

FOCAL PERSON TRAINING REPORT

This is a report on focal person training with a major aim to enhance capacity of district level government stakeholders on Agriculture Management Information System, ICT in agriculture, KISAN Call Centre, Agro Advisory Bulletin, Climate Change Adaptation, Roving Seminars etc

Background/Introduction

Detail Description of each session

Training Evaluation



Training Report on Focal Person Training

Venue: Biratnagar

19th-23rd of Baisakh-2073
(May 1st 2016 – May 5th 2016)

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Background/Introduction

The main objective of ongoing project (BRCH) is to enhance government capacity to mitigate climate related hazards by improving the accuracy and timeliness of weather and flood forecasts and warnings for climate-vulnerable communities, as well as developing agricultural management information system services to help farmers mitigate climate-related production risks. The BRCH project has four components. Components A- Institutional strengthening, capacity building and implementation support of DHM, B- Modernization of observation networks and forecasting and C- Enhancement of the service delivery system of DHM are being implemented by the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) under former Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) and now Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) and component D i.e. Creation of Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS) is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture Development (MoAD).

Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS): The component D is related with the creation of Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS) which has further four sub components according to the project investment. This component is being implemented under MoAD and the investment allocated to this component is merely focused in MoAD. The prime objective of this component is to provide critical and timely agro-climate and weather information to farmers in order to increase productivity and reduce losses from meteorological and hydrological hazards. The specific objectives of AMIS are as follows:

- Provide a mechanism to deliver timely relevant agro climate and weather information under early warning system and deals as agriculture decision support tools to farmers, and other stakeholders,
- Provide open data access for information and web portals
- Build ICT assisted communication opportunities to strengthen the voice of the farmers on agricultural issues,
- To diminish the negative impacts of extreme climate related events,
- Protect lives & assets
- Support agriculture livelihoods

The four sub components of AMIS are

- AMIS Infrastructure
- AMIS Information Product
- AMIS Information Dissemination

- Capacity Building

Date of Session	19 th -23 rd of Baisakh 2073
Venue	Swagatam Hotel, Biratnagar
Training Facilitation	Dr. Anand Kumar Gautam (NARC) Mr. Ganesh Prasad Chalise (MoAD-AMIS) Mr. Bishnu Prasad Ghimire (MoAD-AMIS) Mr. Hari Regmi (MoAD-AMIS) Mr. Kiran Raj Mishra (MoAD-AMIS) Mr. Sami Kunwar (MoAD-AMIS) Mr. Surendra Gautam (MoAD-AMIS)
Participants	District level Focal Persons from DADO, DLSO and NARC (Sankhuwasabha, Dhankuta, Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Mohottari, Siraha)

DAY I

The 4 days Focal Person Training for district level focal persons were organized between 19th to 23rd of Baisakh 2073. The aim of the training was to enhance capacity of government stakeholders from pilot districts on climate change and its impact on agriculture and steps for adaptation through establishment of Agriculture Management Information System (AMIS). Training objectives along with brief introduction of the project was presented by Mr. Bishnu Prasad Ghimire from MoAD. After the presentation of Mr. Ghimire, the first session was facilitated by Dr. Anand Kumar Gautam from NARC. Dr. Gautam provided basic knowledge to participants on climate variability; ways of climate fluctuation above or below of long term average value, climatic trend and variability of different locations of Nepal. Likewise, he sensitized participants on different issues like climate change impact on Nepalese Agriculture and Adaptation Measures, observed effect of climate change in Nepal. There were 22 participants constituting 19 male 3 female on entire training session.

Materials

As training was based on Practical learning approach, practical demonstration, discussions and hands on practice, the materials used by facilitator were flip chart, marker, laptop, and multimedia projector.

Achievement: By the end of session participants were able to

- Understand the objectives of PPCR:BRCH AMIS Project.
- Understand ways of climate fluctuation above or below of the long term average value, climatic trend and variability of different locations of Nepal.
- understand the climate change impact on Nepalese agriculture and adaptation measures with some examples of observed effect of climate change in Nepal.

DAY II

The second day was started with concept of “Hamro Krishi” mobile application supported by small video regarding importance of using this application for farmers. After explaining about importance of mobile application, practical session was conducted for participants to install “Hamro Krishi” mobile application in their Android mobile phone. Further, the session was bolstered by demonstration of small video regarding importance of ICT in agriculture. While nearing to end of the day there was another session concerning roles and responsibilities of focal person which helped to make focal persons more responsible towards AMIS Project implementation in favour of farmers. Mr. Surendra Gautam –Social and Communication Expert and Mr. Kiran Raj Mishra-Monitoring and Evaluation Expert from MoAD-AMIS facilitated the entire session. There was intensive group discussion and practical exercise on every important topic like focal person roles and responsibilities, downloading of “Hamro Krishi” Mobile Application.

In order to deliver training in a smooth manner following materials were used.

Materials

Flip Chart, markers, laptop, multimedia projector, video, smart mobile phone.

Achievement of the session: The second day helped participants to

- understand and use “Hamro Krishi” mobile application
- understand importance of ICT in agriculture
- understand their roles and responsibilities for efficient implementation of project and sustainability after the end of project

Day III

On third day, Mr. Sami Kunwar , Agrometeorologist from MoAD-AMIS presented about importance of Agro-met Advisory Bulletin and its use and weather based index insurance. Also he taught participants about agro advisory package, operation of rain gauge and thermometer, and roving seminar modality. Session of Mr. Kunwar brought participants into realization about importance of weather and climate in Nepalese Agriculture as farmers and farming communities in Nepal are compelled to adapt to growing climate variability. In addition, farmers are expected to manage the more insidious effects of long-term climate change that may now be occurring at an unprecedented rate. Therefore, more targeted weather and climate information can increase preparedness and lead to better economic, social, and environmental outcomes for farmers. At the end of session, participants understood importance of climate weather information for farmers in order to make them more self-reliant in dealing with weather and climate issues that affect agricultural production on their farms.

Materials

Flip Chart, markers, laptop, multimedia projector, rain gauge and thermometer.

Achievement of the session: The third day session helped participants

- to understand overall goal of conducting roving seminars in their district to secure farmer self-reliance, through helping them better informed about effective weather and climate risk management by sustainable use of rain gauge, thermometer and agromet- advisory bulletin.

- to operate rain gauge and thermometer on farm.

Day IV

4th day session started with Field Assessment Process, VDC and Farmers group selection, approval mechanism and AMIS materials distribution modality by Mr. Kiran Raj Mishra Monitoring & Evaluation Expert from MoAD-AMIS. After explaining selection procedure and approval mechanism, he shared AMIS Project governmental operational modality and capacity development modality which have been targeted to extension worker and farmers group. After this, Mr. Surendra Gautam-Social and Communication Expert took the session on Kisan Call Centre . He clarified to focal persons about importance of Kisan Call Centre in handling queries of farmers and other stakeholders on a broad spectrum of agricultural topics and their role and responsibilities in its operation and communication in a wide range of languages like Bhojpuri, Nepali etc. where farmers can have access to call centre through a simple phone call by dialing given Toll Free number. He further explained that the call centre is basically equipped with telephone, voice recorder, computer, digital display board and solar power back up system and with capabilities for developing farmer databanks through farmer registrations, registration and tracking of farmer queries and developing a searchable knowledge databank popularly

known as Frequently Asked Questions(FAQs) where answers to the farmer queries can be obtained. The call center services are available from Sunday to Friday between 10:00AM – 5:00PM. In order to provide clear vision to participants, he demonstrated small video about KISAN Call Centre successfully operated in India. After session of Mr. Gautam, Mr. Kiran Raj Mishra explained about Grievance Redress Mechanism; AMIS Products (SMS, IVR, Web Portal, Call Center, Audio Notice, Newsletter, Bulletin, Radio and TV), Krishi-Info SMS. Likewise, he explained about AMIS M&E System, Indicators, reporting process and requirement.

Materials

Flip Chart, markers, laptop, multimedia projector, smart mobile phone.

Achievement of the session: The fourth day session helped participants

- to understand Field Assessment Process, VDC and Farmers group selection, approval mechanism and AMIS materials distribution modality.
- to understand AMIS Project governmental operational modality and capacity development modality targeted to extension workers and farmers groups.
- to learn importance of Agro Call Centre and Climate Information Services
- to understand Grievance Redress Mechanism and AMIS Products (SMS, IVR, Web Portal, Call Center, Audio Notice, Newsletter, Bulletin, Radio and TV), Mobile SMS Service
- to learn AMIS M&E System, Indicators, reporting process and requirement.

Day V

Thursday, 5th May 2016(Baisakh 23-2073) was final day of focal person training. The day started with an inspiring talk from Mr. Ganesh Chalise and Mr. Hari Regmi regarding importance of AMIS Project in climate change adaptation together with the roles & responsibilities of focal persons in district. After that there was certificate distribution programme. In addition, reflection on whole training session was shared by Mr. Pushpa Budhathoki and Ms. Shital Bhattraai where they expressed how invaluable the training had become in helping farmers in days ahead. Lastly the session was formally ended with collection of training evaluation form.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Acronyms

AMIS Agricultural Management Information System

BRCRH Building Resilience to Climate Related Hazards

DADO: District Agriculture Development Office

DDC District Development Committee

DHM Department of Hydrology and Meteorology

DLSO: District Livestock Service Office

DOA Department of Agriculture

DOLS Department of Livestocks

EWS Early Warning System

GON Government of Nepal

MoAD Ministry of Agricultural Development

MoSTE Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment

NARC Nepal Agricultural Research Council

PMU Program Management Unit

PPCR Pilot Program Climate Resilience

RARC: Regional Agriculture Research

VDC Village Development Committee

WB World Bank

Appendix 2: Details of Participants

S.N	Name of Focal Person	E-mail Address	Mobile Number	Office and Designation
1	Hridaya Ram Pokharel	hridayarampokhrel@yahoo.com	9842033116	Regional Agriculture Directorate, Biratnagar, Agri.Ext Officer
2	Shital Bhattarai	shitalbhattarai@gmail.com	9841524271	DADO, Jhapa, Planning Officer
3	Nelson Pokhrel	dadomorang@yahoo.com	9841399098	DADO, Morang, Fisheries Dev. Officer
4	Dr. Kamal Giri	Kamalgiri_vet@yahoo.com	9819394547	DLSO, Sunsari, Veterinary officer
5	Shukra Raj Shrestha	shukrarajshrestha@gmail.com	9846112083	RARS, Tarahara, Sunsari, Scientist
6	Dr. Hemchandra Kr. Jaiswar	drhemchandra@yahoo.com	9845060767	DLSO Bara, Livestock Dev. Officer
7	Mohan Ray	Mohan.ray.yadav@gmail.com	9844260257	DLSO Mohottari, Livestock Officer
8	Chandeswor Yadav	NA	9862923788	DADO Saptari, Agri-Ext. Officer
9	Mitali Kumari Sah	sahmitali@gmail.com	9841352317	RARS, Parwanipur, Bara
10	Kumar Singh Khatri	dsojhapa@gmail.com , kumarkanacha2015@gmail.com	9852021420	DLSO Jhapa, Veterinary Officer
11	Kumar P Sangraula	dso.dkt@gmail.com , rdsbrt@gmail.com	9842332119	DLSO Dhankuta, Livestock Officer

12	Krishna Poudel	Krishnapoudel08@gmail.com arspakh@gmail.com	9806468997 9845081252	Agricultural Research Station, Pakhribas, Dhankuta, Scientist
13	Ajaya Karkee	ajayakarkee@gmail.com	9803267663 9843286956	Agricultural Research Station, Pakhribas, Dhankuta, Scientist (S-1)
14	Subha N Yadav	NA	9811361470	DLSO Morang, Veterinary Officer
15	Uday N Sharma	Sharma.udayanarayan@gmail.com	9844086221	DADO-Sankhuwasabha, Agri-Ext. Officer
16	Gannesh C Thakur	nrrpjnk@yahoo.com	9845099017	Senior Technical Officer, T-8 National Rice Research Centre Hardinath.
17	Kapil Paudel	kpl.paudel@gmail.com srpnarc@gmail.com	9845139208	Scientist (s-1) National sugarcane Research Program, Jitpur, Bara
18	Razan Malla	razenmalla@gmail.com norp_nawalpur@yahoo.com	9847100871 9854036252 046-570002	Technical Officer (T-6) National Oilseed Research Program Nawalpur, Sarlahi
19	Chhabi Lal Ghimire	ghimirecl@yahoo.com	9851172653	Plant Protection Officer, DADO Dhankuta
20	Ram Sogarath Mandal		9854027107	DADO Mohottari, Horticulture Development Officer
21	Pushpa Budathoki	Pushpa294@gmail.com	9852051510	DLSO Sankhuwasabha, Veterinary Officer

Appendix 3: Training Schedule

Time	Topics
Day 1- Baisakh 19	
9:30-10.00	Registration, Welcome, Introduction and objectives; Opening session with MoAD, RAD, NARC and DHM
10.00-10.15	Training objectives, expectation collection
10.15-10.30	Tea Break
10.30-12.00	Introduction to AMIS Project; Concept of Hamro Krishi Mobile Application followed by 2 min Video about Mobile Application
12.00-1.30	Focal Person Roles and Responsibility; Demonstration of small video regarding importance of ICT in Agriculture
1.30-2.00	Refreshment
2.00-3.30	NARC Research Station Role and information generation modality; Agriculture Insurance and management policy.
3.30-5.00	Importance of Agro-met Advisory Bulletin and use, agro-met and crop situation update, weather based index insurance
Day 2-Baisakh 20	
10:00-10.30	Presentation from one of the participants regarding reflection of previous day
10.30-12.00	Agro Advisory Package; operation of rain gauge and thermometer; Roving Seminar Modality
12.00-1.30	Orientation of AMIS Products (Agro-Met Approaches); instruction and operation rain gauge and thermometer; on the spot training (Meteorological Station)
1.30-2.00	Refreshment
2.00-3.30	Importance of Agro Call Centre and Climate Information Services
3.30-5.00	Field Assessment Process, VDC and Farmers group selection, approval mechanism and AMIS materials distribution modality.
Day 3-Baisakh-21	
10:00-10.30	Presentation from one of the participants regarding reflection of previous day

10.30-12.00	AMIS Project governmental operational modality and capacity development modality (extension worker and farmers group)
12.00-1.30	DHM Role and Information Generation Modality; Importance of AMIS on present and future
1.30-2.00	Refreshment
2.00-3.30	Grievance Redress Mechanism; AMIS Products (SMS, IVR, Web Portal, Call Center, Audio Notice, Newsletter, Bulletin, Radio and TV)
3.30-5.00	Approach of decentralization system to publish Agro-advisory packages
Day 4-Baisakh 22	
10:00-10.30	AMIS M&E System, Indicators, reporting process and requirement
10.30-12.00	DHM role in scaling up services for farmers
12.00-1.30	Refreshment
1.30-2.00	AMIS Project Modality, activities from MoAD to group; small video about ICT in Climate Smart Agriculture
2.00-3.30	Group Work on internalization of AMIS products within district level
3.30-5.00	Closing and Certificate Distribution

Appendix 4: Photos



Pic 1: Mr. Bishnu Prasad Ghimire explaining about AMIS Project and training objectives



Pic 2: With Participants in Hotel Swagatam-Biratnagar



Pic 3: Explaining about KISAN Call Centre



Pic 4: Certificate distribution and closing

Appendix 5: Training Evaluation

In order to improve trainings in days to come, final evaluation forms were distributed to participants at the end of focal person training which helps in understanding their opinions and suggestions.

Table 1: Achievements of the outcomes from the training

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Fully achieved	17	77%
Partially achieved	5	23%
Not achieved	0	
Total	22	

Table 2: Content of the training course

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Relevant	15	68%
Relevant to some extent	7	32%
Irrelevant	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 3: Selection of participants

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very Good	13	60
Good	9	40
Not Good	0	0
Total	22	100

Table 4: Participation of participants

Answers	Frequency	Percent
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Active Participation	10	45%
Up to Required level	12	55%
Below Required Level	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 5: Training methods

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very appropriate	6	27%
Appropriate	16	73%
Not appropriate	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 6: Use of Training Methods

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very appropriate	5	22%
Appropriate	17	78%
Not appropriate	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 7: Training skill of trainers

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very good	15	68%
Good	7	32%
Not good	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 8: Training duration

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very long	4	18%
Reasonable	18	82%

Very short	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 9: Trainer’s behaviour

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very good	20	90%
Good	2	10%
Not good	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Table 10: Training hall and other facilities

Answers	Frequency	Percent
Very good	7	32%
Good	15	68%
Not good	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Most useful learning from the training

Majority of the participants responded that they received wider knowledge on roving seminar, climate change, greenhouse gases, monitoring & evaluation, “Hamro Krishi” mobile application, roles and responsibilities of focal person, importance of ICT and agro advisory in agriculture.