

## Project Update: July 2010

**Coordination and Interaction:** Coordination was made with RSG grantees who are working in the Chitwan and its surrounding areas. Altogether, five grantees were consulted to know their working modality, working areas and site. Similarly, local people and pesticide sellers were interacted to share project objective and implementation details.

**Household Visit:** To make aware about the project at grass root level, we met fishermen and poor farmers in their houses and discuss about their fishing methods. The main aim of this visit is to know the time frame of spraying pesticide in local rice field as well as fishing. From this visit, we knew that they start to spray pesticide from last week of July to 30 August. Similarly, they said that they used to fish in rice field during monsoon because it is quite hard to fish in the river in this time. June and July are the peak hour of rainfall and flooding.

**Farm Visit:** June and July are peak times for the rice plantation so most of farmers are busy in the field preparation and plantation activities. While preparing fields, farmer plough their field which is favourable condition for farmland birds because underground insects, snail and earthworm are available to them. So lots of birds can be seen in these fields during these months. Five days of field visits were made to discuss about the farming practice and to know about the time of pesticide and chemical fertilizer spraying.

**Questionnaire Survey:** We made question and answer activities in project site to know about the locally available pesticide, farmer preference and awareness level about pesticide impact to bird and their health. So far it is known that the most dangerous and farmer preferred pesticide is Thiodine. It is fast reactive, highly effective and cheap pesticide so farmers prefer this pesticide and seller also selling in order to generate income. Most of people are unaware about impacts on their health, living organism and bird species.

**Radio Programme:** We are just making some field visit and taking farmer and seller views regarding the pesticide and its impact to bird species. On the basis these visit and some others, we will develop the text and concept paper to organize the radio programme. Up to now, radio station Bijaya FM and Chitwan FM were selected for the programme. In next month, we will chose one of them and start our programme. The radio programme will cover farmer and seller views by recording directly from field.



