

BHALAYAKHARKHA (Saili Tar)

VIDEO 1 – FISH FARMER INTERVIEW DURING A GROUP MEETING –  
Bhalayakarkha – 1’42”

Mr Prem Prasad Pokhrel - interviewer

Mrs Indhira Pokhrel - farmer (mobile: 9746040956)

- Are you planning to increase the pond size?
- Yes, if I am benefited.
- Benefited?
- Yes, for commercial on-going.
- So, what is the status of your pond now?
- Well, I put 75 fingerlings and now only 5 to 7 fishes are remaining.
- Why, what is the problem?
- The pond is new, I don't have knowledge, I have problems of snakes and mainly birds.
- So what do you need to improve these results?
- I would require a net to encircle the pond or some other measure.
- Are you happy with aquaculture?
- Yes, definitely, it will provide us food and we can sell to gain income.

VIDEO 2 – DISTRICT FISHERIES COMMITTEE SECRETARY EXPOSES ABOUT  
COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES – Bhalayakarkha – 3’10”

Mr Prem Prasad Pokhrel - interviewer

Mrs Saarastwati - District Committee Secretary

- In which VDC (Village Development Committee) of Lamjung fisheries activities are going on?
- Sundaar Bazar (1 pond in school), Dhamili Kuwa, Chakhratirtha, Bhalayakharkha.
- How many ponds in total?
- 63 in Dhamili Kuwa, 16 in Chakhrathirtha, 23 in Bhalayakharka.
- Are you planning to increase pond area at the district level?
- Well, we are waiting for the final progress report. It depends upon the farmers' action. In upcoming years, it is planned to extend the programme to Vorletar VDC.
- 2 years back fisheries activities in Dhamili Kuwa, what are the benefits for the farmers (as per income value)?
- Previously farmers had to buy vegetables, now they can benefit the pond to grow vegetables and they can also consume fish more frequently.
- Despite of the problems faced, some little income is being realised.
- What are the problems faced at district level?
- Water supply, Materials (nets, pumps, pipes, etc.).
- Are all the ponds scientifically built?
- Yes.
- Really?
- Well, I can't say about all of them, but almost all.

### VIDEO 3 – WOMAN EXPOSE ABOUT FISH FARMING – Chakhrathirtha - 1’40”

Half of the public (in the back of the classroom) is part of the fish farmers group of Chakhrathirtha; the other half (public seated in the front of the classroom) is here for a cattle training (3 months duration) and the female farmer explains them basics about fish culture. A question comes regarding common problems faced in fisheries.

- Fish primarily caught by birds are surface fishes; common carp is a bottom dweller hence is not affected by bird attacks. When there is a lack of oxygen, fishes come up to the surface hence could face bird attacks, but this usually does not occur because farmer regularly monitor its pond and can prevent from this situation.
- Regarding snakes, they usually attack also the surface fishes, so usually it does not cause much damage to the fish production.
- To avoid the snake presence, we usually kill them manually, or repel them with kerosene or cow milk, by applying all around the dike.

### VIDEO 4 – FISH POND WITH BRICK MANUFACTURE – Rainas Tar – 1’31”

Mr Khagaraj Nakhola - interviewer

Mrs Apshara Praduki - fish farmer

- How long are you involved as a fish farmer?
- Started 6 months ago.
- For what reason did you start this fishery activity: Home consumption or market objective?
- Primarily the pond excavation has been realised for our activity of brick manufacturing industry. Besides, we have decided to use the pond as a fish culture means in order to supply food to the workers and our families, and we offer worker’s families to buy our fish, too.
- Is it beneficial?
- So far we have been giving some of the fish produced in the pond as a meal to the workers, and they appreciate very much this initiative.
- Do you have any problem regarding water supply?
- Definitely yes.
- What kind of assistance are you looking for?
- At present we are pumping manually ground water approx 6-7 feet deep so it would be better to have a direct water supply from canal.
- What is the pond area?
- 152 sq. meters.

## VIDEO 5 – GROUP MEETING DHAMILI KUWA – DEBATE ON SNAKE PREDATION – 3’26”

The snake predation in mid-hills area of Nepal is a high concern amongst the fish farmers. Snakes are present in the pond or in pond dikes, and catch fishes for their own consumption. Views of the farmers are divided on this regard. Some fish farmers think it is not a big concern because snakes only feed on small size fishes. Also, the presence of frogs in the pond favours the snake predation frequently. Others think it is a real threat to their production as regularly snakes are capturing fishes. It seems snake predation occurs around 6a.m. so it seems that monitoring the pond every day at this time could be a solution to detect snake presence and eliminate it by any means.

## VIDEO 6 GROUP MEETING – DHAMILI KUWA – WATER SUPPLY ISSUE – 0’55”

One common issue to the fish farming in mid-hills areas of Lamjung and Gorkha is Water Supply.

The community is belonging an electric pump for water supply. Due to heavy weight and difficult management of the same, the pump remains fixed at a farmer’s place. The community farmers are now debating on the priority being given to the water supply:

The farmer using the pump will first use the water for its own consumption and gardening, then fill up the fish pond, before releasing the water to following farmers. Their concerns come from the fact that after several farms have been supplied water, contamination of the same will occur and water quality decreases.

One farmer exposes that she had to buy a pipe on its own in order to get adequate water supply.

## VIDEO 7 – LUINTEL (GORKHA) DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES ACTIVITIES – 1’39”

Speaker: Mr Krishna Raj Pandey

- After presenting himself as the supervisor of AwF in Luitel VDC, Mr Krishna Raj Pandey explained that the project started as a food complement to ordinary food.
- Thanks to the good results obtained, fish farmers are now thinking about going for marketing possibility.
- For that, current farmers are thinking about increasing fish pond size, and new members are ready to start the activity of fish farming, but are waiting to know what support they would receive from AwF Nepal.
- Till now, farmers are getting technical as well as consultative support from the District Fish Farmers Association and AwF Nepal.
- The main problem here is about a regular fingerlings supply. It would be convenient to receive the support of AwF on this issue.
- The establishment of a fish farmers’ cooperative is getting to the final stage; this will allow farmers to develop their activity of fish marketing.

- In the same objective, we are working on the creation of a fish farmers association at a District level (Gorkha), which objective will be to represent all farmers' representation.

#### VIDEO 8 – FARMER INTERVIEW AT LUIINTEL (GORKHA) – 8'32''

See at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdJC44w20HM>

Interviewer: Mr Dilliram Devkota (teacher at Shree Amar Jyoti Higher School and English translator)

- When did AwF program start in Gorkha?
- Last October (2010)
- Who assisted to launch the program?
- Mr Khagaraj Nokhola, Mr Krishnaraj Pandey and his team.
- We farmers also formed a group. In previous years it was like experimental, not much profit was done, but still farmers were satisfied, hence last year we decided to involve ourselves into this field.
- Why did you select fisheries as a new activity?
- We have actually appreciated the fisheries results and advantages from other districts; that is the reason.
- Do you face any water supply problem?
- No, because only farmers with good water supply have joined our group.
- What about the women participation?
- It was a cheerful participation at the start, more women than men were involved, but now the situation is reversed.
- Why, are they (women) compelled to household activities?
- Actually men are getting involved quite easily in this kind of activity.
- Haven't you convinced males to involve women on equal participation as required by the government policy (50% female involved in administration activities beside households activities)?
- Yes, we did, that's why we have started only one year ago, because it required time.
- What about the initial participation then?
- Out of 22 people involved, 18 were females.
- Why only 18 women got involved in the project?
- Women are not used to get involved in cooperatives and run such an activity, that is why it is difficult to convince them.
- But now we are helping them to establish a cooperative; after the establishment, they will run it by themselves.
- How about their number at present?
- From 18, 12 are active of which 6 are forming part of the working committee.
- What is the role of these 6 women during meetings?
- They actually actively participate in the meetings.
- Do they have enough time to participate to the meetings?
- We conduct regular meetings on every second Saturday (day-off in Nepal) mornings, so that they are free and can participate.
- What about their participation when meetings are organised different days, like today (Sunday)?
- Usually this does not happen; only one extra meeting has been taking place so far, and good attendance happened.

- How do you feel about AwF support for the fishery activity development?
- It is quite good, but we are still limited in technical aspects where we think they could help us, such as water leaking problems.
- Have you submitted this issue to the coordinator of the program?
- Yes, we have been speaking about this problem during meeting, and the solution decided has been to fill plastic bags with soil, and apply them onto the pond's ground. But it has not been applied due to lack of plastic resources and access difficulty.
- What is the initial cost of pond digging?
- I dug my pond for a total of 1200NRs. (approx. 15USD).
- How did you get it so cheap?
- Well, I used a former paddy field, and with water supply, I just removed the mud formed from the bottom of the pond to the dikes.
- Are you the only farmer to have dug a pond for this small amount?
- No, many of us have realised a small investment only to dig our ponds, because they are small ponds of between 15-20 sq. m.
- What about the size of your pond?
- Mine is 30 sq. m. I put 400 fishes in it but birds are attacking quite a lot.
- What about your preparation for ongoing the cooperative?
- We are almost finished: our full plan is ready, then DADO (District Agriculture Development Office) is with us and the technical office will come for field visit and then Gorkha district will be ready to start as an established organisation.