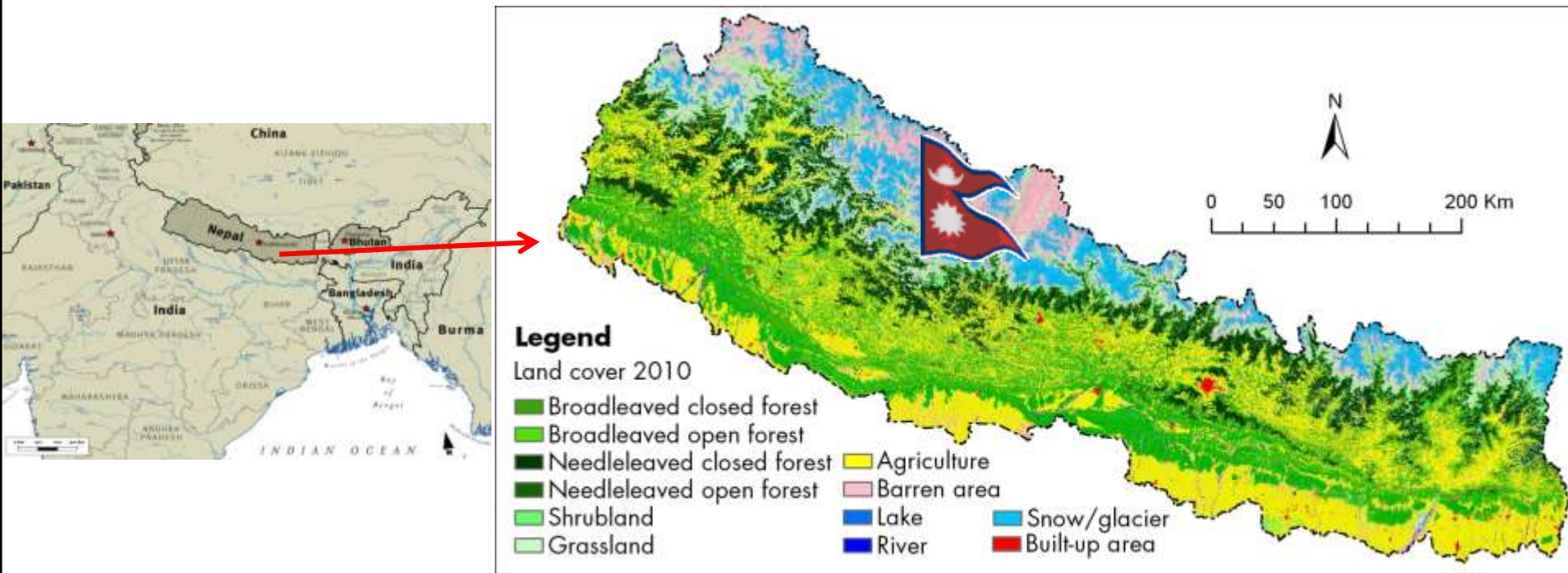


# Farming project in Nepal



Bhaniswor Pokhrel  
Niels Damsgaard Hansen



# Content

- Introduce farming project - Niels
  - Farming system in Nepal
  - Major problems of Nepalese agriculture
  - Solution options of the problems
  - First phase program
  - What is next?
  - Demonstration plot – Bhanu
  - Conclusions - Niels
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# Farming System in Nepal

## Country profile

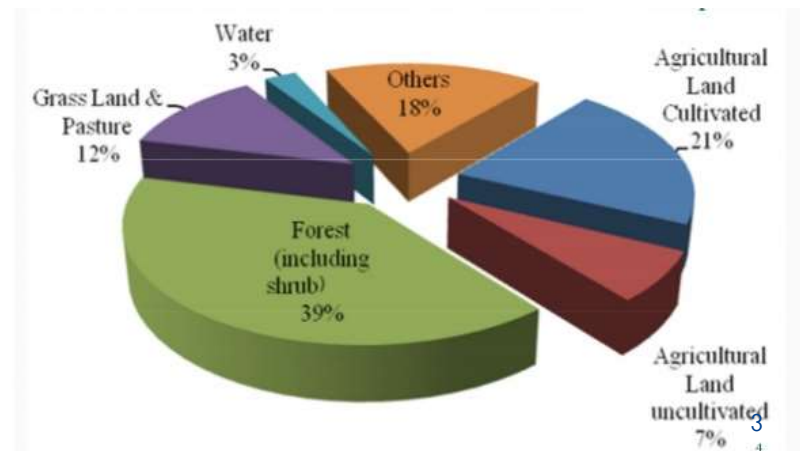
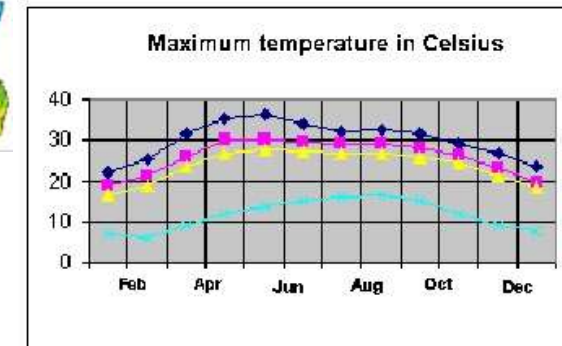
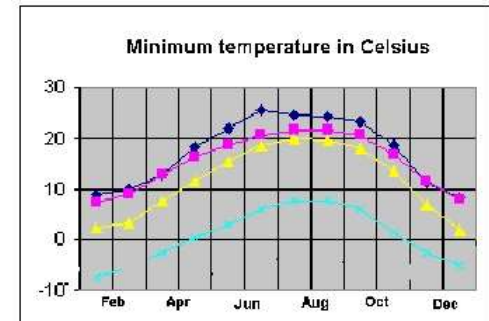
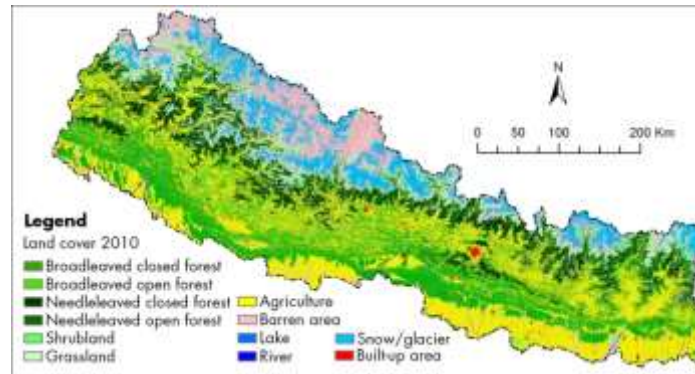
Area- 147181 km<sup>2</sup>

-Mountain – 17%

-Hill – 68%

-Terai – 15%

- Population- 27 million
- GDP - \$ 24.1 billion (2014/6)
- Per capita \$ 837 (2016)
- Export - < \$ 0.7 billion (2016)
- Import - \$ 7.8 billion (2016)



## An overview of agriculture sector in Nepal

**21%**

**Cultivated land**

**60%**

**Population employed in Agriculture**

**33%**

**Agriculture contribute on GDP**

**0.9 hector**

**Average size of holding**

**1.8 billion\$**

**Import of agricultural product**

**0.4 billion \$**

**Export of agricultural product**





## Major food crops and productivity

Crops	Area (000 ha)	Production (000 ton.)	Yield (ton/ha)
Cereals	3480	9563	2.8
Legumes	329	353	1.1
Vegetables	255	3421	13.4
Oilseed	225	195	0.9
Potato	206	2818	13.7
Fruits	110	965	8.8
sugarcane	77	3316	43.1
Spices	58	430	7.5
Total	4740	21061	9.1



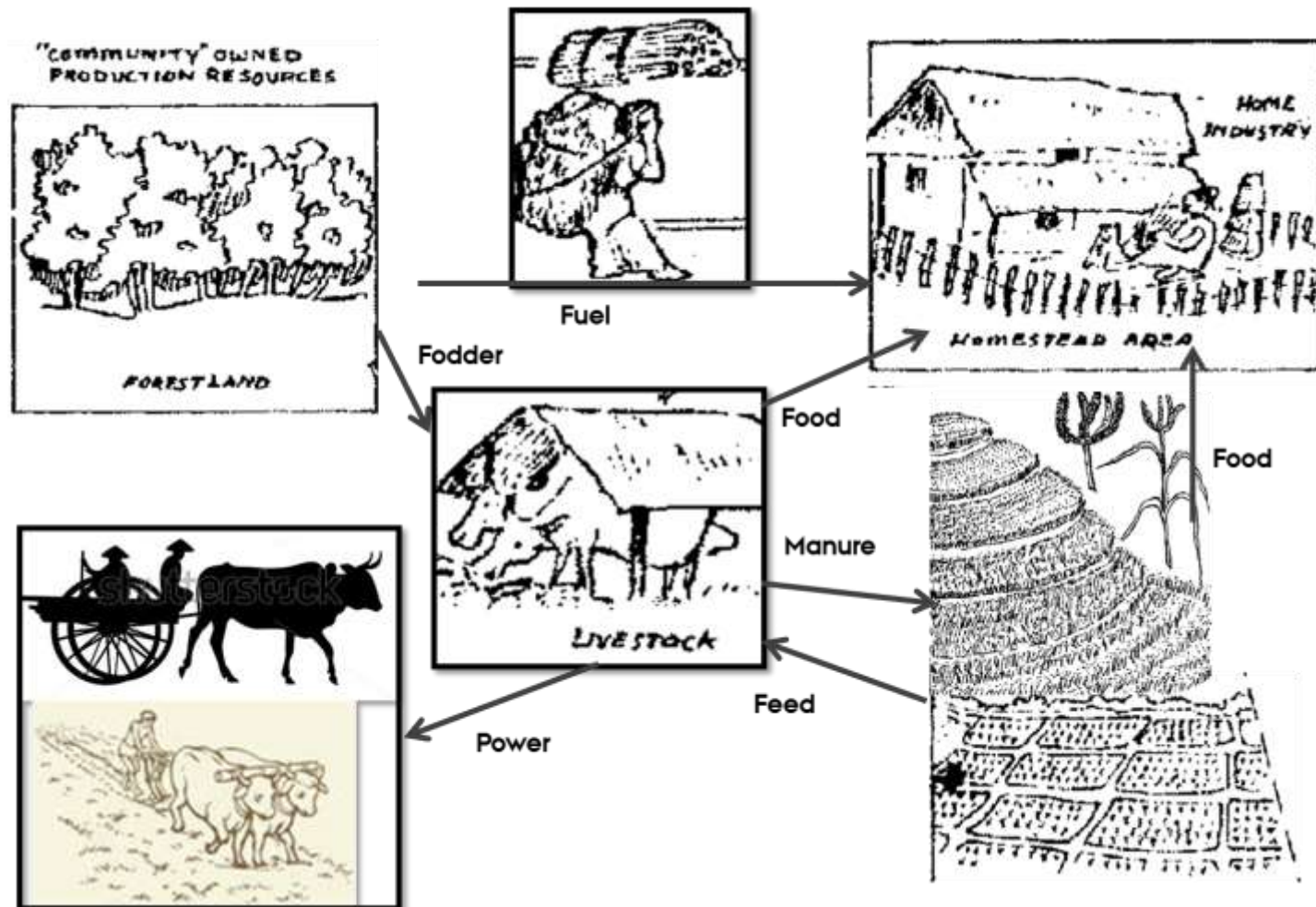
**Productivity of wheat 2.3 ton/ha (in Denmark 8-10 ton/ha)**

## Livestock sector in Nepal

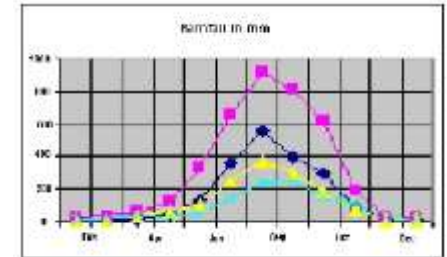
Commodities	Production
Total milk (000 ton)	1700
• Buff milk	70%
• Cow milk	30%
Total meat (000 ton)	298
• Buff	58%
• Goat meat	20%
• Chicken	14.5%
• Pork	6.2%
• Lamb	1%
Wool (ton)	587
Egg ( million)	882.9
• Hen egg	97.5%
• Duck egg	2.5%



## Features of Nepalese Agriculture



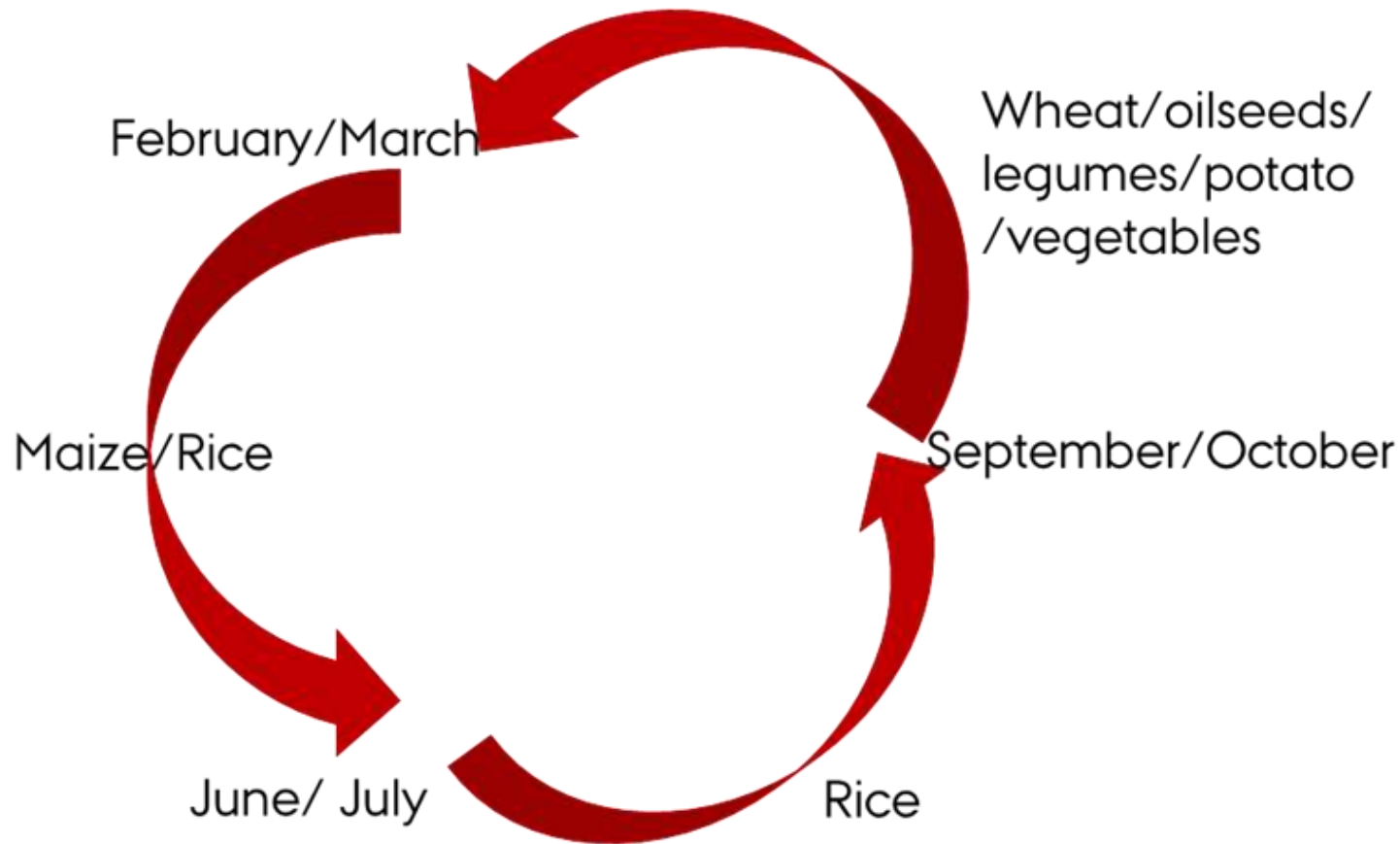
## Features of Nepalese Agriculture



- Monsoon dependent farming, more than 80% rainfall occurs during the monsoon season (June-September)
- Subsistence and crop-livestock mixed farming systems are commonly practiced with domination of small holder farmers
- High crop varieties
- Predominance of food crops
- 70% of farmers used seed from their previous crops
- Low productivity (Cereals **2.8 ton/ha**, milk **700 l/head/year**)
- Poor mechanization



## Cropping cycle



## Crop nutrition

- Animal manure is a major source of crop fertilizers
- 80-90% farmers stored manure in open heaps
- 20-60% of the farmers applied manure in the field at least 10 days before ploughing
- Animal urine is treated as non valuable product
- Great amounts of nutrients lost per unit of manure



## Major challenges faced by Nepalese Agriculture

- **Lack of irrigation**
- **Lack of healthy soil**
- **Lack of technical knowledge**
- Lack of improved cultivar
- Difficult mechanization due to geography and small holdings
- Scarcity of skilled labors due to Nepalese migration for international jobs
- Agriculture is least respected and attractive business in Nepal.
- Open border with India. Agricultural enterprises are uncompetitive due to heavy subsidies for Indian farmers

## Solution options of the problems

- Irrigation – rain water harvesting pond, deep well
- Improve soil fertility through increase soil organic matter
- Improve farm yard manure store and application in the field
- Train farmers to Improve farmer's levels of knowledge
- Change farmers attitude towards improve farming through demonstrating new technology.



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## Frist phase program

### Training and technical support from expert during autumn and winter 2016

- 12 days training about vegetable production during September 2016
- Total participation 12 (3 female and 9 male)
- Seed and technical consultant were provided to farmers by project
- Farmers produced different vegetables in their field under supervision of local expert
- Established one demonstration plot where practical teaching were conducted
- All farmers were actively participated on field practical training



## Participations of vegetables training

S.N	Names
1	Narayan Bastakoti
2	Tirtha Bahadur Sunar
3	Indra Bahadur Poudel
4	Phadindra Puri
5	Rita Dhakal
6	Rita Garja Magar
7	Tilak Adhikari
8	Som Nath
9	Shyam Bdr. Magar
10	Tikaram Subedi
11	Raj Kumari Gurung
12	Yam Badur Magar
13	Hem B. Magar
14	Surya prasad Regmi
15	Dol Bahadur Magar





## Results







## Outcome

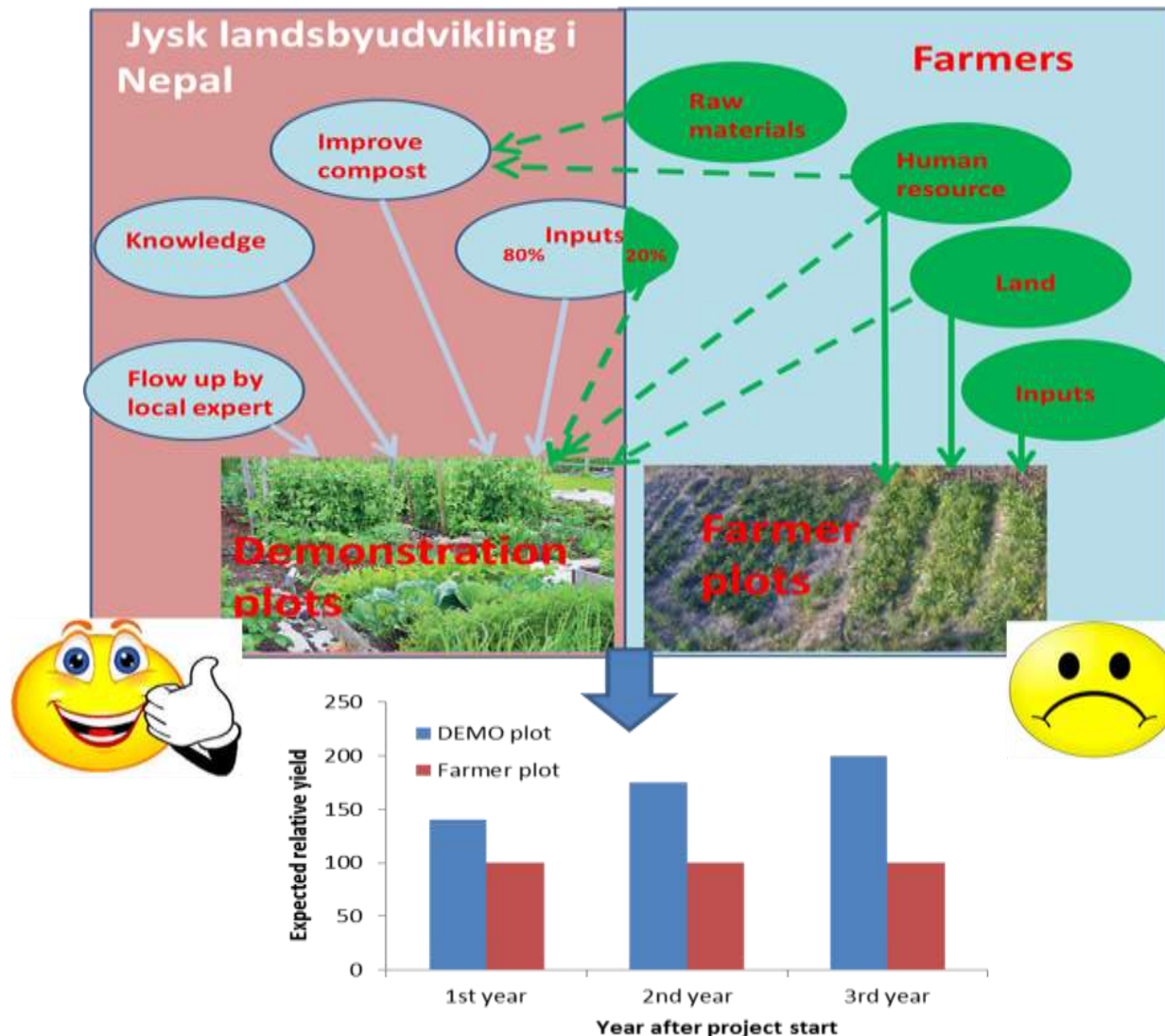
- **Program was fruitful**
- **Farmers are benefited through improving their knowledge on vegetable production**
- **Farmers are excited and waiting for second phase program**

## What to do next:

- Train a group of skilled farmers (some of them participated in the 2016-training)
- Train a group of women (15-20) on a basic level
- Establish 3-5 demo plots in the different villages.
- The demo plots is farmed by the principles of Conservation Agriculture
  - this aims:
    - Produces more with less (less input - bigger output)
    - Uses as much bio-base local resources as possible
    - Enhance the soil fertility by building up more soil carbon
    - Reduces external inputs for crop nutrition and crop protection
    - If needed uses chemical produced fertilizers and pesticides in a safe way



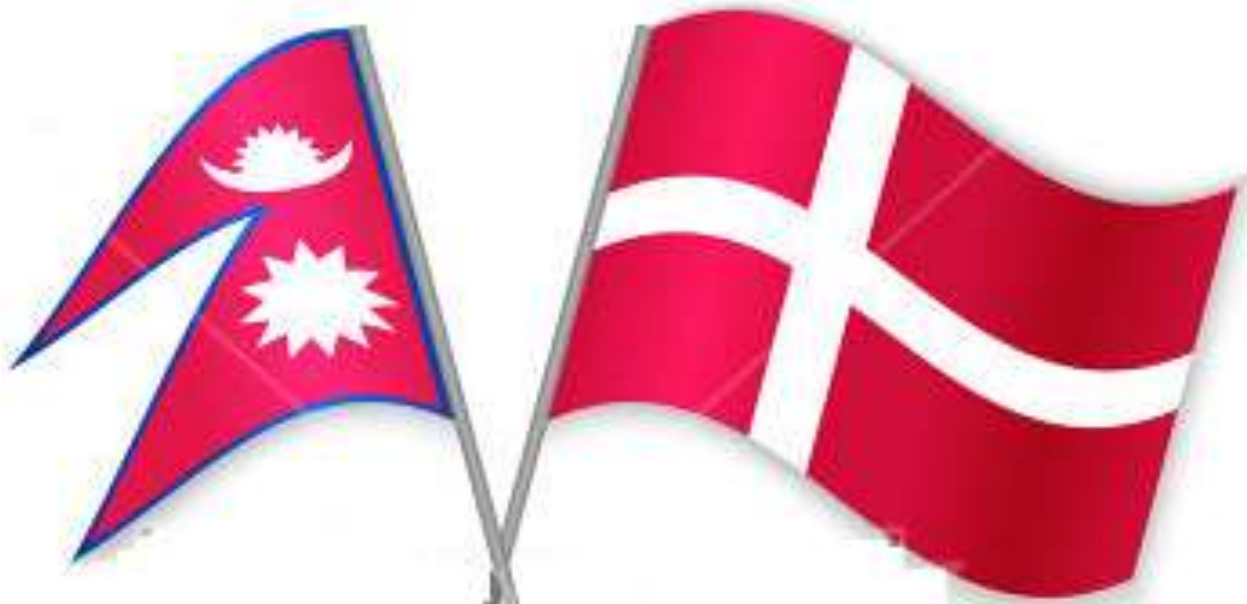
# Concept and expected result of demonstration plot





## Conclusions

- **Low income of Madi valley farmers mainly due to low productivity of land**
- **Need to focus on increased the productivity of food through:**
  1. **Improve soil fertility**
  2. **Improve farmers' technical knowledge**
  3. **Some support on irrigation and improved technology**



*THANK YOU*



