

Project Update: February 2009

List of Activities under Sustainable resource management	Period
Training programme on cooperative operating system	November 2008
Distribution of funds to each of the groups	November 2008
Introduction to non timber forest products	December 2008
Training on alternative energy promotion	January 2008
Introduction to biogas	January 2008
Introduction to solar energy	January 2008
Introduction of bio briquettes	January 2008
Installation of Improved Cooking stoves	January 2008 onwards

Training Programme on cooperative operating system

Under this activity, trainings on the mobilization of savings and credit within the groups was conducted. The objective of this activity is to help the groups collect savings and use the funds for establishing micro enterprises and other income generating activities within the groups. Modalities and general practices on operating the fund were also discussed.

Distribution of funds to each of the groups

This activity was carried out after the training programme on cooperative operating system. Under this activity two types of funds were distributed. A matching grant was provided to the groups based on the savings collected in each of the groups. Similarly, seed funds of equal amounts were also distributed to each of the groups.

Introduction to non-timber forest products

Under this activity, the participants were oriented on the concept of non-timber forest products their uses. The aim of this activity was to create awareness about the non timber forest products that were available locally and also motivate the local communities to carry out plantation of non-timber forest products.

Training programme on alternative energy promotion

- Introduction to biogas

Under this activity, the participants were oriented on the use and importance of biogas. A biogas plant has been installed in the VDC but is not in use. The participants were thus motivated to maintain the biogas plant and use it.

- Introduction to solar energy

Under this activity, the participants were oriented on the importance of solar energy, its uses and applications in the modern day world. The illustration of the use of solar energy was made with the help of a solar powered phone that is the only phone installed in the Balakhu VDC.

- Introduction of bio briquettes

The participants were briefed on the use of bio mass and its benefits. Briquettes were displayed and process of manufacturing briquettes was discussed. Briquettes can be manufactured from household wastes and they are energy efficient. Thus the importance of briquettes in the management of household wastes and its role in combating deforestation were highlighted during the activity.

- Installation of Improved Cooking stoves in each of the households

With an aim to reduce deforestation and to wane indoor air pollution caused by traditional cook stove, improved cooking stoves is being installed in each of the households. The locals are accustomed to use traditional cook stove which not only augmented health problem but at the same time triggered deforestation. Use of improved cooking stove reduces fuel wood consumption, indoor air pollution and also has multi cooking system. It can be installed in small space. The participants will be motivated to use briquettes instead of fuelwood in the improved cooking stoves.

Outcomes/Major achievements till date

- Savings collected in each of the groups
- Participants manufacturing candles and they no more have to buy them.
- Participants able to identify their needs. That is one of the reasons for installation of improved cooking stoves (ICS) in households. Priority was shifted to ICS installation over other alternative energy sources considering the feasibility and local demand.



