CSRC
आत्मनिर्भर केन्द्र

MONTHLY COMMUNIQUE

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Seven landless families in Lamahi and Gadhawa, Dang, received land ownership certificates. A national dialogue on land and forest ordinance, and a lobby meeting with the chair of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to press for legal reforms and faster certificate distribution.

Farmers like Sita Chaudhary and Dinesh Mahato are showing that climate-smart vegetable farming can bring a steady income. New community mills now serve 366 smallholders.

Civil society groups called for safe reconstruction and resettlement for Bhotekoshi flood survivors. Early Action Protocol workshops and early warning trainings are helping communities get ready for climate-related hazards.

Land ownership certificates handed to landless families

On October 31, 2026, seven landless families received land ownership certificates for 0.22 hectares of land. The distribution was organized by Lamahi Municipality, Gadhawa Rural Municipality, and the Land Issue Resolving Committee (LIRC), in collaboration with



the Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) and UN-Habitat. Two of the recipient families are located in Lamahi Municipality, and five are in Gadhawa Rural Municipality.

The distribution events took place at the Lamahi Municipality assembly hall and the Ward 3 office of Gadhawa Rural Municipality. The Chief District Officer, mayors and deputy mayors, and ward representatives collectively expressed confidence that the distribution of land certificates will accelerate moving forward, supported by local government efforts.



Land Ownership Certificate received families, Dang I Photo: CSRC

Meeting with the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

On October 29, 2026, a joint delegation from the NLRF, CSRC, and NLC met with Ashok Kumar Chaudhary, Chairperson of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, to present a petition regarding communities denied their land rights.

The letter urged the committee to resolve the issues facing landless and informal settlers, amend land laws where necessary, ensure the effective functioning of the Land Issue Resolving Committee, and guarantee the active participation of affected communities in decision-making.

In response, Chaudhary affirmed the government's duty to secure land rights for genuinely landless individuals. He committed to examining existing policy gaps, addressing them through legal amendments, and accelerating the distribution of land ownership certificates.


Delegation to Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Photo: CSRC

Land policy dialogue and book launch

On October 28, 2026, the Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC), the National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), and the National Land Coalition (NLC) hosted a land policy dialogue and book launch. Speakers presented on the recent ordinance concerning land and forests, covering its key provisions, the opportunities it opens up, and the remaining challenges. Community representatives, subject experts, and government officials shared their perspectives and experiences.



Participants of policy dialogue I Photo: CSRC

The dialogue concluded that, while the ordinance creates opportunities to resolve issues facing landless and informal settlers, further policy clarity and reform are essential to guarantee land tenure security. Participants emphasized the need to implement laws effectively, streamline complicated procedures, include affected communities in decision-making, and hold the government accountable. They urged stakeholders to maintain collaborative advocacy so that the suggestions from the event translate into meaningful policy changes on the ground.

The event also featured the launch of the second edition of the late Dr. Mohan Man Sainju's book, 'Budhbare Dekhi Chakupat Samma.'



Launching Budhabare dekhi Chakupat Samma book Photo: CSRC

Meeting on advocacy for Bhotekoshi flood-affected communities

Representatives from various civil society organizations (CSOs) met to discuss joint advocacy for the reconstruction and dignified resettlement of communities affected by the Bhotekoshi flood in Rasuwa and Nuwakot districts. Senior Advocate Raju Prasad Chapagai attended alongside representatives from Amnesty International, JURI, CSRC, NLRF, and NLC. Together, they shared their on-the-ground response experiences and identified key areas for action.

Discussion centered on securing safe housing, restoring land rights, and compelling government support for affected families. Following the meeting, the participating organizations released a joint press statement outlining their shared demands and next steps.

Mini Mills in the Village: Essential Services

The MAFRA-CSA Program, implemented by CSRC and supported by GNI, set out to address local challenges by establishing processing mills directly within the community and creating new income opportunities for residents.

Ten Self-Help Groups (SHGs) received assistance to launch small-scale operations: nine combined rice mills and one flour mill (pulverizer). As a result, 366 local farmers can now process paddy, wheat, and maize close to home. To ensure responsible and long-term operation, the program provided training on machine operation and maintenance, alongside guidance on preparing Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) reports.

These mills serve a dual purpose. Beyond meeting community needs, they function as micro-enterprises for the households operating them, generating steady income while delivering a vital local service.



"I operate the combined rice mill to process cereal grains and provide affordable milling services to members of our group, while charging the prevailing market rate to customers outside the group. The mill has also created a valuable self-employment and income-generating opportunity for me."

Tulsa Chaudhary, Shreenagar Land Rights Forum

Sita Chaudhary Grows Her Income One Market Day at a Time

Sita Chaudhary chairs the Bhanpur Land Rights Farmer Group, and vegetable farming is the backbone of her household's income. She grows seasonal vegetables on about 0.24 hectares of land in Rapti-7, Bhanpur, 0.13 hectare of which she leases. By selling her produce at local markets Bhaluwang three days a week, she maintains a steady stream of sales and earns roughly NPR 18,000 to 25,000 per month.



Sita Chaudhary selling vegetables in a local market. Photo: CSRC

Through technical support from the MAFRA-CSA Program, Sita adopted a suite of climate-smart farming techniques: organic mulching, staking, pruning, 3G cutting, protected cultivation, and drip irrigation. These practices have helped her manage her plots more efficiently while optimizing her land and water use.

Her experience highlights what becomes possible when smallholder farmers gain access to climate-smart methods, make effective use of leased land, and have reliable local markets. For women smallholders, this combination offers a path toward a steadier, more resilient livelihood.



FEATURED STORY

A Small Vegetable Plot Became an NPR 250,000 Harvest

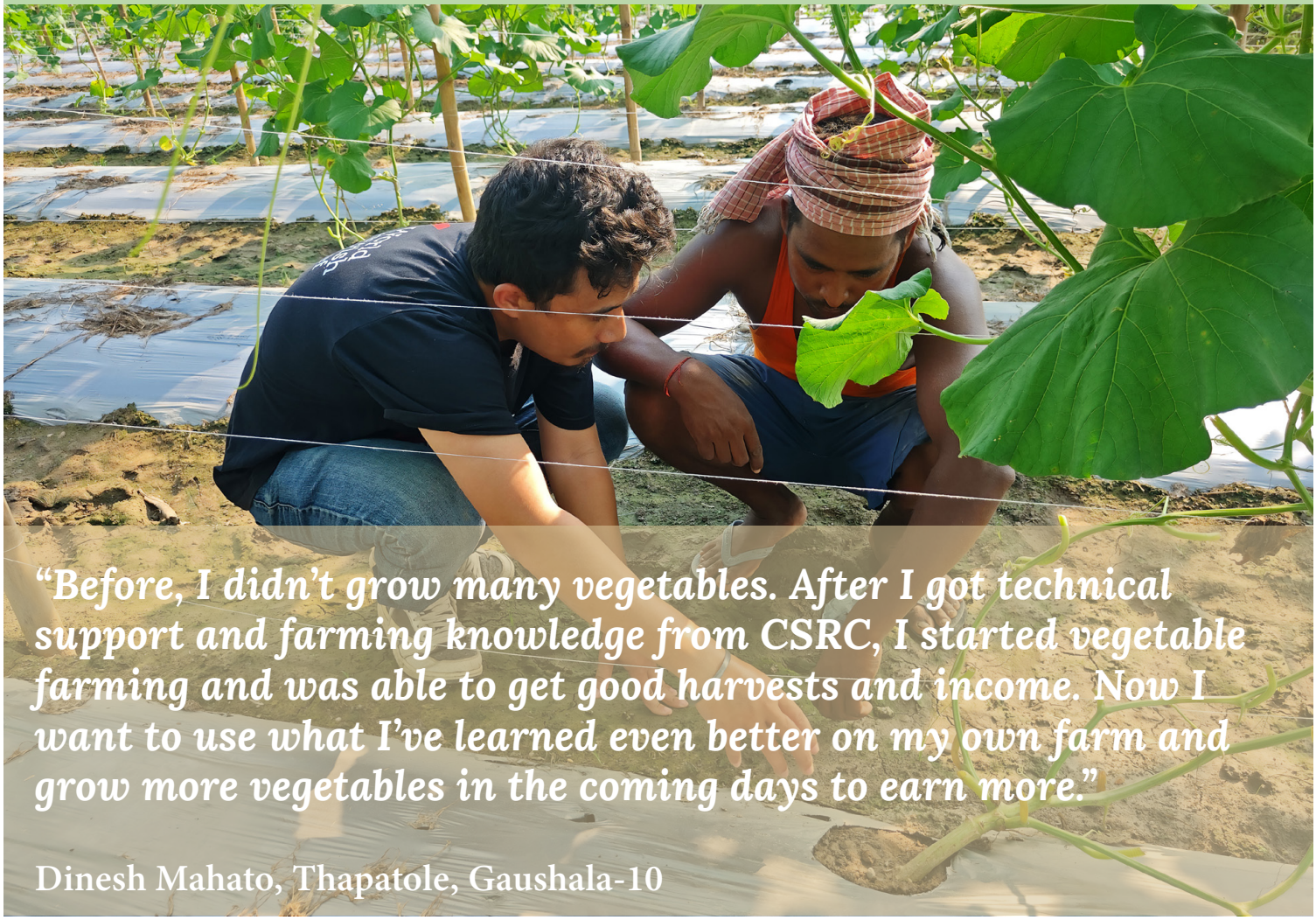
In his second season with CSRC's Climate Resilience Farming (CRF) program, Dinesh Mahato harvested 6,570 kg of vegetables from his land in Thapatole, Gaushala Municipality-10, and sold them for NPR 250,267. It wasn't always like this. For years, the 35-year-old grew mostly paddy, wheat and maize, with vegetables squeezed onto just 0.13 hectare. With a family of six to feed, his earnings barely covered the basics.

The turning point was the technical guidance he received through the program. He began testing his soil before planting, applying fertilizer based on soil needs, and preparing a 0.1-hectare plot as recommended for three crops: cucumber, bitter gourd, and bottle gourd, allocating 0.033 hectare to each. He also started forming beds at fixed intervals and sowing seeds by measurement, reducing seed waste and lowering input costs.

The money is showing up at home. Part of it goes toward school costs for his two sons and his daughter. He also bought a weeding machine, a rake and other tools, which save him time and labor in the field. Next, he plans to farm more land and grow more vegetables for the market.



Bottle gourd field
Photo: CSRC



"Before, I didn't grow many vegetables. After I got technical support and farming knowledge from CSRC, I started vegetable farming and was able to get good harvests and income. Now I want to use what I've learned even better on my own farm and grow more vegetables in the coming days to earn more."

Dinesh Mahato, Thapatole, Gaushala-10

A Community Kitchen for Displaced Families in a Holding Center

CSRC continues to operate a community kitchen and support site management at the Bhimsensthan Holding Center in Majhagaun, Uttargaya Rural Municipality-5. Since September 1, 2026, the center has provided regular meals and essential support to residents displaced by the flood.

This month, 30 displaced individuals from Pahirebesi, Uttargaya Rural Municipality-4, are staying at the center and relying on the community kitchen for daily meals. During Dashain in October, CSRC also provided additional support so that families could celebrate the festival together despite their displacement.

These families still have no permanent place to return to. They remain at the center while awaiting decisions from government authorities regarding both temporary shelter arrangements and long-term relocation.



Members of Community Kitchen preparing for food
Photo: CSRC

Cash in Hand Before Dashain for Flood-Hit Families in Rasuwa

In October, CSRC partnered with People in Need (PIN) to deliver the first round of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to flood-affected households in Uttargaya Rural Municipality, Rasuwa. Out of 746 targeted households, 655 received NPR 15,000 each to help cover immediate recovery costs and basic needs. An additional 330 households received the same NPR 15,000 support through a program backed by Helvetas.

Beneficiaries were selected in close coordination with local governments, prioritizing families who suffered fatalities or have missing members, families who were completely displaced, and displaced households facing high risk.



A beneficiary counting cash
Photo: CSRC

Hands-On Early Warning Training Builds Local Readiness in Kapilvastu

The RAIN Program, in partnership with Maharajgunj Municipality and Yasodhara Rural Municipality, conducted a three-day Early Warning and Early Action training for members of Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs). A total of 29 participants: 6 women and 23 men, took part.

The training focused on building practical skills. Participants learned drafting clear, accessible warning messages and deciding which actions to take and when. The hands-on training coached how to map at-risk households, prioritize the most vulnerable residents, mobilize community resources, and coordinate with local governments, security agencies, health institutions, and schools.

Participants assigned response roles, assisted with safe evacuations, and worked to protect vulnerable households. To test their readiness, the simulation introduced real-world complications, including rising river levels, a mobile network outage, and misleading information.

Astami, a CDMC member from Yasodhara Rural Municipality, shared that the training helped her recognize how timely warnings and early action can significantly reduce property damage and loss.



Engaged participants in Group Work session
Photo: CSRC