

IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

(January 2004 -September 2005)



The beekeepers of Chatiya CFUG, Kailali supported by the Project as a short- term income generation activity harvest honey from the bee- hive.

Photo: Suresh K Thapa

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List of Abbreviations

ANSAB	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio resources
#	Number
BDS-MaPS	Business Development Services- Marketing, Production, Services
BZDP	Buffer Zone Development Project
CBOs	Community Based Organization
CF	Community Forest
CFUGs	Community Forestry User Groups
DC	District Coordinator
DFO	District Forest Office / Officer
DLNMC	District Level NTFP Management Committee
EC	Executive Committee
EFEA	Environment and Forestry Enterprises Activity
F/BZ	Forestry and Buffer Zone
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest User in Nepal
FM	Frequency Modulation
FO	Field Officer
FOP	Forest Operational Plan
FPP	Forestry Partnership Project
HHs	Households
HMGN	His Majesty's Government/Nepal
IGAs	Income Generation Activities
ILNMP	Improving Livelihood through NTFP Management Project
JABAN	Jadibuti Business Association Nepal
LIPs	Local Implementing Partners
MKJU	Mechikali Jadibuti Udhyog
MIS	Market Information System
NCO	Nepalgunj Cluster Office
NFE	Non-Formal Education
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
NMG	NTFP Management Groups
NTFP	Non -Timber Forest Products
NMMS	NTFP Market Management Support Center
PWBR	Participatory Well -being ranking
RDF	Regional Director of Forests
RBRI	Resunga Bamboo and Rattan Industry
SAPR	Semi -Annual Performance Report

1. INTRODUCTION

Improving Livelihood through NTFP Management Project (ILNMP) funded by Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation completed its project period on 30 September, 2005. This was in operation since January, 2004 in Banke, Bardia and Kailali (see annex 2 for location map) for an initial period of eighteen months until 30 June, 2005. However, it was extended as part of No Cost Extension for another three months until 30 September, 2005 to allow completion of some important activities. The ILNMP was implemented as a complementary to on-going SAGUN (Forestry/Buffer Zone) Program that has been in operation since November 2002 in three above districts including other two districts viz. Dhading and Dolpa in hills. SAGUN (Forestry/Buffer Zone) Program is purely a software program that focuses on promoting good governance practices in the natural resource management thus the target audiences, particularly the poor and the marginalized people, do not receive tangible benefits from it. Therefore, in order to address this gap, CARE-Nepal implemented ILNMP as an integrated and complementary component of this Program to improve the livelihood of selected poor target groups.

This is a completion report of ILNMP being prepared to submit to Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation. This covers the period from January, 2004 to September, 2005 and includes major initiatives, progress, best practices, lessons learned and issues. In addition, it includes a summary of evaluation of ILNMP conducted recently through external consultants.

1.1 Goal

To contribute to improving livelihoods of poor women and Dalit of NFE graduates through sustainable management of NTFPs

1.2 Objectives

- Strengthen institutional, technical and financial capacity of NFE graduates focusing on poor women and Dalit to increase their income through NTFP management (conservation, cultivation to marketing)
- Strengthen institutional, technical and financial capacity of NTFP cooperatives, partners and service providers.
- Build capacity of contractors, cooperatives and partners to work together and develop linkage at district, regional and national levels for NTFP marketing
- Conduct action research on some potential NTFP for replication

1.3 Expected Outcomes

- Increased participation of poor, female and Dalits NFE graduates in managing NTFPs in community forests.
- Increased knowledge and skills of equitable and sustainable NTFP management among forest user group members who are NFE graduates.
- Increased capacity of local partners, service providers and project staff for offering quality services to NTFP management groups.
- Key lessons learned about NTFP management are documented and disseminated for scaling up of similar activities in the project districts and other CARE projects.

1.4 Strategies and Working Approaches

The Project adopted the following strategies and approaches for effective implementation of the project activities.

1.4.1 Working through Local Implementing Partners

The Project was implemented in three tarai districts viz. Banke, Bardia and Kailali in partnership with twelve Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) selected as Local Implementing Partners (LIPs) for the project period. Each of the above-mentioned districts had four LIPs (refer annex -2 for details of LIPs), which were responsible to carry out field level activities including coordination with district as well as local stakeholders for synergic outputs of the program.

They were also responsible to provide necessary support to the NTFP Management Groups in the implementation, supervision and monitoring of the project activities and facilitating marketing of NTFP products. The LIPs were selected after thorough discussion with wide range of stakeholders like CFUGs, DFO, FECOFUN etc. at site level as well as district level workshops. The LIPs were selected in line with partner selection criteria developed based on common understanding among major stakeholders (refer box 1).

1.4.2 Formation of NTFP Management Groups and allocation of community forestland

Each LIP conducted participatory well being ranking in their CFUGs and identified households into three categories viz. well off, medium and poor. From poor groups, they again identified 204 ultra poor households as target audiences giving priority to Dalit and landless households. Altogether, 12 NTFP Management Groups, one in each LIP, were formed comprising ultra poor households. LIPs allocated a total of 48.06 hectare of community forestland to the NTFP Management Groups for conservation, cultivation, management and marketing of NTFPs to improve their livelihood. The community forestlands have been allocated for three years with formal agreement signed between LIPs and NTFP Management Groups which makes the provision for 90 % benefits in an average to the NTFP Management Groups and 10% to the LIPs. Please refer box two for details about NTFP Management Group formation process.

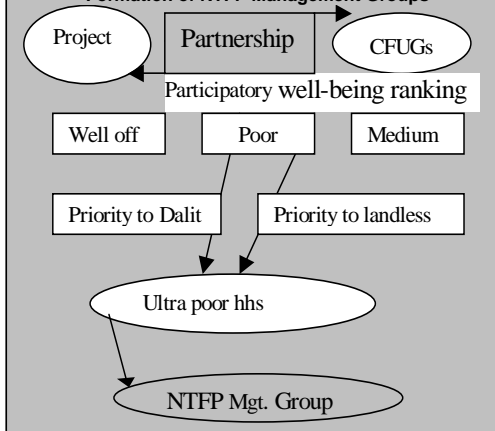
1.4.3 Selection and focus on NTFP species:

Though the Project area is very potential in NTFP resources, only five major species were selected for promotion during the project period considering the limited time and resources. The species include Piper longum (Pipla), Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo), Calamus tanuis (Bet), Acacia concinna (Shikakai) and Rauwolfia surpentine (Sarpagandha). These species have been selected due to their high commercial values, less complicated process for domestication and availability in the most of the CFUGs.

Box 1 Local Implementing Partner Selection Criteria

1. CFUGs having forest resource with commercially valuable NTFP products/species.
2. CFUGs with greater number of FPP's NFE graduate focusing poor and Dalit women.
3. CFUGs those are willing to set aside some area for NTFP management through poor NFE graduates.
4. CFUGs having or planning to incorporate NTFP management provisions in their FOPs.
5. Interested and active CFUGs.

Box 2 Formation of NTFP Management Groups



The first two species were given high priority for seedling production and cultivation based on their high market value, less complicated process for domestication and comparatively shorter gestation period. The remaining species, which grow naturally in the community forestland, were selected for conservation, management and marketing by both CFUGs and NTFP Management Groups. It is observed that the CFUGs and NTFP Management Groups have been benefiting from the harvesting and sale of fruits of latter two species, which are growing naturally in community forest.

1.4.4 Formation of NTFP Cooperatives/ Networks for better product marketing

The Project emphasized on formation and strengthening of NTFP Cooperatives and Networks for better product marketing so that ultra poor would maximize their benefits from the sale of NTFP. As a result, one NTFP Cooperative and two districts level NTFP Market Management Support Centers were formed in the Project districts, which supported NTFP Management Groups and CFUGs for market linkages and development. Further, the Project maintained regular coordination with BDS –MaPS Project for marketing of the products. Technical and managerial supports to NTFP Management Groups and LIPs were provided through Project and counterpart staff (CARE and DFOs) including Local Resource Persons (LRPs).

1.4.5 Making Project Level activities a truly pro poor

The Project used all its efforts to make the program truly a pro poor. It selected ultra poor households as target audiences and implemented different kinds of activities focusing on short term as well as long term benefits. For long term benefit, Project implemented NTFP program and for short term benefit on and off farm based IGAs such as goat keeping, vegetable farming, bee keeping etc. to cope up with their current economic hardship. As a result, the Project has been successful in initiating a pro poor program as a pioneer in community forestry program in Nepal.

1.5 Target Audiences

There are 12 NTFP Management Groups who are the primary target audiences of the Project. These include 204 households with a total population of 1489 (743 male and 746 female), of which 32 hh are *Dalit*. Further, the Project includes 12 LIPs, one NTFP Cooperative and two NTFP Market Management Support Centers as its target audiences in three districts. (Please refer annex-3 for details about NTFP Management Groups).

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRESS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the last 21 months, the Project conducted series of important capacity building programs like training, workshops and cross visits in order to build technical and organizational capacity of target audiences and local implementing partners (LIPs). These included NTFP nursery management training, organic NTFP farming and compost making training, NTFP marketing training and orientation workshops on NTFP cooperatives, rattan based handicrafts and furniture making training, bamboo based handicrafts and basket making training, bee-hive briquette making training, mushroom cultivation training, bee keeping training, NTFP business plan preparation training and livestock management training. Besides, the Project developed two NTFP manuals, one focusing on nursery management and other for marketing.

As regards nursery and plantation activities, Project supported LIPs and NTFP Management Groups (NMG) to plant 188,890 NTFP seedlings over 25 hectares of community forestland, of which 1,10,000 seedlings were produced from 10 different nurseries managed by NTFP

Management Groups and additional 78,800 were purchased from other sources. The seedlings included Piper longum (Pipla) and Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo).

Project's other noteworthy progress include on and off farm based income generation activities, which were initiated to complement NTFP program. Altogether, 224 ultra poor households including 20 additional households were supported to carry out eight different activities such as goat keeping, pig farming, vegetable farming, running of herbal medicine shops etc. with partial support of LIPs as matching fund. These activities have been gradually helping target audiences to generate income.

Gijara CFUG Banke and B. P. Nikunja CFUG Kailali renewed their Forest Operational Plan (FOP) with the provisions of NTFP management for the livelihood improvement of poor households. One NTFP Cooperative and two District Level NTFP Market Management Support Centers have been established with an objective to coordinate among different stakeholders, producers and traders for systematic trading system of NTFPs. Now they are playing significant role in collective trading which has helped to reduce the tiers of brokers and middlemen to maximize the benefits to the target groups from the sale of NTFP. Further, the Project in collaboration with other organizations/federations like ANSAB/MIS and FECOFUN, Banke initiated to publish market prices of major NTFPs through local newspaper which proved effective to inform and aware CFUGs, NTFP producers, collectors and other individuals involved in NTFP thereby enhancing their dealings and collective bargaining power.

The various project interventions over the Project period such as training, workshops, cross visits, orientation and regular follow ups have been able to help NTFP Management Groups build their capacity and play active role in implementing the Project for their livelihood improvement. They are taking active part right from the conservation and cultivation to harvesting, processing and marketing of the NTFPs. Furthermore, they have demonstrated increased confidence in raising their voices at different forums like meetings and assemblies and influencing in the decision making process to ensure transparency and equitable benefit sharing of the resources. As a result, many CFUGs have been increasingly investing their group fund to support poor households for their livelihood improvement.

3 PROJECT PROGRESS TOWARDS START UP ACTIVITIES

3.1 Project set up and staffing

In order to oversee the effective management of the project, CARE Nepal appointed a forestry graduate as a NTFP Officer with a base at Nepalgunj Cluster Office from where SAGUN (F/BZ) Program operates. The NTFP Officer worked under the direct supervision of the Team Leader of SAGUN (F/BZ) Program. The Chief of Party and Team Leader of SAGUN Program provided him strategic directions and supports for the effective implementation of the project activities. The NTFP Officer was responsible for overall planning, implementation, monitoring and documentation of the project including technical and institutional backstopping to the LIPs and target audiences and market linkage in coordination with district teams of SAGUN (F/BZ) Program.

3.2 Start Up Activities

A series of start-up workshops and meetings were conducted at various levels to familiarize the staff and key stakeholders on project goal, objectives, interventions, strategy and working approaches. The workshops remained successful to develop common understanding about the project, target audiences and coverage area. Following are the details of start up activities.

3.2.1 NCO Level Start up Workshop

To facilitate effective implementation of the project activities and develop common understanding about the project goal and objectives among CARE Nepal staff, the Project organized cluster level start-up workshop at Nepalgunj. The workshop discussed on the overall concepts, rationale, goal, objectives, expected outcomes, detailed activities and budget of the project. Altogether eight senior staff of CARE-Nepal representing from SAGUN (F/BZ) Program and other CARE project like SAMARPAN, Buffer Zone Development Project and senior management team of CARE Nepal participated in the workshop. The workshop was successful in devising activity wise implementation plan, strategies as well as monitoring and evaluation plan.

3.2.2 District Level Start up Workshop

Likewise, Project organized district level start-up workshops in Banke Bardiya and Kailali districts to introduce the project among key stakeholders to develop common understanding on goal, objectives, interventions, strategies and working approaches. A total of 125 participants from Regional Forest Office, DFO, district FECOFUN, CFUGs, NGOs, CBOs, poor and Dalit users, collectors, traders, middle men, NTFP entrepreneurs, NTFP cooperatives journalists, CARE-Nepal staff and others were present in the workshops. The workshops discussed and shared different issues like availability and importance of NTFP in CFs, government policy of taxation and royalty, subsistence mode of production and scope of NTFP based project. The discussion also focused on major commercially valuable NTFP species to be promoted by the Project including the role and responsibilities of key stakeholders for smooth execution of project interventions. The workshop participants agreed to incorporate NTFP management provision in all their FOPs because this provision was absence in the FOPs initially. The workshops, as a whole, remained successful to finalize partnership modality for effective implementation of the project activities through LIPs/CFUGs.

3.2.3 Baseline Study

A baseline study at households level was completed to find out base values in terms of social and economic status of the target groups. The major objective of the study was to measure and compare the changes in terms of economic improvement of the target audiences "before and after" the project interventions. In order to do so, a set of questionnaire was developed to obtain the information on five major aspects of livelihood viz. natural, physical, financial, social and human resources. The baseline study was carried out in 196 poor households through Women Motivators and Local Resource Persons (LRPs). Some major findings of the study are:

- Of the 196¹ households involved in NTFP Management Groups, 38% women are illiterate, 48% literate from Non Formal Education and 14% from formal schooling.
- 11% women are representatives of Executive Committee of CFUGs.
- 40% women have participated in different training like community forest management, group management and other community development training.
- 25% women possess skills like rope making, basket making, sewing and cutting, knitting and leaf-plate making. However, their skills are confined to household level work only due to their poor economic condition.
- Average household size is 7.3 persons
- Average household income per year is NRs.30, 790.00 (US\$ 434)

¹ Of the 204 target households (hhs), study was carried out only in 196 hhs since female respondents of remaining hhs were away on their farm works and other domestic business during the study period.

- Daily wages from labor works cover major portion of the average income and contribution of agricultural product is very less since most of them are either landless or land poor. Besides, the contribution of NTFP in household income is (less than 1%) negligible².
- The findings further show the low status of Dalit in overall scenario. For instance, Dalits' average income is 20% lesser than that of non -Dalit.

3.2.4 Situation Analysis of NTFP

The Project conducted an assessment/situation analysis of NTFP in its project area through external consultant. The major objective of the study was to assess the overall scenario of NTFP sub-sector in three districts to enable the project to design an appropriate programming on NTFP for livelihood improvement of the poor households. For this, the study team made intensive field visit in different areas of the Project and discussed with various CFUGs, NTFP Management Groups, NTFP traders, entrepreneurs, project staff, other like-minded organizations, DFO staff and other stakeholders. They also observed the NTFP cultivation sites including the areas where NTFP were protected and managed in nature, and conducted species specific resource assessment for Pipla (*Piper longum*), Bet (*Calamus tanuis*) and Kurilo (*Asparagus recemosus*) in three respective CFUGs like Gijara in Banke, Saraswati in Bardia and Gyanjyoti in Kailali.

The study report has captured wider aspects like assemblage of available NTFP species, preference based ranking, condition and quality of commercially valuable NTFPs and their protection, cultivation, harvesting, collection, processing and current marketing practices. The report has also analyzed the existing NTFP policies in relation to the provisions for supporting poor users in community forests with suggestions for future improvement. The report in general gives an overall scenario of NTFPs in three districts and provides its recommendations to maximize the benefits of these potent resources for livelihood improvement of the poor in a sustainable manner.

The report is probably the first of its kind, which could give an overview of NTFP found in these three districts. In the past, development and management of NTFPs in these districts remained slack due to lack of systematic study and documents on NTFPs. Even different organizations working for the NTFP have their own analysis and interpretations regarding status and condition of NTFP, which mismatches to each other. The situation analysis report has been valuable asset for the project at the time when there is a growing realization of NTFP management from all corners.

3.2.5 Development of Training Manuals

Two NTFP manuals, one focusing on nursery management and other for marketing, were developed to meet the identified training need. The manuals have been made more users' friendly and practical rather than conceptual, focusing mainly on major five species viz. *Asparagus recemosus* (Kurilo), *Rauwolfia serpentina* (Sarpagandha), *Acacia concinna* (Sikakai), *Piper longum* (Pipala) and *Calamus* sp. (Bet).

The NTFP nursery training manual focuses on nursery management techniques for conservation, propagation and cultivation of the species. Whereas, the NTFP marketing training manual focuses on the marketing parts of NTFPs such as collection, processing and storage of NTFPs which can add values including improvement of access to marketing information. The positive aspect of the manuals is inclusion of users' experiences and learning that were obtained from field level exercises as well as cross learning. Both the manuals were field tested and updated to conduct training at user ground level.

² These findings do not include the changes that come up with project intervention.

4. PROJECT PROGRESS TOWARDS EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Outcome #1: Increased participation of poor, women and Dalit NFE graduates in managing NTFPs in community forests.

4.1 NTFP seedling production and plantation

The Project supported to produce NTFP seedlings in ten nurseries established by the NTFP Management Groups with the support of LIPs. Altogether 1,10,000 seedlings were produced from the nurseries with major two species e.g. Piper longum (Pipla) and Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo). In addition, the Project supported LIPs to purchase 78,800 seedlings of Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo) from other sources considering their needs and management potentiality.

Altogether, NTFP Management Groups planted a total of 1,88,800 NTFP seedlings over 25 hectares in three districts, 52% of total community forests land, allocated them by the LIPs for the NTFP management. Participation of target groups in the plantation activity was noteworthy because

of increased awareness, knowledge and motivation about continued long-term benefits of the NTFP. Their know-how on plantation techniques, which they acquired from previous raining, made plantation effective and successful. NTFP management Groups. The LIPs/NTFP Management Groups have managed micro irrigation facility with the support of Project for irrigation of NTFPs cultivated in their community forestland for better production.



Women are planting Kurilo (Asparagus recemosus) seedlings in the community forestland allocated to them by Basanta women CFUG, Kailali, for income generation. Photo by: Suresh K Thapa, July 26, 2005

4.2 Establishment of Action Research Plot

Target groups have limited understanding and knowledge on cultivation practices of NTFPs. As a result, they are unable to identify and compare as to which would be better technique that results in better production of NTFP species. In view of this, there has been a growing realization on the need of an action research in identifying appropriate technique which can maximize the production of NTFPs species. Considering this, the Project established three action research plots for carrying out study on two species i.e. Piper longum (Pipla) and Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo). One action research plot was established in Basanta women community forest in Kailali to see the performance of Piper longum (Pipla). This include three plots with three different treatments like (a) plants with vertical supports (b) plants creeping on the ground and (c) control plots in its nature. Likewise, two action research plots were established in Bardiya and Banke on Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo) to see the production from two perspectives and treatments. One in Santoshi community forest, Bardia to assess the tuberous root production between plants from seed origin and tuberous root origin, and another is in Brindaban community forest, Banke to compare the tuberous root production between indigenous and introduced species. Each plot with 200 square meter area accommodated two sub plots of similar environment (with almost same site quality). In each sub plot, 100 seedlings were planted using similar plantation techniques.



Action research plot of Piper longum (Pipla) showing two treatments i.e. plants with vertical support and plants without support in Basanta Women CFUG Kailali.

Photo: B.R Pradhan, September 25, 2005

The results of the action research above will be the basis for replication of the best technique in future to ensure better production of the NTFP species.

Achievement

It is, however, not the right time to see the concrete result and measure the changes because these species take minimum three years for production from cultivation stage. However, field observations showed that plants of Piper longum (Pipla) with vertical support are growing vigorously than that of without support. Similarly, plants of Asparagus recemosus (Kurilo), both tuberous roots originated and indigenous, have vigorous growth too.

Constraints/Challenges

- Action research on NTFPs in the project area is new initiative and only demonstrated effects could win the trust and confidence of target groups.
- LIPs require continuous supports and technical guidance until three years and beyond, since the gestation period of these species goes beyond the project period.

4.3 Marketing of wild NTFPs and accrual of benefits

Due to project's continuous support in awareness on NTFP and importance of linkage with traders, entrepreneurs and processors, LIPs and NTFP Management Groups became reasonably successful in making profits from the sale of wild NTFPs they protected and managed. The skills and knowledge acquired from various training and awareness program helped them to better manage their existing NTFP in their community forest. They conducted

cleaning operation in the community forest where Piper longum (Pipla) and Acacia concinna (Shikakai) were growing naturally. In addition, they provided vertical support to the species for better fruit production of Pipla.

As a result, four LIPs including respective NTFP Management Groups namely B.P Nikunj in Kailali, Gijara CFUG in Banke and Santoshi CFUG and Baghailaphanta in Bardia earned NRs. 24,324 from the sale of 224 kg. dried Pipla and Shikakai fruits at local markets and NTFP Cooperatives. This inspired other nine CFUGs of the project districts which include Basanta women, Laligurans, Radhakrishna, Ashok, Miteri, Bhrikuti, Jwalagiri and Mahila jagriti for protection, collection, processing and sale of wild NTFPs. As a result, they earned a total of NRs. 73,725 from the sale of 3334 kg. dried fruits of wild NTFPs at local market as well as NTFP Cooperative. The major NTFP they collected and sold from community forest were Piper longum (Pipla) and Acacia concinna (Shikakai). The benefit from the sale of NTFPs have changed the traditional thoughts of users which has further encouraged them to do protection, cultivation and management of the existing NTFP resources in their community forest. Importantly, ultra poor users of CFUGs who did not know the commercial value of NTFP earlier, have now been involved in NTFP management for the income. Please refer box 2 for instance.

NTFP Cooperative, district level NTFP Market Management Support Centers and other traders, entrepreneurs and their associations at district level namely Mechikali Jadibuti Udhog Kailali and Jadibuti Business Association of Nepal (JABAN) have been supporting the CFUGs/LIPs and NMG for better product marketing.

Expected Outcome #2: Increased knowledge and skills of equitable and sustainable NTFP management among forest user group members who are NFE graduates

4.4 Training /workshop and cross visits

The Project completed altogether 33 events of different training/workshops and three events of cross visits with an objective to build technical and organizational capacity of NTFP Management Groups, LIPs and other stakeholders. The major events were NTFP nursery management training, organic NTFP farming and compost making training, NTFP marketing training and orientation/workshops on NTFP cooperatives. The other events of capacity building included rattan based handicrafts and furniture making training, bamboo based handicrafts and basket making training, bee-hive briquette making training, mushroom cultivation training, bee

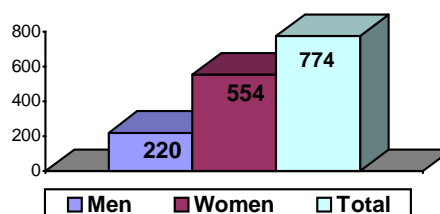


Shikakai (Acacia concinna) fruits collected by NTFP Management Groups of Santoshi CFUG, Bardia are being sun dried before taking them to the market for sale.
Photo: Suresh K Thapa, April 28,2005

Box-2 NTFP benefits ultra poor households

Ultra poor members of B.P. Nikunj CFUG/ NTFP Management Group, Kailali protected Piper longum (Pipla) in their allocated community forestland. They also provided vertical support to facilitate better fruit production, which resulted in good production of Pipla later. They collected 26 kg. Pipla dried fruits and earned **NRs. 2340.00** by selling it to Mechikali Jadibuti Udhog. Again the amount has been invested for other income generation activities as planned by ultra poor households.

Participants of Training/workshops



keeping training, NTFP business plan preparation training and livestock particularly goats and pigs management training. Altogether, 774 participants including 554 women (71%), 91(11%) Dalit and 640 (82%) poor participated in the training/workshop. (Please refer annex-6 for details about training participants.)

The above training/workshop remained successful in improving technical know how on nursery techniques, skills and knowledge on organic production of NTFP and better product marketing, market linkage and development. As a result, they established ten nurseries, produced 110,000 NTFP seedlings, acquired 88,000 seedlings in addition and planted them over 25 hectares of CF area. Similarly, following the training, 17 ultra poor households started bee keeping for income generation. One CFUG namely Srijna in Banke has prepared its NTFP business plan for sustainable management of NTFP and livelihood improvement through it. Users have been taking better care of their goats and pigs following their participation in livestock management training.



On the other hand, following successful participation in two-month long rattan based furniture and handicrafts making training, five participants have been making different kinds of furniture items and selling at local market as well as NTFP Cooperative. One participant namely Indra Sapkota has been working in Resunga Bet Bans Industry in Nepalgunj as a regular employee.

Expected Outcome # 3: Increased capacity of local partners, service providers and project staff for offering quality services to NTFP Management Groups

4.5 Formation of NTFP Market Management Support Centers

During the reporting period, the Project facilitated and supported to form NTFP Market Management Support Centers (NMMSC) in Kailali and Banke districts. The short-term objective of the NMMSC was to coordinate between and among NTFP producers, traders, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders for better market linkage and development, and in long term, to develop/establish NTFP Cooperative with the involvement of NTFP Management Groups, LIPs, CFUGs and interested individuals working in NTFPs trade.

NMMSC, Banke has been facilitating the CFUGs and LIPs to sell products and provides them the price information in their meetings and discussions. The Center conducts monthly meeting of collectors, traders, entrepreneurs and processors and makes consensus on how to move ahead for trade-off between production and marketing of NTFPs. With the help of this Center, Miteri CFUG has been able to find appropriate trader at Nepalgunj and sold 1,530 kg. of dried Shikakai (*Acacia concinna*) fruits and earned Nrs. 24,480.00. Similarly, NMMSC, Kailali established good coordination with Mechikali Jadibuti Udhyog (MKJU) for NTFP marketing. It facilitates NTFP Management Groups, LIPs and CFUGs to bring their products collectively at MKJU for sale at the current market price. It also broadcasts NTFP price and other awareness program through local Ghodaghodi FM radio.

Some of the CFUGs like Janakalyan, Ranighat and Dalithit of Banke have started subscribing this paper and sharing the price of NTFPs verbally with those who are not able to read themselves. The sharing of NTFPs prices and other necessary information through newspaper media has been effective means to aware CFUGs, NTFPs producers, collectors and other individuals involved in NTFPs dealings with enhanced collective bargaining power.

4.6 Establishment of NTFP Cooperative

NTFPs Cooperative in Bardia district, which had been in the process of registration for over 2 years, was registered and got legal status. With the support of the Project, the Cooperative has been able to conduct various orientation programs to aware CFUGs, LIPs, NTFPs Management Groups, traders and other stakeholders about the importance of NTFP Cooperative and its role of product marketing. The Cooperative encourages CFUGs to protect, cultivate, and collect NTFPs with assurance to sell their products through them at a right market price. As a result, altogether 2,051.9 kg of various NTFP viz. Pipla, Gurjo, Shikakai, Harro, Barro etc. were collected at NTFPs Cooperative from 11 CFUGs including two LIPs and sold at Nepalgunj market. The Cooperative is getting better prices for each NTFP species after it started dealing with appropriate vendors in various places like Nepalgunj, Gularia and even Delhi (India). Similarly, NTFP Cooperative Bardia district has been facilitating to sell the rattan and bamboo based products prepared by training participants for their income generation.



Assistant Forest Officer of Bardia District forest Office, Mr. Hem Raj Bista is inspecting the quality of *Acacia concinna* (Shikakai) collected at NTFP Cooperative Bardia for sale at the market.
Photo: Suresh K Thapa, April 29, 2005

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4.7 Publication of NTFP market price list through local newspaper

Project in collaboration with other organizations and federations like ANSAB/MIS and FECOFUN, Banke, has initiated publishing market prices of major NTFPs through local newspaper. Current prices of NTFPs in major market places of both Nepal and India are published widely through a local newspaper called *Nishpaksha Dhwani* Daily, once in a week. The newspaper updates the major NTFP available in the season and prices based on various markets. The *Nishpaksha Dhwani* Daily is well-recognized daily newspaper in Banke district, which has a circulation in other than Project areas like Dang and Surkhet districts.

4.8 Renewal of FOP with NTFP Management Provision

In order to manage NTFPs in community forest in sustainable manner, two CFUGs namely Gijara in Banke and B.P. Nikunj in Kailali, renewed their Forest Operational Plans (FOP) with NTFP management provision. The term for FOP is normally five years and requires to be renewed through DFO (District Forest Office) in every five years to be eligible to use the community forests. In the current processes for preparing the FOP, the CFUGs followed a highly participatory manner. Gijara CFUG alienated 133.85 hectares of community forest into 5 blocks whereas B.P. Nikunj alienated its 31 hectares of CF into three blocks for sustainable management of community forest based on vegetation types and landscape. The FOP emphasizes on equitable distribution of forest products among all users and ensures support to poor for their livelihood improvement through pro-poor activities. The FOPs have incorporated the appropriate prescriptions for management techniques in the block for major four species like bamboo, rattan, long piper and asparagus. The FOPs have been made reasonably flexible for allocation of part of community forestland for NTFP management to ultra poor households.

Expected Outcome # 4: Key lessons learned about NTFP management are documented and disseminated for scaling up of similar activities in the project districts and other CARE Projects.

4.9 NTFP Brochure

The Project produced its first brochure and shared widely with its target audiences, LIPs, NGOs and Federations, Cooperatives, government counterparts and other relevant stakeholders involved in the NTFPs sector at local, district and regional levels. The brochure reflects the project goal, specific objectives, expected outcomes, working strategy and approaches, major activities, major achievements, lesson learnt and challenges. This also includes related program photographs making it more informative and user-friendly.

4.10 Process documentation and dissemination

Process documentation has been a continued process together with the implementation of each activity on regular basis. Process documentation so far done reflects what and how the Project did, what did it achieve and what lessons it learned. These are documented and produced in the form of performance reports, workshop and training proceedings, training manuals, brochures etc. In many forums and discussions, the project shared its program activities, achievements, good practices, lessons learned, challenges etc. with the audiences like CARE staff, NGOs, INGOs, net works, government counterparts etc. and sought their inputs for better future programming.

5 PROJECT PROGRESS TOWARDS SUPPORTIVE ACTIVITIES

5.1 On/Off Farm Based Income Generation Activities



Woman feeds her goats provided by Srijana CFUG, a LIP in Banke as a short term income generation activities besides allocation of community forestland for NTFP management. Photo: Suresh K Thapa, May 4, 2005

Based on lessons learned of the first six months, the Project supported target audiences to launch on and off farm-based income generation activities to complement NTFP program. The target households of the project were ultra poor identified on the basis of participatory well being ranking. Project's lesson learned in the past was that some additional on and off farm based income generation activities together with NTFPs, would be highly essential to provide them immediate benefits to cope up with present economic hardship and motivate them into long term NTFP management. In view of this, the Project supported 224 ultra poor households including 20 additional households through their respective LIPs for implementation of major eight activities such as goat keeping, pig farming, vegetable farming, running of herbal medicine shops etc. as shown in table 1. They planned these activities in a participatory manner based on their interest, potentiality, traditional occupation and localities.

Table.1: Income generation activities and households benefited

S N	Types of Income Generating Activities	Households Benefited	Remarks
1	Goat/sheep keeping	171	Two CFUGs e.g. Gijara in Banke and Tharu in Bardia included other 20 poor households in the IGAs.
2	Pig farming	34	
3	Vegetables farming	10	
4	Small general shops	5	
5	Beekeeping	1	
6	Cycle repairing	1	
7	Herbal medicines shop	1	
8	Aaran (Iron workshop)	1	
	Total	224	

In order to best manage the income generation activities mentioned above, some mechanisms were developed between LIPs, NTFP Management Groups and the Project. These included that the Project would provide NRs. 50,000 to each LIPs who, in return, would provide at least 10% matching fund from their group fund. Similarly, Each LIP made provision to contribute certain amount from the individuals involved based on their capacity to keep up their ownership. The mechanism further include on how to financially support them, and how the income accrued from the activities reach poor in an equitable manner, and how their needs and supports are being addressed by LIPs, Project and other stakeholders. Further, LIPs would play key role for overall coordination, implementation, supervision and monitoring of the activities with the involvement of NTFP Management Groups.

The Project, in addition, supported ultra poor households for income generation activities through LIPs by developing three pilot models. This include (1) full subsidy with certain matching fund from individuals, e.g. Srijana CFUG, Banke, (2) loan for three years with no interest, e.g. Gyanjyoti CFUG Kailali and (3) Loan for three years with certain percent of interest, e.g. - 1% interest in Saraswati CFUG, Bardia. Of them, the best model, which would give greater and sustainable benefits to target audiences, will be widely shared and replicated in other CFUGs as a pro poor model in future.

It seems that some of the ultra poor households received benefits earlier and some others are likely to get it in near future. Magnitudes and reaping of benefits depend upon what type of activities they selected and conducted. A dalit (blacksmith) household in Shitalchhayan CFUG, Banke resumed his occupation of iron works and started getting benefits immediately when he was supported to run his long closed down blacksmith profession (iron workshop). Similarly, Krishna Singh B.K of Gijara CFUG, Banke earns more than Nrs. 2000.00 per month by selling herbal medicines at local market who provides door-to-door services at the community. Similarly, Mrs. Sharada Kadayat, member of NTFP Management Groups of Chatiya CFUG, Kailali earned Nrs. 800.00 from the sale of 4 kg. honey harvested just in three months time. Similarly, Patawari Tharu of Tharu CFUG, Balapur, Bardia generated NRs. 10,000 from the sale of nine piglets.

On and off farm based IGAs as a complementary to NTFP program have become supportive to ultra poor, not only for their economic empowerment but also to continue their efforts in cultivation, protection and management of NTFPs in a sustainable manner. On one hand, the Project has clearly developed a approach through which CFUGs can continue their support to poor household mobilizing their fund even without external support, and on the other, there has a system been established in putting the ultra poor first for support and replicating the support to others gradually.

6. REPLICATION OF NTFP PROGRAMS

Pro-poor community forestry approach of the Project is being widely accepted and recognized by CFUGs, their networks and other multi-stakeholders. Being impressed and motivated with this approach, though it still lacks strong policy and other legal instruments, replication effects have been observed in many CFUGs in the project districts. To date, altogether 17 CFUGs identified 327 ultra poor households that include 71 Dalits (21%), and allocated them 22.00 hectares of community forestland for NTFP management for their livelihood improvement. Please refer annex-4 for details.

It is noteworthy to mention that 17 CFUGs above have also planted NTFP species over 9.00 hectares of their community forestland with the support of CFUGs fund. Ayodhyaphanta CFUG, Bardia alone planted seedlings of Kurilo (Asparagus recemosus) over more than 1.15 hectares of community forest. On the other hand, nine CFUGs of the project districts which include Basanta Women, Laligurans, Radhakrishna, Ashok, Miteri, Bhrikuti, Jwalagiri and Mahila Jagriti started protection and management of wild NTFPs in their community forestland and received benefits. They earned a total of NRs. 73,725 from the sale of 3334 kg. dried fruits of wild NTFPs at local market as well as NTFP Cooperative. Laligurans CFUG, Kailali alone collected and sold around 300 Kg. Shikakai and Pipla and earned Nrs. 7840.00. Likewise, Ashoka CFUG Banke, which earned Nrs.19,500.00 from the sale of Tulsi leafs, has allocated Nrs.16,500 to five ultra poor households for further cultivation of NTFPs species over 1.00 hectare community forestland, which has been allocated to them recently. Such economic benefit from the sale of NTFPs has changed the traditional thoughts of users resulting in protection, cultivation and management of NTFP in their community forest with increased motivation and encouragement. Importantly, ultra poor users of CFUGs who did not know commercial value of NTFP earlier has now been involved in NTFP management to improve their economic condition.

7. SHARING OF GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSON LEARNED

Project together with SAGUN (F/BZ) Program organized a 1-day workshop in two districts viz. Banke and Kailali to share good practices and lessons learned with DFO, LIPs, NTFP Management Groups, FECOFUN and other stakeholders. The workshop was successful in developing common understanding on its interventions, outcomes and effects so far. All the stakeholders who participated in the workshop provided valuable suggestions and recommendation to continue the project by seeking other sources and building on the current success of the project. Following were major topics/issues discussed and dealt in the workshop:

- Since ultra poor households of the CFUGs are involved in NTFP cultivation, it has been a big challenge for them to wait for two to three years to receive the benefits.
- Participants raised the issues especially on the cost -benefits because they have not yet harvested the NTFPs cultivated by them.
- All the participants appreciated the idea of cooperative formation for better coordination among NTFPs producers and marketing of the products.
- Integration of quick return IGA i.e. goat keeping and pig raising etc. with NTFP program which takes at least 2-3 years for return, were the best idea to encourage poor households in NTFP cultivation and community forest management.
- Participants emphasized the need of cross visit and interaction with relevant stakeholders (traders, users/producers and DFO staff) for better understanding in NTFPs production, marketing and government policy.

The initiatives, success and the experiences of the project were appreciated and acknowledged by all the participants as a part of pro poor community forestry program in Nepal.

8. LESSON LEARNED

1. Community Forest User Groups are the most appropriate local partners to launch pro-poor program like NTFPs in community forests and other IGAs in consensus with all stakeholders of the community. This enhances the managerial capacity of CFUGs and encourages/motivates them to promote mobilization of their own fund to launch IGAs for pro-poor activities.
2. Natural resource management based program, particularly NTFPs program, should be for longer period until target audience become capable of carrying over the program on their own.
3. Participatory Well Being Ranking is an appropriate tool to identify poor as target audiences in CFUGs and their support areas to better design the program for their livelihood improvement.
4. Since the target audiences of the project are the poorest of the poor, implementation of appropriate on and off farm based IGAs together with NTFPs, help them receive immediate benefits, and motivate them to keep their efforts continued towards NTFP activities for long-term benefits.
5. Integration of NTFP programs from Right Based Approach and governance perspective result in increased accountability and transparency in the CFUGs activities. This encourages and motivates CFUGs to utilize their group fund for the benefits of poor households.
6. Project's limited scope, resources and time are the challenge and constraint to support all the poor households in the CFUGs. It supports only the selected poor households among the poor leaving out still considerable numbers of poor households as target audiences.

7. Pro poor policies and supportive legal instruments like legislation and operation guideline are crucial to mainstreaming the CFUGs' poor focused initiatives in a way which ensures sustainability, equity and uniformity.

9. MAJOR CHALLENGES / ISSUES

1. Limited/inadequate awareness of Community Forest User Groups on in-situ as well as ex-situ management of commercially valuable NTFP species.
2. Most of the Forest Operational Plans lack NTFPs management provisions/prescriptions, which poses problem to CFUGs in collection and marketing of NTFP from community forests.
3. Unorganized trading system of NTFPs increases the involvement of brokers and reduces the profit margins for collectors/ users.
4. Involvement of only limited numbers of poor households as project's target audiences and leaving out many other poor households raise lots of questions and issues.
5. Production and collection of sufficient NTFPs to meet market demand in future.
6. Discontinuation of the project while it is gaining full momentum in pro poor program posed a big challenge on how to sustain the activities of LIPs/ NTFP Management Groups further and how to capitalize the replication effects in other CFUGs.

10. EVALUATION OF ILNMP

As part of a performance evaluation of ILNMP, a case study was conducted through external consultants. They completed their work and presented their findings and recommendations recently, the summary of which are presented below:

This evaluation was carried out to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability/replication of the project. Since quantitative information was inadequate for the evaluation, the assessment of the project was therefore accomplished based on qualitative information.

Relevancy of the project

The project was relevant to national context because it contributed to the poverty reduction that has been envisaged by the Government in its tenth five years plan and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. Similarly, it also contributed to the promotion of NTFP as envisaged by the NTFP policy (2004). Besides, the project materialized the provision of land allocation in Community Forests, which was one of the recommendations provided by the Joint Technical Review Committee.

Efficiency of the project

The project carried out situation analysis for NTFP-cultivation and baseline survey before the implementation of the program. Four NTFP-Management Groups were formed in each district. The total number of households involved in the project was 204 including 12 Dalit. Female members are managing the NTFP-Management Groups.

The project identified five major NTFP-species for the cultivation through consultative manner with the target groups, CFUGs, DFOs and other stakeholders. It provided support to plant 140,000 NTFP-seedlings over 19 hectares and organized various skill development training related to NTFP and off/on-farm Income Generation Activities. Besides, the project set up one action research plot in each district.

Effectiveness of the project

Collaborating with the respective CFUG as Local Implementing Partner (LIP) was very effective which helped the project to identify the target groups and allocate the community forestland for the NTFP-cultivation. Support with matching fund provision to off/on farm IGAs motivated the NTFP-Management Group members to make this program successful because it helped them to carry out quick-return IGAs as NTFP-cultivation would take long time to reap the benefit. Series of training, workshops, cross visit etc. organized by the project enhanced the technical and organizational capacity of NTFP-Management Group members to better manage (cultivation, harvesting, processing, marketing etc.) their NTFPs resulting in getting better price of the products.

Project established and maintained a good coordination with stakeholders because of which NTFP marketing linkages and NTFP cooperatives were formed in the districts with the help of BDS-MaP and district FECOFUN. In addition, the project in collaboration with ANSAB and FECOFUN published market prices of major NTFP-species in the local newspaper, which was effective to aware LIP, and NTFP-Management Group-members on the market prices of NTFPs on regular basis for better bargaining of their products. Similarly, the BDS-MaP also provided NTFP-seedlings and a processing machine to Brindaban CFUG in Banke district.

The target groups appreciated monitoring and regular supervision done by the project. Regular supervision and back up by LIPs were also effective.

Impact of the project

During the study, four indicators: food sufficiency, roofing pattern, education of children, and health status were assessed. No changes were observed on these indicators, before and after the implementation of the project. It was too early to assess the impact, because the target groups had not benefited from the NTFP-cultivation. Indirect impact of the project was however observed in the project areas. Many examples regarding this matter were seen.

Since the project has promoted NTFP management in community forests for the livelihood improvement of the poor households -particularly women and Dalit through the involvement of respective Community Forest User Group, it has empowered the CFUG and target groups to manage not only NTFP but also other natural resources by maintaining transparency, accountability, and bringing active participation of target groups. As the SAGUN (F/BZ) has also envisaged these substances in its objectives, the project has, therefore, contributed to it success.

Best Practices and Lessons Learnt

Collaborating with CFUGs, use of participatory well being ranking, allocation of community forestland to poor, equitable benefit sharing mechanism, support to off/on-farm income generation activities and rights based approach to the programming were some of the best practices of the project.

The major lessons learnt from the project are:

- CFUGs can be appropriate institutions for the conservation and management of NTFPs with the involvement of ultra poor households;
- Short-term NTFP project could not fetch the expected benefits of the target groups; and
- The poorest households cannot wait for longer period to get benefit, alternative IGA should therefore be supplemented to provide immediate benefits to them as the ILNMP did.

The Way Forward (recommendations)

The Improving Livelihood through NTFP-Management Project was successful to meet its envisaged objectives and goals. Some of the outcomes of the project have indicated that there is potential of livelihood improvement through NTFP-management. This concept should be replicated in other areas provided that the following recommendations will be practiced.

- The MFSC (Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation) should revise the existing legislations to include the provision of allocating certain community forestland for pro-poor program.
- In a short period of eighteen months, actual outcome cannot be seen from a project like NTFP. The duration of such project should therefore be of five years.
- Since market is also a main factor that governs the IGA, market strategy should be developed.
- A joint monitoring system, which includes representative from DFO, CARE-Nepal, target group, and primarily stakeholder, should be carried out quarterly. This will increase the coordination and responsibilities. It is thus suggested to develop joint monitoring manual.
- Each CFUG, based on the income, is suggested to allocate certain percentage of the income for the welfare and livelihood improvement of poor CFUG-members. To materialize and legalize, such provision can be included in the Operation Plan and accordingly should be planned every year.
- Conflict context analysis is recommended to carry out before starting of the project.
- There can be large numbers of poor households within one CFUG. A livelihood strategy and plan should therefore be developed to materialize the expectations of all poor households, while implementing such type of project.
- In community, there exist two types of actors. One is powerful who enjoys and controls the natural resources. Another actor is weak and does not have easy access to the resources. Without harmonizing these two actors, NTFP-management project can face problems and challenges. To solve the issue, the powerful actor should be educated where as the weak actor should be empowered. An extension package program is therefore recommended to develop.

Financial Status

The details of the financial status are presented in the following table:

FY : 2005

STARTING DATE: 01 JANUARY 2004

ENDING DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2005

PROJECT # : NPL040

FUND CODE: NP 152(Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation)

S.N.	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL BUDGET US\$	EXPENSES AS OF June'05	EXPENSE As OF July-Sept 2005	EXPENSES AS OF September'05	BUDGET BALANCE AS OF September'05	BURN RATE AS OF September'05
1	Start-up Activities	9,707.00	5,886	3,335	9,222	485	95.00%
2	Increase participation of Poor, female and dalit graduate	3,257.00	2,216	1,204	3,420	(163)	105.00%
3	Increased knowledge and skills of equitable and sustainable	43,632	35,911	8,930	44,841	(1,209)	102.77%
4	Capacity building	6,617	5,020	1,663	6,683	(66)	101.00%
5	Documentation and disseminated for key lessons learned	5,190	1,586	3,914	5,501	(311)	105.99%
6	Post project Support Activities	6,597		5,334.00	5,334	1,263	80.85%
	GRAND TOTAL	75,000	50,620	24,381	75,000	(0)	100.00%

TIME ELAPSED 100.00%

Expenditure

FY 2004 14,049

FY 2005 36,571

FY 2006 24,381

Total expenditure as of September'05 75,000

TOTAL FUND RECEIVED AS OF SEPTEMBER 2005 75,000

TOTAL EXPENSES AS OF SEPTEMBER 2005 75,000

BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 2005 (0)

Annex 1:

IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT PROJECT

PLAN AND PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES (January 2004 to September 2005)

Working Districts: Banke, Bardia and Kailali

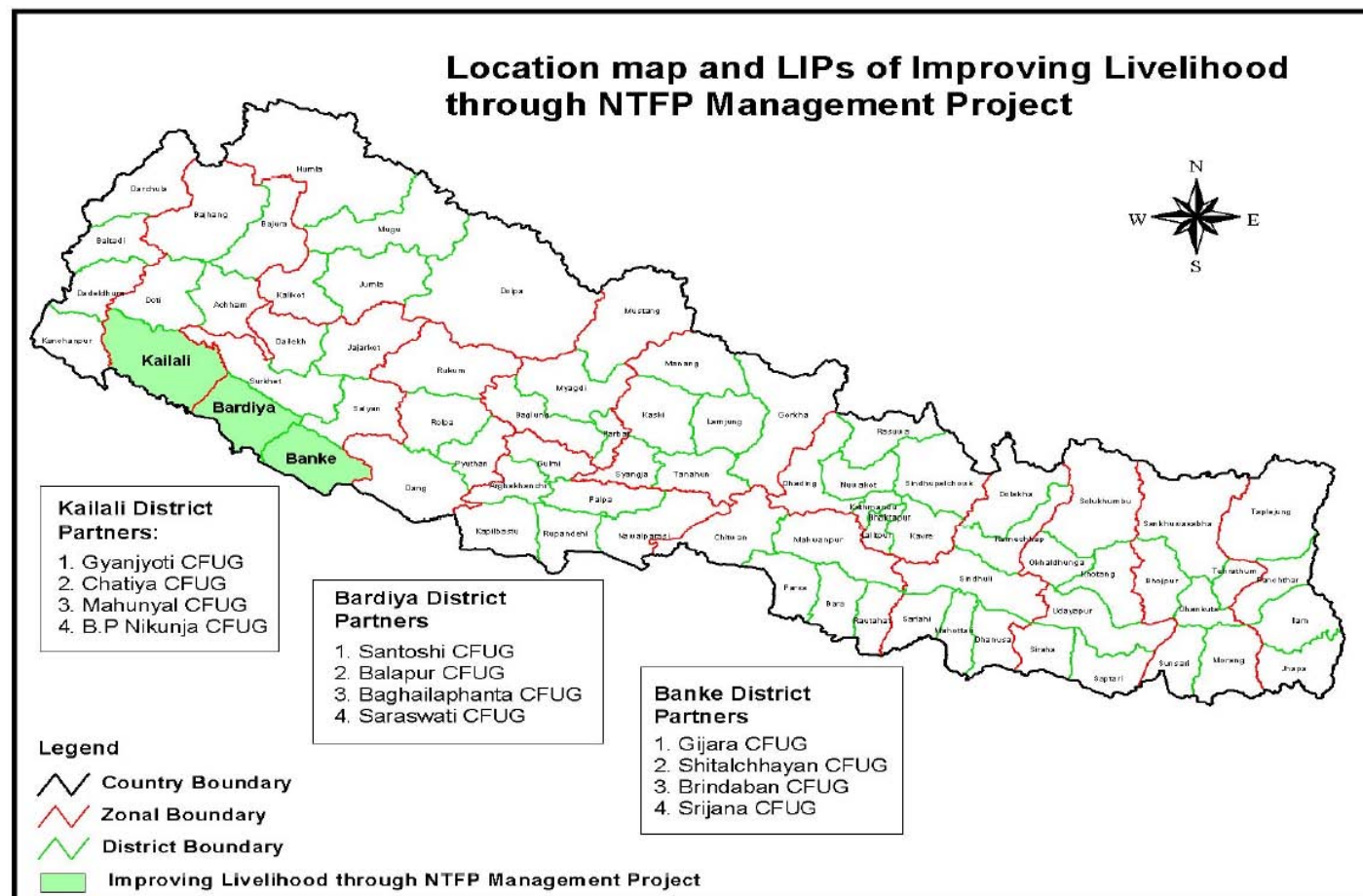
Local Implementing Partners (LIPs): Twelve selected Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs)

SN	Activities	Focus Group	Unit	Quantity			Remarks
				Plan	Progress	%	
a.	Start-up Activities						
a.1	Hire NTFP facilitator	Staff	Person	1	1	100	The Project appointed one NTFP officer from within the CARE staffing who was based at Nepalgunj cluster office to oversee the project activities.
a.2	Conduct project start -up and orientation workshop	Staff and key stakeholders	Event	3	3	100	
a.3	Conduct a participatory stakeholder/ situation analysis of NTFP in three districts	LIPs/ NTFP Management Groups	Event	1	1	100	
a.4	Household level base line survey	NTFP Management Groups	Event		1		This was completed to find out base values in terms of social and economic status of the target groups to measure and compare the changes in terms of economic improvement of the target audiences Before and After the project interventions.
Outcome 1: Increased participation of poor, female and Dalit graduates in managing NTFPs in community forests.							
1.1	Form NTFP Management Groups from poor and NFE graduates	Poor and Dalit and NFE graduates	No.	9	12	133	Project implements the activities in twelve selected CFUGs (mentioned herein as LIPs), thus twelve NTFP Management Groups formed, one in each CFUG.
1.2	Support establishment of NTFP nursery for seedling production	LIPs/ NTFP Management Groups	No.	10	10		

1.3	Plantation of NTFPs	NTFP Mgt. Groups, LIPs	ha.		25		NTFP Management Groups planted major two species namely <u>Piper longum</u> (Pipla) and <u>Asparagus recemosus</u> (Kurilo) over 25 ha. of community forest.
1.4	Support in establishment of NTFP demonstration plot and facilitate action research	NTFP Mgt. Groups, LIPs	No.	3	3	100	
Outcome 2: Increased Knowledge and skills of equitable sustainable NTFP management among forest user group member who are NFE graduates.							
2.1	Collect and adapt training manuals	LIPs/ NTFP Management Groups	set	3	4	133	Two NTFP manuals, one focusing on nursery management and another for marketing, were developed. Two manuals were collected from other organizations as per needs for reference and use.
2.2	Conduct NTFP management, harvesting, processing and market analysis training	LIPs/ NTFP Management Groups	Event	19	19	100	It included three events of nursery management training, three events of organic NTFP farming and compost making training, twelve events of market management training and one event of NTFP business plan preparation training.
2.3	Conduct rattan-based and bamboo based furniture and handicrafts making training	NTFP Management Groups	Event	2	2	100	One event of training was for rattan based items and other was for bamboo.
2.4	Conduct bee keeping and bee hive briquette making training	Management Groups,	Event	2	2	100	
2.5	Conduct Livestock management training	LIPs, NTFP Management Groups,	Event	3	3	100	
2.6	Conduct mushroom cultivation training	LIPs, NTFP Management Groups	Event	1	1	100	
2.7	Organize exposure/study tours for the target audiences	LIPs, NTFP Management Groups, NTFP Cooperative	Event	3	3	100	
Outcome 3 : Increased capacity of local partners, service providers and project staff for offering quality service to NTFP Management Groups.							
3.1	Support to develop NTFP Cooperative/ district level NTFP market management support centers	LIPs/ NTFP Mgt. Groups	No.	3	3	100	One NTFP Cooperative established in Bardia and two district level NTFP market management support centers have been established in Banke and Kailali.

3.2	Linkage development and capacity building of NTFP Cooperative and district level NTFP market management support centers for better product marketing.	Members of NTFP Cooperative/ district level NTFP market management support centers, LIPs	Event	3	3	100	
Outcome 4: Key lessons learned about NTFP management are documented for scaling up of similar activities in the Project districts and other CARE Projects							
4.1	Preparation and sharing of Project brochure	All related stakeholders	No.	1	1	100	
4.2	Organize field monitoring visit of policy makers	LIPs/NTFP Management Groups Cooperative	Event	1	0	0	It was not organized due to present operating environment of Nepal
4.3	Document lessons learned opportunities, challenges through case study	LIPs/NTFP Management Groups NTFP Cooperative	No.	1	1	100	It was completed in the form of final evaluation report

Annex 2: Location map and LIPs of Improving Livelihood through NTFP Management Project.

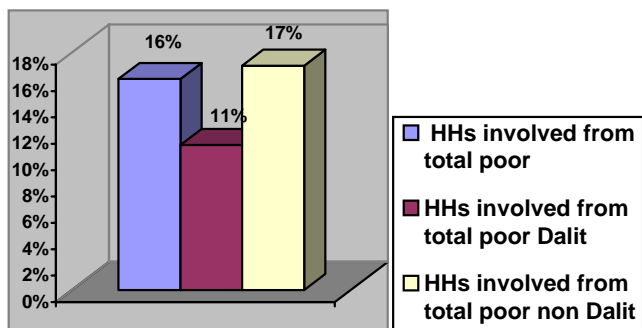


Annex 3: Cumulative data of NTFP Management Groups in Banke, Bardia and Kailali

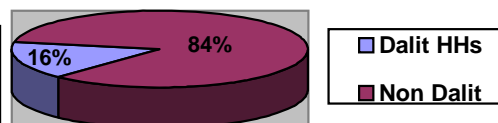
S. N	Name of districts	# of LIPs*	** Total CF area (ha) (Cumulative)	Total CFUG households (cumulative)		Total Poor households identified through ***PWBR		# of NTFP Mgt. Groups	Poor HHs involved in NTFP Management Groups		Community Forestland allocated to NTFP Mgt. Groups (ha.)	Benefit sharing mechanism (% of benefit to NTFP Mgt. group for at least 3 years)
				Total	Dalits	Total	Dalits		Total	Dalits		
1.	Banke	4	387.6	490	126	282	112	4	61	16	9.0	85 %
2.	Bardia	4	221.98	550	5	215	2	4	85	2	19.56	94 %
3.	Kailali	4	415.40	1546	250	809	189	4	58	14	19.5	91 %
	Total	12	1024.98	2586	381	1306	303	12	204	32	48.06	90 % (average)

*LIP: Local Implementing Partners

***PWBR: Participatory Well Being Ranking
Poor HHs coverage in the project



Composition of NTFP Management Groups



In an average, each selected household of NTFP Management Groups has 7 kattha (0.23 ha) of CF land for NTFP management.

Annex 4:

IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT PROJECT Replication Effects of the Project

CF Land Allocation to Poor Households for NTFP Management

District: Banke, Bardia and Kailali

FY :2005

SN	Name of CFUGs	Address	Total Area of CF (ha)	Household				Area allocated for poor (ha)	Poor HHs Benefited			Duration of agreement	Provision of Benefit Sharing (%)	
				Total		Poor			Total	Dalit	Non-dalit		Poor HHs	CFUGs
				Dalit	Non-dalit	Dalit	Non-dalit							
Banke														
1	Saraswati	Kohalpur-2,3	131	9	174	4	37	3	15	4	11	3 Years	85	15
2	Dalithit	Kohalpur-4	78.5	60	7	42	1	1	11	11	0	3 Years	85	15
3	Sidhdibinayak	Rajhena-4	14.82	12	147	1	24	1	15	1	14	3 Years	85	15
4	Shivashakti Mahila	Naubasta-2	31	7	74	7	32	1	16	7	9	3 Years	85	15
5	Baijhnathpur	Shamserganj	76.75	7	78	6	29	3	13	2	11	10 Years	90	10
6	Jana Aasrit	Naubasta6,7,8	120	60	840	52	173	1	22	3	19	5 Years	85	15
7	Haritsrijana	Sitapur-5	17	30	235	22	68	0.5	5	2	3	3 Years	85	15
8	Ashok	Kachanapur	99	97	4	33	3	1	5	0	5	3 Years	85	15
	Sub- total		568.07	282	1559	167	367	11.5	102	30	72			
Kailali														
1	Radhakrishna	Bhajani-1,7,8	409	41	513	23	213	1.5	26	23	3	3 Year	90	10
2	Laligurash	Lalbhoji-4	28.11	0	97	0	40	2.5	36	0	36	3 Year	90	10
3	Bhageshwor	Dhangadhi-6	26.22	2	89	2	18	2	8	0	8	3 Years	90	10
4	Prasansa	Geat-3	10	0	45		10	0.5	10	0	10	3 Years	100	0
	Sub- total		473.33	43	744	25	281	6.5	80	23	57			
Bardia														
1	Ayodhyaphanta	Sanoshree-2	135.49	133	366	107	192	0.5	15	15	0	3 Year	90	10
2	Mahilajagriti	Baniyabhar-3	22.25	0	90	0	36	1.5	36	0	36	5 Year	90	10
3	Sati	Motipur-1	28.75	19	138	14	38	1	33	3	30	3 Years	85	15
4	Gobrelaphanta	Motipur-7	25	0	161	0	49	0.15	49	0	49	3 Years	90	10
5	Lakhana	Belawa-4	72	5	224	3	113	1	12	0	12	3 Years	90	10
	Sub- total		283	157	979	124	428	4	145	18	127			
	Total		1325	482	3282	316	1076	22	327	71	256	3 years		

Annex 5:**IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT PROJECT****NTFP Plantation by NTFP Management Groups****Districts: Banke, Bardia, Kailali****Reporting period: January 2004 to September 2005**

SN	District	No. of CFUGs / NTFP Management Groups	Plantation area (ha)	Major species	Total area allocated by CFUGs (ha.)	Benefit sharing mechanism (% of benefit to NTFP Management)		
					Total		Total	Dalit
1	Banke	4	7.68	Kurilo, Pipla	9.0	90%	61	16
2	Bardia	4	7.04	Kurilo, Pipla	19.56	90%	85	2
3	Kailali	4	10.72	Kurilo, Pipla	19.5	90%	58	14
Total		12	25		48.06		204	32

Annex 6:**IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Training / Workshop / Cross Visit
(For Community Forest User Groups/ NTFP Management Groups)

District: Banke, Bardia, Kailali

Reporting Period: January 2004 to September 2005

SN	Name of activity / event	No. of events	Days per event	Total days	Number of Participants						No. of EC members	No. of CFUGs / represented
					Total		Dalit		Poor			
					Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women		
1	NTFP nursery management training	3	6	18	26	48	0	4	11	39	22	24
2	NTFP market management training	12	3	36	64	246	17	27	40	215	26	12
3	Compost making and organic NTFP farming training	3	2	6	15	60	3	6	12	49	15	27
4	Market linkage and development training	3	2	6	17	56	3	4	12	45	21	24
5	Bee keeping training	1	3	3	15	0	3	0	13	0	1	15
6	Mushroom cultivation training	1	3	3	8	7	0	0	8	7	3	9
7	NTFP business plan preparation training	1	4	4	16	10	0	0	10	10	5	15
8	Bee hive briquette making training	1	4	4	6	1	1	0	6	1	0	2
9	Basic Livestock (goat, pigs) management training	3	2	6	17	73	2	3	15	69	7	12
10	Skill development training on bamboo based handicrafts	1	15	15	16	8	0	0	16	8	0	8
11	Skill enhancement training on rattan based handicrafts and furniture	1	60	60	9	1	0	0	9	1	0	10
12	Study tour / cross visits	3	7	21	11	44	7	11	13	31	9	27
Total					220	554	36	55	165	475	109	185
Grant Total (Men and Women)					774		91		640			