Library Established by Youth Group



Phulbari Youth Group of Nuwakot, formed and mentored by Heifer groups, has established a library in their community. The youth group raised funds for the

Study tour for international A/SP project partners

Heifer Nepal has organized a study tour for various project partners from India. The main objective of the study tour is to share the Values-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) approach and its



process in Nepal. Heifer Nepal is not only responsible for supervising Heifer projects in India, Pakistan,

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, but also for building capacity of the project partners in these countries. The study tour was a capacity building opportunity for the project partners and provided a common forum for all the project partners to share and exchange knowledge and experience

Program Possibilities

Integrated Community

Development Project

- ❖ Income
- ❖ Environment
- ❖ Women
- ❖ Capacity Building

Women Empowerment Project

- ❖ Women
- ❖ Income
- ❖ Capacity Building
- ❖ Self-reliance

Values-based Community

Livestock Development Project

- ❖ Education
- ❖ Self-reliance
- ❖ Women

Indicating the Impact

"Interestingly, the buffalo's milk production increased by half a liter after the net was put up and decreased by half a liter when the net was not put up."

From Heifer International Nepal Country Director

Dear friends,

During this period Heifer Nepal hosted two Cornerstones training for Heifer staff and project partners across the world. It was a great opportunity for Heifer Nepal to share and exchange Values-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) model and best practices through trainings and field-visits.



Heifer Nepal organized a series of award ceremonies to honor this year's international and national award winning project participants. Sabitra Guragai, WiLD 2006 winner, was honored in a grand award ceremony which had participation of Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Chabilal Biswokarma, government dignitaries from line organizations, media, Heifer Nepal staff and project partners, project participants and local people. Everyone was moved by Sabitra's story of transformation and the confidence she portrayed during the award function. Such moments are priceless to us because they not only reinforce our zeal and commitment to our mission but inspire more people to have hope and courage. We greatly attribute our achievement to the VBHCD approach for transforming the individual and community in both practical and philosophical terms. We hope to make a difference to more lives in the future as we move forward with our mission.

Sincerely

Dr. Shubh Narayan Mahato
Country Director

Mosquito Net for Buffalo !

Heifer project participants living in a nearby sugarcane factory area have begun to protect



their buffalo with mosquito net due to the high prevalence of mosquitoes and other insects in the area. Rabari Devi, a Heifer project participant, initiated this practice after she received trainings on Cornerstones and improved animal management which made her realize that animals need to be treated humanely.

The buffalo's shelter gets covered with netting during the night and it keeps unwanted insects and mosquitoes at bay. Interestingly, the buffalo's milk production increased by half a

liter after the net was put up and decreased by half a liter when the net was not put up. Due to this fascinating phenomenon, more group members living in that particular area are adopting this novel practice. Heifer Nepal ensure that the gifts of livestock provided are well taken care of. Animal well-being and welfare get equally emphasized in its projects.

Environment Awareness Rally



Women's groups of Heifer organized an environmental awareness rally in Kathmandu to urge people to stop burning tires and plastic and to

raise awareness of the resulting health hazards. Over 1200 people from Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Nuwakot, Lalitpur and Kathmandu districts participated in the rally and passed through Kalanki, Kalimati, Teku, Tripureshor, Sundhara, New Road, and Durbar square to merge in mass meeting.

**HPI
CORNERSTONES**
FOR JUST AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**PASSING
ON THE GIFT**



ACCOUNTABILITY



**SHARING
AND CARING**



**SUSTAINABILITY
& SELF-RELIANCE**



**IMPROVED
ANIMAL
MANAGEMENT**



**NUTRITION AND
INCOME**



**GENDER &
FAMILY FOCUS**



**GENUINE NEED
& JUSTICE**



**IMPROVING THE
ENVIRONMENT**



**FULL
PARTICIPATION**



**TRAINING &
EDUCATION**



SPIRITUALITY

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Likewise, Nisha Thanet from Buhari Mahila Samuha, Nawalparasi and Laxima Adhikari from Samaj Kalyan Woman Group, Lamjung were both awarded with the Golden Talent Award (GTA)-2006 for their remarkable achievements made in life.

Ganesh K.C., Secretary and Dal Ram Pradhan, Vice-Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Dr. Purushottam Mainali, Director General of Department of Livestock Services and Raj Babu Shrestha, Executive Director of Poverty Alleviation Fund participated the WILD award distribution

Voices from the Field

Sense of accountability triggered by Cornerstones



Hari Prasad Sharma, a project partner of Heifer Nepal, shares how Cornerstones transformed him. “Apart from being the chairperson of an NGO, NYC I used to work as a teacher in a local school. Due to my

commitment at the NGO, I could not go to the school regularly. Though my irregularity greatly hampered the education of the school children, I could not let go of the income I was receiving as a teacher. Only after observing the Cornerstones training being held for the group members, I was disconcerted by my accountability toward the students and school management. Gradually it dawned on me that I had never questioned my actions and had been guided by my selfish motive. I realized my misdeed, resigned from my teaching job and became fully committed with the NGO. Had it not been for Cornerstones, I might never have reflected upon my actions and accountability towards other people. I am glad that it has made me mindful now.”

ceremony.

Speaking during the ceremony, Dr. Mainali stated that livestock development is crucial in economic and social empowerment of rural communities and Heifer Nepal had taken livestock development to another level by incorporating the Values-based Holistic Community Development model. Similarly, Mr Raj Babu Shrestha, remarked that the women’s empowerment and social mobilization are remarkable in the Heifer projects, and Poverty Alleviation Fund would like to work in collaboration with Heifer in the future

Overcoming the dead wood in society



Uma Rai, Heifer project participant, arranged a marriage for her sister-in-law who lost her husband at an early age seven years back. “Due to cultural and religious practices discriminatory toward women, widows are often considered a

bad omen, blamed for their husband’s death, and not allowed to remarry. After I received the Cornerstones and gender trainings, I gained a new perspective on life and began to understand that social barriers are a hindrance to development. With the newfound wisdom, I was determined to help my sister-in-law start a new life with a man she loved. I had a tough time convincing both the bride and the groom’s families, but eventually they had to consent. I am glad that I supported my sister-in-law, otherwise she would be forced to live alone all her life, unaware of having a choice.”



“Partnering for Values-based Development”

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Stamp

To,
