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File:BGP case study CAWM Uttar Khekuani v4.pdf

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Context

A sub-catchment of the Water Management Group (WMG) Uttar Khekuani, of polder 43/2F, suffers from waterlogging during the monsoon season and scarcity of water for irrigation during the rabi season. This is due to the topography of the land and poor drainage. 75 out of the 100 acres are severely affected.

Problems

- Stagnant water makes farmers choose local varieties of T-Aman, resulting in low productivity and incomes
- Damage to T-Aman seedbeds, further reducing productivity
- Late seeding transplantation and slow and late drainage suspend aman harvest and rabi planting
- Late aman harvesting limits options in the rabi season to mung bean
- Late rabi planting and harvest make crops vulnerable to drought and erratic pre-monsoon rains

BGP Interventions

The main aim of CAWM is to improve productivity and profitability of the cropping system by improving in-polder water management. The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) supports CAWM through the Blue Gold Program. Nearly all (50) male and female farmers from the severely affected area took part in Community-Led Agricultural Water Management (CAWM). The larger part of the farmers in the severely affected area joined CAWM, so that water management and crops could be aligned.

Actions taken under CAWM

- Participatory action plan by members of the WMG, beneficiaries and DAE
- Construction of 30 feet long, 20 inch diameter pipe

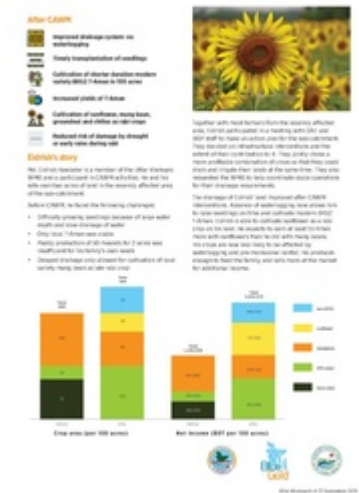
- culvert with gate at north side to connect with Bazarkhalai catchment
- 600 feet long branch-canal ('sakhskhal') excavated
- Closing of culvert at west-side of sub-catchment
- Farmers dug narrow drains ('hatnala's) across the field to connect with branch-canal
- A year-round Farmer Field School provided by DAE helped farmers improve their cropping system



Outcomes

- Sustainable and resilient cropping pattern
- Higher productivity of T-Aman, sufficient to meet consumption needs of families
- Diversification of high value rabi crops (sunflower, mung bean, ground nut and chilli) generates employment and spreads risks
- Yearly increase in net income of approximately BDT 12,000 per acre (see chart on next page)
- Improved decision-making related to water management and crop production

Uttar Khekuani v4.12 September 2019



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[Original file](#) (1,240 × 1,753 pixels, file size: 1.85 MB, MIME type: application/pdf, 2 pages)

Summary

Community-led agricultural water management at Uttar Khekuani

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Blue Gold Program Wiki

The wiki version of the Lessons Learnt Report of the Blue Gold program, documents the experiences of a technical assistance (TA) team working in a development project implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) over an eight+ year period from March 2013 to December 2021. The wiki lessons learnt report (LLR) is intended to complement the BWDB and DAE project completion reports (PCRs), with the aim of recording lessons learnt for use in the design and implementation of future interventions in the coastal zone.

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