



EMPLOYMENT and PEACE BUILDING through LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (EmPLED)

RAMECHHAP DISTRICT L.E.D. STAKEHOLDER KICK-START WORKSHOP

DDC Conference Room, Manthali & Okhreni *Junar* Cooperative
Offices, 9 October 2007



SUMMARY REPORT

1. WORKSHOP BACKGROUND

Following the EmPLED Ramechhap District Stakeholders' Orientation Workshop held in Manthali on 31st August 2007, and in subsequent consultation with the interim Ramechhap LED Forum (the recently expanded District Enterprise Development Committee), it was agreed that the ILO would conduct a TDIM study with stakeholders for early and long-term economic development action planning.

Because of logistical difficulties in accessing many parts of the District during the monsoon season, the TDIM work completed up to the entry-point and kick-start workshop facilitated interim LED hypotheses for discussion by stakeholders at the workshop. ILO will continue to gather related information through the workshop Local Competitive Advantage (LOCA) follow-ups. The final TDIM including LOCA results will be presented at a stakeholder LOCA results and 2008 action planning workshop to be held in late November.

Given the seasonal calendar timing and the importance of cash crops to local economic development, the interim TDIM hypotheses suggests targeting the *Junar* (sweet orange) sub-(including many women as well as indigenous nationalities) for marketing systems improvements for the forthcoming year-end harvest. *Junar* can be intercropped with other cash crops, especially herbs and spices.

Rapid market research in Kathmandu conducted by ILO during the TDIM suggests that larger buyers may be interested in establishing long-term relationships with Ramechhap producers founded on competitive price and product quality. Prolonging the shelf-life of the orange through the introduction of intermediate technology storage is important for taking advantage of better market prices after the seasonal glut. Orchard management techniques to be addressed include harvesting and pruning while other quality issues to be addressed include grading and packing. Cooperatives need to be established and strengthened to allow more farmers to take advantage of local competitive strengths. Foundation

markets need to be developed/strengthened for extension services and financial services.

2. WORKSHOP CONTENT

The stakeholder entry-point and kick-start workshop was held at the DDC conference room, Manthali, from 07.30-13.00 hours on Tuesday, 9 October 2007. A total of 50 LED stakeholders from a wide range of public, private and civil society interest groups attended of which 13 were women. The workshop agenda is provided in ANNEX 1 and the full list of participants is provided in ANNEX 2.

The objective of the workshop was to identify relevant short-term/quick-win priorities for the remainder of 2007, and LED strategies and activities for development during 2008. The workshop was facilitated by LOCA consultants from IEDI.

In his introductory remarks, Gerry McCarthy, EmPLED CTA, said "the overall goal of local economic development and the EmPLED project is to support Millennium Development Goal Number One, which is to move people out of poverty". During initial floor questions and answers on the LED overview presentation, Mr. Surya Prasad Shrestha, CDO, urged participants to "focus on comprehensively pursuing one or two key LED opportunities with a pro-poor outreach of scale, since it is not possible to do everything".

Following discussion on the interim TDIM hypotheses, the participants were divided into the following four priority groups to discuss and report back opportunities, challenges and short-long-term actions:

- Cash crops.
- Livestock and animal products.
- Fishing and infrastructure.
- Non-Timber Forest Products.

The findings of the working groups are summarized in ANNEX 3. There was active discussion on each group's presentation.

Following the morning workshop, the IEDI consultants facilitated a mini-workshop with over forty *Junar* sub-sector stakeholders from four VDCs at the Okhrenei Co-operative premises in the rural mid-hills. The issues raised confirmed those presented in ANNEX 3.



3. FOLLOW-UP

In conclusion of the morning workshop, stakeholders agreed to a LOCA follow-up process on specific opportunities and target groups/locations to be prioritized by the LED Forum. This will be facilitated during October and November by IEDI and ILO with a results and 2008 action plan workshop to be held in Manthali later in November.

IEDI and ILO will facilitate the LED Forum and stakeholders in identifying pilot groups and locations for Junar quick-win activities during the remainder of 2007.

Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) kindly offered to take the facilitation lead in non-timber forest products as they already supporting this sector.



ANNEX 1: WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Workshop Title: Ramechhap LED Stakeholders Kick-Start Workshop
Facilitators: Kabya Niroula and Shree Wasti, IEDI
Day / Date: Tuesday, 9 October 2007
Venues: (1) DDC Conference Room, Manthali; (2) Okhreni Junar Cooperative

Time	Activity Title	Resource Persons	Pos / Organization
07.30	Registration and Breakfast		
08.00	- Welcome and Introduction - Workshop Objectives	Mr. Kumar P. Kafle Gerry Mc Carthy	LDO, Ramechhap CTA, ILO EmPLED
08.30-09.15	- LED & EmPLED, a brief overview - Interim Ramechhap TDIM Hypotheses, questions and answers	Prem Neupane	EmPLED Programme Manager, Ramechhap
09.15-10.00	- Introduction to LOCA, questions and answers - Key pro-poor priorities and organization of break-out working groups to discuss related issues	Kabya Niroula & Shree Wasti	LOCA Facilitators, IEDI
10.00	Tea Break		
10.30-12.00	Breakout Working Groups	Participants	
12.00-12.50	Breakout Working Group Presentations & Discussions, and Follow-Up	Kabya Niroula & Shree Wasti	LOCA Facilitators, IEDI
12.50	Closing Remarks & Thanks	Mr. Hira Raj Regmi	Under-Secretary (HRD), MLD
13.00	Lunch		
14.45	Drive Manthali-Okhreni		
15.00-17.30	LOCA <i>Junar</i> (sweet orange) sub-sector initial discussion group with stakeholders from 4 VDCs at Okhreni <i>Junar</i> Coop Offices	Kabya Niroula & Shree Wasti	LOCA Facilitators, IEDI
17.30	Return to Manthali		

ANNEX 2: LIST OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

SN	PARTICIPANT'S NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSITION
1	Mr Komal Pd. Kafle	DDC- Ramechhap	LDO
2	Mr Surya Prashad Shrestha	Dist. Admin. Office	CDO
3	Mr Hira Raj Regmi	Ministry Of Local Dev.	Under Secretary
4	Mr Gerry McCarthy	ILO- EmPLED	CTA
5	Mr Mahesh Chandra Neupane	Dist. Technical Office	Chief Dist Engineer
6	Mr Bhupal Baral	DDC- Ramechhap	Planning Officer
7	Ms Radha Rupakheta	Women Development Office	Chief WDO
8	Mr Saha Dev Yadav	Dist. Agril. Officer	For Chief ADO
9	Dr Narayan Bdr. Shrestha	Dist. Vet. Officer	For Chief DLDO
10	Mr Dinesh Thakur	Dist. Forest Officer	Ranger
11	Mr Rajesh Maharjan	Agril. Dev. Bank	Manager
12	Mr Prithbi Ram Prajapati	Cottage & Small Industry Dev. Board	Chief CSIDB
13	Mr Narayan Dash Shrestha	Consumers Forum	Chairperson
14	Mr Kedar Nath Bhatta	SDC-RHDP	Project Manager
15	Mr Gobinda Ghimire	Tamakoshi Sewa sSamittee	Director General
16	Mr Dhurba Subedi	Manthali Saving & Credit Co-operative	Chairperson
17	Mr Suhird Chapagain	SDC - Kathmandu	Enterprise Dev. Specialist
18	Ganesh Poudel	FNCSI	Chairperson
19	Mr Narayan Karki	FECOFUN	Chairperson
20	Ms Jit Maya Moktan	FECOFUN	Member
21	Mr Nirmal Panta	PAF Ramechhap	Portfolio Manager
22	Mr Mahesh Jaisi	APPSP Ramechhap	
23	Mr Birendra Parajuli	DLGSP-	
24	Mr Himal Dhungel	Journalist Association	Chairperson
25	Mr Bal Bdr Magrati	Dalit Association	Vice Chairperson
26	Mr Bhakta Bdr Balamphakhi	Indigenous Nationalities	
27	Shyam Shrestha	NGO Federation	
28	Ms Jit Maya Moktan	NGO Federation	
29	Mr Padma Bdr Lama	Junar Association	
30	Ms Kumari Lama	Junar Association	
31	Ms Krishna Kumari Moktan	Junar Association	
32	Ms Sani Maya Tamang	Junar Association	
33	Mr Krishna Babu Panta	DEPROSC Nepal	
34	Mr Milan Ghising	NGO Federation	
35	Ms Dhuma Moktan	EDSS	Chairperson
36	Mr Chhatr Bir Shrestha	EDSS	Member
37	Ms Himala Khatri	EDSS	Member
38	Krishna Pd Dahal	Khimti Co-operative	Secretary
39	Mr Gunja Bdr Karki	D-MEGA Ramechhap	Chairperson
40	Ratna Devi Mainali	D-MEGA Ramechhap	Member
41	Amala Shrestha	D MEGA Ramechhap	Member
42	Ms Sunita Ghimire	Women Business Professional	
43	Ms Rekha Aryal	WEAN Co-Operative	
44	Mr Prem Raj Neupane	ILO-EmPLED	
45	Mr Ganga Chaudhary	ILO-EmPLED	
46	Mr Kabya Niroula	IEDI	
47	Mr Shree Ranjan Wosti	IEDI	
48	Mr Bharat Bhandari	FECOFUN	Member
49	Ms Kumari Lama	Junar Association	member
50	Mr Saroj Lama	Junar Association	Secretary



ANNEX 3: SUMMARY OF WORKING GROUP PRESENTATIONS

MAIN COMMERCIAL AREAS	OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPORVEMENT	PROBLEMS & DIFFICULTIES	POSSIBLE ACTIONS FOR LOCA ELABORATION	
			SHORT- TERM	LONG-TERM
GROUP 1 – CASH CROPS (COVERING SWEET ORANGE, MANDARIN ORANGE, POTATO, ORTHODOX TEA, VEGETABLES): <u>Participants</u> = Saha Dev Yadav, Padma Lama, Saroj Lama, Jit maya, Samjhana Pabitra, Kumari Lama, Lila Kumari Tamang, Tara Moktan, Gunja Bdr Karki				
Current Production: 1.Okhreni - 1& 9 2.Sukajor – 4 & 9 3.Bhaluwajor - 9,3,5 4.Ramechhap - 9,4,2,1 5.Salu - 3,1,2 6.Dadhuwa - 1 7.Rampur - 5 ,6,7,8 8.Phulansi - 3 & 8 9.Himganga - 1,2 Potential Areas: GothGaun - 1,2,3,6 Bijulikot - 6,8 Saipu - 8 Duragaun - 8 Gumdel - 9 Bamti - 1 Betali - 8 Rasnalu - 8 Makadum - 6,7,8 Khaniyapani - 3 & 6 Lakhanpur - 6 & 8 Rakhathum - 4 & 5 Tilpung, Puranagaun, Pinkhuri & Gelu	- Rain water harvesting linked to small-scale irrigation schemes - Improved orchard management including improved production quality skills training - Farmer cooperative strengthening – representation, services and outreach to improve farmer entrepreneurship - Construction of cool storage and collection centres - Improved marketing – grading, packing and labeling/branding - Local value addition expansion and start-up - Skills and markets for inter-cropping other cash crops with <i>Junar</i> (e.g. ginger, capsicum, turmeric, chili and vegetables) - Access to extension services and technology - Competitive transportation.	- Marketing systems - Lack of farmer awareness of market requirements - Many farmers perform inefficiently as individuals (not in cooperatives) - Lack of access to finance - Limited technical skills and extension services - Quality issues - Traditional farming and practices	- Training in quality issues - production and marketing - Orchard management skills training - Institutional capacity development and strengthening - Intermediate technology cool storage and collection centres - Support to provide appropriate technology and infrastructure development work and production of quality products - Increased availability of financial services - Increased availability of extension-services	Short-term actions plus: - Rain water harvesting and small-scale irrigation schemes - Feeder road network expansion to more production areas and markets - Value added products enterprises
GROUP 2 – LIVESTOCK & ANIMAL PRODUCTS: <u>Participants</u> = Kumar, Radha, Dhuma Moktan, Chhatra Bir Shrestha , Tanka Shrestha				
Cattle & Buffalo: Khimti, Pharpu, Tilpung, Namadi, Phulansi, Khathajor, Betali, Manthali, Bhatauli, Bhaluwajor, Sunarpani	- Roads - Service Centre - Improved Grass - Market - Traditional enterprise - Biogas	- Lack of chilling vat, - Improved breed - Co-operatives - Transport - Improved grass - Skills training - Entrepreneurship - Discrimination in caste	- Establishment of dairy cooperative in Khimti - Improved business skills - Increased availability of skilled veterinary services - Women cooperatives - Collection centres establishment	Continuation of short term Plan and expansion of services and skill and chilling vat.

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GROUP 2 – LIVESTOCK & ANIMAL PRODUCTS (Cont'd /-):				
Goat: Manthali, Bhaluwajor, Bhatauli, Ramechhap, Sukajor, Salu, Okhreni, Rampur, Sanghutar, Kathajor, Sunarpani,	Build on strengths: - Availability of pasture land - Traditional knowledge - Good demand for meat - Groups and cooperatives formed - Transportation is simple	- Limited business skills - Lack of vet services, - Lack of improved breed - Lack of financial services - Lack of appropriate technology, - No plantation of improved grass	- Entrepreneurship awareness - Provide improved breed of sheep and goat - Skill training	- Financial Support to target groups. - Market management & networking - Technology
Sheep: Gumdel, Bamti, Chuchure, Bhuji, Pirti, Gupteshwor, Rasnal, Gowasara	TO BE ADDED DURING LOCA PROCESS			
Yak /Chouri	TO BE ADDED DURING LOCA PROCESS			
Pig	TO BE ADDED DURING LOCA PROCESS			
Poultry	TO BE ADDED DURING LOCA PROCESS			
Angora Rabbit	TO BE ADDED DURING LOCA PROCESS			
GROUP 3 – INFRASTRUCTURE & FISHING				
<u>Participants</u> = Gobinda Ghimire, Milan Ghising, Mahesh Chandra Neupane, Himala Khatri, Sunita Ghimire, Babu Krishna Panta, Gyanu, Amala, Rejendra				
MULTIPLE	- Rain water harvesting - Small irrigation schemes - Dam making, - Cold and cellar store - Collection centers - Feeder roads - Road/bridge link to Sindulhi - Sustainable and community ownership - Close relationship with producers, price and market - Active participation from beneficiaries - Fish and irrigation two sectors can take together - Can include socially excluded community	- Poor farmers have no investment means	- Irrigation - Dam making in Koshi River so Majhi communities can get involved in fish keeping business - Ponds - Post fero cement reservoir - Cold Store - Collection Centres	- Processing Industry - Machines and equipments



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GROUP 3 – INFRASTRUCTURE & FISHING (Cont'd / -):				
- Multiple for irrigation - River valleys and mid-hill stream locations for fishing and mountain trout respectively	- Rain water harvesting - Small irrigation schemes - Dam making, - Cold and cellar store - Collection centers - Feeder roads - Road/bridge link to Sindulhi - Sustainable and community ownership - Close relationship with producers, price and market - Active participation from beneficiaries - Fish and irrigation two sectors can take together - Can include socially excluded community	- Poor farmers have no investment means	- Irrigation - Dam making in Koshi River so Majhi communities can get involved in fish keeping business - Ponds - Post fero cement reservoir - Cold Store - Collection Centres	- Processing Industry - Machines and equipments
Manthali, Khimti, Bhatouli, Sukajor, Chisapani, Pakarbas, Chuchure, Doramba, Okhreni, Bhuj	- Increase area of irrigation as a result cultivation of cereal crops, vegetables, and rearing of fish - Rain water harvest - Market management through storage of milk, potato and Junar in chilling vat and cold store respectively	- Lack of infrastructure and capital	- Irrigation canal, - Construction of dam - Reservoir & Water Pump - Rustic Store	- Construction of cold store and chilling vat
Ramechhap, Bijulikot, Doramba, Bhirpani, Manthali, Sanghutar, Lubhu, Okhreni, Dadhuwa, Rasnalu	- Marketing can be done through establishment of Collection centre - Value add by establishing of processing centres	- Lack of equipments and processing houses	- Establishment of collections centre for market promotion	- Establishment of processing houses
GROUP 4 – NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS: <u>Participants</u> = Bharat Bhandar, Phrithivi Ram Prajapati, Rajesh Kumar, Bhakta, Chhatra, Suhrid Chapagain, Narayan Karki, Janak, Ganesh Poudel, Gyanu				
1.Rohdodendron Rasnalu, Namadi, Betali, Saipu, Duragaugon, Rakathum, Khaniyapani, Bethan, HileDevi, Dimi Pokhari, Lakhanpur, Guns, Chanakhu	Juice, Squash	- Policy for collection - Technology (Production, Machine, Equipments, & technical skill)	- Quality (Packaging, Storage, Processing) - Marketing	- Policy Improvement - Machine & Equipments - Protection and expansion - Marketing

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GROUP 4 – NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS (Cont'd / -):				
2. Bael (wood apple): Bhirpani, Rakathum, Majhuwa, Khaniyapani, Bethan, Pakarbas, Bhatauli, Chisapani, Rampur, Ramechhap, Sukajor, Bhaluwajor	Juice, Jam, Squash, Powder			
3. Bamboo: Saipu, Gothgauon, Duragauon, Gupteshwor, Tilpung, Okhreni, Khaniyapani, Bethan	Mudha, Rack Bag, Doko & Decorated items	- Collection - Skills - Marketing - Appropriate technology & equipments	- Skill Training - Commitment - Financial Support - Quality - Marketing	As per rhododendron above
4. Allo: Saipu, Duragauon, Bamti, Gupteshwor, Rasnalu, Those, Namadi, Tokarpur, Dadhuwa, Doramba, Gupteshwor	Fibre Production, Weaving Cloth	- Government Policy - Others per bamboo above	As per bamboo above	As per bamboo above
5. Resin: Kathjor, Sunarpani, Okhreni, Salu, Rampur, HimGanga, Ramechhap, Bhaluwajor, Khimti, Namadi, Pharpu, Phalansi, Rakathum, Bethan, Hiledevi, Tokarpur	Resin, Oil, Resin & Turpentine	- Legal Policy (Price of 30 years) - Resource		
6. Lokta /Aurgheli Saipu, Duragauon, Namadi, Rasnalu, Chuchure, Bamti, Gupteshwor, Gumdel, Those, Khubhukasthali, Gomasawara, Tokarpur, Lakhanpur, Doramba, Dadhuwa	Nepali Paper, Handicrafts	Resource conservation, Technology, Marketing	- Machine, Equipment - Conservation - Market expansion	
7. Nettle Gomasara, Tokarpur, Doramba, dadhuwa, DimiPokhari, HileDevi, Bethan, Khaniyapani, Saipu, Duragauon, Those, bamti, Gumdel, Kubhukasthali, Rasnalu, Chuchure	Nettle Powder, Cloth	-Resource Conservation -Technology, -Marketing	- Machine, Equipment - Conservation - Market expansion	