



Doon university (School of Environment and Natural Resources)

Doubling Farmers Income Through Integrated and Collective Farming  
Approach in Uttarakhand

Quarterly Report

[Fourth] Quarter – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021– 31<sup>st</sup> June, 2021

Submission Date: 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Activity Start Date and End Date: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> September 2021.**

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Program Overview:

<b>Program Name:</b>	Doubling farmer's income through integrated and collective farming approach in Uttarakhand
<b>Activity Start Date And End Date: (from first allocation of funds)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> July'2020 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
<b>Name of Joint Implementing Partner: (if any, this is an org. that may be helping you implement)</b>	Department of Horticulture, Department of Agriculture Uttarakhand Government
<b>Geographic Coverage (State, Districts, Villages)</b>	State – Uttarakhand District – Tehri-Garhwal, Almora, Pithoragarh, Champawat Block – Narendranagar, Bhilangana, Sult, Dwarahaat, Syeldey, Munakot, Didihaat, kanalicheena, Lohaghaat Villages (Nos.) – 95
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	July 2021 to September 2021
<b>Total Program Cost</b>	INR 2,01,52,356
<b>Total amount received from THF/FIRST</b>	INR 53,75,847


  
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## 1. Brief of Work Done in 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter:

### **Meeting with cabinet minister rainwater harvesting Mr. Bisan Singh Chuphal and Higher education minister Dr. Dhan singh Rawat:**

As Doon University reopened in the second week after the lockdown we presented the hardcopy of signed MoU between SENR Doon University and The HANS Foundation for the post-facto approval to the project since July 2020 to the Honorable Vice Chancellor Doon University. But the Vice Chancellor Doon University told us that post-facto approval is not possible as she has joined the University in February 2021 and legally she cannot provide approval to the project from July 2020. After this we organized a meeting with cabinet minister rainwater harvesting Mr. Bisan Singh Chuphal and Higher education minister Dr. Dhan singh Rawat as the matter was related with both the ministries. We explained them about the advantages of the project and the work which was already done in field with thousands of farmers in Uttarakhand. They promised to resolve the problem as soon as possible after this meeting.

### **A joint meeting with cabinet minister rainwater harvesting Mr. Bisan Singh Chuphal and Higher education minister Dr. Dhan singh Rawat, Vice Chancellor Doon University and Registrar Doon University for postfacto approval of project from 17th April 2021:**

A joint meeting was conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2021 at residence of cabinet minister Mr. Bisan Singh Chuphal in presence of Dr. Dhan singh Rawat, Vice Chancellor Doon University and Registrar Doon University, program manager and Director of PHD chambers of commerce and industries Uttarakhand. It was decided in the meeting that post-facto approval from July 2020 is not possible due to some legal issues, however a fresh approval can be provided from the date when the tri-party agreement has been signed online. The higher education minister and honorable vice chancellor told us that they will once again send the grant agreement for legal vetting and will approve the project after that. The process took one and a half month and on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 approval to the grant agreement to be executed from SENR Doon University was granted from 17<sup>th</sup> April 2021 the date online tri-party grant agreement was signed.

### **Meeting with Director of PHD chamber of commerce and industries Uttarakhand for linking the farmers with existing food processing industries in Uttarakhand:**

However, our team continued to develop market links with existing food processing industries in Uttarakhand to support the farmers of FPCs during August and September 2021. We conducted

meetings with representatives of Pickle industry, Spice industry and Tomato Catchup industry. We also conducted several rounds of meetings with the flex Food industries Laal Tapper Dehradun for sale of Oregano grown by farmers under the project activity. The total sale was around 1,75,000 of Oregano from Gaja cluster. The fresh Oregano was sold at rupees 17/kg. There were around 132 farmers who sold their produce with the support of this project. Meeting with DHO Tehri was also done with FPC members to link the farmers with state govt. and central govt. schemes of Horticulture department for financial year 2021.

**Formation of farmer group for identification of water source from Van Panchayt for irrigation purposes:**

We have also identified women farmer groups for the identification and use of water resources for vegetable and spices production. After a thorough survey of the Van Panchayat area in seven villages in Tehri-Garhwal, 9 villages in Almora and 8 Villages in Pithoragarh District. our teams in villages have identified water spring which could be used for irrigation and water storage where ever possible. This water will be used for irrigation during the peak summer period when the shortage of water will be acute. We have also initiated process of introducing drip irrigation system in villages with acute water shortage. An Isreali company is helping us to install the drip irrigation system in twenty four villages.

Detail discussion was done on issues that generally hinder the actual work on the ground and ideas were discussed to overcome the problems identified. It was agreed by all stakeholders that the details of each member of FPC and its farm should be recorded at the beginning of the program. It was also agreed that meetings should be arranged in each village for and all farmer members should be made aware of all project activates for maintaining transparency. Based on this meeting a team was formed from the former members of the FPC which went to the villages and held meetings to communicate the mode of operation to fulfill their needs which have been communicated to partner organization by the farmers.

We conducted monthly meetings for four months in each village and mentioned the minute of meeting in the register for record. In the first month the agenda of meeting was identification of farmlands for collective farming inside villages. Because the farmers have small and marginal land holdings entire month the format of exclusion of individual farmer's land for creation for collective farmland was discussed. After finalization of land in the village next meetings was

held In the second meetings groups decides to open the account of self-help groups for fulfilling the guide- lines mentioned in the “Farm Machinery Bank Scheme”. Details of each farmer their land record were collected to be submitted in the bank. President and Secretary of the group were elected by voting process. In the third meeting discussions were focused on the mode of operating the machinery and planning the use of farm machinery inside the clusters. The total number of machineries required for the tilling of entire farmlands in one go was not enough due to limited budget in the scheme in each block. Hence rotation models which was discussed and agreed was based on rotation of machines in the cluster after preparation of land in one cluster. This model will be initially be under consideration for at least one year until additional machineries are claimed after six months in the budget of 2021-22. Identification of crops was also done in these group discussions according to the site conditions. Mode of sharing the income and separation of operation cost from profit was also discussed in detail, to avoid any dispute in future it was decided that groups will have meetings in regular intervals every month to avoid confusion and get details of cluster from the monitoring and reporting teams.

Subsidy forms were filled for each group and the details of land record name of group name of village were filled and the form was verified by Gram Panchayat Vikash Adikari at block office. A supporting letter of the group was issued to the chief agriculture officer for providing subsidy for purchase of farm machinery under the central government funded “Farm Machinery Bank Scheme”. Details of bank account and passbook were presented to the chief agriculture officer in Tehri and to Bhumi Sanrakshan Adikari of Sult, Syeldey and Dwarahat block in Almora district. Photocopy of minute of the meeting of Self Help group were also presented as mentioned in guidelines. Application fees was deposited in the chief agriculture officer’s office at Narendranagar in Tehri and to Bhumi Sanrakshan Adikari of Sult, Syeldey and Dwarahat block in Almora district of all the self-help groups, which is a mandatory step of identification of group by agriculture department for considering the group to provide the subsidy. Attested details of land record were attached with the file for proof as mentioned in the Subsidy form of agriculture department. There after affidavits of each group were prepared on a non-judicial stamp paper affirming that the farmer group is part of a registered farmer producer limited company, and the machinery will be used for collective farming. It was mentioned that the group will not sale out the farm machinery and will abide to all rules and regulations of government for the use of

machinery which shall be provided to the farmer self help group. Name and signatures of all group members were also mentioned in the affidavits.

**Approval of project from Doon University and further process:**

The approval of the project from 17<sup>th</sup> April 2021 was approved by the Honorable Vice Chancellor Doon University and the same was conveyed by Mr. Shobhit Sharma. We have also initiated the process of reimbursement of bills of volunteers and TA, DA of program manager. We have also initiated the process of interview of the team members mentioned in the project budget. We are looking forward to initiate our ground work again from mid November after the Deepawali holidays.

