

# Success story from Distt. Hamirpur on Fisheries pond constructed under RKVY

**1. Title:** “Strengthening the Weakest”

**2. Category:** Fisheries - Livelihood and additional income.

**3. Challenge:** This story is of a poor farmer from Kasyana village of district Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh. He is 41 years old semi-literate farmer who earns his living partly from agriculture and partly from carriage work through his domesticated ponies. He belongs to a scheduled caste community and is among very low income group people of the state. He approached Department of Fisheries, H.P for fish



Sh. Uttam Chand with his ponies

culture and thereafter decided to take up aquaculture for his additional income.

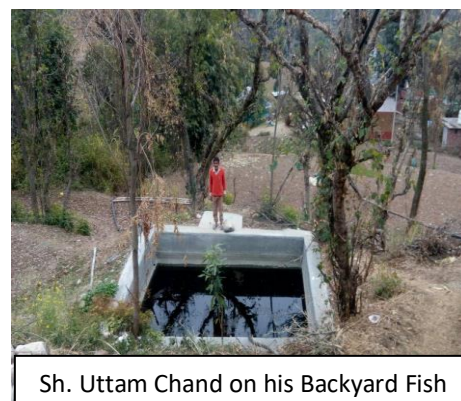


Sh. Uttam Chand in his field

additional income and nutritious cheap animal protein to him and his family.

**4. Initiative:** Beneficiary was provided financial assistance under RKVY. He constructed the pond and raised fish to table size within a

year by investing a meagre amount. Beneficiary and his family were directly benefitted by this activity. Other people of the village are also impressed with the culture and approached Department for construction of ponds and fish culture. Department of Fisheries, Himachal Pradesh provided a financial assistance of Rs. 36,000/- on the total cost of Rs. 1.44 lac under RKVY scheme of Backyard Fish Farming during the year 2014-15 along with technical input.



**5. Key Results/insight/interesting fact:-** House of Beneficiary is at almost 500 m distance from the motor able road. He had to carry all the construction/ other material on his ponies. Water availability was also a problem near his house. So, he used rain water on his rooftop and harvested it for filling the fish pond. This water was used for fish culture. In addition his domestic needs of water like watering plants/ fields, washing clothes etc. were also fulfilled by this backyard fish pond. He is more than happy to construct this pond as it has given him additional income, although to a very less extent. He is selling his fish at a rate of Rs. 200/- per Kg locally to his fellow villagers.

**6. Impact:** The beneficiary has a land of almost 12 kanals (0.7 hectare approx.) which is presently under agriculture. Income from agriculture is quite low as stated by the beneficiary. Now he has decided to uptake fisheries as full time profession and Department of Fisheries, H.P has proposed to cover him under central sector scheme of Blue Revolution. A fish pond of 0.5 ha. area is being proposed under Blue Revolution for the year 2017-18. This land is near a stream of water which is surely going to give better result and income to the farmer.

## 7. Lessons learnt:

- (i) Any financial or technical help is most needed by the down trodden people. We must make whole hearted effort in indentifying them and finally helping them.
- (ii) Biggest challenge is to convince the illiterate and semi-literate farmers to shift from conventional agriculture to fish farming. It was overcome by personal counselling and demonstration.
- (iii) Before advising a person to take over fisheries I would like to organize a demonstration-cum-training camp for the prospected beneficiaries.

## 8. Supporting Quotes and Images:

Beneficiary has two sons who are studying in school. His wife and sons are very happy and enthusiastic regarding fish culture in their upcoming 0.5 ha. fish ponds in 2017-18 under Blue Revolution.



Sh. Uttam Chand with his Wife & Son

## 9. Additional information:

Contact Person for this story.

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**Check list:**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Question to consider</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Is the story interesting to the target audience of the project/activity report?	✓	
2	Does the Story explain what new insights the project brings? What is the main lesson learned from this story? Does the store describe a key insight on what works and what doesn't and something that future project could build on.	✓	
3	Does the Story describe the outcomes the project produced and the people who are benefitting? What changes-in Skill, knowledge, attitude, practice, or policy-has the project brought, and who is benefitting from these changes?	✓	
4	Does the story make a competing point that people will remember? Does the story show how the project makes a difference to improving livelihoods and lessening poverty?	✓	
5	Does the Story provide an interesting fact that people will remember? For example, how much yields increased, how many hectares of land could become more productive from this innovation or technology?	✓	
6	Does the story explain what kind of impact this innovation or technology could have if scaled up?	✓	
7	Does the story show which partners contributed and how?	✓	
8	Does the story include quotes from Stakeholders or beneficiaries?	✓	
9	Have I provide links to other media (Journal articles, website news, newsletter, blogs, annual report of other Programme/Project) that also feature this story?		✓
10	Have I provided the contact details of people who can provide more information?	✓	