



**HIMACHAL PRADESH CROP DIVERSIFICATION
PROMOTION PROJECT (PHASE-II), JICA-ODA, HAMIRPUR (H.P.)**

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INHOUSE NEWSLETTER OF HP CROP DIVERSIFICATION PROMOTION PROJECT-II

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It is commendable that JICA has extended collaboration for the Phase-II of the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project for 9 years, emphasizing the matter of honour in this endeavour. The project's main objectives are clear and ambitious, aimed at benefiting farmers and the agriculture sector in the state.

The main objectives of the loan project are as follows: crop diversification.

1. To increase the area and production of vegetables through marketing, post harvest etc.
 2. To raise the income of small and marginal farmers.
 3. To create infrastructures for irrigation, farm access roads, of irrigation systems.
 4. To organize farmers into groups For operation and maintenance Agriculture field extension staff.
 5. Training and capacity building of Department of
- The Indicators to be achieved by 2029 have also been very clearly defined as under:

1. Beneficiary Area to be irrigated-7933 hectares,
2. Length of Access Farm Roads- 62.4 km
3. Gross area diversified to vegetables-6944 hectares
4. Vegetables yield-24.025 MT/Ha
5. Cereal-2.83 MT/Ha
6. Gross Annual Average Farm Income- Rs. 2.50 Lakhs per hectare.
7. FPO's to be formed-10 nos.
8. Solar pumping units-83 nos.
9. Formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)-100 nos.

I am reminding this all to the staff working in the SPMU, DPMUs and BPMUs of the project so that we can achieve the targets keeping in mind the indicators treading on path of objectives and following the principle of PDCA (Plan, Do, Check and Act). The Project Management in the field need renewed vigour and zeal not only to achieve the physical targets given as the indicators, but we all need to make visible behavioural change in the farming families in the project areas. This means an apparent qualitative change in the project areas and focusing mainly on outcome. We all at the State Project Management Unit are always at the back end call of each and every functionary in the field and the farmers. The reminder of the five "C"s (Competency, Confidence, Consistency, Commitment, and Continuity) serves as an important guiding principle for all staff working on the project. By embodying these traits, the team can foster a strong foundation and effectively tackle any challenge that may arise during the implementation of the project. Best wishes to all involved in the HPCDP project for a successful and impactful Phase-II. Your efforts will undoubtedly contribute to the sustainable development of agriculture in Himachal Pradesh and improve the lives of farmers in the region.

Dr. Sunil Chauhan
Project Director

After the successful completion of the HP Crop Diversification promotion Project, Phase-I in March 2021. The Phase-II of project on crop diversification was launched in June 2021 in which Rs.1010 crore shall be utilized for creation of irrigation potential in 12 districts of the state. After creating irrigation facilities, the farming community shall be motivated and trained to take up sustainable crop diversification and production of high value crops on at least on 30 percent of their land holdings. The phase-II of project aim at increasing the income of farming community on sustainable basis.

Vividh Krishi issue is the first print of Phase-II of project and shall continue sharing the programmes and activities completed during the months. Presently the project is focusing on creating awareness amongst the farming community about the project and the benefits likely to be accrued. The project officers and staff are continuously interacting with the farming community to assess their needs and requirements and subsequently align them with the project objectives. The farming community is being organized in to Krishak Vikas Association (KVA), a village based unit to support the project officers in planning, implementation, operation and maintenance of created infrastructure. The sustainability of the irrigation facility and other infrastructure solely depends on the involvement of farming community in the KVA,s activities. The pace of project implementation is going to pick up and project shall achieve the intended objectives within the stipulated time frame.

Dr. Vinod.K.Sharma
Chief Project Adviser

DPMU PALAMPUR

District Project Management Unit, Palampur, Crop Diversification Project (Phase-II) has four Block Project Management Units namely Palampur, Kangra, Dharamshala and Chamba. Under these units, 83 sub-projects have been proposed and irrigation capacity will be created in about 2978.27 hectares of agricultural land.

Kisan Mela organised by Block Project Management Unit (BPMU) Gorda (Shahpur):

A Kisan Mela was organized by BPMU Gorda (Shahpur), where farmers from various subprojects in the JICA Shahpur constituency and NGOs participated. The Hon'ble Minister in his address emphasized the importance of agriculture being a noble profession and urged the farmers not to abandon it. He also encouraged the public to fully utilize the benefits of JICA projects and increase their income potential. ATMA, SDSCO, JICA SHGs from the Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department and Agriculture Marketing set up small exhibitions, to showcase the activities of various departments in the fair.



PMC experts visited the various sub projects & reviewed the entire subprojects according to DPR. Every aspect was discussed with the farmers. All proposed works were closely observed and wherever there was a need for any technical improvement or addition, it was also done. PMC Expert had noted down all the points discussed & DPRs were forwarded for the technical approval after attending the needful observations.



Practical Training on handling of fresh Shiitake mushroom and Drying of Shiitake Mushrooms

Dr. Sapan Thakur, Shiitake Disseminator at SCTC delivered a presentation to the farmers on the post-harvest management and practical training on Shiitake harvesting, grading, sorting & drying of Mushrooms was imparted to the farmers in which he discussed the different methods of drying, its benefits and methods of safe storage. Also imparted practical training to the participants regarding shiitake chips, flex & powder preparation.



DPMU HAMIRPUR



Different types of activities has been conducted under DPMU Hamirpur

- i) Strengthening of the farmers of Phase-I with SWAN women Federation.
- ii) PMC visits regarding the inspection of the structures mentioned in DPR.
- iii) Assessment of Losses at all the Phase-I and Phase-II sub-projects occurred during the month of July.
- iv) Training organized on farm management and book keeping, Orientation and Need Assessment, Irrigation and water management.
- v) Different training imparted by Extension staff on Capacity Building.
- v) Training on roles and responsibility of MC members.

In Country SHEP Visit to the Sub Project Nalwar Kotlu of Phase-I (Block Project Management Unit Bilaspur):

Mr. Takeshi Ikeda, Deputy Chief Advisor, IC Net Ltd. JICA and Mr. Umesh Babu, National SHEP Consultant were honoured during In Country SHEP visits with traditional shawls and caps showcasing the local culture. Mr. Shashi Pal, Deputy Project Director SPMU, explained the current status of SHEP activities being carried out at the state level. The SHEP activities are currently focused on the HPCDP Phase-I schemes and the successful pilot activities will be replicated in Phase-II sites after the completion of construction activities.

On July 23, 2023 SWAN representatives met to discuss the current status of SHGs and the project at LIS Guriah (Phase-I). The major goal is to revitalize and form SHGs, as well as connect households for microfinance and agricultural activities. This meeting was attended by ten beneficiaries.



A meeting with Kutlehar Natural Farmer Producer Company Limited was also arranged by DPMU. A steering committee decided to provide a sale outlet in the basement of FTC Bangana with a measuring capacity of 30*15*12 ft space at a meeting held on the 7th of July 2023.



DPMU MANDI

DPMU Mandi undertook various farmer support activities to enhance capacity development and awareness among beneficiaries of Sub-Projects. Training on Microplanning was organized by SPMU team in the meeting hall of DPMU Mandi on 14th June 2023 for the preparation of Sub Project Development Plan in which extension officer of DPMU and BPMs participated. Similar training at BPMU Kullu was organized by the SPMU. In this training, Sub-project Development Plan of BPMU Mandi and BPMU Kullu were reviewed and several recommendations were given by SPMU team for preparation of need based and area specific SDP. It was also instructed to categorize farmers as Advance, Intermediate, Conservative and Vulnerable to align project interventions as per their specific needs.

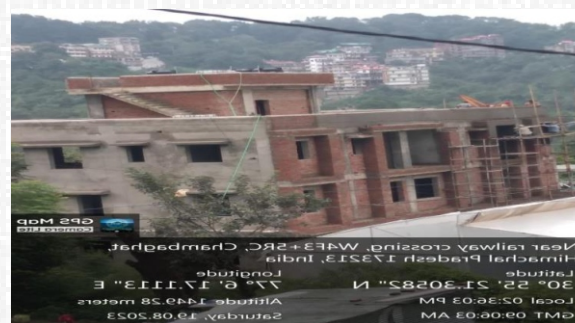


Visit of Mr. Takeshi Ikeda, Deputy Chief Advisor, IC Net Ltd. JICA and Mr. Umesh Babu, National SHEP Consultant was arranged by DPMU Mandi and BPMU, Kullu to sub project Chharehara, Padhar at Aarang and local Vegetable Market Yard at Bhuntar on 12th & 13th June 2023, respectively. The objective of this visit was to monitor the progress of Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion as per action plan prepared by SHEP Expert and to interact with farmers/market stakeholders/extension staff and to support them with necessary technical inputs. The SHEP team motivated the farmers to grow cash crops and change their mind from “Grow and Sell” to “Grow to Sell approach”. They guided the farmers to do farming as a business and motivate the young generation to involve in farming activities as these villages possess great potential for crop diversification.

The state experienced heavy precipitation on 8th and 9th July 2023, leading to flash floods and heavy landslides. These extreme weather events caused significant damage to infrastructure and crops. To assess the extent of the losses, DPM Mandi and BPMs, accompanied by engineers and extension officers, visited various Sub-projects of HPCDP-JICA-ODA-Phase-I & II. Their reports highlighted substantial losses in terms of both infrastructure and crops due to the devastating floods and landslides.



District Project Management Unit Solan comprise of 3 no. BPMUs with a target to develop 58 Sub-projects. One of the key focus area is the construction of irrigation systems. Currently, construction activities are underway on two subprojects with the objective of ensuring irrigation water in every farmer's field in sub-project area for promoting sustainable agriculture, enhancing farmers' income and reducing the dependence on traditional crops in Himachal Pradesh through the adoption of diversified cropping systems. Simultaneously, the DPMU is engaged in formation and strengthening of Krishak Vikas Association. These include awareness camps, training sessions on development of objectives and norms, orientation & need assessment. To ensure the quality of construction work of the irrigation system, training programs have been initiated. These programs encompass basic engineering skills and comprehensive training for farmers on the principles and practices of irrigation & water management. The DPMU also regularly monitored construction work at the Farmer Training Centre in Salogra. This training center primarily serves as a venue for off-site training, discussions, seminars, workshops and consultations.



Inauguration Ceremony of New Mandi:-

(Funded by JICA Agriculture & World Bank)

All the dignitaries & Officers from different departments were present on occasion of Inaugural Ceremony of New Mandis (सबे एवं फल मंडी) established at Solan & Parwanoo. Inauguration of New Mandis being done by Hon'ble CM in the presence of Hon'ble Agriculture & Animal Husbandry Minister and Hon'ble Health & Family Welfare Minister. Hon'ble Chief Minister said that Solan Fruit Market has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 9.88 crore, while up gradation and strengthening of approach road and parking of Terminal Mandi Parwano have been completed at a cost of Rs. 18.50 crore.

FARMER AWARENESS AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES IN JUNE & JULY, 2023

S. N.	Name of Training (Mandi)	No. of Training	No. of farmers trained
1	Awareness Camps involving Community	5	227
2	Workshops to develop Objectives and Norms	1	35
3	Workshops on Irrigation and Water Management	3	119
4	Training on Food Grain Productivity	1	35
5	Training on Farm Management and Bookkeeping	3	105
6	Training on soil analysis and soil health management	1	18
7	Training on Integrated Nutrients Management.	1	20
8	Training on Market Led Extension	1	25



S. N.	Name of Training (Palampur)	No. of Training	No. of farmers trained
1	Awareness Camps involving Community	10	968
2	Workshops to develop Objectives and Norms	15	526
3	Training on Orientation and Need Assessment	21	735
4	Training on Farm Management and Bookkeeping	20	700
5	Workshops on Irrigation and Water Management	19	666
6	Field Training on Basic Engineering Skills	4	140



S. N.	Name of Training (Hamirpur)	No. of Training	No. of farmers trained
1	Awareness Camps involving Community	11	353
2	Workshops to develop Objectives and Norms	14	467
3	Workshops on Irrigation and Water Management	15	456
4	Training on Orientation and Need Assessment	9	280
5	Training on Farm Management and Bookkeeping	9	267
6	Training on soil analysis and soil health management	1	18
7	Training on Integrated Nutrients Management.	1	20
8	Training on Market Led Extension	1	25



S. N.	Name of Training (Solan)	No. of Training	No. of farmers trained
1	Awareness Camps involving Community	5	450
2	Workshops to develop Objectives and Norms	6	210
3	Workshops on Irrigation and Water Management	4	140
5	Training on Orientation and Need Assessment	7	245
6	Training on Farm Management and Bookkeeping	5	175
7	Training on Market Led Extension	1	25



SPMU organized Capacity Development Programmes for Extension Officers

The State Project Management Unit (SPMU) organized comprehensive Capacity Development Programmes specifically tailored for Extension Officers (EOs). These programs aimed to enhance their knowledge and skills across various domains related to sustainable agriculture practices, crop management, and market-oriented approaches.

Training on Quality Control & Sub Project Construction Supervision:

Training sessions on Quality Control & Sub Project Construction Supervision were conducted for various DPMUs by SPMU. These sessions were held on different dates such as on 2nd June, 2023 for DPMU Solan, 5th June, 2023 for DPMU Mandi and from June 23rd to 24th, 2023 for DPMU Hamirpur. The training sessions had a participation of 13 officers in Solan, 25 officers in Mandi, and 34 officers in Hamirpur, respectively. The primary objective of these training sessions was to equip project staff with the knowledge and skills required for quality control in construction activities and the supervision of subprojects during the construction phase.



Training on Soil Analysis and Soil Health Management:

This training was held in KVK, Mandi at Sundernagar from 14th to 15th July, 2023 and it covered topics such as the importance of soil analysis and soil health management, plant nutrition requirements, soil testing methods, fertilizer calculation, and the use of fertilizers, organic manures, biofertilizers, and green manuring. 20 number of extension officer attended the training program and the focus was on enriching participants understanding of soil testing and effective soil health management to enhance their expertise in these areas.



Capacity Building Training on Integrated Nutrient Management:

This training took place in KVK, Mandi at Sundernagar from 27th to 28th July, 2023 and it covered topics like the importance of plant nutrients in pest management, implementing integrated nutrient management strategies in different crops, the significance of nano fertilizers, and balanced fertilizer usage. The training emphasized strategies for achieving balanced fertilizer application in various crops, including the incorporation of drone technology for advanced nutrient management. 20 number of extension officer attended the training program and the goal was to enhance participants' ability to sustain soil health and productivity through integrated nutrient management practices.



Capacity Building Training on Market Led Extension:

This program was held at Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni, Solan (HP) from 24th to 25th July, 2023. This training covered the concept of Market Led Extension with a "Grow to Sell" approach, highlighting the importance of value addition and market development. The training covered topics like the role of Extension Education in facilitating market-led approaches, analyzing economic frameworks, price trends and fostering informed decision-making by farmers. 25 number of extension officer attended the training program.



“PROGRES REPORT OF ONGOING PROJECT ACTIVITIES”



Progress w.r.t. KVA formation, Registration, Baseline Survey, SDP Preparation, Review by the PMC/SPMU and Endorsement from KVA Genral House upto July, 2023

S.N.	DPMU/BPMUKVA	Formation	KVA registration	Online Baseline Survey (No. of subprojects completed)	Online Baseline Survey (No. of Household covered)	SDP Preparation
DPMU HAMIRPUR						
1	DPMU (Overall)	39	36	38	1493	8
2	BPMU Hamirpur	13	11	12	412	3
3	BPMU Bilaspur	13	12	13	614	3
4	BPMU Una	13	13	13	467	2
DPMU MANDI						
1	DPMU (Overall)	59	50	22	1463	7
2	BPMU Mandi	19	17	10	483	3
3	BPMU Gohar	13	11	4	242	1
4	BPMU Kullu	14	11	4	429	1
5	BPMU Sarkaghat	13	11	4	309	2
DPMU PALAMPUR						
1	DPMU (Overall)	67	52	17	1807	5
2	BPMU Palampur	18	14	5	361	1
3	BPMU Dharamshala	19	15	3	493	2
4	BPMU Kangra	16	13	5	677	0
5	BPMU Chamba	14	10	4	276	2
DPMU SOLAN						
1	DPMU (Overall)	40	35	12	442	2
2	BPMU Solan	15	14	5	165	1
3	BPMU Nahan	11	10	4	167	1
4	BPMU Rampur	14	11	3	110	0

Progress w.r.t. Construction Works under the HPCDP(Phase-II), JICA-ODA, Hamirpur upto July, 2023

S.N.	No. of DPRs DPMU/BPMU/ Satellite Offices	No. of DPRs Prepared	No. of DPRs under review by PMUs	Reviewed and recommended by PMC	No. of DPRs put to tender	No. of Works Awarded	No. of Works under execution
DPMU HAMIRPUR							
1	DPMU (Overall)	33	2	8	8	0	0
2	BPMU Hamirpur	11	0	3	3	0	0
3	BPMU Bilaspur	11	0	3	3	0	0
4	BPMU Una	11	2	2	2	0	0
DPMU MANDI							
1	DPMU (Overall)	49	3	28	28	11	11
2	BPMU Mandi	12	2	7	7	3	3
3	BPMU Gohar	11	0	9	10	3	3
4	BPMU Kullu	13	0	6	5	1	1
5	BPMU Sarkaghat	13	1	6	6	4	4
DPMU PALAMPUR							
1	DPMU (Overall)	54	8	20	17	10	6
2	BPMU Palampur	16	1	6	6	3	2
3	BPMU Dharamshala	18	6	6	5	3	2
4	BPMU Kangra	11	1	4	3	3	1
5	BPMU Chamba	9	0	4	3	1	1
DPMU SOLAN							
1	DPMU (Overall)	36	4	25	17	4	2
2	BPMU Solan	13	1	9	7	0	0
3	BPMU Nahan	11	1	7	7	2	1
4	BPMU Rampur	12	2	9	3	2	1



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