



## Progress Report

Project: Living Earth Institute Water and Sanitation Program

Project Reporting Dates: From : May 2013

To: June 2014

Project Leader: Pratistha Kansakar

**Summarize Project** – Include what the deliverable is and who is key in making sure it is achieved

The deliverable of the project is to construct 25 latrine systems using the \$5,000 grant we received from Forix Foundation. Between May to June 2014, we have completed **30 toilets and 11 water wells**, well beyond the reported goal. These projects included other sources of funds in addition to the grant we received from Forix Foundation. We were able to achieve this goal by continuing the construction process even during the rice plantation season of 2013 (monsoon season: June to August). This is unlike other years where construction season typically begins in October and lasts through May every year.

As of June 2014, in addition to the construction work in Rampurwa village, we have invested our resources into building relationships with Birta village, which is nearby our current work site. Construction work in Birta village will start in the month of June with few intermittent breaks to accommodate for the monsoon season. The individual and corporate donations, and revenues from various fundraising activities will fund this project.

**Progress** - List steps which have been achieved and to what end up to the date of this report. List issues that have arisen which may have (or maybe will occur) which will impact, either positively or negatively the outcome of the project.

As of June 2014, the housing of all the toilets have been completed (wall cement plaster and roofing). As mentioned in our proposal, it is the homeowner's responsibility of building the covered structure around the latrine system. This ensures that the each homeowner shares the responsibility responsibility to build and maintain the infrastructure.

LEI maintains supervision of the project until the entire structure is complete (pit, toilet seat, and the housing). LEI plans to revisit these sites to ensure completion of the project. In October 2014, LEI team will be visiting some of the completed sites as part of its regular supervision visits.



**Staffing** - Account for staffing which has affected the project: who is involved, what needs are going unmet, if any, and the dollar cost of any additional personnel required.

At the project site, there are 3 people in total who were directly involved with the execution of the project – one project coordinator and two social mobilizer/community workers. They are mainly responsible for coordinating with the villagers in constructing the latrine systems. We do not foresee any need of additional personnel.

**Budget** - Attach a copy of the original budget and account for what portion has been used on each item. While the 'burn rate' is sometimes heavier at the start of the project, please flag any items which are creating risks for the project or if there has been a need to reallocate funds within the project.

(Budget attached separately)

**Other Funding** - If there are any problems with other sources of funding for the project at this time that should also be noted here.

For LEI, other sources of funding include individual grants, corporate contributions and revenues from fundraising activities. We do not have any problems with other sources of funding.

**Milestones Current** - Discuss milestones and/or actionable items, which have been achieved at the writing of this report. Flag issues, if any, which came up in achieving this goal.

As of June, LEI has completed 130 toilets in Rampurwa village alone. With the construction of 418 more toilet systems, LEI plans to declare Rampurwa Village the first "open defecation free" Village Development Committee (VDC) in Bara District. A VDC is the smallest government territorial unit in Nepal. LEI is the only organization working in this area to help with this movement and we are receiving cooperation from the local VDC government and the district government.

In July 2013, LEI was able to send a volunteer to the site who interviewed members of micro lending groups in nine different villages. Micro lending group is another program that LEI helps run in these communities to ensure that the people have the platform to exercise their autonomy and independence.

**Milestones Future** - List milestones and/or actionable items expected to be completed by the next reporting period. If any complications are expected, raise them here as well as any possible resolutions.

LEI maintains the target of building 288 toilets and 12 water wells in the project year ending in July 2015. We also plan to start a six month long tailoring program, however, as we have had to reallocate our resources into expanding our programs into another village, we will be delaying the training until in July 2015.

**Opinion** - The project leader should include his/her analysis on the overall progress of the project, weigh in with any issues or variations which have occurred or are expected to occur. Include the next date of reporting due, if applicable. Photo inclusions are encouraged whenever possible.

As a project leader, I would say that the overall progress of the project has been remarkable. Building 30 toilets and 11 water wells within the six month time frame is noteworthy. However, there is still a lot more to do.

We have pursued the interest of Birta village of building toilets and plan to continue working both in Rampurwa village and Birta village simultaneously. Most of these families practice open defecation at the moment. Being the only non-profit working in the area to solve the water and sanitation challenges faced by these villagers, it is difficult to keep up with the growing demand as LEI has limited resources in its disposal.

The positive side of the story is that the awareness of importance of sanitation and clean water is gaining momentum. Instead of LEI and our local partner Bikas Bikalpa Sanstha (BBS) approaching other villagers, it is them who are approaching us. This is an accomplishment in itself. However, to sustain the momentum, we also need to increase our capacity in meeting the need.

Although LEI has set quantifiable goals, such as building 288 toilets by July 2015, it is important to remember that these are merely numbers and these do not ensure the success of a project. LEI believes that project success is not determined by the number of toilets built in the community, but is by other income generating programs implemented in the community. These programs include, but are not limited to, tailoring training, micro-lending groups and literacy programs that help empower the communities, which in turn, ensure the sustainability of the project.

An important aspect in designing these income-generating programs is the fact that they have to be initiated by the villagers themselves. In some communities, these programs are easily identifiable and little needs to be done in the initiation front. However, in poorer communities, where minorities are labeled as 'untouchables', it takes more effort to build their confidence and help them identify programs that will make them independent. So far, we have had remarkable enthusiasm from the villagers we have worked with. We will be coordinating tailoring trainings in the coming year. In addition to trainings that LEI conducts, micro lending groups have been exceptionally effective in giving them the autonomy and confidence to get trained in their area of interest. For example, Lalita B.K., who now owns her own little shop and raises chickens in her yard, has taken trainings with the help of the micro-lending group.

LEI has completed the goal of constructing 25 toilets with the grant money received, and this report marks the end of six month reporting period as of May 2014.

**This report should be received within 5 days of the end of reporting period.**

## **Appendix 1:**

### **Budget**

## Bara District- Rampurwa Village Area

### Grant Funds (Forix) Spent March to December 2013

| Goal                                                                                                | Unit Cost | Total Cost | Spent to date<br>(6/1/14) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------|
| Build composting toilets for 25 households<br>And support programmatic costs* associated with that. | \$200     | \$5,000    | \$5,000                   |

*\*Program costs include: Hygiene & sanitation training (25 people); support for women's economic develop program (tailoring training); and stipend for community organizer/social mobilizer.*

Total toilet construction 2013 was over 30 toilets for the Rampurwa Village Area. Eleven community/school-based tubewells were also constructed through funds from LEI donors. Each family toilet system cost includes funding for associated training, organizational oversight, and implementation. Toilets are built on a cost-sharing basis, under which the family provides the labor and bears the cost of local construction material (about 50% of the total cost).

Below are the names and of the families in Bara District who were beneficiaries of the LEI/Forix sponsored composting toilet systems. The Forix grant has provided 25 families and 165 individuals access to safe sustainable sanitation for the first time.

| N | Name                 | No. Of Females in<br>the household | No. Of Males in the<br>household | Total |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Ajay Chaudhary       | 4                                  | 2                                | 6     |
| 2 | Amrit Lal Chaudhary  | 2                                  | 2                                | 4     |
| 3 | Badri Chaudhary      | 3                                  | 3                                | 6     |
| 4 | Bhuwali Chaudhary    | 2                                  | 3                                | 5     |
| 5 | Chandu Chaudhary     | 5                                  | 8                                | 13    |
| 6 | Devaki Prasad Mahara | 2                                  | 3                                | 5     |
| 7 | Dewanand Chaudhary   | 2                                  | 4                                | 6     |
| 8 | Dhiraj Chaudhary     | 2                                  | 2                                | 4     |

| N  | Name                     | No. Of Females in the household | No. Of Males in the household | Total |
|----|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 9  | Gaukaran Chaudhary       | 3                               | 2                             | 5     |
| 10 | Harindra Chaudhary       | 3                               | 1                             | 4     |
| 11 | Hriday Narayan Chaudhary | 1                               | 4                             | 5     |
| 12 | Jagi Ram Chaudhary       | 3                               | 1                             | 4     |
| 13 | Kapil Chaudhary          | 2                               | 6                             | 8     |
| 14 | Kishun Bihari Chaudhary  | 2                               | 4                             | 6     |
| 15 | Laxmi Chaudhary          | 5                               | 3                             | 8     |
| 16 | Maharaj Chaudhary        | 5                               | 2                             | 7     |
| 17 | Mahindra Chaudhary       | 2                               | 2                             | 4     |
| 18 | Mohan Chaudhary          | 3                               | 4                             | 7     |
| 19 | Nagendra Chaudhary       | 8                               | 7                             | 15    |
| 20 | Narendra Chaudhary       | 2                               | 3                             | 5     |
| 21 | Rajaram Chaudhary        | 3                               | 2                             | 5     |
| 22 | Ram Bahadur Chaudhary    | 3                               | 2                             | 5     |
| 23 | Ram Narayan Chaudhary    | 2                               | 3                             | 5     |
| 24 | Shewdhari Chaudhary      | 4                               | 9                             | 13    |
| 25 | Shi Narayan Chaudhary    | 3                               | 7                             | 10    |
|    |                          | 76                              | 89                            | 165   |