

Bina's courage rebuilds her house

A mother of two, 27-year-old Ms. Bina Karki, has been struggling to raise her children on her own. In the hopes of a better livelihood, her husband went abroad for employment five years ago. However, he did not send any money back home and has been out of contact. She not only had to go through the pain of missing her husband but now has added responsibility of earning a living.

When Ms. Karki heard about the construction of Dumsebesi irrigation scheme with the support of Chaubise Rural Municipality, Dhankuta/SIP, she was elated as now irrigating her land on time and with adequate water wouldn't be a problem. Moreover, she was excited about the income opportunities that the construction would bring for small farmers and women like her.

With no prior skills and training on masonry, Ms. Karki joined the construction works of the irrigation system as daily wage laborer. " I have learnt reinforcement bar bending, concrete mixing and formwork, all of which are completely new for me. I have earned Rs 42,000 after working for 2 months," she beamed happily.

She has spent some of her earnings on groceries and now plans to spend the rest to install roofing for her house. She has already started collecting wood for this.

Beneficiary focused program supports low-income families in income generation

Ms. Gita Bhujel is a single mother. Her husband passed away 2 years ago and she has been struggling to look after her children, their education and health care needs as she doesn't have any income source. The situation worsened when her son broke his hand after falling from a tree. " I had to take loan from a neighbor for the treatment of my 10-year-old boy and all I have been worried about repaying the loan", said Ms. Bhujel.

The construction of Simle irrigation scheme in Arun Rural Municipality, Bhojpur became a source of hope and relief for Ms. Bhujel as it created an employment opportunity for her. "I have earned Rs 27,500 from working in the construction of the irrigation system and have managed to repay the loan of Rs. 12,000", happily said Ms. Bhujel.



Ms. Gita Bhujel preparing concrete mix for the construction of Simle irrigation canal

Photo Credit: Dharmendra Bahadur Bista