



# The World Food Day 2021

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## Proceeding of the Food Month Deliberations Commemorating

Alliance of Agriculture for Food



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## **Executive Summary**

We have been celebrating World Food Day for the last 5 years. Last year we witnessed that the whole world was succumbing to COVID-19. This year too, at the planning stage there was an increase in cases of Covid 19, such a situation forced us to celebrate it virtually. Thus, the Alliance of Agriculture for Food (AAF) decided to organize this year's World Food Day programme as a virtual forum connecting and bringing together all possible agencies to the forum for public debate on food and agriculture.

As in previous years, the World Food Day celebrations have been held this year in discussion with the World Food Day Celebration Committee, Nepal, headed by the Department of Agriculture. Because of some delay in decision making, we could not jointly organize some activities. However, in altogether, this has become a good example of our shared sense of responsibility. The unity of the media personnel who speak and write on the issue of agriculture is commendable. Many thanks to all the individuals and organizations involved in this work.

The goal was to create a forum to raise the collective voices of the general public, farmers, and farming communities to create pressure on policy shapers/makers for formulating effective policy measures pertaining to food and agriculture showing the cases of critical issues as well as best practices on ground.

We organized a month-long forum in all provinces and at Kathmandu with presentations and discussions, video presentations, publications and promotional materials, radio and TV debates, communications and dialogues were important for public awareness and policy debates. During the month, there were 19 main dialogues / activities in which about 200 people shared their experiences, study summaries, ideas and suggestions.

About 120 people gave comments and remarks on the presentation and more than 500 people participated directly. Thousands watched and listened online and offline. The solidarity shown by all towards this campaign is inspiring for us. We widely used social media for dissemination of discussions, release of a Dohori Geet Video (duet folk song), and organized food festivals.

The successful execution of the month-long program with active participation of different stakeholders (ranging from farmers to policy makers, activists to experts in different aspects of food and agriculture), different issues discussed during the program, and progress made thus far have shown that movement by the alliance has gained momentum and popularity. The successful organization of the 20 different events by 24 different organizations under a banner has also revealed the strength gained by the movement.

All these events and activities including food festival and Video was appreciated by media and concerned stakeholders including the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development - a collaborating partner for the last four years in celebrating World Food Day.

The World Food Day is a platform used, but the major agenda of the alliance is agriculture for food. Though the event was expanded from a day program in the past to a month-long this year, the major challenge is how to make the movement or events for a month and year. Thus, the alliance should prepare its strategy paper.

The alliance should aim to release the status of food and food security in the country during every World Food Day – treating the World Food Day as a closing ceremony of the activities by the movement for that year. Such database will provide evidence based on facts to support the activities of the movement. Also, some activities related to food and agriculture at local and province level after three to six months of the World Food Day will make the movement more effective.

In the nutshell, the month-long deliberation was concluded with the successful events with the realization of much more needs to be done to deepen and broaden the agriculture for food issues. We observed that there is a strong sense of need for a transformative approach to food and agriculture. This demands the design and delivers agroecology suitable for local situations with collective wisdom of policy practitioners as well as demonstrations to create awareness at all levels.

The deliberation was successful to keep the agenda of food and agriculture in wider public debate. The activities gave us opportunities to reach organic and critical intellectuals, researchers, activists, media groups, and others. It also helped to revitalize strengths of alliances and to realize its limits. The important limit of the action was to reach and listen to the voice of the small farmers, women, and other marginal sections. There is always a room for improvement. We particularly need to be more efficient in mobilizing members, planning ahead and update the issues in debate.

We look forward to being more strategic in planning for the future, enhancing contributions and building capacities of alliance members and outreach to the province and municipalities to make voice louder. For this, periodic updates, reflections, feedbacks, and adjustments of the priorities, being watchful to the dynamic changes on the issues of sustainable food system in public debate will be a strategic approach of the alliance in future.

Finally, we highly appreciate the generous contribution of participants, speakers, commentators, media, and collaborating partners. We look forward to raising these concerns to realize a sustainable food system.

With solidarity,  
Alliance of Agriculture for Food,  
Kathmandu  
December 2021

# Press Meet

**Venue: Union House Pvt. Ltd, Anamnagar**

**Date : September 10, 2021**

**Time : 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM**

A press meet was held on in Union House, Anamnagar to inform online, print and visual media about the month long programmes, Food Month, on the occasion of the 41<sup>st</sup> World Food Day. The programme was moderated by Dr. Sujata Tamang (Forest action Nepal/AAF). The press meet began with a general introduction of all the participants, followed by a presentation of appeal by Ms. Laxmi Gurung. In the first half, the programme was chaired by Mr. Uddhav Adhikari (Coordinator, AAF) and Dr. Krishna Poudel was the guest. Mr. Mahadev Poudel wished success of the program virtually. In the second half virtual interaction with the press was conducted which was moderated by Mr. Uddhav Adhikari. In the press meet the list of programmes was presented.

After the Closing Ceremony of the press meet, there was an arrangement of organic lunch.

# Session: Inauguration

(September 12, 2021)

Ms. Rita Bastakoti (National Federation of Farmers Groups) stated that it is important to determine the ways of being independent on food products. Ms. Bastakoti stated that the National federation of Farmers Group has always addressed the problems of small and marginalized farmers. She reminded that although there is a huge contribution of small and marginalized farmers to the national economy, their right is not secured by the government. So, she suggested preserving the indigenous agricultural knowledge and concluded by saying that the National Federation of Farmers Groups is always committed to establishing judicial rights of the farming community.

Mr. Krishna Prasad Poudel said that he will be actively participating in increasing interest in the issues of food and agriculture and campaign on giving pressure to the government to improve the effectiveness of laws related to food security.

Mr. Kiran Acharya (Chairperson, ANAJ) stated that ANAJ and other media will help in addressing the issues of food and agriculture.

On the occasion of 41st Food Day, Dr. Govinda Sharma (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development) wished for the success of month long programme conducted by the Alliance of Agriculture for Food and supporting partners. He stated that these types of programmes show the condition of the policy of Agriculture in Nepal. Agriculture sector is highly affected by COVID- 19 which has resulted in desertion of Youth farmers. He explained the importance of attracting youth towards agriculture and this campaign will be successful in doing so. Furthermore, to protect the right to food and food sovereignty we all should work with commitment. He highlighted the importance of focusing on healthy food from good agricultural practices to develop the healthy workforce.

Mr. Chandra Kishor wished for the success of programme and stated that Nepal is not only an agriculture based country, it is also a peaceful country. So, it is important to solve problems peacefully without any violent activities. He emphasized showing concern towards what is being inherited to the future generations. As nature and human beings are highly interrelated and protection of one protects the other, it is important to protect the mother earth.

Wishing success of the programme, on the occasion of Food Day 2020, Dr. Mahadev Prasad Poudel (Senior Agriculture Economist) informed about the list of programmes organized by the Ministry of agriculture and Livestock Development. He showed commitment towards participating in the campaign organized by the Alliance of Agriculture for Food.

In the closing remarks of the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Uddav Adhikari (Alliance of Agriculture for Food) stated that the campaign will only be successful with the participation of all the interested partners. He informed about the topic to be discussed in the upcoming days and highlighted that the development of Nepalese agriculture is reversing and plans related to agriculture are not inclusive. He addressed the importance of coordinating between all supporting partners to make this campaign successful.

# Session: Food rights of small and marginalized farmers

<b>Date:</b> September 14, 2021
<b>Time:</b> 8:00 am
<b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Uddhav Adhikari (Coordinator, Alliance of Agriculture for Food)
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Saraswati Subba (National Land Rights Forum)
<b>Chief Guest:</b> Honourable Purna Kumari Subedi (Chairperson, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee)
<b>Guest:</b> Mr. Jagat Deuja Mr. Nariram Lohar (National Land Right Forum)

While introducing the programme, Mr. Uddhav Adhikari mentioned the challenges related to land and welcomed Mr. Nariram Lohar (National Land Right Forum) for his speech.

## Speakers

### Mr. Nariram Lohar (National Land Rights Forum)

Mr. Nariram Lohar introduced the National Land Right Forum and clarified our understanding of the right to food and food sovereignty. Similarly, he explained about right to the food and food sovereignty act, local government operation act and land act. By highlighting the existing local problems, he stated that plans should be made and implemented to improve traditional agricultural practices, promote sustainable development, and protect the land rights of small and marginalized farmers and involvement of local government to implement the land act.

## **Honorable Purna Kumari Subedi (Chairperson, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee)**

Honorable Purna Kumari Subedi mentioned that National Land Right Forum is facing challenges due to political instability in Nepal. She wished for the success of the program and showed her commitment to such progressive campaigns.

### **Mr. Jagat Deuja**

Mr. Jagat Deuja gave an example of a book named “Honduras ki Mahilako Hridayako Aawaj” and highlighted that the condition of small and marginalized farmers will not improve until they do not have access to land and natural resources. Although the right to food and food sovereignty act is a progressive act it is not implemented in any sector. He enlightened the progress on the sector of food security and recommended prioritizing the access of small and marginalized farmers in natural resources. He also mentioned the activities that were carried out when he was on the Department of Land Management.

Mr. Prem Prakash Nepali stated that integrated development of land, agriculture, forest and irrigation will only lead to long term development. Similarly, Mr. Bhawani Ghimire addressed the land related challenges that are faced by the citizens of Chure regions and highlighted that they are not able to use the rights given by the constitution. The distributary agriculture system is incomplete and not effective. Mr. Kiran Acharya questioned if there is any organizations that is working without being dependent on the government. Mr. Chandra B.K. mentioned it is important to address the challenges we are facing due to natural disasters. Mr. Ram Bahadur Chunara said that domain based and farmers based policies are not formed and farmers are not made involved in the policies formulation process. Ms. Rita Bastakoti reminded the contribution of small and marginalized farmers to the national economy and demanded ensuring the rights of such farmers.

In the closing remarks, Ms. Saraswati Subba thanked all participants and stated that although good laws and policies are formulated but the implementation is poor. She added that this programme will encourage media persons, policymakers and concerned authorities to improve food security.

# Session: Contemporary Issues of Food and Public Health

**Date:** September 17, 2021

**Time:** 12:00 pm

**Moderator:** Dr. Mahesh Maskey

**Guests:**

Dr. Aruna Upreti (Public Health Specialist and Women's Rights Activist)

Dr. Prakash Raj Regmi (Senior Consultant Cardiologist)

Mr. Teeka Bhattarai (Activist and Member AAF Partners' Coordinator and Member)

While introducing the programme, Ms. Sindrela Dewan introduced Dr. Mahesh Maskey and the speakers.

Dr. Mahesh Maskey stated that the provision of healthy food and a balance diet is a major challenge in Nepal. As healthy food and a balanced diet is also an indicator of a developed country it is better to address issues about income and social inequality in our country rather than running towards increasing production quantity. Change in the food pattern and distribution is also a major emerging problem.

## Speakers

### Mr. Teeka Bhattarai (Activist and Member AAF Partners' Coordinator and Member)

Mr. Teeka Bhattarai stated that as the patients with non-communicable diseases are increasing every year, the transforming of food culture to quantity oriented rather than quality oriented may risk many lives. The price of food is increasing with the increase in urbanization. Nowadays, agriculture production is more market based; it is not for healthy food production. The fertility and productivity of the soil are degraded because we were only concerned about increasing production. Mr. Bhattarai highlighted the necessity of explaining the negative effects of the green revolution through different media channels and building a strong agriculture curriculum for colleges. He suggested agricultural technicians to aware farmers' about healthy food production.

### **Dr. Aruna Upreti (Public health Specialist and Women's Rights Activist)**

Dr. Aruna Upreti stated that food is required from our birth to death in our culture and our festivals are closely interrelated with food. Around 3.5 lakhs children are under malnutrition. Nutrition is not only the concern of teachers, farmers and health personnel it is also a political agenda. As the vitamin capsule programme and one policy are not sufficient to control malnutrition she suggests developing programme from the local level. Malnutrition can be controlled if we can use the available food in the correct proportion.

### **Dr. Prakash Raj Regmi (Senior Consultant Cardiologist)**

Dr. Prakash Raj Regmi mentioned that urbanization, industrialization and community development has changed our lifestyle and increased non-communicable disease. The causes of non-communicable diseases are consumption of cigarettes, alcohol, pollution and lack of physical activities. Consumption of packed food and chemical pesticides used in food are harmful to our health. Although packed food gives us energy they are not healthy, so its consumption should be reduced. He suggested making policy for the promotion of healthy food. Dr. Regmi stated that the educational curriculum related to nutrition and a balanced diet should be revised and a strong curriculum should be developed.

In conclusion, Dr. Mahesh Maskey highlighted the main points of the speaker and thanked the Alliance of Agriculture for food for conducting this programme.

In the closing remarks, on the behalf of Alliance of Agriculture for food Uddhav Adhikari thanked all speakers and participants.

# Session: Agroecological Farming and Sustainable Livelihood

**Date:** September 22, 2021

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Moderator:** Saroj Khatiwoda

**Chairperson:**

Uddhav Adhikari (Coordinator, Alliance of Agriculture for Food)

## Speakers

### Sarada Thapa, Alliance of Agriculture for Food

Ms Sarada Thapa stated that Nepal's agricultural activities are based on green revolution and in the name of entrepreneurship and marketization; chemical fertilizers are used in excessive amount. The crisis in agriculture is due to climate change, migration and modern agricultural practices. She explained about the issues of excessive use of chemical fertilizers and human health. She illustrated the benefits of organic agriculture and permaculture and mentioned that in the name of modernization indigenous agricultural practices are abolished.

### Madan Rai

Mr. Madan Rai gave his views on "Food and natural cycle, from soil to soil" and state that life of a human is dependent on food and water. He wished everyone on the occasion of World Food Day and mentioned that life is a composition of solid, liquid and gas. He shared his 15 years' experience of working in FAO. He stated that farmers are richer than the one working on outer space.

## **Hari Bahadur K.C.**

Mr. Hari Bahadur K.C. suggested everyone to use organic fertilizers and mentioned that soil test has shown the increased use of organic fertilizers in the soil. The directory of production of organic fertilizers and uses is made by the government and subsidy is distributed for the establishment of organic fertilizer industry. He mentioned that Right to food and food sovereignty act, listing and categorization of pesticides, banning of pesticides are the activities that are done by government. He stated that three level governments should be involved in the organic products marketization and management.

## **Discussions**

A question was raised on the activities carried out by government for the production of organic fertilizers and availability of the reports on organic agriculture. In reply, Mr. Hari Bahadur K.C. stated that although integrated pest management practices are adopted in many areas, it is impossible to control the huge pest outbreak by only using organic fertilizers. He informed that the reports are available in NARC and MOALD. A question was raised on “Why the Farmers identity card distribution is stopped?” Mr. Madan Rai replied that although there is need of agricultural equipment to farmers, improper coordination between government and farmers has affected the programme.

In concluding remarks, Mr. Uddhav Adhikari thanked speakers and mentioned that the excessive consumption of chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides is major issue in Nepalese agriculture. He summarized different aspects of the programme and suggested that food campaign can be successful with the participation of every concerned authority.

# Session: Facsheet of Food and Agriculture, and Issues of Food Right and Sovereignty

<b>Date:</b> September 24, 2021
<b>Time:</b> 12: 15 pm
<b>Moderator:</b> Laxmi Gurung
<b>Chairperson:</b> Amber Iyer, President, FIAN, Nepal
<b>Chief guest:</b> Honourable Purna Kumari Subedi, Chairperson, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee
<b>Guest:</b> Rama Ale Magar, Chairperson, Forest, Environment, Industry and Tourism Committee Dipendra Singh, National Human Rights Commission

While introducing the programme, Ms. Laxmi Gurung introduced speakers and presented the list of programmes.

## Speakers

### Mr. Jeevan Shahi (Member AAF)

Mr. Jeevan Shahi introduced Alliance of Agriculture for Food. He mentioned that Agriculture in figure report is prepared this year and are planning to prepare every year. Along with different agricultural statistical data, he highlighted that the contribution of agriculture on GDP is decreasing every year. He illustrated the statistical data on status of cereals production, import and export, status of land and soil, consumption and import of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Similarly, he presented the statistical data of migration, feminization in agriculture and remittance.

### **Dr. Bal Kumari Sharma (MOALD)**

Dr. Bal Kumari Sharma presented the “Effort and prioritization of MOALD on implementation of Right to food and food sovereignty act, 2076”. She informed that to implement Right to food and food sovereignty act, 2076 committee and subcommittee are formed. With the help of related technicians and experts, primary draft of food sovereignty regulations was prepared and sent to different related sectors for discussion. Ministry is planning to organize orientation and workshops for discussion with the help of provincial government. She mentioned major points in draft of regulation and stated that awareness on different government act, preparation of National Food Plan, organization of National Food Council etc; will be done immediately. She informed about the programmes that are listed in the budget of Fiscal year 2077/78.

### **Mr. Ashok Bahadur Singh (Executive Director, FIAN Nepal)**

Mr. Ashok Bahadur Singh presented his views on role of civil society on making Right to food and food sovereignty act, achievements and future directions. He briefly discussed the activities carried out by the Central Government and House of Representatives in formulation of act. He informed that a civil society is created to give suggestions and ideas while formulating the act. Civil society has prepared and presented the format of bill of act. In addition, programmes like discussion session with MOALD, federal representatives of house and organization of workshop was done. These activities have helped to strengthened food right.

### **Discussions**

Dr. Bal Kumari Sharma mentioned that policy related to issues of fundamental rights can be made by local and provincial government without overlapping the policies of Federal government. She stated that for the management of land, government has established provision of land bank.

In concluding remarks, Ambar Iyer (Chairperson, FIAN Nepal) stated that Food Day is celebrated as festival. Localization of activities related to policy in Federal, Provincial and local level is necessary. He thanked guests, speakers and participants of the programme.

# Session: Bagmati Provincial Level Discussion on Status of Agriculture and Policy Arrangements

**Date:** October 1, 2021

**Time:** 12:30 pm

**Moderator:** Mira Shah, (National Farmers Group Association, Bagmati Province)

**Chairperson:**

Bijay Lama, (National Farmers Group Association, Bagmati Province)

**Chief guest:**

Honorable Dr. Jagat Bahadur Basnet (Vice Chairman, Bagmati Province Planning Commission)

Uddhav Adhikari, Alliance of Agriculture for Food

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel, Agriculture expert

**Guest:**

Rama Ale Magar, Chairperson, Forest, Environment, industry and tourism committee

Dipendra Singh, National Human Rights Commission

Deepak Pudasaini gave welcome speech and stated that world's agriculture is directed towards production of healthy food and we should develop the same concept in Nepal too. He welcomed everyone participating in the programme.

Mr. Uddhav Adhikari explained about the goals of programme and stated that every year on the occasion of Food day we are discussing about the challenges of Nepalese agriculture. Food Day is organized to give pressure to the concerned authority. Our agricultural practices are not in the right track and landraces are disappearing. Today's program is based on the challenges, opportunities and activities that are carried out in Bagmati province.

## Speakers

### Mr. Nabaraj Basnet (National Farmers Group Federation)

Mr. Nabaraj Basnet presented on “Status of agriculture Bagmati Province and provision of policy”. He stated that not only in Nepal, small and marginalized farmers are main contributors in agriculture in Asia. He addressed some ground issues faced by farmers and highlighted that political parties have used issues of agriculture only for election. In the name of agriculture commercialization our traditional agricultural practices are vanishing and agriculture is in the wrong direction. He stated some of the major agriculture and livestock product of the Bagmati Province and suggested to make policy that transforms farmers to agricultural entrepreneur.

### Mr. Dipendramani Lamichhane (Extension Officer)

Mr. Dipendramani Lamichhane presented on the “Agriculture Development Strategy, Agriculture act, yearly policies” and introduced about the concept of Food Day and Food security. He explained about the constitutional and policy provision related to agriculture and land management. He illustrated the activities carried out by Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives and mentioned policies and activities of Bagmati Province in Fiscal year 2078/79. The major programmes are marketization and commercialization of agriculture, use of marginalized land, and use of modern tools, supporting farmers and controlling plotting of land. He presented on cereals production in Bagmati Province, malnutrition in Nepal and overall agricultural production in Nepal.

### Dr. Jagat Bahadur Basnet (Vice Chairman, Bagmati Province Planning Commission)

Dr. Jagat Bahadur Basnet stated that human’s life starts and ends from soil. Although there are three level of government in Nepal, due to inappropriate division of work among different level we are facing challenges in agriculture sector. It is important to categorize farmers before launching programmes like agriculture subsidy and insurance. Similarly, agriculture should be connected with economy, health and food as well as availability agricultural equipment should be assured to bring revolution. He suggested dividing the responsibility of three level of government towards agriculture and strictly implementing the available acts and policies.

## Discussions

Dr. Arjun Shrestha informed that Agriculture and Forestry University has established colleges in every province to promote research in agriculture sector. He also stated that concerned authorities and programmes related to agriculture do not prioritize agricultural education.

Ms. Rita Bastakoti thanked all speakers and guest for participating in the program. She also mentioned that although small and marginalized farmers are major contributors of agriculture of Nepal, there voice is not heard.

In conclusion, Bijay Lama thanked all speakers, media person and supporting organization and concluded the programme.

# Session: Urban agriculture

**Date:** October 4, 2021

**Time:** 11 pm

**Moderator:** Manoj Shrestha

**Chairperson:**

Bijay Lama, (National Farmers Group Federation, Bagmati Province)

**Guest:**

Bhawani Rana, Former Chairperson, FNCCI

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel, agriculture expert

Arun Kafle, Senior Horticulture officer

While introducing the programme, Mr. Manoj Shrestha introduced speakers and presented the list of programmes.

## Speakers

### Mr. Arun Kafle (Senior Horticulture officer)

Mr. Arun Kafle gave presentation on “Status of urban agriculture and requisite improvement”. He stated that there is misconception of taking urban agriculture as terrace farming but it includes livestock farming, vegetable and fruits cultivation. He mentioned that as increase in population in Kathmandu is at higher rate in south Asia urban agriculture necessity is increasing. He explained economic, environmental and social dimension of urban agriculture. The major challenges of city areas are proper disposal of wastage, cleaning of city and public space management which can be managed by promoting urban agriculture. He mentioned that there is great scope of urban agriculture in Nepal by giving example of Havana of Cuba.

### **Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel (Agriculture expert)**

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel stated that agricultural practices in Nepal are traditional and our understanding about agriculture is getting weaker. He mentioned that we should look urban agriculture in the sights of human civilization development and food culture. There is wrong understanding on the concept of urbanization due to which wrong concept of urban agriculture is emerging. He stated that it is essential to study about traditional urban agriculture practices and improvement required in these practices. Most of the people of city areas are mentally unhealthy, so the concept of self-production and self-consumption helps to improve mental health of people. The increase in non-communicable disease can also be controlled with the help of consumption of self-produced products which may help to change people's view towards urban agriculture.

### **Mr. Saran Pandey (Secretary, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bagmati Province)**

Mr. Saran Pandey gave his views on urban agriculture and stated that COVID 19 pandemic has increased concerned towards urban agriculture. He informed about the programme that are brought by Bagmati province to promote urban agriculture which aims to improve concept of self-production in your own area. He illustrated the importance of urban agriculture and assured that Bagmati province supports all the farmers that are interested in urban agriculture.

### **Ms. Bhawani Rana (Former Chairperson, FNCCI)**

Ms. Bhawani Rana gave her views on urban agriculture and mentioned that world's agriculture is deviated towards food and different research show that Nepal has a good scope of agriculture. Center for Agriculture Entrepreneur has started one village one product scheme to increase participation of youths in agriculture and disseminate information on new technology. Private and government sector should be involved to promote urban agriculture because of increasing urbanization in our country. Similarly, state government and private organization should also be involved in these activities. Organic agriculture can be promoted through urban agriculture easily. As private sectors play vital role in the development of agriculture, she assured that they are ready to participate in these activities. She stated that urban agriculture can make every state sufficient in cereals, fruits and livestock products.

## **Discussions**

Mr. Kiran Acharya stated that the concept of urban agriculture is build by the social medias and misconception is being disseminated through same medias. So to avoid this, awareness programmes should be conducted to disseminate clear concept of urban agriculture among people. Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel highlighted that we should learn lesson from the unsuccessful organic agriculture of Srilanka and should not mixup the urban agriculture with modern agriculture. Mr. Sahil Shrestha mentioned that one village one product scheme is mainly maize based and mono cropping is not suitable in Nepal. He explained the importance

of making an environment to sell the local production in local market to overcome the loss from long distance travel. Ms. Bhawani Rana stated that private sector should be involved in the production of compost. Mr. Manoj Shrestha stressed that development of agriculture sector is possible only by the participation of small and marginalized farmers along with agriculture experts and industrial experts. Mr. Uddhav Adhikari illustrated the importance of such programmes to develop agriculture sector. After the incidence of COVID 19 pandemic the attitude of people towards agriculture is changing. He also stated that not only on food products we should also be independent on agricultural inputs.

In closing ceremony Mr. Manoj Shrestha thanked every one for participating in the program.

# Session: Gandaki Level Provincial Discussion on Entrepreneurship and Self-Reliant Agricultural Syatem

**Date:** October 4, 2021

**Time:** 3:15 pm

**Moderator:** Kishor Neupane

**Guest:**

Anup K.C, Assistant professor

Nilkantha Pokharel, Senior, Agriculture development officer

## Speakers

### Mr. Anup K.C (Assistant Professor)

Mr. Anup K.C presented on “Agrotourism in Homestay, its challenges and opportunities”. He introduced homestay and gave statistical information about homestay. He informed that Gandaki Province has prioritize establishment and development of homestay and mentioned that 75 crore rupees was allocated for the development of homestay. Homestay and local agriculture production are interrelated to each other which have made rural lifestyle easier. Local government are also allocating budget for the development of homestay and promoting domestic tourism. He stated that agro tourism entrepreneur complain about the investment of government on homestay only but not concerned about market management, irrigation, transportation and attack of wild animals in rural places.

### Mr. Nilkantha Pokharel (Senior, Agriculture Development Officer)

Mr. Nilkantha Pokharel stated that food security can only be achieved after increasing production of food; so government has encouraged rural agriculture farming. Gandaki Province has organized programmes to encourage youths to start agriculture entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is encouraged by establishing training center. Agriculture knowledge center, Veterinary hospital and livestock service center are also involved in promoting agricultural entrepreneurship. There is provision of subsidy on preparation of cold storage, market management and training programmes. Provincial government has organized orchard farming promotion programme, garden establishment, rearing of calves, livestock insurance and subsidy programme.

## Discussion

Mr. Kushal Poudel stated that 90% of the vegetable seed and 80% of the fruits seeds are imported. He explained about the necessity of criterion on establishing homestay and taint in the agriculture sector. Mr Nilkantha Pokharel stated that provincial government has provided subsidy for the production of seed. He informed that organic fertilizer plant is also established.

In conclusion, Mr. Uddhav Adhikari thanked speakers of the programmes. He stated that we can promote tourism by proper utilization of geographical, religious, cultural diversity. He explained about the taint existing in agriculture sector and illustrated that entrepreneurship is described in a incorrect way due to which it is limited only up to large scale farmers.

# Session: Parallel crisis in Food and Environment

**Date:** October 5, 2021

**Time:** 3:00 pm

**Moderator:** Teeka Bhattarai, Krishna Prasad Poudel

**Guest:**

Uttam Babu Shrestha, Environmentalist

Teeka Bhattarai, Activist and Member AAF Partners' Coordinator and Member Secretary, CEPP

Sarada Thapa, Member AAF

**Commenter:**

Chandra Kishor, Journalist

Chaitanya Mishra, Sociologist

Program was organized by the coordination of Alliance of Agriculture for Food and Martin Chautari.

## Speakers

### Teeka Bhattarai Activist and Member AAF Partners' Coordinator and Member Secretary, CEPP

Mr. Teeka Bhattarai stated that the highest producers like Russia, Argentina, Australia and Vietnam has brought a policy to decrease export. Developed countries buy land in the developing countries due to which small and marginalized farmers are displaced. The non-communicable diseases are increasing day by day due to excessive use of pesticides during cultivation. Food famine is also a major problem in Nepal. Nepalese policy for agriculture is more concerned towards increasing production and making more money rather than for a healthy food.

## **Uttambabu Shrestha, Environmentalist**

Mr. Uttambabu Shrestha stated that the chemical fertilizer is the product from Second World War and the increasing population is also the result of this World War. The increase in agricultural production has increased pollution and others environmental problems. Agriculture sector is highly affected by the climate change and use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and new varieties of seed has killed beneficial insects which has reduced cross pollination. Nepal is third most effected country due to invasive species. He mentioned that agriculture and environmental protection should go parallel and it is important to control waste of food and post-harvest loss of products.

## **Sarada Thapa, Member AAF**

Ms Sarada Thapa presented on crisis of food and stated that COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in the scarcity of food in Nepal. Excessive use of chemical fertilizers has reduced the soil fertility and productivity. Similarly, it has also increased the incidence of non- communicable diseases. She presented some statistical facts on the food crisis in world and stated that the major proportion of the food is used in feeding livestock and making fuel. The displacement of small and marginalized farmers is major problem in the world. She presented statistical data on the import, export and trade deficit condition of Nepal and highlighted that Nepal is in major risk of food crisis. She illustrated the different agricultural methods like sustainable agriculture, permaculture, Zero budget agriculture and organic agriculture can be used as alternative agricultural practices.

## **Discussion**

Mr. Sail Shrestha presented his views on how non-communicable diseases are increased due to nutrient imbalance. Ms Rekhu Dhungana asked a question: How subsistence agriculture can be connected to educational institutes? In reply Mr. Bhattarai explained that to preserve food culture and indigenous knowledge it is important to include subsistence agriculture in curriculum of agriculture colleges.

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel stated that explained on effects of natural disasters on loss and degradation of land. He discussed about the economy, remittances and the production dimensions. Mr. Udhav Adhikari questioned whether there is provision of punishing the authorities for promoting use of excessive chemical fertilizers to increase and production and bringing the condition of excessive import in the country. He further stated that the governmental structure is traditional and is against organic and sustainable agriculture. He questioned whether it is possible to rearrange these structures of government? Mr. Prakash Dahal stated that the political leaders of agriculture sector never come with some strong points due to which the problem related to agriculture are never discussed within the political parties discussion session. Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel stated that the only option to maintain food sufficiency in Nepal is to promote urban agriculture. Mr. Uttam Bahadur Shrestha mentioned that no any policy is designed to control the effect of invasive species.

## Comment

Mr. Chaitanya Mishra stated that people have different view on climate change. Some believe that climate change is serious problem and some of them think that it is happening slowly. He stated that there is lack of knowledge related to food crisis among people and it is important to create awareness about the scope of organic agriculture and its progressive results. Climate change and capitalism are interrelated to each other. Climate change can be reduced only by changing the pattern of urbanization and development. He stated that to reduce climate change every individual, family, society, local government, provincial government and central government should be involved.

In the closing remarks Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel told about the remaining programmes and thanked guests, speakers and all participants of the programme.

# Session: Provincial Level (1)

## Discussion on Alternative Practices for Food Security on Policy Level

**Date:** October 5, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Organizer:** FECOFUN and Digo Bikas Institute

**Moderator:** Saroj Khatiwoda

**Chairperson:** Tulsi Sangraula (Chairperson, FECOFUN Province 1)

**Guest:**

Honourable Minister Laxman Tiwari, Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forest and Environment

### Speakers

#### Thakur Bhandari

Mr. Thakur Bhandari stated that it is important to integrate agriculture and forest for development. He blamed that agriculture and forest ministries are separated for personal profit. Agriculture, forest and livestock are interrelated with each other. He mentioned that agriculture ministry is only focused on agricultural land. Livestock is not only agricultural practice but it is agroforestry practice. Without the support of government, farmers can't bring revolution in agriculture.

#### Honourable Laxman Tiwari, Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forest and Environment

Honourable Laxman Tiwari stated that we are celebrating World Food Day together to fight against food crisis. The major causes of food crisis are climate change, excessive use of chemical fertilizers, traditional agricultural practices, extinct of seed and migration. In spite of opportunities of organic crop production and export, there are lots of challenges. Fragmented land should be integrated to promote commercial organic production. Coordination between local, provincial and central government should be done to avoid food crisis. Similarly, skilled human power development and modern technology development is also required.

In concluding remarks, Tulasi Sangraula (Chairperson, FECOFUN) thanked all guests, speakers and participants. She stated that increase in barren land and migration of youths to city areas are main cause of food crisis. He recalled old culture and mentioned that modern agriculture practice and cultural values should be taken together and the distance between farmers and market should be reduced.

# Session: Creative initiation of local government on Land, agriculture and food and Wayforward

**Date:** October 6, 2021

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Organizer:** Community Self Reliance Centre

**Moderator:** Kalpana Karki (Program Officer, CSRC)

Ms. Kalpana Karki started programme by introducing the programme and explaining its goals.

## Speakers

### Mr. Rajendra Prasad Pyakurel (Executive Director, National Association of Rural Municipality in Nepal)

Mr. Rajendra Prasad Pyakurel presented on “Creative initiation of local government on Land, agriculture and food and future work load” and explained about constitutional provision of the fundamental rights, the right to food and food sovereignty and right to shelter. He illustrated the rights and responsibilities of local government in the sights of Local Government Operation Act, 2074. He mentioned some laws related to agriculture, land and food security and examples of the activities carried out by rural municipality. He stated that local government should coordinate with Department of Land Management regarding land related problems, implement policies and focus on proper utilization of budget.

### Kalanidhi Devkota (Executive Director, Municipal Association of Nepal)

Kalanidhi Devkota presented on “Tactical provision of land, agriculture and food security, initiative of municipality and upcoming approach”. He explained about right to food and food sovereignty act, 2075, provision of land agriculture and food related act and rights related to food. He mentioned that we should aware people about the exemplary activities carried out by local government. He also stated that it is important to establish a good coordination between local, provincial and central government.

### **Mr. Ghanshyam Subedi (Fedi Rural Municipality Syangja)**

Mr. Ghanshyam Subedi presented on role of local government on food, agriculture and land. He stated that Barren land management course, 2076 was made and around 2700 ropani barren land was managed. He mentioned that one house one tunnel arrangement, production related subsidy, agriculture ambulance arrangement, youth entrepreneurship and Minimum support price for 26 crops programmes are organized.

### **Ms. Sushila Pakhin (Deputy Mayor, Bahrabise Municipality, Sindhupalchowk)**

Ms. Sushila Pakhin stated that programmes like pocket area announcement for cash crops, pocket areas for sheep and yak are organized. Food bank is also established because Sindhupalchowk is prone to natural disaster.

### **Mr. Durga Kumar Thapa (Mayor, Belka Municipality, Udayapur)**

Mr. Durga Kumar Thapa stated that agriculture, livestock and fishery is prioritizing primarily in plan of municipality and have a motto called “Companionship in production”. All programmes are made on the basis of this motto. The software named “Production Control System” is made and farmers are made engaged in this software. Programmes like availability of agriculture equipment in minimum rent, irrigation campaign, solar irrigation, communal organic certification and goat collection center are organized. Programmes like identification of poor and marginalized citizen and distribution of food are organized.

### **Mr. Dan Bahadur Thapa (Chairperson, Bhagawatimai Rural Municipality, Dailekh)**

Mr. Dan Bahadur Thapa stated that village meeting was organized with a motto of “Krishi, pasupalan ra Purbadhar, sambriddha Bhagawatimai gaupalikako aadhar”. He mentioned that agriculture and farmers were prioritized in this programme. Subsidy was provided on plastic tunnel and irrigation facilities for making home garden. Food collection center was established during COVID 19 pandemic that helped people under poverty. Farmers call center was established and problems of farmers are addressed. Similarly, programmes like land bank establishment and management and governmental goat source center establishment are organized.

## Commentators

### Mr. Bimal Kumar Phuyal

Mr. Bimal Kumar Phuyal thanked speakers for sharing knowledge and experience and stated that food security and food sovereignty are two different things. He criticized on the development of land bank for private national and international companies. He stated that land bank should be localized and cooperatives should be established.

### Mr. Krishna Sapkota

Mr. Krishna Sapkota stated that as local government are developing in the form of innovation center, it is important to integrate these innovations. He stated that we should connect education with skill, skill with production and production with market. For the development of agriculture sector, local government should focus on production, collection, storage and marketing and provincial government should be engaged in marketing and value addition. Similarly, central government should be engaged in research, technology transfer and export.

### Dr. Yamuna Ghale (Member, NARC)

Dr. Yamuna Ghale stated that local government should identify farmers, women labour and landless farmers and bring programme to address the problem of small and marginalized farmers. There is lack of coordination in between three level of government so, we should search the way of coordination. She mentioned that as villages are entry point for development, every organization should collaborate with villages and municipalities.

### Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel (Agriculture expert)

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel stated that discussion are related to the activities done by him and mentioned that the effort done by government and organization is not sufficient to bring change in the status of food security and agriculture. Although basic needs are air, water and food, discussion and campaigns are not concerned on healthy and chemical free food and healthy environment. The developmental plans are not sustainable and are increasing climate crisis.

## Discussions

Barren land and movement of youths to foreign countries is mainly due to unavailability of agricultural equipment, market's poor management, attack of wild animals and bad return on investment. Local government is not involved in collecting statistical data related to agriculture, land and farmers. The implementation of policies made by local and central level was also discussed.

In the closing ceremony, Mr. Jagat Deuja stated that the topics under discussion are related to life and our future. He thanked all the speakers, commentators and participating members and expressed happiness on the exemplary carried out by local government.

# Session: 14<sup>th</sup> Rural Women's Day, 2078

**Date:** October 8, 2021

**Organizer:** NFGF

**Moderator:** Rita Batakoti

**Chairperson:** Mr. Nawaraj Basnet (Chairperson, NFGF)

**Venue:** District Coordination Committee, Bharatpur Chitwan

The programme was organized in District Coordination Committee, Bharatpur Chitwan on the occasion of 14<sup>th</sup> Rural Women's Day by NFGF.

## **Speakers**

### **Parbati Rawal (Coordinator, National Concern and Coordination Committee)**

Ms. Parbati Rawal stated that the work done by female in households and agriculture should be acknowledged and to abolish discrimination every work done by female should be respected. The problem faced by rural and urban women is different and still rural women are deprived of the facilities given by the government. It is important to make female financially independent, so that they can utilize facilities given by government. She mentioned that women should be paid for doing household chores.

### **Tara Kumari Kaji Mahatto, Deputy Mayor, Madi Nagarpalika**

Ms. Tara Kumari Kaji Mahatto stated that women are not able to use their right because although the participation of women in various field is increasing, the number of women in decision making level is less. Our society is not away from patriarchy. In governmental level female are made participated only to show their presence and there are no women in policy making level. She mentioned that until female are made financially independent they cannot get their right.

### **Simika Rijal, Assistant Professor, Agriculture and Forestry University**

Ms. Simika Rijal stated that although high numbers of female are engaged in agricultural practices they are deprived of the benefit derived by selling products. The movement of males to abroad has increased agriculture feminization. So, women friendly agricultural equipment should be delivered to female farmers. More than 70% of the young girls and females are involved in agriculture. They are representing Nepal as Agriculture based country. Females should be acknowledged for their hard work. Unavailability of land, agriculture equipment and market is major challenge faced by women farmers. Women have played vital role in environmental conservation by doing indigenous and organic crop production. Government should utilize the knowledge and experience of experts in carrying out programmes on food security and management of natural resources.

### **Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel (Agriculture expert)**

Dr. Krishna Prasad Poudel stated those females are lying backwards due to lack of political awareness. In local government level, although female are in participation they are not made involved in decision making process. He mentioned that female should actively involve in coming election.

In concluding remarks, Nabaraj Basnet (Chairperson, NFGF) stated that because of unavailability of resources, female are lying backwards. Although female are actively engaged in works, they are not acknowledged.

A drama prepared by Mr. Milan Ghalan was presented in the programme.

# Session: Agroecology For Sustainable Food System: Insights From India

**Date:** October 10, 2021

**Time:** 3 pm

**Organizer:** NFGF

**Moderator:** Naya Paudel

**Speaker:**

Dr. J V Ramanjaneyulu (Agricultural scientist)

Ashish Kothari (Environmentalist)

While introducing the programme, Mr. Naya Paudel mentioned about the similarities in the geographical, cultural, environmental aspects of Nepal and India and introduced speakers of the programme.

Dr. Sujata Tamang introduced Alliance of Agriculture for Food and mentioned that it mainly raises voice of the small and marginalized farmers and raises awareness. She also stated that it is the first time having regional and international perspective from respected speakers. She welcomed all the speakers and participants on the behalf of Alliance of Agriculture for Food.

## Speakers

### Dr. J V Ramanjaneyulu (Agricultural scientist)

Dr. JV Ramanjaneyulu presented on “The potential for the Agroecological farming: Learnings from India”. He mentioned that Center for Sustainable Agriculture works on agroecological approaches, building farmers institutions, diversifying livelihoods and improving policy. Its core work is located on Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra. It is mainly working on organic farming, producer collectives, scaling up of Government programmes and work with government to improve public policies. He discussed about the major drivers for the shift towards organic farming which are ecological services, concern about healthy and nutritious food and farmers economic transition towards low cost production practice. He also mentioned that the major agroecological approach is activism and moment driven, policy and program driven and market driven. Twelve states in India have organic policies in India. He illustrated

some examples of shift towards organic farming in India. In Andhra Pradesh Community managed Natural Farming farmers are brought together and Farmers field school is formed and they are trained. As many debates are going on the criterion under organic farming, government has declared that any practice which is non-chemical and no GMOs is organic farming. He also mentioned that organic markets are growing significantly in India and covers 1.35% of world's organic market. He also stated that farmers in India are interested on transition so states have formulated different policies and market are also growing that push to bring transition.

### **Ashish Kothari (Environmentalist)**

Mr. Ashish Kothari presented on “Food Sovereignty, Social Justice and Ecological Sustainability: Towards Eco-Swaraj”. He informed about the diversity of India, destruction of heritages of India and growing inequalities in India. He mentioned that despite of increase in agricultural production, people are still facing malnutrition and starvation. The pattern of development and agriculture and food are interrelated. People are also showing resistance on the currently developed system like GMOs. He gave an inspiring example of Deccan development society of Dalit women who worked collectively, secured women land rights, revived agriculture diversity and created community grain banks. In COVID pandemic not only they were self-sufficient in terms of food, they also contributed food to people. During COVID pandemic the areas with community network practices were not effected. He mentioned the major challenges in improving agroecological practices. Changing mindset of food and changing education curriculum are major challenges to sustain agroecological practice. Radical democracy, economic democracy, social justice and well being, culture and knowledge diversity, ecological resilience and wisdom are major requisite in bringing transition towards a sustainable and equitable society. He also mentioned that collectivization of knowledge and new innovations are the things that Nepal can learn from India. He also stated the challenges to promote organic practices. Some of which are: organic are expensive, the primary focus of government is on chemical fertilizer production and new generation are not interested on agriculture.

### **Discussion**

Dr. JV Ramanjaneyulu stated that Government policy, support for organic farming, and public investment can promote organic farming. He also talked about the resistance that is shown by public administration, agriculture universities and experts who are only making theoretical assessment and predicting that organic farming is not possible. Bringing big shift in agriculture requires changing school curriculum and integrating agro ecology in curriculum and establishing kitchen garden in each school. He also mentioned that the high water intensive and chemical intensive models should be removed.

Mr. Naya Paudel asked if we can sustain organic farming. In reply Dr. JV Ramanjaneyulu, stated that if we are able to bring hybrid model then we can sustain organic agriculture. He also mentioned that 15 years back no one used to listen about organic farming and cooperatives but now people listen and show concern towards it.

Mr. Ashish Kothari stated that all government are only concerned about food security but not food sovereignty. He mentioned that we should keep in mind about food and water sovereignty while using hybrids. If the government is truly interested in food security and organic farming food sovereignty should be maintained and government should be accountable with its programs and policies.

Mr. Teeka Bhattarai mentioned that he doesn't see any hope in Government of India shifting towards non-growth based alternative economy. In addition Mr. Ashish Kothari mentioned that Bhutan is only country doing so and district administration focusing on well-being can bring some hope.

Mr. Teeka Bhattari asked about Food security act, 2013 of India. In reply, Dr. JV Ramanjaneyulu stated that the main motto of this act is "Food for all". He also mentioned that under this act food grains are distributed in Rs. 3/kg in different district which shows centralization. He also stated that these types of distribution decision should be taken by district itself and decentralization is important.

## **Commentators**

### **Madan Rai**

Madan Rai stated that men are destroying each other and the food we eat is getting dangerous day by day. He also mentioned that food is destroying food. He suggested doing basic research on the food system rather than focusing on complex things. He urged policy makers, experts and decision makers to work together and develop health food patterns.

### **Dr. Arjun Karki**

Dr. Arjun Karki thanked organizers for organizing this program and giving opportunity to give his views. He mentioned that he is fascinated by seeing the movement happening for the organic food. Although we are concerned about organic agriculture we are victim of the policy that supports chemical fertilizers. The promotion of use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers is profit driven. So, he stated that grass root level movement is required for the movement. It is important to collaborate with multi stakeholders like policy makers, experts that are passionate about organic agriculture and wants to bring change. He suggested that the agriculture curriculum should be strong and students should be well trained so that future generation will be serious about this matter.

In concluding remarks, Mr. Sahil Shrestha thanked organizers for making him part of this wonderful programme and mentioned that we got a lot of insights from India. He stated that to bring change and to restore the natural heritage, science based movement should be done. He mentioned that we should think about fossil fuel subsidy rather than chemical fertilizers subsidy. We should learn from the strategy taken by Sikkim and Ladakh in transition towards organic agriculture.

# Session: Organic agriculture in Karnali province: Opportunities and challenges

**Date:** October 11, 2021

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Moderator:** Jeevan Shahi (Member, AAF)

**Chair:** Bindulal Regmi (AAF, Karnali)

Mr. Jeeban Shahi informed about the programme conducted in Food month and welcomed all guests, speakers and members.

## Speakers

### Mr. Jay Karna Budha

Mr. Jay Karna Bhuda presented on “Botanicals preparation, research, challenges and opportunities” and statistical data on the use of chemical pesticides on Karnali Province and Nepal. He explained about the status of consumption of chemical pesticide in Karnali Province and the steps in the preparation of botanicals. He presented on the composition required for the preparation of botanicals. The mostly used plants for preparation of botanicals are garlic, ginger, titepati, peach and Sichuan pepper. He also informed about the effectiveness of different mixtures.

### Mr. Pramod Bhari (HELVETAS Nepal)

Mr. Pramod Bhari explained about the history of organic agriculture in Nepal and informed about the activities that are done by HELVETAS for the production of organic coffee and its marketing. Karnali Province has a huge scope for organic crop production so we should focus on production and market management. HELVETAS Nepal is successful in exporting walnut oil, spreading awareness about balanced diet and importance of organic agriculture and providing extension services. He also showed some pictures of the food programmes conducted in Dailekh.

**Mr. Padam Bahadur Subedi (Secretary, Ministry of Land Management and cooperatives, Karnali Province)**

Mr. Padam Bahadur Subedi presented on journey of organic agriculture in Karnali, opportunities and challenges and explained about the scope of organic agriculture in Karnali Province. He presented on the status of land, weather and farmers and stated that organic products like apple, ginger, turmeric, bean and pulses are exported. He also explained about the improvement in organic agriculture in Karnali Province and stated that formulation of act is not sufficient to make it organic state.

**Mr. Narayan Sigdel (Principal, School with Agriculture Programme, Janajyoti Secondary School, Surkhet)**

Mr. Narayan Sigdel mentioned that “Learning and earning programme” is organized in his school. He stated that in Karnali Province there are more opportunities comparing to challenges. He discussed about the effort made by school to connect students to agriculture and shared experiences while conducting production programmes in school. He thanked his supporting partners and informed that his school has fish pond, poultry and goat farm, orchards and medicinal plant processing and purification center. He stated that if students are made engaged in production sector from primary school level then they can be successful entrepreneur.

**Ms. Bimala K.C. (Former minister, Ministry of Land Management and cooperatives, Karnali Province)**

Ms. Bimala K.C. recalled the challenges faced by Karnali Province during initiation phase of organic production. She mentioned that today’s condition is far better than the initiation stage. People’s mindset regarding organic production is changed and stated that Karnali province and local government should prioritize on identification of organic products and management of market. She stated that not only students and youths every politicians and civil servants should be involved in agricultural entrepreneurship.

**Discussion**

During discussion session, Ms Bindu Sapkota informed about waste decomposer and its uses. She stated that making compost and insecticides is easier by using waste decomposer. Mr. Chabi Poudel mentioned that night soil is being used in many countries in a safe manner so we should also make proper utilization of it. Mr. Uddhav Adhikari praised Karnali Province for their courage on establishing organic crop production. He praised the practices carried out by province to promote organic products and stated that in spite of many challenges Karnali province has been following organic production practices. A question was raised on the premium price received by the farmers. In reply Padam Bahadur Subedi informed that only ginger producing farmers have received premium price.

# Session: Lumbini Provincial Level Discussion on Food and Marginalized People

**Date:** October 31, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Organizer:** NFGF

**Moderator:** Dr. Sujata Tamang

**Chairperson:** Mr. Uddhav Adhikari

Dr. Sujata Tamang welcomed all the participants of the programme and explained about the monthly programme and campaign.

## **Speakers**

### **Ms. Manjita Chaudary (Founder, Freed Kamlari Development Forum Nepal)**

Ms. Manjita Chaudary presented on “Freed Kamlari and food security” and introduced Kamlari, protest for abolish and present condition. Out of total 12,769 Freed Kamlari, 6835 have not received government Kamlari identification card and 3296 were not counted in census. She discussed about the problems related to education, skill and employment and mentioned that they should be trained and employment should be given.

### **Mr. Amar Raj Sharma (Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives)**

Mr. Amar Raj Sharma stated that upliftment of livelihood of farmers is possible through agriculture. Lumbini Province has organized livestock farming programme, crop production programme, and mushroom cultivation programme by focusing on small and marginalized farmers. He also informed that listing and categorization of farmers is prioritized by Lumbini Province.

## **Pom Poudel**

Mr. Pom Poudel presented on “Natuwa caste and food security” and gave statistics of the settlement of them. He mentioned that Natuwa castes are nomadic and endangered but are not listed by government. He explained about culture, skills and works of Natuwa caste and mentioned that they do not have their own land and are prone to food crisis due to COVID 19. He mentioned that government should categorize Natuwa caste in marginalized caste and should be given employment facilities.

## **Pradeep Shah**

Mr. Pradeep Shah presented on “Condition of marginalized farmers, empowerment and challenges” and introduced marginalized people of our country. He stated that they are facing unemployment, unavailability of land and are under huge danger of natural calamities. He mentioned the programmes carried out by Indreni organization for empowerment of marginalized people. He stated that government should identify marginalized people, makes provision of employment, organize skill developing programme and should do safe relocation.

## **Remanta Chaudhary, Society Welfare Action Nepal, Dang**

He presented on “Lumbini Province based discussion on marginalized people and food” and explained status of landless and homeless people and right of farmers on “Guthi” land. He criticized on poor implementation of act on “Mohiyani hak” and division of ownership. He mentioned that to secure right of homeless and landless citizens, proper utilization of natural resources, investment in land, use of delimitation and summarization of ambience of land should be done.

## **Discussions**

A question was raised on whether Natuwa Caste is given citizenship or not. In reply, Bishnu Pokhrel informed that Natuwa castes have got citizenship but some of them are left.

# Closing Ceremony

**Date:** November 2, 2021

**Time:** 3:00 pm

**Organizer:** NFGF

**Moderator:** Dr. Sujata Tamang (Researcher and Policy Analyst, Gender Relations in Agriculture, AAF)

**Coordinator:** Mr. Uddhav Adhikari (Coordinator, AAF)

**Chief Guest:**

Honourable Purna Kumari Subedi (Chairperson, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee)

The food month was wrapped up with an event organized by the Alliance of Agriculture for Food on November 2, 2021. The key speakers of the programmes were Sitaram Kattel (Artist), Narayan Wagle (Civil society leader), Usha Timilsina, Narayn Prasad Sigdel (Principal, Janajyoti Secondary School).

Ms Sindrella Dewan informed about the programmes organized by Alliance of Agriculture for Food for 1 month. She also listed about the activities that are carried out by Alliance of Agriculture for Food. Premiere of new song “K chahi garne ho?” was done in the programme that was made on the behalf of Alliance of Agriculture for Food.

## Speakers

### Mr. Sitaram Kattel (Artist)

Mr. Sitaram Kattel mentioned that he is glad connect through song with Alliance of Agriculture for Food. He mentioned that the major problems of Nepalese farmers are unavailability of inputs and incidence of natural disasters. People are in compulsion to consume chemical based foods due to lack of awareness of our indigenous food items. He also stated that the one who wants to be involved in agriculture production are demotivated and the song address issues faced by farmers in daily life. He thanked all the team of the song.

### **Honourable Purna Kumari Subedi (Chairperson, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee)**

Honourable Purna Kumari Subedi thanked Alliance of Agriculture for Food for organizing such programmes. She mentioned that natural resources are integral part of our life. She stated that modern human beings don't want to work on field and are only concerned about their facilities. She suggested to be involved in chemical free production system to protect our health. She also discussed about the problems in governmental acts and assured that she will always be involved in these campaigns.

### **Mr. Narayan Wagle (Civil society leader)**

Mr. Narayan Wagle wished for the success of the program and stated that he himself left his home town to be successful. He also mentioned that he has no rights to talk about the agriculture and food because he left his cultivable land in home town. He stated that the major challenges the rural areas are facing are urbanization and plotting of land. As the agricultural problems are political problems he suggested organizing integrated campaign to solve these issues.

### **Ms. Usha Timilsina (Political leader)**

Ms. Usha Timilsina stated that to make people return in agriculture it is necessary to make structural changes. She also mentioned that as structural changes is related to politics; it is not possible to bring change without the raising topics with in a political party. The condition of farmers is very crucial due to which new generation is also not attracted towards farming.

### **Mr. Narayan Sigdel (Principal, School with Agriculture Programme, Janajyoti Secondary School, Surkhet)**

Mr. Narayan Sigdel stated that he has organized "Learning and earning" programme in his school. He mentioned about the activities that are carried out in his schools and told that it is important to connect agriculture with education and with students. He gave an example of Cuba from which we can take lessons.

In concluding remarks, Mr. Uddhav Adhikari informed about the programmes organized during this food month. He thanked all the experts, media person, artists and supporting partners for participating in the programme. He stated that concerned authorities are not responsible in bringing good acts and policies related to food and agriculture and requested all to grow chemical free crops as far as possible.

# Glimpse of program

# Event Banners

सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

## पत्रकार भेटघाट

मिति: २०७८।०५।२५ | समय: १:३० बजे

संयोजक

सहकार्य

पुस्तक: खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको महिमाका लागि कार्यक्रम (सन्दर्भ) सहभागी हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन, खाद्य विषय र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सम्पन्न हुनेछ ।

सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

## उद्घाटन समारोह

मिति: २०७८।०५।२७ | समय: ३:०० बजे

आयोजक समन्वयकहरू

पुस्तक: खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको महिमाका लागि कार्यक्रम (सन्दर्भ) सहभागी हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन, खाद्य विषय र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सम्पन्न हुनेछ ।

सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

## भूमिहीन र साना किसानको खाद्य अधिकार

मिति: २०७८।०५।२९

समय: बिहान ८ बजे

आयोजक समन्वयकहरू

पुस्तक: खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको महिमाका लागि कार्यक्रम (सन्दर्भ) सहभागी हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन, खाद्य विषय र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खानाका लागि मृत्ति उर्वरताको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सम्पन्न हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

**खाणा र जनस्वास्थ्य: समसामयिक प्रश्नहरू ?**

सहजीकरण  प्रस्तुती   

डा. मितेश मार्के      डा. अनुरूपा उपधियै      डा. प्रकाश राज रामी      डा. कर्णा प्रसाद पौडेल

मिति: २०७८।०६।०१  
समय: १२ बजे

Meeting ID: 836 3111 7212 | Passcode: alliance12

संयोजक 

आयोजक समीक्षारहरू



पुनरुप: खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको नवविभागात्मिक कार्यक्रमहरू (सर्जुअल) सङ्गमति बुझ, हेर्न तथा बुझ्नु, खाद्य विवेचना र प्रतिवेदनहरूको उद्देश्य खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको वेबसाइट हेर्नु र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

**स्थानीय पर्यावरण मैत्री खेति र दिगो जीवन पद्धती**

मिति: २०७८।०६।०६ | समय: ११:०० बजे

आयोजक समीक्षारहरू



पुनरुप: खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको नवविभागात्मिक कार्यक्रमहरू (सर्जुअल) सङ्गमति बुझ, हेर्न तथा बुझ्नु, खाद्य विवेचना र प्रतिवेदनहरूको उद्देश्य खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको वेबसाइट हेर्नु र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: ४९औं विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

**खेतिपातिको अवस्था र नीतिगत ब्यवस्था**

बागमति प्रदेश स्तरिय छलफल

| मिति: २०७८।०६।१५ | समय: १२:३० बजे

आयोजक समीक्षारहरू



पुनरुप: खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको नवविभागात्मिक कार्यक्रमहरू (सर्जुअल) सङ्गमति बुझ, हेर्न तथा बुझ्नु, खाद्य विवेचना र प्रतिवेदनहरूको उद्देश्य खाणाका लागि कुट्टि अभियानको वेबसाइट हेर्नु र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो साझा संकल्प f LIVE

# — शहरी खेती —

सहजीकरण



गणेश श्रेष्ठ

प्रस्तुति



डा. अनुराग पाण्डे



अनुराग काफले



भवानी राज्या



डा. कृष्ण प्रसाद पौडेल

मिति: २०७८।०६।१८ | समय: ०१ बजे संवाक ANAF हलो

आयोजक समन्वयकहरू



सुम्हः खानाका लागि कृषि अभियानको सहिष्णुतापारि कार्यक्रममा (सहृदय) सहभागि हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन्न, थाप विवरण र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खोज्न खासकरालागि कृषि अभियानको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: ४१औं विश्व खाद्य दिवस खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो साझा संकल्प

## कर्णालीको प्राङ्गारीक कृषि यात्रा: अवसर र चुनौतीहरू

### कर्णाली प्रदेश स्तरिय छलफल

| मिति: २०७८।०६।२३ | समय: ११:०० बजे

आयोजक समन्वयकहरू



सुम्हः खानाका लागि कृषि अभियानको सहिष्णुतापारि कार्यक्रममा (सहृदय) सहभागि हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन्न, थाप विवरण र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खोज्न खासकरालागि कृषि अभियानको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



Context: World Food Day Agriculture for Food: Our Common Resolution f LIVE

## Agroecology for Sustainable Food System: Insights from India

— द्वीगो खाद्य प्रणालीको लागि पर्यावरणीय कृषि: भारतीय अनुभव —

**Moderator**



Naye Sharma Paudel  
Environment and Governance Specialist

**Presenters**



G.V Ramanjaneyulu  
Agriculturalist



Ashish Kotheri  
Environmentalist

Date:  
**Oct 10, 2021**

Time:  
**3 - 5 PM**

ORGANIZING PARTNERS



सुम्हः खानाका लागि कृषि अभियानको सहिष्णुतापारि कार्यक्रममा (सहृदय) सहभागि हुन, हेर्न तथा सुन्न, थाप विवरण र प्रतिवेदनका लागि खोज्न खासकरालागि कृषि अभियानको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

## खाद्यान्नको वासलात, खाद्य अधिकार र संप्रभुताको सवाल

मिति: २०७८।०६।०८ | समय: १२:१५ बजे

आयोजक सभोबायहरु



पुनरा: खानाका लागि खाद्य अधिकारको पहिलोसम्मि कार्टिकरण (अनुभव) सहभागी हुन, हेर्न रसा सुन, मय विवरण र प्रतिक्रियाहरु खोजन खाद्यान्नको खाद्य अधिकारको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।



सन्दर्भ: ४१औं विश्व खाद्य दिवस

खानाका लागि खेतीपाती: हाम्रो सामा संकल्प

## उद्यमशिलता र आत्मनिर्भर कृषि प्रणाली

गण्डकी प्रदेश स्तरिय छलफल

मिति: २०७८।०६।१८

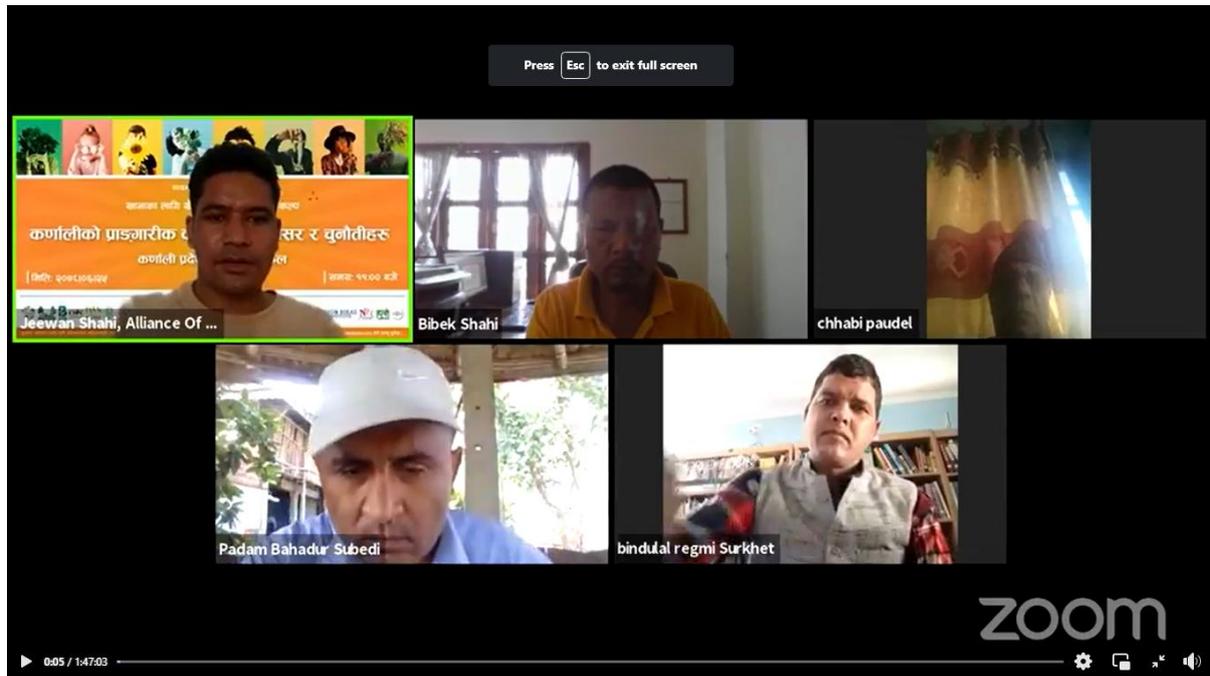
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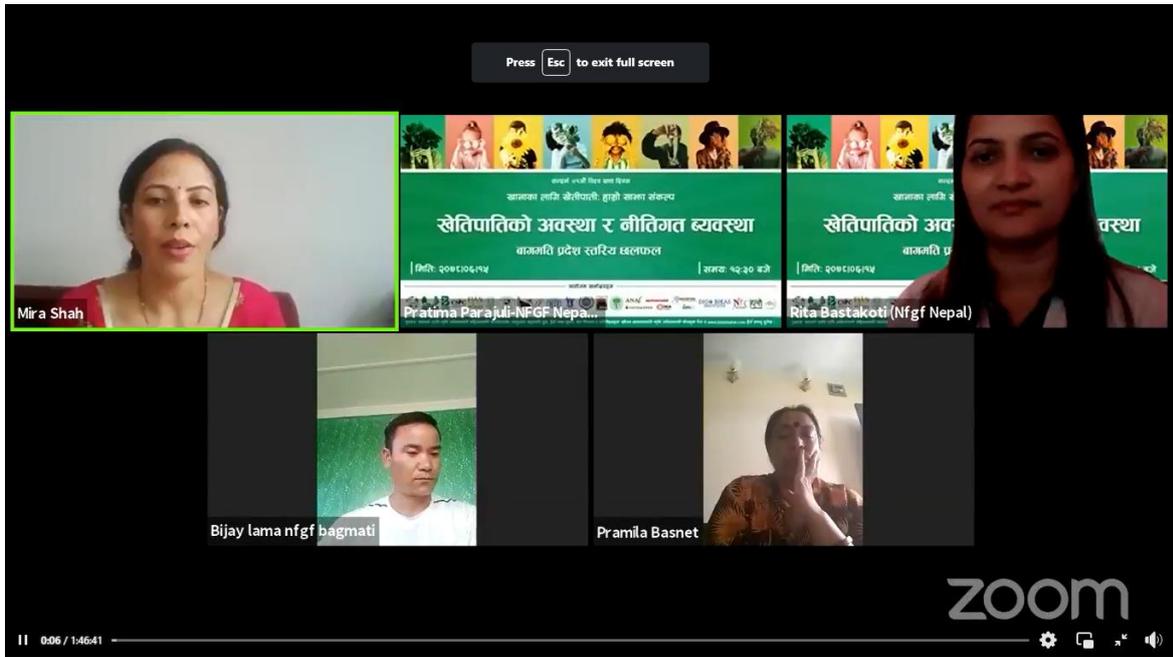
आयोजक सभोबायहरु

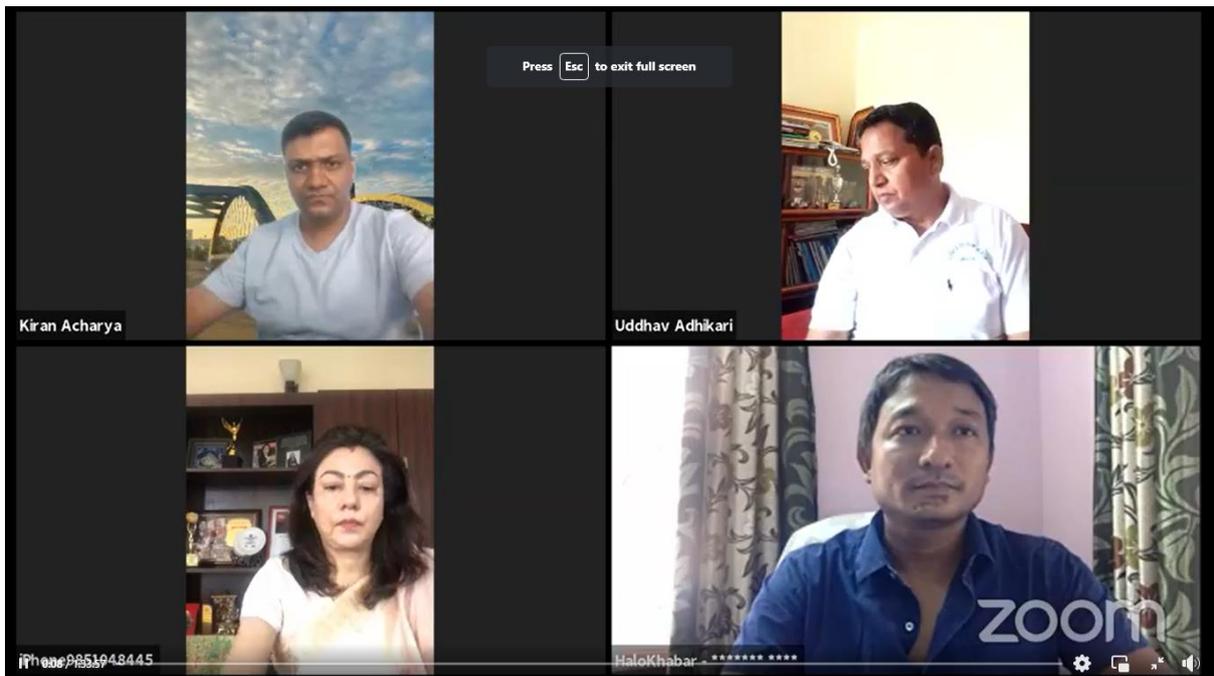
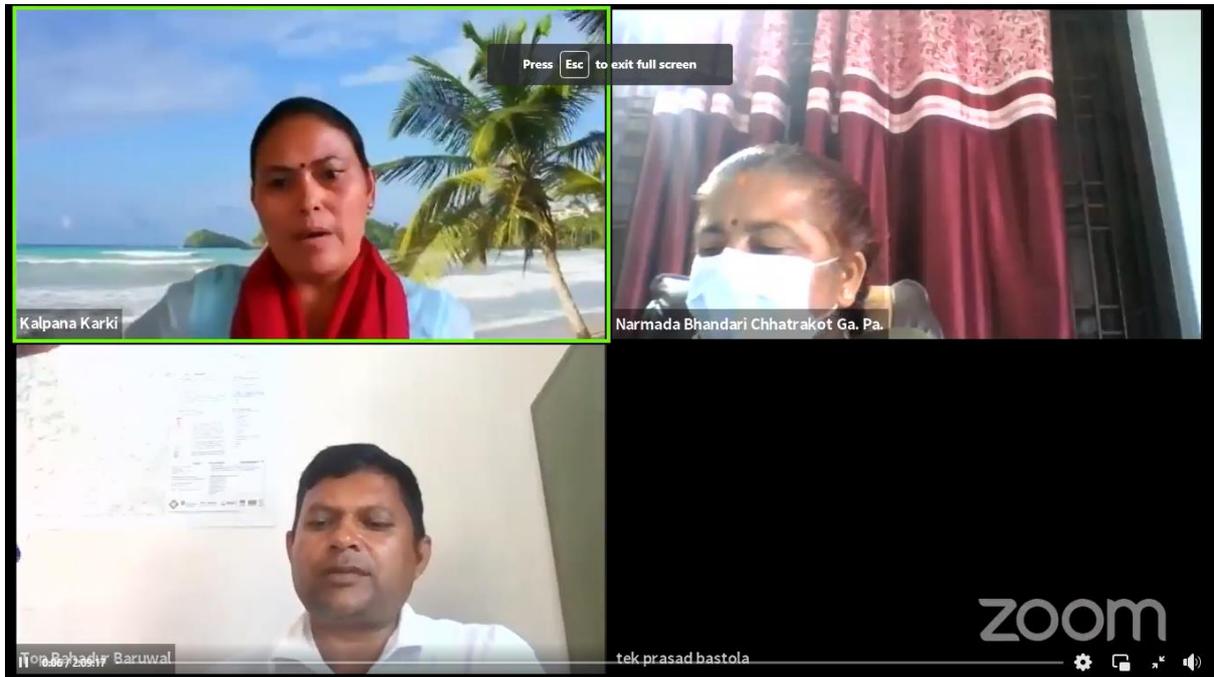


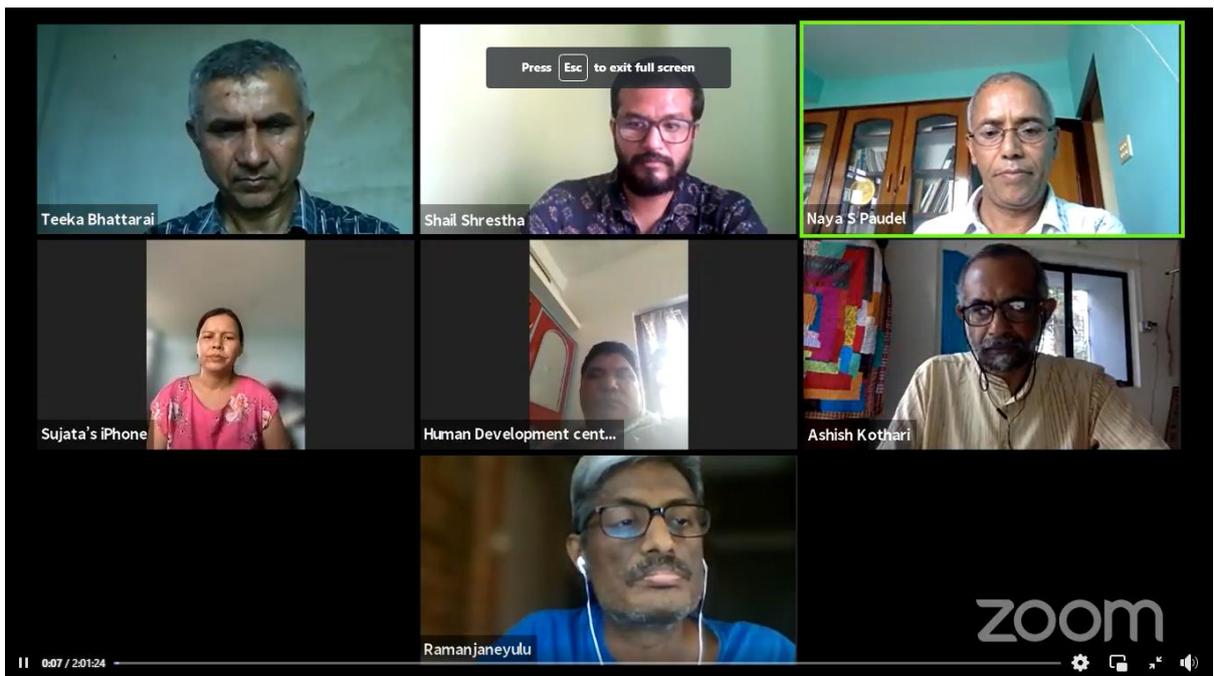
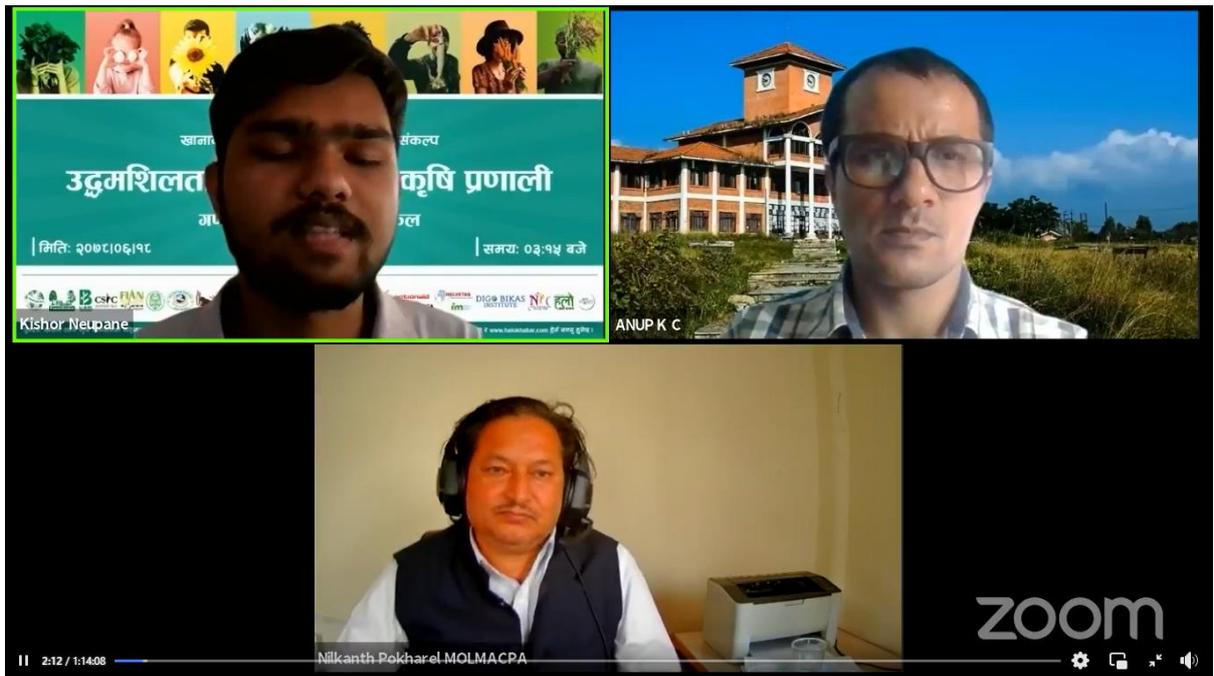
पुनरा: खानाका लागि खाद्य अधिकारको पहिलोसम्मि कार्टिकरण (अनुभव) सहभागी हुन, हेर्न रसा सुन, मय विवरण र प्रतिक्रियाहरु खोजन खाद्यान्नको खाद्य अधिकारको फेसबुक पेज र [www.halokhabar.com](http://www.halokhabar.com) हेर्न सक्नु हुनेछ ।

# Pictures Captures during Discussion















## **Alliance of Agriculture for Food**

Alliance of Agriculture for Food is a collective campaign of Producer Farmers, I/NGOs and Civil Society Groups working on the issue of food, land, agriculture and climate change. It aims to raise the voice of smallholders, women and landless farmers. It is committed to promote sustainable agriculture through an integrated system of social development.