

## Project Update: August 2008

List of Activities under Community Development	Period
Orientation Programme	May 2008
Group Formation	May 2008
Student Support Programme	May 2008
Biodiversity Day Celebration	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2008
World environment day celebration	5 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
Discussion Programme on Environmental Pollution	June 2008
Discussion Programme on Health and Hygiene	June 2008
Biodiversity Conservation training	June 2008
Environment Conservation Programme	July 2008
Adult Literacy Education	June- September 2008
General Hygiene and Reproductive health training	July 2008

### Details of activities

#### Orientation Programme

Orientation Programme was conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. A survey was carried out before the project. Based on the survey information, 50 participants were selected for the project. They were oriented on the project features and activities. The participants were also provided with stationery and exercise books.

#### Group formation

The selected participants have been divided into 5 groups. The groups are heterogeneous with representatives from indigenous and ethnic members and women among others. The groups have been formed on the basis of their localities.

#### Student Support Programme

Student support programme was carried out by Centre for Rural Resource Promotion in May as a supplementary program to the RuCLIN project. The program was carried out with material support from Rural Health and Education Service Trust; an NGO working in the field of adolescent health and girl child education. Under the program, set of school dress, 3 exercise books, 3 pencils, 3 erasers and 1 sharpener each were distributed to 30 schoolgirls of 4 local schools of Balakhu VDC belonging to Dalit, Indigenous communities and low-income group.

#### Biodiversity Day Celebration

Biodiversity day was celebrated on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2008. A number of school students and locals had participated in the program. The participants were briefed on the importance of biodiversity conservation. Materials on species and ecosystem diversity were used for demonstration. Educational materials for the program were supported by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Local schoolteachers and trainers were used as resource persons for the programme.

#### World Environment day celebration

World environment day was celebrated on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. A rally consisting of community members and school students was organized around the Balakhu VDC to mark the occasion. Local leaders, teachers, student representatives and local facilitator of the RuCLIN project highlighted on the importance of environmental conservation for sustainable development.

#### Discussion Programme on Environmental Pollution

A discussion programme on environmental pollution was conducted in June. Issues related to environmental pollution, pollutants, types of pollution & its ill effects and possible ways to curb pollution were discussed in the programme. At the end of the session, the groups were given time to discuss and were asked to present their understanding of the issue, identify local pollution sources and applying it in the local context.

#### Discussion Programme on Health and Hygiene

The programme on health and hygiene was conducted in June 2008. The participants were educated on issues related to personal health and hygiene, water and sanitation, water borne diseases. Among the 50 participant households, only 2 have had installed toilets in their homes. The participants were thus trained for constructing environment friendly low-cost toilets.

#### Biodiversity Conservation Training Programme

Biodiversity conservation awareness programme were conducted in June. Under the programme, 5 classes each were conducted for the participants as well as for school students. Local schoolteachers were used for the programme. The resource materials used for the programme were made available by the World Wildlife Fund. Tree plantation was done as a part of the programme.

Environment conservation Training Programme Environment Conservation Training Programme was conducted in July. Under the programme separate classes were held for the local communities and school students. The aim of the programme was to educate the participants and students on the concept of environment, the need and importance of environmental conservation. Local schoolteachers were used as resource persons for the programme.

#### Adult Literacy Education

Adult literacy education classes are being conducted for the participants from June. The classes are being conducted in three groups for a period of 4 Months each. With an overwhelming majority of the participants being illiterate, the aim of the education programme is to improve the literacy levels.

#### General Hygiene and Reproductive health classes

These classes were conducted in July. 18 classes were conducted. Two health assistants of the local health post were used as resource persons for the program. The materials for the program were made available by Nepal CRS Company & Family Planning Association of Nepal. Contraceptives were distributed to the participants after the classes.

#### **Outcomes/Major achievements till date**

- 25 Toilets constructed, 2 old toilets reconstructed and 23 under construction
- All the participants able to read and write which showed significant improvement in the literacy levels
- Tree plantation carried out at a number of places

- Increase in awareness levels related to nature conservation, health and hygiene
- Social mobilization achieved with participants turning out in significant numbers for each project activity
- Participants able to identify available local resources as well as their needs. Demands generated at the local level which is a major indicator of capacity development of the local communities

