

Man Bahadur Thapa, Dandagoun-1 Khotang

Mr Man Bahadur Thapa of Suryajyoti RBG is an example of successful member in Dandagoun VDC. He involved in the group as the road construction works mobilising RBGs progressed nearer to his place of living. Before labour employment in road building he didn't have any income source. Since his economic status was not so strong, he had to borrow loan from local moneylender in higher interest rates. It was difficult for him sustaining his family life. From his land he was able to manage food only for 9 months in a year.

When RAP started its implementation in this VDC, he involved in a road-building group named Suryajyoti RBG. He got employment in road building works. He began to save wage money earned from the labour work. Now, he has saved NRs 8,500 in the group fund.

Beside the roadwork he is involved in other income generating activities too. He participated in different types of training and got agricultural technical know-how. Before the project, he used to follow traditional type of farming system and now he has introduced new crops and new production technology (see picture to the right). He has got the support of his family too. He cultivates vegetables like cauliflower, broccoli, tomato akabare, cabbage, ginger, onion, cucumber, squash and four seasonal beans.



Mr Thapa says that he had borrowed NRs 2 lakhs loan before. After RAP by the income from wages and IGA activities he returned this loan slowly. He had purchased one and half tola (15 gram) gold from Diktel Bazaar and he also purchased house land (half kattha) land in Gaighat.

He always says, 'I am very satisfied with this programme because it generated employment, provided ideas that helped improve my family life'. Now his 5 children are going to school regularly and he doesn't have problem of money for household expenses.

His activity in IGAs, construction work and social work is increasing. He plays active role in group meetings and use to share his experiences and ideas. He is very happy because he is recognized and reputed by society now.