

Project Update: June 2012

Farmer to Farmer Education: A advanced farmer named Saraswati Sedhain Dhakal, having more than 3 years experience on awareness creation about bird conservation and organic farming, is being mobilised as motivator in key pockets areas. Recently, she has focused on khairani VDC which is prominent habitat of farmland bird and agricultural site of Chitwan Valley.

She creates awareness to promote organic farming by sharing impact of chemical pesticides on the environment, humans and birds etc. She regularly visits village (door to door) and interacts with farmers educating them for making organic pesticides and explore alternatives of chemical pesticides. She collects farmers' views also which will be helpful to make appropriate programme in the areas.

Farm Visit: Our members regularly visit previous sites and encourage farmers towards organic farming and alert them to pay attention on toxic level i.e. red, yellow, blue and green while buying.

Radio Program: The radio programme "Conservation Campaign" is still running. Weekly episodes are being produced in the joint venture of Vijaya FM and RSGF project and launched through Community Radio "Vijaya FM".

This radio programme "Conservation Campaign" was launched in 2007 by previous RSGF grantee Suman Bhattarai and strengthened by other grantees and stakeholders by continuing it. In the last 6 months, the farmland bird conservation project has been continuing with the message of farmland bird conservation, pesticide impaction and farmers views towards organic farming. So far, we had launched 24 episodes with the support of second RSG.

Bird Conservation Education: In the coordination of environment conservation teachers' forum, a bird conservation education programme was organised in 12 schools of highly impacted zone from pesticide and important sites for birds.

Teachers were trained at first and mobilised to following schools; Himalaya Secondary School, Gita Nagar, Rastriya Primary School, Gitanagar-1, Sahid Smriti Secondary School (Gitanagar-9, Parasnagar), Deep Jyoti Secondary School (Gitanagar 4, Debnagar), Rastriya Primary School (Brahmapuri Patihani), Shree Secondary School (Ganga Nagar, Patihani), Rastriya Primary School (Jakhadi Mai, Ganeshthan, Bharatpur) , Nijananda Rastriya Primary School (Jirauna, Padampur), Rastriya Primary School (Bachhouli), Bachhouli Secondary School (Bachhouli) Chitrasari Secondary School (Chitrasari, Ratnanagar), Mohana Secondary School (Mohana).

Poster Production: A poster, having alerting message of chemical pesticide use and awareness creation message of farmland conservation, was published. These posters will be framed and distributed to keep in key areas i.e. conservation institution, farmers group, pesticide shop etc.

World Environment Day Celebration: When we implement our project in close coordination with local people and work together with them, they also expect help from us for their programme. We have to support them to create harmony with them and strengthen project

effectiveness. In this World Environment Day (June 5th 2012), we supported the environment conservation programme of local people though we do not have any activity on this chapter. The programme was related with environment, water and health conservation issue so we celebrated this programme by separating some budget form celebration of green/conservation day.

