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Rural Women In Participatory Communication

By

Subhadra Belbase
&
Others
REPORT ON

"RURAL WOMEN IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION" (WORKSHOP 1)

July 29 - 31, 1986

Prepared by: Subhadra Belbase
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Deependra Gauchan
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SUMMARY REPORT

"RURAL WOMEN IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION" July 29-31, 1986

Objectives of the Workshop

a. To enhance communication between project site (Ramghat) and the Women Development Section in Kathmandu.
b. To present before policy planners and project implementers the needs of the community in Ramghat, the project site. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THIS WORKSHOP WAS THAT THE RURAL WOMEN HAD ASSESSED THEIR OWN NEEDS AND PRODUCED VIDEOS ON THESE NEEDS.
c. To help rural women understand the realities, and processes which people in Kathmandu (Centre) must perform to meet rural needs and why the Centre cannot meet all of them.

Needs Expressed by the Women

a. the need for Irrigation facilities (Video: SUKKHA ZAMEEN BAGDO PANI Or "Dry Land, Running Water")
b. the need for a Women's Legal Services office in Surkhet and continuing legal advice through video letters. (These needs were expressed after the video: RAMGHATKA MAHILAHARUKO KANOONI SAMASYA RA SAMADHAN Or "The Legal Problems and Solutions of the Women of Ramghat")
c. the need for a milk depot.
d. the need for a woman employee at the Ramghat SFDP Bank. (Video: HAMRO KARYAKRAM, HAMRO SANDESH Or "Our Program, Our Message")
e. the need for health services and a health clinic in Ramghat. (Video: HAMRO SWASTHYA Or "Our Health")
DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWED AFTER EACH VIDEO. Representatives from concerned Ministries who could facilitate and initiate action on the needs were present at the Workshop.

Recommendations and Follow-Up

Plan of Action

a. The representative from the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development said that he would send a team to Ramghat to assess the feasibility and cost of irrigation facilities. The representative from K-BIRD offered to follow up with the concerned Programme Officer.

b. It was recommended that the video letters on legal information would continue and a Women’s Legal Services Centre would be established in Surkhet in November-December, 1986.

c. The women of Ramghat would themselves take the initiative to collect milk for marketing. They themselves would decide who should take the responsibility from Ramghat. The SFDP could be asked for advice on technical matters.

d. The women of Ramghat would be given basic health service training and a health kit, which they would then be responsible for maintaining and filling up.

* It was pointed out that the Centre could get things STARTED, but the community had to take responsibility to CONTINUE PROGRAMS THEY HAD REQUESTED. Examples of similar programs stopping in the past were cited, and in many cases it was the community that had failed to take responsibility when it was they who had asked for the programs.

e. The Women Development Section, the Women Training Centre and the District Agricultural Section would provide the assistance needed for demonstration plots to grow vegetables.

f. The Agricultural Development Bank would give PRIORITY to hiring a woman in the new position to help the bank in the area.
With the intention of encouraging local participation, ten women from Ramghat were chosen and two trainings were held in Ramghat on video production methods and other necessary skills. As the result of which, they were able to produce video programmes on the important issues of their community and successfully communicate these problems and opinions to the Centre.

Through this kind of communication and direct dialogue between rural women and planners, policy makers and programme implementers based at the Centre, the project strives to identify and pinpoint the existing problems of Ramghat and the solutions to those problems.

It was with that very specific purpose that the "Rural Women in Participatory Communication" workshop was held in Kathmandu under the joint sponsorship of the WDS and WIF.
INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO PROJECT

The Women Development Section of the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development has a programme called the "Production Credit for Rural Women" (PCRW), funded by UNICEF, running in 32 districts of Nepal. The main objective of the programme is to save the rural women's time and drudgery by increasing their income, providing them access to services and encouraging their self-reliance.

To make this project more effective by establishing a system of two-way communication, a project was launched by the Worldview International Foundation Nepal, funded by CIDA, in Ramghat, a village panchayat in Surkhet district in western Nepal, at the request from the WDS.

This project has been going on for almost a year now and is directed towards strengthening the PCRW project in Ramghat and benefitting the rural women through different communication activities.

One of the key objectives of the WIF/CIDA Communication project is to establish a two-way dialogue between the Centre (WDS) and the village level so as to exchange experiences, true information and ideas to enhance understanding on both sides.

To fulfill this objective, the women of Ramghat have ventured into outstanding communication methods such as video letters, the production of videos highlighting their basic problems and needs, an information system on video on women's legal issues and providing service to the local line agencies in informing the populace of their important announcements on video, and more.

Other than this, screening of educational videos to motivate the villagers to learn and to use the knowledge in their daily lives so as to bring about a positive change in their livelihood, is another facet of the project.

Discussions held after such screenings have led to enlightening information, based on which the project aims to provide the people of Ramghat more information and education on video in the relevant fields.
BACKGROUND TO WORKSHOP

The workshop "RURAL WOMEN IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION" is one of the many components of the project "Development Support Communication to PCRW projects of the Women Development Section of the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development."

The (communication) project, generally known as the CIDA project, because the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is funding it, has several components. These consist of:

a. Survey and Needs Assessment;
b. Training in communication and technical skills in producing programmes;
c. Production of educational materials;
d. Workshops between women at project site and the Women Development Section (WDS); (There will be three workshops during the two-year project period)
e. Evaluation and Monitoring.

Training and Preparing for the Workshop

Our participants at the project site had been trained to assess community needs and present them at the workshop in Kathmandu.

The project women (see annex, page 22) who had been trained in producing video programmes, interview techniques and group discussions, produced a number of video programmes on community needs of Ramghat.

IT TOOK THE RAMGHAT WOMEN AND WDS STAFF, ALONG WITH THE WIF STAFF, 4 MONTHS TO PRODUCE THE PROGRAMMES TO BE SCREENED AT THE WORKSHOP.

Other than shooting, editing, planning logistics during heavy monsoons, we had to decide the most appropriate invitees and participants for the workshop.

WIF also made it clear to the Ramghat women that the workshop did not guarantee that their needs would be met.
Selection of Participants

The workshop, jointly organised by WDS and WIF, was held at the Central Panchayat Training Institute, Kathmandu.

Our major focus while drawing up the list of invitees was to make sure that the appropriate people were requested to attend. We, i.e. WDS and WIF, thought that line agencies working with the PCRW project and invitees who could either modify policies (if needed) to meet rural needs and/or act as catalysts in modifying programmes and policies would be the most suitable invitees.
(see annex, page 24 for list of invitees).

Specific Objectives of the Workshop

a. To enhance Communication between project site (Ramghat) and the Women Development Section in Kathmandu.

b. To present before policy planners and project implementers the needs of the community in Ramghat.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THIS WORKSHOP WAS THAT THE RURAL WOMEN HAD ASSESSED THEIR OWN NEEDS AND PRODUCED VIDEOS ON THESE NEEDS.

c. To help rural women understand the realities, and the processes which people in Kathmandu (Centre) must perform to meet rural needs and why the Centre cannot meet all the needs.

Other than these specific objectives, as Ms. Subhadra Belbase, Programme Director of WIF, said, "Just as it is important for Central level planners to understand and assess rural community problems and needs for realistic planning and project design, likewise it is equally important for rural women to understand central level realities and problems. This workshop aims at facilitating this two-way understanding."

An account of the most important aspects of this workshop held on the 29th, 30th and 31st of July, 1986, are presented here in this report.
PROGRAMME:

DAY 1, FIRST SESSION : INAUGURATION CEREMONY
--------------
WELCOME SPEECH
HIGHLIGHT ON THE PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP
OPINIONS OF DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS
SPEECH FROM THE CHIEF GUEST
SPEECH FROM THE CHAIR

DAY 1, SECOND SESSION : VIDEO SCREENING AND DISCUSSION
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SCREENING OF "HAMRO KARYAKRAM, HAMRO SANDESH"
AND DISCUSSION
CONCLUSION AND REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

DAY 2, THIRD SESSION : VIDEO SCREENING AND DISCUSSION
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SCREENING OF "SUKKHA JAMIN, BAGDO PANI"
AND DISCUSSION
SCREENING OF "HAMRO SWASTHYA" AND DISCUSSION
SCREENING OF "RAMGHATKA MAHILAHARUKO KANOONI SAMASYA RA SAMADHAN"
AND DISCUSSION
CONCLUSION AND REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

DAY 3, FOURTH SESSION
-----------------------------
RECOMMENDATIONS, SUGGESTIONS AND PLAN OF ACTION
CONCLUSION AND REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

DAY 3, FIFTH (LAST) SESSION
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OPINION FROM MRS. CHANDRAKALA GHARTI ON BEHALF OF THE RAMGHAT WOMEN
OPINION FROM MS. DELITE SINGH ON BEHALF OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FAREWELL SPEECH BY MS. CHANDNI JOSHI
ADJOURNMENT OF THE WORKSHOP BY THE CHAIRPERSON
Ms. Chandni Joshi, Chief of the WDS, said in her welcome speech, "We have always felt the lack of communication between the centre and the Production Credit for Rural Women Project sites. It has been very difficult for us to really know the problems of the villages we are working in and for them to know what we wish to and what we can or cannot do for them. Since we have our project sites in 32 districts of the country, it has been of utmost importance to us to be able to bridge this communication gap. That is why this WIF/CIDA Communication Project was launched, which has enabled the local village women along with the Women Development Section staff, with the aid of the Worldview International Foundation personnel, to successfully produce various video programmes that can act as a dialogue between the centre and the grass roots. These videos function as the theme of this workshop."

The aim of the workshop, as expressed by Ms. Subhadra Belbase, Program Director of WIF, was "to assess the needs expressed by the Ramghat women concerning the development of Ramghat through the videos presented and to develop a plan of action confirming the possible support that can be provided."

Senior Consultant of WIF, Ms. Roberta Borg said about the project, "This project is most important just for its experimental nature and particularly the focus on women by women - a major force of development. We all over the world support your efforts and closely watch your progress."

Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development, Mr. Shyam Prasad Adhikari said, "We have not been successful in exploring and pinpointing the spots in a village that are the focal points of rural community communication. I consider it my moral responsibility to identify these places and media and to utilise them to the maximum advantage."

The Additional Secretary of the MPLD, Mr. Yogendra Nath Ojha said in his speech, "For us at the centre, participation of rural women in communication is a new beginning. Judging by the WIF/CIDA Communication Project’s accomplishments so far, we can say without doubt that it is a very proper and dynamic utilisation of communication for development."

The Workshop

First Day: First Session

Ms. Chandni Joshi, Chief of the WDS, said in her welcome speech, "We have always felt the lack of communication between the centre and the Production Credit for Rural Women Project sites. It has been very difficult for us to really know the problems of the villages we are working in and for them to know what we wish to and what we can or cannot do for them. Since we have our project sites in 32 districts of the country, it has been of utmost importance to us to be able to bridge this communication gap. That is why this WIF/CIDA Communication Project was launched, which has enabled the local village women along with the Women Development Section staff, with the aid of the Worldview International Foundation personnel, to successfully produce various video programmes that can act as a dialogue between the centre and the grass roots. These videos function as the theme of this workshop."

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As a member of the Advisory Committee, I feel that the impression imparted has been very appreciable and positive and I am certain that the potential and possibilities of this project will lead to its expansion."

The Chief Guest of the Inauguration Ceremony, Mr. Mahesh Kumar Upadhyaya, Vice-Chancellor of the Tribhuvan University, said in his address, "Communication has always been of great interest to the University. The experimental, innovative communication activities of this WIF project are of extreme value to us because we are keen on studying the experiences and results obtained so as to formulate an intellectual cultural exchange between Tribhuvan University and such programme implementers.

A major step for development would be to explore traditional communication media and integrate them with modern media."

The Secretary of the MPLD, Mr. Mukti Prasad Kafle, speaking as the Chairman of the Inauguration Ceremony said, "We have all realised that development is not really possible without the participation of those for whom it is intended. It is very important for the recipients to realise that 'this development is meant for us and we must be the ones to strive for our advancement.'

This workshop is instrumental in providing information about the needs of the rural people to the Centre and also in informing the women from Ramghat about what efforts have been made, what is being done and what will be done in the future by the centre to help solve their problems."
FIRST DAY: SECOND SESSION

"HAMRO KARYAKRAM, HAMRO SANDESH", a video produced by the women and the WDS staff of Ramghat was shown. It dealt with the problems of the women involved with the Production Credit for Rural Women (PCRW) loan programmes and the problems Sushila Sharma, the Women Development Officer in Ramghat, and her assistants were facing to run the program well.

The needs expressed in this video were:

a. the need for a milk depot and
b. the need for a woman employee at the Ramghat Small Farmers Development Project (SFDP) bank.

After the screening, an open discussion was held headed by Ms. Chandni Joshi, Chief of the Women Development Section.

Answering the questions raised about the possibility of establishing a milk depot in Ramghat, the SFDP representative said, "Detailed information is essential to study the market for milk in the area, based on which we can work towards a milk depot. As for the additional staff at the Ramghat SFDP branch, we have decided to post one there starting from the next fiscal year and the priority will be to have a woman employee."

The Executive Director of the Central Panchayat Training Institute, Mr. Khagendra Nath Sharma said after seeing the video, "I have realised how capable the women of Ramghat are not only in assessing and presenting their problems but also in seeking solutions."

He further added that the women themselves should evaluate the benefits of the program and commit their participation to its and their own success.

In the course of the discussion, Mr. Khagendra Sharma asked the Ramghat women how they were paying back the PCRW loans they had taken.

In answer to that Mrs. Chandrakala Gharti speaking for the women said that it was very difficult for them to fulfill even the basic needs for survival in their present conditions. If there had been irrigation in Ramghat, they could have paid back the loans from selling the crops they produced. But since that was lacking, paying back the loans was a very strenuous task. But they had somehow managed so far to pay back the loans on time for fear of having to pay the interest on the loans if they exceeded the time limit.
Mr. Dil Bahadur Shrestha, the Under-Secretary of the Adult Education Section of the Ministry of Education and Culture asked if the Ramghat women sent their children to school and if they themselves attended any Adult Literacy classes.

The answer to that was that, in the past it was traditionally restricted for women to study; therefore, the Ramghat women couldn’t receive any education themselves. But now they have realised the importance of education and their children are sent to attend school. It was difficult, however, for the majority of the women to attend the Adult Literacy Classes because the classes are held in only one place in the village in the evenings and they have to walk back to their far away homes in the night.

The Chairman of the session, Mr. Shyam Prasad Adhikari, in his concluding remarks said, "This project has shaken us awake and opened the eyes of His Majesty’s Government’s development units."
He also suggested that a comprehensive integrated development plan be prepared for Ramghat.

SECOND DAY: THIRD SESSION

The third session of the workshop was opened with the screening of "SUKKHA JAMIN, BAGDO PANI", a video prepared by the Ramghat women illustrating the problems existing in Ramghat due to the lack of irrigation.

The needs expressed in the video by the women were:

a. the need for irrigation facilities and
b. the need for proper drinking water.

After the video, a discussion was held headed by Ms. Delite Singh of K-BIRD.

Answering the question about what K-BIRD could do about irrigation in Ramghat, Ms. Singh replied that she would have to ask Jill McMaster of CIDA about that, so the Ramghat women shouldn’t take it for granted that K-BIRD could do anything immediately.

The women of Ramghat notified the participants that the development of Ramghat was greatly obstructed because of the lack of irrigation. "When one has to toil day and night just to survive, how can one think about bigger things like development?" was the question they voiced.
They also informed everybody of the available tiny water sources that they had discovered and which could be developed to provide irrigation and drinking water.

Concluding the discussion, the Chairman of the session Mr. Yogendra Nath Ojha said, "We all saw from the video the urgent need for irrigation in Ramghat. I, on my part, cannot guarantee anything but I will inform the K-BIRD coordinator to depute an engineer to conduct a feasibility and cost study which may be the first step in possibly bringing irrigation to Ramghat."

Another video made by the women of Ramghat called "HAMRO SWASTHYA" was shown to the participants. It dealt with the health problems of the Ramghat people and it expressed the need for health services and a health post to be established in Ramghat.

After the video, a discussion was held headed by Ms. Sangita Rana of the WDS.

At the beginning of the discussion, Ms. Shobha Shrestha of the WDS informed all participants of the health related activities introduced at the project sites by the WDS under the PCRW program.

Ms. Chandni Joshi mentioned that the Ministry of Health has an Integrated Health programme for the rural areas but to see how well the programme reaches the rural women is the responsibility of the Women Development Officers based in the villages.

In the course of the discussion, Ms. Roshani Karmacharya of the WDS told the participants about the activities and achievements of the family planning programs introduced by the WDS under the PCRW project.

Ms. Pitambara Sharma, the Principal of the Women Training Centre in Surkhet, urged the women of Ramghat to actively use the knowledge they had obtained from the ORT and nutrition trainings they had received in Ramghat.

Mr. Naresh Gurung, the representative from UNICEF, expressed his doubt whether the needs highlighted in the videos prepared by the Ramghat women were too ambitious.
In answer to that, Ms. Subhadra Belbase of WIF said that the rural women have expressed very straightforwardly what they feel. It would be a very narrow point of view if this project was regarded as just producing video programmes, because the project is multifaceted and, combining different areas and fields, it works towards an educational process. It was further pointed out that the workshop was part of the project, where video was being used as a tool to facilitate discussion on the problems raised and come to a realistic plan of action. Furthermore, it was part of the communication process for the rural women to understand if their plans were overambitious and why all their needs could not be met.

Adding to that Mr. Dil Bahadur Shrestha said that high expectations are a positive sign of the desire for development. The point is to work equally hard to meet them.

After the discussion and the recommendations were concluded, the third video "RAMGHATKA MAHILAHARUKO KANOONI SAMASYA RA SAMADHAN" was screened. It dealt with the problems and questions of the Ramghat women concerning legal issues.

The discussion that was held after the screening was headed by Ms. Shilu Singh, Senior Advocate from the Women’s Organisation.

At the outset of the discussion, Ms. Shilu Singh started by telling the participants of the legal advice she has provided so far for the women of Ramghat on video and that she determines to do the same in the future free of cost.

She said, "It is very praiseworthy of the way in which the Ramghat women have attempted to tackle their legal problems and pursue solutions by putting their questions on video."

She advised the women that they shouldn’t think that since they’ve got legal support, they should fight for their rights and disrupt family life.

The main objective of such a service is not to fight but to minimise conflicts by bringing mutual understanding and cooperation between husband and wife and other members of the society. This approach is the best for all and should be tried first before consulting the law.

A question was put to Ms. Shilu Singh by a Ramghat woman about when exactly the branch office of the Women’s Legal Services Project would be opened at Birendranagar, as she had mentioned in her video letter to them.
She answered that the office in question would be established in Birendranagar, Surkhet district, in November 1986, and that the advertisements for advocates for this branch have already appeared in the Gorkhapatra.

Ms. Chandni Joshi put forward the suggestion if, in the future, it would be more practical to use audio tapes for exchanging legal messages since the PCRW Project covers 32 sites at present and since Ramghat is the only one with video facilities.

All the participants were wholly in favour of this. Although video was a stronger medium, it would be more practical and feasible to use audio tapes.

Ms. Pitambara Sharma of the Women Training Centre volunteered that the video and audio tapes that carry women's legal problems and advice could be disseminated to the grass roots nationwide via the Women Training Centre (WTC).

The participants proposed an urgent need for radio programmes concentrating around women's legal problems and solutions through which the entire rural women of the country could be reached most effectively. The programmes should be formulated by the WDS in the districts in consultation with village women and there should be a schedule for the village women to listen to them and to collect more cases for further programmes.

The Chairman for the session, Mr. Yogendra Nath Ojha said in his concluding remarks,

"I have seen from this video that rural unschooled women are aware and conscious of their problems and most important they are anxious to seek solutions.

The women of Ramghat can take the initiative and are eager for meaningful participation which contributes very significantly to the development of their village.

This video has, in my opinion, played a vital role in presenting the latent knowledge and aspirations of the Ramghat women very successfully."
THIRD DAY: CLOSING CEREMONY

Speaking on behalf of the Ramghat women Mrs. Chandrakala Gharti said,

"This programme has opened a lot of new horizons for us which otherwise would be unimaginable for all of us. We have been able to learn new things, travel places and meet with important people at the Centre whom we could present our problems directly to and we are very happy to be given the opportunity.

We pledge ourselves to work to our utmost capacity to make this programme more successful and we thank you for bringing it to our village."

Speaking for the Advisory Committee for the (WIF/CIDA Communication) Project, Ms. Delite Singh said,

"Video has played a very great role in eliminating the widespread women's problems in society. Such a forceful use of video as a tool is highly admirable."

The Farewell Speech was given by Ms. Chandni Joshi, in which she said,

"We praise the commendable dedication of our sisters from Ramghat and the efforts that have highlighted your difficulties and through which we have reached a higher level of understanding.

I most heartily thank all the organisations (see annex, page 21, 22) and individuals that have been a part of this programme and without whose contribution it would be hard to think of the success so far."

Finally, the Chairperson for the session, Ms. Prativa Rana, Chairperson of the Women's Services Coordination Council, adjourned the three day workshop.
The FOURTH SESSION of the THIRD DAY was occupied with concretising the PLAN OF ACTION from the recommendations that had been recorded from the discussions in the different sessions of the two previous days.

The particulars of the final agreement are listed below:

1. After the video "SUKKHA JAMIN, BAGDO PANI" was shown, the women from Ramqhat proceeded to give the participants a detailed account of the problem of irrigation in their village.

   The representative of the MPLD said that he would send a team to conduct a feasibility and cost study as the first step in tackling the problem of irrigation in Ramqhat.

   The representative from K-BIRD said that she would ask the concerned Programme Officer about the technical and other assistance that would be required.

2. The discussion after the video "RAMGHATKA MAHILAHARUKO KANOONI SAMASYA RA SAMADHAN" produced the plan to have a Women's Legal Services office in Birendranagar, a town about two hours by bus from Ramghat, in November-December, 1986.

   It was also recommended and decided that the video letters on legal information would continue between Ramghat and the Women's Legal Services Project office in Kathmandu.

3. The topic of discussion after the screening of "HAMRO KARYAKRAM, HAMRO SANDESH" was the need for a milk depot as expressed in the video by the women.

   It was recommended and decided that the Ramghat women themselves would take the initiative for collecting the milk in the area for marketing. They would decide who among the villagers should take that responsibility.

   The SFDP was ready to advise and help them on technical matters.

4. The women of Ramghat would be given basic health service training and a health kit which they would be responsible for maintaining and filling up. This was decided as a result of the needs expressed in "HAMRO SWASTHYA", a video they had made on their health problems.
5. The Women Development Section, the Women Training Centre and
the District Agricultural Section would jointly provide the
necessities for starting a demonstration plot for growing
vegetables. This would help to fulfill some of the
nutritional needs of the community in Ramghat and improve
their health.

6. The women had asked, in the video "HAMRO KARYAKRAM, HAMRO
SANDESH", for a woman employee to be posted at the Ramghat
SFDP bank because of the difficulties of dealing with male
staff and also because the loan program was being hindered
because of the lack of bank personnel.

The Agricultural Development Bank decided to post an
additional staff there from the next fiscal year onwards and
to give priority to a woman.
SOME UNFORESEEN OUTCOMES AND NEW UNDERSTANDINGS

Additional Secretary of the MPLD:

"I have experienced, after seeing and being with you, that even unschooled women can express community needs, understand problems, take initiative in trying to overcome those problems and suggest solutions which are realistic. NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY WOMEN SHOULD BE GIVEN A SPECIAL FOCUS IN INTEGRATED PROJECTS."

Educationalist:

"I am amazed to see the learning capacity of adults who have never been to school, and proud of those who I see here ... this has tremendous significance for me who works in the educational field."

K-BIRD representative:

"This project with regard to its participatory process towards development is an example to us all project implementers. I am sure this project will provide us solid information with regard to all the forthcoming problems and possible difficulties involved in rural development work."

Under-Secretary of the Adult Education Section of the Ministry of Education and Culture:

"I have realised from these videos that development is, more importantly, the development of understanding than just physical development. The development of communication is a major component of overall national development. That fact has been ably proved by the activities of the WIF/CIDA Communication Project in Ramghat."

Ramghat Woman:

"We have not come to ask you for a gift packet called development. We only ask you to lead us and guide us in the new paths we are taking. We have learned that there are many things we need not ask help for ... we can do them on our own."

Ramghat Woman:

"All of us have realised that it takes time to realize dreams into reality... but this workshop promises us healthy green fields and we are sure that we will one day reap a good harvest."
### List of Participants for "Rural Women in Participatory Communication"
July 29 - 31, 1986

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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>Mr. Naresh Gurung</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapti Development Project</td>
<td>Mr. Khemraj Nepal</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Dang</td>
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<td>Ministry of Agriculture</td>
<td>Ms. Sadhana Sharma</td>
<td>Under-Secretary</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women Training Centre</td>
<td>Ms. Pitambara Upadhya</td>
<td>Principal, WTC</td>
<td>Surkhet</td>
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<td>Nepal Rastra Bank</td>
<td>Mr. Shalik Ram Sharma</td>
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<td>Kathmandu</td>
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<td>Ministry of Communications</td>
<td>Mr. Bishnu Pratap Shah</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Education and Culture</td>
<td>Mr. Dil B. Shrestha</td>
<td>Under-Secretary</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Services Coordination Council</td>
<td>Ms. Prativa Rana</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Organization</td>
<td>Ms. Shilu Singh</td>
<td>Senior Advocate</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-BIRD Project</td>
<td>Mr. Binod Shrestha</td>
<td>Administrative Officer</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
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ANNEX

Ramghat Group
Ms. Sushila Sharma (WDO)
Ms. Maya Gurung (WDA)
Ms. Chandrakala Gharti
Ms. Rati Dameni
Ms. Laxmi Sunar
Ms. Kamala Thapa
Ms. Pavishara Shahi
Ms. Nandakali Rawat
Ms. Nanda Sharma
Ms. Indra Gharti
Ms. Mishri Khatri
Mr. Nar Bahadur Khan

Women Development Section
Ms. Chandni Joshi
Ms. Sangeeta Rana
Ms. Uma Pradhan
Ms. Shobha Shrestha
Ms. Prayag Siddhi Khadka

Worldview International Foundation
Ms. Roberta Borg
Ms. Subhadra Belbase
Mr. Padam Lal Devkota
Mr. Deependra Gauchan
Mr. Govinda B. Pradhan
Mr. Ragpa Dorjee Lama
Ms. Beena Lama
Mr. Raju Dahal
Mr. Niran Subedi
Mr. Kari Sorsa
Mr. Ratna Bhai Sthapit
Mr. Dharma Raj Bajracharya

Rapporteurs
Ms. Prayag Siddhi Khadka
(WDS)
Mr. Dharma Raj Bajracharya
(WIF)
ANNEX

Advisory Committee for WIF/CIDA Communication Project

Mr. Yogendra Nath Ojha
Additional Secretary
Ministry of Panchayat & Local Development
Jawalakhel
Kathmandu.

Mr. Shyam Prasad Adhikari
Joint Secretary
Ministry of Panchayat & Local Development
Jawalakhel
Kathmandu.

Ms. Delite Singh
Administrative Officer
K-BIRD Project
Kalimati
Kathmandu

Mr. Chiranjibi Karmacharya
Project Coordinator
WIF/ADBN Communication Project
Tangal
Kathmandu

Ms. Chandni Joshi
Chief
Women Development Section
Jawalakhel
Kathmandu

Ms. Subhadra Belbase
Programme Director
Worldview International Foundation
Tangal
Kathmandu
List of Invitees for the Inauguration of
"Rural Women in Participatory Communication"

Mr. Mahesh Kumar Upadhyaya  
Chief Guest  
Vice-Chancellor  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Mr. Mukti Prasad Kafle  
Chairperson  
Secretary  
MPLD  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Mr. Bishnu Pratap Shah  
Secretary  
Ministry of Communications  
Panchayat Plaza, Kathmandu

Mr. Khagendra Nath Sharma  
Executive Director  
Central Panchayat Training Institute  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Mr. T. S. Thapa  
Under-Secretary  
Population Education  
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu

Ms. Padma Shrestha  
Acting Principal  
Women Training Centre  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Mr. Rameshwar Bahadur Singh  
Joint Secretary  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu

Mr. Tej Prasad Upadhyaya  
Additional Secretary  
MPLD  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Mr. Bhuwan Man Kayastha  
Joint Secretary  
MPLD  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Mr. Buddha Ratna Shakya  
Joint Secretary  
MPLD  
Jawalakhel, Kathmandu

Dr. Y. B. Karki  
Director  
WIF Nepal  
Tangal, Kathmandu

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**RURAL WOMEN IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION (WORKSHOP)**

**PICTURE**

00 minute 1 second - Picture of Chandrakala

14 seconds
Integrated Hill Development Project (IHDP) Coordinator, Krishna B. Sharma.

33 seconds:
Picture of Chandra Kala shooting

53 to 59 seconds:
Video on irrigation

**SOUND**

Voice over of IHDP Coordinator:
"Now, she might have made commitments to the women in her village but the problem is that there might be no budget for these needs or it might not be approved ..........

"Same voice:"
"Now, the thing is how can we, the bank, the Women Development Section, meet these needs .......

Background:
Videos on community needs, produced by the women were screened at the workshop. Irrigation and health were focused on.

Background and voice on screen:
"Irrigation is the major problem in the village. The villagers discuss their problems with the SFDP manager in Ramghat.

1 minute
Picture of Participants at Workshop watching the video presentation
(2 project people K-BIRD representative and Principal of Women Training Centre, Surkhet are visible.

1 minute 06 seconds
SFDP Manager

1 minute 13 seconds
In forefront watching video, Mr. Shyam P. Adhikari, Joint Secretary from MPLD and Additional Secretary, Mr. Yogendra Nath Ojha. Both serve on the Advisory Committee of the Project.

1 minute 17 seconds
Representative from Women Dev. Section, Ms. Sangeeta Rana viewing video produced by project women.

1 minute 20 seconds
Chandra Kala (embarrassed, because she is on video)
1 minute 30 seconds:
Mr. Dil Bahadur Shrestha
health materials produced by
Ministry of Health.

Representative from UNICEF --
Mr. Naresh Gurung and Principal
of WTC, Pitambara, look on.

1 minute 38 seconds:
Picture of Participants, including
Woman Development Assistant (WDA)
Maya Gurung of Ramghat.

1 minute 46 seconds:
Dil Bahadur Shrestha continues
explaining other materials.

1 minute 48 seconds:
Rati Damen
Laxmi Sunal from our project
site in Ramghat.

1 minute 52 seconds:
Close-up of poster "Village Life"

1 minute 52 seconds:
Mr. Dil Bahadur Shrestha,
K-BIRD Officer, Mr. Binod K. Shrestha
and Naresh Gurung.

2 minutes 2 seconds:
Pavishara Sahi and WDA listening to
Mr. Dil Bahadur Shrestha.

2 minutes 4 seconds:
Nandakali Rawat from Ramghat project
with Japanese Volunteer at workshop.

2 minutes 7 seconds:
Dil Bahadur Shrestha.

2 minutes 10 seconds:
Nanda Sharma

2 minutes 17 seconds:
Principal WTC, Pitambara Sharma
and K-BIRD Administration Officer
Delite Singh (in pink) on Advisory
Committee of Project listening to
Nanda.

Voice
"This is a ludo game which teaches
about health and we use in our adult
literacy classes."

Dil Bahadur Shrestha's voice:
Explaining, "these pictures explain
why we must keep our drinking water
area clean.

"Thank you for listening."

Voice of Nanda explaining that,
"we need irrigation urgently. Our
food production has gone down because
we have no water, and unless we have
food -- a very basic need, we cannot
do anything else -- people are moving
away."
2 minutes 32 seconds:
Participants from centre listening to Nanda.

2 minutes 39 seconds:
Naresh Gurung, UNICEF

2 minutes 51 seconds:
Nanda Sharma

3 minutes 13 seconds:
Chandrakala and Pavishara

3 minutes 32 seconds:
Landscape

Nanda Sharma
"With no irrigation we'll have no settlements left in about 2 years."

"I think the women's expectations are too high."

"But we need irrigation -- but, of course we know that the Ministry must approve and the budget must come from abroad."

Chandrakala,
"If we have have irrigation, we can grow more food."

If we have more food than we can eat we will sell the rest -- this will ensure a better future for our children and grand children. That is what we have come to tell you."