

Multipurpose Irrigation Scheme in Marming and Ghumthang 2021

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Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Marming, Bhotekoshi Rural Municipality, Ward no. 5.▪ Ghumthang, Barhabise Municipality, Ward no. 07.
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sarpang Khanepali Yojana (Marming)▪ Kaule Khola Sana Sinchai Upabhokta Samiti (Ghumthang)
Budget	NPR 831,600.00/-
Volunteer	NPR 276,000.00/-
Total Budget	NPR 1,107,600.00/-
No. of Beneficiaries	99 HHs (65 HHs in Ghumthang and 34 HHs in Marming)

Background:

ISARD has been contributing to the people of Sindhupalchowk for the past 31 years for the improvement of peoples' livelihood. In 2015, a massive earthquake with its epicenter in Sindhupalchowk happened. This brought devastating problems in people's daily life. Their houses were all destroyed, many people died, and electricity, water, and roads were damaged. People didn't have food to eat for many days as their store was destroyed by the earthquake. However, people have been overcoming the harsh damage day by day, but still, in some villages like Marming and Ghumthang, there existed the problem with the water accessibility.

After the water sources moved due to the earthquake, people in Marming and Ghumthang started experiencing water shortages. To address the problem, ISARD, Himalaya Resources, and ICFON started working collaboratively, so that they may fulfill people's need for water. Since 2021, we have started to work in Marming, and Ghumthang as our new working areas. Till the end of 2021, there occurred an income growth of 472 % from NPR 3131/- in 2020 to NPR 17921/- in Marming, and an income growth of 405% in Ghumthang from NPR 3074/- in 2020 to NPR 15531/-.

Marming:

Marming has located 5km from Chaku Bazar which is located 18 km from Barhabise, the main marketplace. Before the involvement of ISARD, almost all households were involved in traditional staple crop farming, few community members were involved in the kitchen garden

during the monsoon but were not involved in any type of farming during the winter season. Marming is a village with Thami, Tamang, and Newar communities. Out of 52 households, 22 are Thami, 27 are Tamang, and 3 are Newars. With a very little source of income, 15 people have opted to work as migrant workers. Livestock farming is very limited in the village.

The village seems to be good for cardamom farming in terms of the altitude and weather. Water seems to be enough, therefore with proper group management and a few essential trainings, the community might be involved in commercial farming in a few years.

Ghumtang:

Ghumtang is about 30 minutes walk away from Sakhuwa Bazar which is 14 km from Barhabise. There were a few youths who were involved in commercial farming before the 2015 earthquake. After the earthquake due to the difficult terrain, it was difficult to reach the market and due to difficulty in water accessibility, they stopped the commercial vegetable cultivation. Most of the household seems to have a small kitchen garden, but the amount of land has not been utilized well. Since there does not seem to be a problem with drinking water, few houses do not have proper pipelines.

In Ghumthang, out of 52 households, 43% of the people belong to Thami community, 52% belong to Tamang community and 5% belong to Newar community. The area is very well suitable for coffee farming, livestock farming, and commercial vegetable cultivation.

Materials Purchased:

S.N	Details	Marming			Ghumthang		
		Unit	Amount	Total	Unit	Amount	Total
1	Hardware materials			359912.2			304687.8
2	Transportation	5	7000	35000	5	6000	30000
3	Sand and Pebbles	6	4000	24000	3	4000	12000
4	Experienced workers	36	1000	36000	30	1000	30000
5	Inexperienced workers and Community help	155	800	124000	190	800	152000
				578912.2			528687.8

The above-mentioned materials were purchased and the work was completed with 191 workers (36 experienced and 155 inexperienced) in Marming and 220 workers (30 experienced and 190 inexperienced) in Ghumthang. A chamber of 200 liters was constructed at the source and was connected with 8 newly constructed water taps through 20 and 10 mm pipes in Ghumthang whereas in Marming, the 12 of the newly constructed water taps were connected with 32 mm, 25 mm, and 20 mm pipes directly from the water source.

Labor Donation:

According to the contract with the community, the community members have to volunteer their time worth 40% of the total budget. Therefore, there were 190 volunteers in Ghumthang, which adds up to a total of NPR 152,000/- and 155 volunteers in Marming, which adds up to a total of NPR 152,000/-.

Government linkage:

With ISARD collaborating more with the local government, for this project, the 20 and 10 mm pipelines worth NPR 50,000/- were supported by the local government in Ghumthang.

Maintenance:

Since the work was done through the farmers' groups, the members of the groups and the community volunteered. A total of NPR 20,000/- has been saved for the maintenance of the drinking water project in each village. Besides this, each village has 3 farmers' groups and they collect a certain amount annually towards the maintenance fund.

Conclusion:

65 HHs in Ghumthang and 34 HHs in Marming were again able to easily access the water facility which was harshly destructed by the 2015 earthquake. A collection chamber and 8 water taps in Ghumthang and 12 water taps in Marming were constructed and repaired with proper pipelines which have provided the villagers with sufficient water for their irrigation purpose, drinking purposes, and daily chores.

Annex 1:

Photo Annex:



Water tap during construction in Marming



Water tap during construction in Marming



A villager collecting water from the supported tap in Marming



*Villagers digging the pathway
for the Pipeline in Ghumthang*



*Water tap after
the construction*

Annex 2:

Case Story:

Mr. Sharki Thami is a 57 years old, permanent resident of Ghumthang, Barhabise Municipality-07. He has 5 members in his family. Although he was already a farmer by profession, his family was not able to earn much income from traditional farming. Besides, the massive earthquake brought drastic trouble to farming in his family.

Mr. Thami is the president of Laganshil Krishak Samuha in Ghumthang. Previously, he had difficulties raising his family even after working hard for years but now some changes have started to be seen after his involvement in ISARD. His family only used to cultivate paddy, maize, and millet and never cultivated vegetables, in addition to that, the inaccessible water system in his village discouraged him to do commercial vegetable farming. As a result, in spite of having his own bare lands, he had to buy the vegetables even for his daily consumption.

With the easy access to water, he had recently cultivated several vegetables. He has also started buck farming. His family, who could not get a good income from our traditional farming in the past, is very happy to be able to earn so much money in such a short time with the easy access to water. He is now learning new techniques to improve his livelihood with ISARD staffs advising his family from time to time.



