

Some Case Study Reports:

Case Study: 1

A "Dalit" Promoter Manages ICS Installation Through Intermediary

Ms. Khasigara Sunar is a Promoter in Dailekh and was trained for the ICS installation of the households in ward #9 of the Narayan Municipality. The women group taking into account large number of Goldsmith and Blacksmith households in that area as well as to encourage Dalit people, selected Ms. Sunar for the Promoter's training. "Sunar" is an occupational caste of goldsmith but many blacksmith families also like to call them "Sunars" as it is looked upon as a cleaner job in the community. Ms. Sunar is also in the women's group formed by WDS. Ms. Sunar installed ICS in the Dalit cluster at the beginning and completed installation in the potential households of the Sunar community in the first year. By that time there was enough information, awareness and demonstration effect in the higher cast neighborhood. So some neighboring households, who were the member of the same women group as Ms. Sunar, approached her to assist in ICS installation for them. The neighbors were confident to build ICS provided Ms. Sunar supervised their work from the doorstep and instructed to correct if there is something wrong in their work. The higher caste neighbors do not allow the lower caste people inside their house. Ms. Sunar agreed to do this and thus few ICS were made like this initially and the quality was not satisfactory. Later CRT/N Technician corrected it. In Lamjung a shoemaker female Promoter (Dalit) is allowed to enter even in the Pundit's house was cited by Technician there but it is a tradition and people are still quite strict in the caste-determined custom in these districts as well as remote rural areas in other places.

Source: Narayan Municipality, Ward No. 9, Dailekh, Quarterly Progress Report (April-June 2002)

Case Study: 2

I'm proud to be "Certified Promoter"



Mr. Pari Saud is an active Promoter of Kalena VDC. He is 22 years old and a father of one child. He discontinued his study after completing class 5 and engaged in subsistence farming activities to support the family. He started ICS installation as his job since last November 2002. He has installed the highest number of ICS in Kalena VDC (125 ICS) until May 2002 out of total 219 ICS installed in the entire VDC. All the ICS are two potholes plain typed. He charges Rs.30.00-Rs.50.00 only for installation, as the villagers cannot afford to pay more than this. He has been so far paid for all ICS installed except 3 households. He has earned something from ICS installation, which helps to supplement his household expenditure. So he is very happy to be a Promoter. In the beginning he was not selected for the Promoters training but received on the job training by the Technician Mr. Saud and later was included in the Refresher Training conducted by CRT/N Doti. Most of the Users were quite satisfied with the ICS he has installed. He is quite happy to be a Promoter and even more to be certified Promoter and to have a signboard of the certified Promoter hung on wall. He assures to do more in the future.

Source: Monitoring Visit by Achut Man Singh Pradhan, Monitoring Officer, Quarterly Progress Report (April-June 2002)

Case Study: 3

ICS as Micro Enterprise



Ms. Basanti Bashyal, a group member of Laksha Saving Group and a Promoter in Arkhale VDC, Gulmi district has taken on ICS installation as a micro-enterprise for her earning and living. She has already promoted around 200 ICS in her VDC and the nearby areas and has earned more than Rs. 20,000 from ICS installation. She charges Rs 100 to the group members, Rs 150 to others and Rs 200 to the far away clients. She gets full support from her family members including her mother-in-law and her husband. Her husband even joins with her during Saturdays and assists her making bricks and getting 2-3 ICS installed on a day. Basanti do not hesitate to travel far away if she can manage to return home in the evening (as her husband accompanies her sometimes) and also installs ICS free of cost to the relatives and poorer households. Sometimes she also gets paid in kind. She is hopeful to have enough ICS market for another year. She is getting assistance from District Promotion Centre (DPC) and WDS and further anticipates assistance from them in linking other VDCs for ICS market in the future.

Source: Monitoring Visit by Achut Man Singh Pradhan, Monitoring Officer, March 2002, Quarterly Progress Report (January-March 2002)

Case Study: 4

The Story of an Outstanding Promoter in Lakuri VDC

Mr. Khum Bahadur Thapa from Lakuri VDC (New Program VDC), Dailekh district is an active wall nut farmer and worked as a mason for few years in Suspension Bridge Projects in the district. He started ICS installation since late December 2001 after the training organized by District Promotion Centre, Dailekh. He has got very good skill because of his past experience of working as a mason in suspension bridge projects in the district. Because of his skill he was selected by the local group to be a Promoter. He builds such a perfect ICS along with some complementary kitchen management devices that the message was spread all around in a very short time. As a result more than 40% of the households has already been covered by the end of March. The Users' are also quite satisfied with the ICS built by Mr. Thapa, and therefore he has a demand for another 200 ICS within and out of the VDC area. Because of the high quality of ICS installation skill of Mr. Thapa, the district facilitated the Intra-District Exchange Visit to this Lakuri VDC and the visitors really praised the ICSs built by Mr. Thapa. The ICS installed by Mr. Thapa were really good looking as well good performing says District Coordinator Mr. Deepak Neupane. He does not have to go around and motivate for ICS now. He proudly says now that he is more satisfied being a Promoter than a mason and a wall nut farmer

Source: Mr. Deepak Neupane, District Coordinator, Dailekh,, Quarterly Progress Report (January-March 2002)

Case Study: 5

User- education really important.

Ms. Savitri Basyal like many other villagers requested for ICS to be installed at her kitchen when the Promoter Mr. Iswari Gawalii stayed in the VDC itself for a month in May-June 2001. She thought it was worthwhile to invest about Rs200 if it improved health, cooked meal faster and easier and saved time and fuel wood. She has an ICS installed at her home in May last year. The cook stove was working well for her little family. There was an engagement ceremony organized in the house of Ms. Sabitra Basyal on June last year. It was the niece of Ms. Savitri Basyal who was going to marry soon following the engagement. About a dozen guests from the grooms' side were invited to grace the ceremony. Ms. Basyal who usually cooked was on menstruation period and could not cook for the guests. It is a common practice that in the upper cast families adult males do not eat the meal cooked by the women during such period. Therefore a neighboring woman was invited who prepared all the dishes for the guests. The guests were served, function was over and they were gone and elders of the household had the meal. Surprisingly, they found that some of the rice was only half cooked. It was such an uneasy moment for them that they were really worried for what the guests might have thought. Ms. Basyal felt very sorry at that moment to have dismantled the traditional stove. "Anyway the marriage ceremony took place and fortunately nobody complained for the dishes of that day, thank god", remarked Ms. Basyal. She promised not to cook again in the ICS whenever there is some social gathering like this rather she would prefer to cook outside in a temporary three stone stove to avoid smoke inside and get the eyes irritated (she is now used to ICS and thinks it might be difficult for her to cook in traditional stove inside for excess smoke emission)

"The Promoter did not mention about the way of cooking in larger pots when situation demands like this", says Ms. Basyal and so she did not explain either the method of cooking in larger pot to the neighboring women who prepared half cooked rice during the engagement ceremony.

Thus the lesson drawn from this was to increase the level of supervision by Technicians even in the out of program VDC also there should be at least 2 after sale service from the Promoter who has installed ICS and shared the procedures for cooking on the larger pots.

Source: Monitoring Support Visit by Rajan Thapa, Component Coordinator, Quarterly Progress Report (July-September 2002)

Case Study: 6

"After having ICS, I seldom fetched a full "Bhari" (Bundle) of firewood."



Ms. Ram Payri Rai is a Certified Promoter of Belhara VDC, Dhankuta district. She has the work experiences of three years in Family Planning Association. She has received many certificates. She is very active and sincere to her job. All the users have found the ICS installed by Ms. Rai very satisfactory. She is quite happy to be a Promoter. She has installed 109 ICS (up to September 30, 2002). Out of 109 ICS installed, most are two-pot holes type.

She installed a 2 pot holes ICS in her own kitchen immediately after finishing Promoters Training (December 2000). Her kitchen nowadays has been found clean and well managed. Her husband also assisted her while installing the ICS at her home. After ICS has been installed in her house, she has seldom brought a full "bhari" (Bundle) of firewood for cooking meal. It is mostly enough with whatever is collected by her children. She says her stove consumes only about a two third of the traditional stove. So she is very happy with her ICS and believes that others households where she installed ICS are happy too. She has also made some earnings from ICS installation, which helps to supplement her household expenditure (e.g. buying oil and spices and to pay the school fee for her two children). Now, she is also ready to go out of VDC also, for ICS installation if requested by the neighboring village people.

Source: Monitoring Support Visit, Achut Man Singh Pradhan, Monitoring Officer, Quarterly Progress Report (July-September 2002)

Case Study: 7

PARTNERS CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE ICS DISSEMINATION

After establishment of the ICS Promotion Center in Argakhanchi the Center staffs together with WDS staffs visited different VDCs and collected information regarding the needs of ICS in the proposed program VDCs. Many households had heard about ICS and very few had installed prefabricated ceramic stove long time back. Some people even had seen the ICS installed by the GARDEP* Program support in their relatives house near by district head quarter. The assessment team briefed about the benefit of ICS and the reason for success in neighboring district Gulmi. Having heard this, village leaders were quite enthusiastic and they immediately formed an ICS Promotion Committee where there was no active local NGO or Functional Group. The Survey Team was quite impressed of the villagers' interest on ICS Program, which was different than any other program in terms of fund flow into the village. The VDCs having active participation during need assessment was finally selected. 3 ICS Promotion Committees were formed in three different VDCs. This Committee is very active and committed. Some of the members of this committee are trained by the National ICS Program and after the training these committees have supported very well. They help the ICS Promotion Center and WDS in every activities regarding ICS promotion in their respective VDCs. Besides these Committees there are other local Partners who are also very helpful and own the program very much, which is only very few in other districts. The HQ staffs during their visit were delighted to see the local Partner publishing the notice at various corners for a demonstration event Ownership of the program by the local partners is the first step towards sustainable ICS promotion. These Partners participated from the very beginning, organized themselves in a committee for ICS promotion and at present actively supporting in various ICS activities. There are 10 local Partners apart from WDS. As morning shows the day, the efforts of these partners have started showing the outcome. Argakhanchi is leading the new districts in the number of quality ICS installation till date.

* Gulmi and Argakhanchi Rural Development Program.

Source: Annual Progress Report (January-December 2002)

Case Study: 8

Local Innovation is Key to Stimulate Demand for ICS

Where there is a will there is a way goes a saying. Same thing happened in Gulmi. ICS was being successfully promoted in the district. WDS and Local Partners were very supportive. ICS dissemination speeded up and very soon the message was spread here and there, and the coverage began going up steadily. The quality was good enough because the District Promotion Center staffs, trained WDS staffs and Local Partner Staffs did the monitoring and follow-up very closely. Villagers seemed to be happy but quite often there were problems of backfire whenever there was light wind towards the chimney. Similarly, potholes size changed after a few days of mud plastering. Plastering by mud everyday is a common practice after having morning meals in the rural areas because for two reasons: the hearth is a sacred place so it has to be plastered to keep it clean and secondly plaster would remove the blackened area of the potholes and looks nice. So after having encountered with these problems in ICS, some Users gave thoughts to solve these problems and came up with ideas of having a metallic cowl fabricated with scrap tin. Some villagers developed this and the Promoters further improved, which performed better than existing tin can and mud block outlets. After its demonstration effect many households preferred to have this outlet device although it cost them some more and this outlet is common in many households now in Gulmi.

Similarly to avoid the breakage and change of pothole size problem due to plaster, some villagers tried with fixing the cut piece of metallic dinner plate, which cost Rs30 per piece. Many households in Gulmi are using this cut plate piece inserted in the pothole, which helped to solve the problem of breakage and change in size. These local innovations has not only increased the performance of ICS but also helped to create more demand in Gulmi and neighboring districts.

Source: District Coordinator, Gulmi /Argakhanchi, Annual Progress Report (January-December 2002)

Case Study: 9

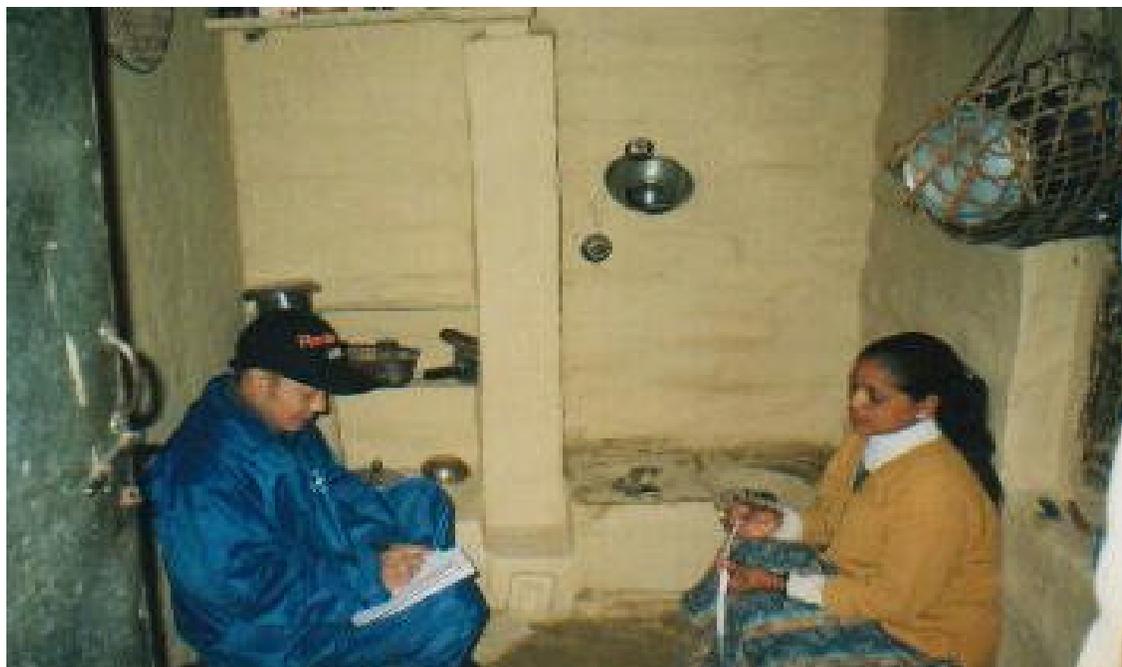
No need to go out of village for job.

Navaraj Khatri, 24 of Belpata VDC-4, Dailekh district and the eldest son of Mr. Karna and Mrs. Samundra Devi Khatri wandered in search of job for 3 years after he failed in the SLC exam in 1993. But he did not find any job. Finally, he returned home frustrated in 1997 and reappeared in the SLC examination and made it this time. After passing the SLC examination he started teaching in a local Primary School on voluntary basis until 2000. That same year CRT/N District Promotion Center was established in Dailekh. Last year, CRT/N Dailekh under the AEPC/ESAP supported National ICS Program organized Promoters Training in which, he got the opportunity to participate. After the training Mr. Khatri started promoting and installing ICS in the village. Sometimes people came to him from far away villages. He charges Rs.50 per ICS and sometimes up to Rs.200 (if the users house is far) and if he has to do everything by himself. He also does free of cost ICS installation for very poor households. He feels grateful to the ICS Component since he is employed in the village itself. He is satisfied with this job. He often shares the skill with others and more importantly he campaigns the message of ICS to all the Forest User Members. He is also the secretary of Bhairabnath Community Forest User Group (CFUG) and treasurer of Andheri CFUG.

Source: Quarterly Progress Report (July-September 2001)

Case Study: 10

"ICS installation has helped me to meet my family expenditure."



Ms. Man Kumari Khadka is a local Promoter of Ward No. 2, Uttarganga VDC, Surkhet district. She was selected by the local Partner Organization "Samaj Sewa Kandra" for the New Promoter Training. She is a widow and mother of two sons. She has completed the education up to class 5. Up to now, she has installed 58 ICS, mostly two potholes. Demand for ICS has been increasing even if the Users have to pay Ms. Khadka Rs.100.00 (preparation of bricks and ICS installation) per ICS. There are demands from even neighboring VDCs says Ms. Khadka. Ms. Khadka has already earned more than Rs.5500 form ICS installation in the last few months which supports her household expenses very much including paying the school fee for her children. She is very much satisfied to be an ICS Promoter and happier when she finds the users quite satisfied with the ICS she has installed.

The villagers in her VDC now have realized the benefits of ICS. So she hopes to be busy in the coming days as there will be more demand but " no problem for her as she can manage 2-3 ICS installation a day, if need arises" says, Ms. Khadka.

She asserted to the reporter that there would be no lacking in the quality of ICS as she has already acquired the hand-on skills for making a perfect ICS in the first instance.

Source: Monitoring Support Visit, Achut Man Singh Pradhan, Monitoring Officer, Quarterly Progress Report (January-March 2003)