

Final Report

Participant Name & Country : Santosh Bhandari

1. General Situation of Your Village:

1) Name of your Village : Ratamata

2) Outline

Population	Ratio of farmhouse	GDP per capita	Main source of Income
650	92%	Approx. 1200\$	Agriculture/ Service/Rémittance
Main Crops	Electricity Distribution Rate	Water and sewage Distribution Rate	Road pavement Rate
Maize, Paddy,Wheat,Mustard Seasonal vegetables	96%	Approx.75%	Approx. 25 %

2. Introduction of Your Village

Situated 20 Km west from a district headquarter, Ratamata is a small rural village situated in Ward no. 6 of Dhurkot Rural Municipality in Gulmi district, Lumbini Province. Situated at an elevation of about 1275 masl, is endowed with subtropical to warm temperate climate with average summer temperature ranging from 26-32 degree celcius and winter temperature ranging from 9-15 degree Celsius. Average rain fall of about 1000 mm occurs in a year, of which more than 80 percent occurring the summer (mid June-mid Sep). Comprising about 125 households, Major ethnic groups are Brhamins, followed by Chhetri, Janajatis and Dalits indicating socio-cultural diversity. More than 98 % people follow Hindusim.

Physiographically situated in the mid-hilly region, village comprises of diverse topography form steep terrain, upland areas and plain low land areas at the bank of river basins. Steep terrain comprises of forest and bushes, upland areas and lowland areas are used for farming purposes. Terrace farming is the typical feature of the farming land in the village. Upland areas depend on monsoon rain for the irrigation purpose while lowland areas along the river basins are irrigated with the small irrigation channels. Major crops are Maize, Paddy, Wheat, Mustard, Legumes, seasonal vegetables. Traditionally major occupation of the people in the village is agriculture and Labor migration to India for employment. However because of subsistence nature of Integrated

Agriculture(livestock and crops combined) and connection to the nearby cities and outer world via access to transport and communication facilities, people especially males have migrated to the nearby cities(Butwal, Kathmandu) and third world and other countries as a wage labor for better income opportunities. Likewise with the access to education gradually share of people engaged in government services has been increasing gradually. Migration youths especially males, have led to the feminization of Agriculture on one hand and on the other hand framing land are being gradually abandoned.

3. Actual Condition of Your Village

1) Consciousness level of the villagers

** Cooperation, Diligence, Self-help, Community mind, etc.*

Small population with similar history, culture and socio-economic setting and common pedigree, cooperation, self-help, diligence and community mind can be observed in various social functions and activities in the village. Because of diligence, cooperative efforts the inaccessible remote village has been now linked to the district headquarter, situation of basic infrastructure is improving. Diligence, Self-help and cooperation have been the characteristics of village life that have helped the villagers to endure the harsh topographical conditions and inaccessibility to basic infrastructures. Cooperation and community mind can be observed in farming activities('Parma'- exchange of labor for various activities esp. farming, which is gradually changing to wage labor),construction activities(like building of houses, public infrastructures like community houses, temples, schools, small roads, irrigation channels) and financial help in need.

2) Income of People

- What is the main source of income? (Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Industries, etc.)

Till 2000s main source of incomes used to be a integrated farming system and migration to India as a wage labor. Integrated farming system comprised of cereal crops, legumes, seasonal vegetable and livestock(Cattle, Buffalo and Goat) as a main components. Main basis of integrated farming is a Agro-forestry based farming system especially in the upland areas. Likewise remittance from migration to nearby Indian cities as a wage labor another major source of income.

After 2000s, with the change in the socio-political conditions, access to outer world via transport and communication facilities and improvement of literacy, pattern of income has be gradually changing. As farm production and productivity has been stagnant or even declined in some crops on one hand and on other hand because of the drudgery of the farming youths are especially moving away from farming and opting for wage based services either inside the country or outside the country. Wage based migration to India has been changed to wage based migration to gulf countries and even first world countries. Educated youth are opting for service based either in the formal or informal sector

like government jobs, business activities etc.

So gradually the source of income are changing from agriculture(Primary sector) to small business, service (secondary and tertiary sector).

3) Level of Public Sanitation & Public Amenities

- How about the actual living condition of residential environment?

(Kitchen, drinking water, sanitation, public amenities, etc.)

Living conditions are also changing gradually. Wood, logs were only source of fuel for cooking purposes in traditional mud/stone/iron based stoves(chulo). Although main source of fuel for cooking is firewood, people are gradually opting for improved cooking stoves(improved chulo) that are more health friendly, Bio fules(very few) and use of LPG as a alternative source.

Small streamlets('muhans') used to be the main source of drinking water for the villagers. The water from such streamlets is collected in the warhead tanks and distributed to the villagers as per a schedule. With the changing climate, irregular rainfall patterns, the streamlets have been drying and efforts have been made to supply permanent source of drinking water via different projects, however efforts haven't been materialized yet.

Main issue of sanitation in the village areas was a open defecation. With the efforts from the government agencies and various stakeholders, every household have separate toilets and village have been declared "open defecation free village" by the government.

Access to public amenities and infrastructures is improving gradually. Village have been linked to the district headquarter via road corridor. Although the issues of regularity of power supply still persist, more than 95 percent household have access to electricity. Some households have opted for solar panels also. Households having televisions have been increasing.

Each and every household has access to communication facilities via mobile and land lines. However access to broadband internet is still lacking.

Access to education and health facilities is improving. Secondary level school is within 15 minutes walk from village. People are aware of importance of education and school enrollment is almost 100 percent. However issues of school dropouts are still prevalent and quality of education need to be improved. Ward level community hospital is in the process of construction and is half hour walk from the village. Quality health service is still a very big problem.

Access to public amenities is increasing gradually. however the speed development of public

amenities and quality of the service is a major issue that needs to be addressed.

4. Action Plan for your Village

1) What are the main problems that disturb the development of your Villages?

- Difficult topography
- Migration of youth population
- Budget and resource scarcity
- Poor quality of the public amenities like transport, education and health.
- Stagnant farm production and productivity and scarcity of alternate income sources.
- Lack of entrepreneurship and market linkage.
- Lack of skill in the youth and skill learning opportunities for youth.

2) What are the solutions of main problems for your village's bright future?

- Improving the access and quality of public amenities transport, health and education needs to be highly prioritized to reduce rural exodus.
- Promoting entrepreneurship and small and medium enterprise(SMEs) so that the income source can be diversified from farming and unskilled labor migration to nearby cities, India and gulf countries is checked.
- Promoting and establishing linkage to market for the products so that people can get better access to market.
- Imparting skill to the youth via vocational trainings and making arrangements(soft loan, advisory services) to promote entrepreneurship.
- Efforts to improve farm production and productivity via adoption of modern techniques and farm practices. Also promoting commercial farming. Commercial livestock rearing for milk and meat can be highly potential enterprise in the village. Likewise commercial horticulture (vegetable and citrus) can be another potential enterprise to increase income of the farmers.

3) How would you utilize the Korean Saemaul Undong to solve the main problems of your village?

Cooperation, Diligence, Self-help and community mind have been the characteristic feature of Nepalese society and especially the rural village life. However linking those features to entrepreneurship and income generation activities has been lacking, as most of activities in the village are subsistence oriented. Social mobilization aspects of Saemaul Undong to improve the public amenities, their sustainable use and maintenance can be utilized to solve the problems in my village. Likewise linking principles and experiences of Saemaul Undong to entrepreneurship

development and income generation activities can be utilized to solve the problems of my village.

4) Please write your action plan by benchmarking the success factors of Saemaul Undong to solve the main problems of your village.

Objectives (Goals)	Action Required (Tasks)	Time Frame	Necessary Resources
Improvement of access and quality of public amenities(transport, health and education)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widening and blacktopping of roads, improving the quality of public transport, • Community level hospital at village/ward level with necessary equipment, manpower and quality/reliable service • Availability of quality education, provision of internet facilities library and qualifies teacher 	5 years	Qualified and Skilled human resources Sufficient budget allocation Time guided action plan
Diversifying income opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of small and medium enterprises(SMEs) • Provision of soft loan and advisory services • Linking production to markets 	2 years	Technical guidance Budgetary assistance Subsidies Qualified human resource
Improving farm production and productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifting from subsistence farming to commercial farming based on livestock and 	5 yrs	Technical guidance Budgetary assistance

	<p>horticultural crops(Vegetable and fruits)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension advisory services to farmers for the adoption of improved farm techniques and technologies • Research and Development activities for innovation and development of new niche-based varieties and techniques 		<p>Subsidies</p> <p>Proper extension advisory services</p> <p>Research and Development activities</p>
Development of Skilled human resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject based vocational trainings to the interested and needy people to new skills 	2 yr	<p>Physical infrastructure</p> <p>Qualified human resource</p> <p>Budgetary assistance</p>

5. Have the central/local government ever supported Saemaul Undong in your Village?

If so, please answer the following questions below.

Specific programs and activities of Saemaul Undong has not been conducted so far in my village but government agencies and various organizations have been promoting activities that promote self help and cooperation.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administrative assistant: 2. Budget support: 3. Forming organizations: 4. Government Officials in charge 5. Etc. |
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