

Measuring The Means

Since 1993 until Dec 2007

- ❖ 20,000 families benefitted from Heifer Project Nepal gift of animals.
- ❖ 809 girls supported for their schooling since 2000.

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NVA honors Heifer Nepal and Dr. Lohani

Nepal Veterinary Association (NVA) presented Heifer Nepal with NVA-Excellence Award on the occasion of its eighth national conference held on 8 May 2008 at Kathmandu. Heifer Nepal was awarded for its outstanding contribution on socio-economic empowerment of communities through Values-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) Approach using livestock as an entry tool. Dr. Shubh Narayan Mahato, country director of Heifer Nepal received the award.



NVA- National Award. Mr. Subash Chandra Nembang, the then Speaker of the Interim Legislature Parliament, presented the award to Dr. Lohani for his exceptional leadership in public, private and non government sectors and for pioneering the VBHCD Approach in Nepal.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mahendra Nath Lohani, vice president of A/SP Programs of Heifer International, was also honored with the

After receiving the award, Dr. Lohani shared that one should always seek to attain greater heights in life for which one might have to emerge from their existing comfort zone. He also said, technical knowledge in veterinary is not enough to address the needs of the poor communities and it has to be made more holistic.

Bothar Staff in Nepal



"It is the best study tour that any of us had ever participated in and surely Nepal must be one of the leading, if not the leading, programme within the Heifer International family," said Peter Ireton, CEO of Bothar, an Irish non-profit organization and a working partner of Heifer International. Peter along with 19 Bothar staff visited Nepal for a study tour from 12 to 16 May 2008. The program also included David Moloney, Deputy CEO and Dr. Bernard Muyeya, Oversees Program Director.

The team visited project sites at Chitwan, Pokhara and Kathmandu, interacted with project participants, project partners and made home visits. The team also witnessed a Passing on the Gift Ceremony in Chitwan.

From the album of HPI Nepal



Project participants welcoming the guests from China

Jeremy Meehan, Director of Education, Bothar, remarked, "It is humbling to see the great spirit among the project participants, even in the face of such challenges they encounter. It was heart-warming to see the very real results of the work of Heifer, and we are so happy to know that perhaps we have been able to contribute in some small way. It will certainly be a main focus for me in the months ahead to transmit this information to our supporters through the education sector here, so as to encourage further support."

The event was very productive in terms of understanding and complimenting each other's work, strengthening relationship between Bothar and Heifer and working together towards the common cause.

Indicating Impact

"The award has encouraged me to work harder and I'll continue to help other women like myself to bring them out of poverty."

- Bimala Nepali

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.

(Updated: October 2001)

Indicating Impact

"I am greatly influenced by the reflection of the VBHCD model I saw at the field level, and I believe that it is the kind of transformation Heifer as an organization seeks to achieve. There is a lot we can learn from Nepal program and implement them in our own."

- Bai Yongyi

Building The Future

Bimala Nepali and Pachiya Devi Shah, the Golden Talent Award (GTA) winners-2007, are the personifications of dedication and determination. Born in a highly superstitious society, they had to face many problems that



arose from social ills. Their economic condition was so poor that one meal a day was also scarce to them.

Their lives changed for good when Bimala and Pachiya received gifts of two goats and a buffalo respectively along with various trainings from Heifer Nepal. While the gift of animals from Heifer Nepal increased their income, trainings encouraged them to explore their potentialities within themselves. Today, they are not only limited to lift their family out of poverty but also permeating their knowledge to change the age-old practices of the whole society. People in their community have begun to respect and encourage them to lead the community for development initiatives. They

have emerged as a leader in their community. For them, their journey of change has only begun as they are working to bring similar transformations in the lives of many other women.

GTA award was presented to Bimala amidst a grand function organized on 17 June. Dr. Purushotam Prasad Mainali, director general of Department of Livestock, Dr. Shubh Narayan Mahato, country director of Heifer Nepal, Narayani Sharma and Lila Somai, members of Constituent Assembly were also present at the program.



Speaking to a large mass, Bimala said, "The award has encouraged me to work harder and I'll continue to help other women like myself to bring them out of poverty."

Pachiya Devi will be presented the award during Heifer Anniversary in September 🐾

Project Participants Inspire China Team

Heifer Nepal hosted a study program for Heifer China from 15 to 21 December, 2007 with the objective of sharing the process and impact of Values-based Community Development (VBHCD) model in Nepal. The visit team comprised of 15 members which included Heifer China staff, project partners (from various government organizations), and project participants.

The study team visited project sites of Heifer Nepal in Chitwan, Nawalparasi and Tanahun districts. Professor Song Jinpin, Consultant at Heifer China, expressed that it was stimulating for the Chinese team to learn about the VBHCD model and witness its



effectiveness in bringing economic and social empowerment among communities. She said during their participation in the Passing on the Gifts Ceremony (held in Tanahu), the zeal of the project participants was so palpable that it only reinforced their strength on the VBHCD model.

Reviewing the visit, Zhang Shuping, project participant, Dayi County Rabbit Association, drew a beautiful analogy of the impact at the field level by comparing the project participants to tree saplings and Heifer's Cornerstones to sunshine. "The saplings will soon mature as trees that are capable of nurturing more saplings," remarked Shuping. "I am greatly influenced by the reflection of the VBHCD model I saw at the field level, and I believe that it is the kind of transformation Heifer as an organization seeks to achieve. There is a lot we can learn from Nepal program and implement them in our own," shared Bai Yongyi, Deputy Director General from Chengde Animal and Husbandry Bureau. The study team have developed action plan to implement the lessons learned during the visit in China program 🐾

Program Possibilities

Socio-economic Upliftment of Deprived Farmers for Social Justice Project

- ❖ Food security
- ❖ Self-reliance
- ❖ Women

Abhiyan Income Generation and Skill Development Project

- ❖ Self-reliance
- ❖ Women
- ❖ Income

Community Based Empowerment Project

- ❖ Women
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Income
- ❖ Ethnic Group

From Heifer International Nepal Country Director

Dear Friends,

As I witnessed Golden Talent Award (GTA) being handed over amidst a huge mass in Palpa, I was moved by the spirit and vigor in Bimala Nepali, the award winner. While she shared her remarkable journey from insufficiency, discrimination, hopelessness to this day of honor I was one more time convinced that modest effort can lead to great transformation. She confirmed the 'awakening' in an individual, the ability to envision a better life and cooperation in the community to turn it into reality is what that makes a difference.



Despite all the effort, huge amount of wealth invested, range of approaches tried, millions of people are still struggling to survive. The battle against hunger and poverty is always challenged by the complexity of the problem. One important lesson most of us have learned in this mission is- it is the people's transformation that matters not only the delivery of inputs. As I recall many brilliant faces of 'Bimalas' I have no doubt that there is a huge potential in every individual and community. The simple practical approach, Values-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) is helping people unleash their potentials and building communities.

Nepal Veterinary Association (NVA) honored Dr. Mahendra Nath Lohani, Vice President, A/SP program, Heifer International with the NVA- National Award for his exceptional leadership and pioneering Values-based Holistic Community Development approach and Heifer Nepal was awarded NVA-Excellence Award for its outstanding contribution to socio-economic empowerment of communities through VBHCD Approach. We take it as recognition of VBHCD in development sector in Nepal. Many national and international visitors / experts, who get to interact with 'Bimalas' in the field, have always appreciated this modest effort. Such responses have been fueling energy to move ahead with greater conviction.

I would like to thank all our supporters and well wishers for partnering with us in the mission of ending hunger and poverty.

Sincerely

Dr. Shubh Narayan Mahato
Country Director

A/SP Workshop on Sharing Best Practices

Indicating Impact

The workshop developed draft copies of project partner's activities, guidelines for community facilitator's selection, capacity assessment and evaluation process and criteria.



A week-long A/SP workshop on sharing best practices was conducted in Chitwan from 17 to 24 March, 2008. Senior Program Officers - Field and Training Managers and Officers from all A/SP country programs (Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam) participated in the workshop.

The main objectives of the workshop were to share the lessons learned from previous TOT workshop, best practices of Cornerstones and PSRP from each country program.

The group visited the fields at Chitwan and Nawalparasi districts to observe community facilitators' role in the project. Project partners and community facilitators from these two districts were also invited to share their experiences and practices in the field. The workshop then developed draft copies of project partner's activities, guidelines for community facilitator's selection, capacity assessment and evaluation process and criteria. On the basis of the draft guidelines, each country programs will prepare final guidelines for their project partners and community facilitators.

**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

Reflections on my visit to Nepal

Cheryl Jones



were wonderful examples of true impact. One group that was new and off to a great start and another group that was fully matured and mentoring other pass-on groups. The contrast was amazing. I learned what true empowerment looks like, face to face.

We also saw a local NGO that had spun off from a Heifer women's group and were now registered and partnering with Heifer Nepal to implement new projects. I was totally overwhelmed.

I will never think about the word empowerment without visualizing these women and their stories of success. It was a most humbling experience that changed my life and gave me strength and hope for the future.

Cheryl Jones is an IT Project Manager at Heifer Headquarters. She visited Nepal program from 2 to 11 May 2008.

I struggled to find adequate words to describe my experience in Nepal. After seven years with Heifer and many opportunities to see projects in all the Area Programs, I thought I knew what Heifer impact looked like, but I was wrong. The two groups that we visited

Voices from the Field

Initiatives for Better Education

The exemplary effort of "Janahit and Nava Pratibha Women Group" of Dhital Goun (village) at Pokhara to uplift the quality of education in their village is admirable. The women who were once illiterate themselves have now realized the importance of education and want to provide the best to their children. The women groups said, "Every month, we visit the school of our children to enquire about their performance. One member among us goes to the school everyday to monitor whether the teacher arrives on time or not and to see the classes are running regularly. We also clean the school premises every week for our children to study and play in a

clean environment. We have been providing scholarships to the needy and diligent children so that they won't be deprived of education." These women envision enlightening the village with good education and they haven't left any stone unturned to achieve this.



NEPAL

"Partnering for Values-based Development"

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To,

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