

SIP Training Imparted to Technicians in Saptari and Rautahat

With the rising popularity of Solar Irrigation Pumps (SIPs) among farmers, the installations of the same have been gaining momentum over the years. This calls for a need to build the capacity of the local technicians to acquaint them with the various processes of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) services of SIPs to be provided to farmers at large.

IWMI Nepal implemented a one-day training programme focused on operating and maintaining SIP at Kalyanpur in Saptari and Chandrapur in Rautahat from 6-10 December 2021, with support from Quasar Energy Consultants, where 13 and 24 participants were present, respectively. The majority of participants were local technicians, and a few participants represented the local government.

The training session was divided into a two-hour classroom session accompanied by a three-hour field visit to provide the necessary theoretical background combined with hands-on training in the field. A training manual and survey templates were provided to the participants.

Sabal Nepal supported the training programme in Saptari by identifying technicians and arranging training logistics. In addition, participants were quite adept with the technical terminologies of electrical systems. The classroom session was followed by a site visit in Sarpa, near Kalyanpur, where they were provided with a 3-hour on-site demonstration.

In Rautahat, EPC Nepal supported the training by identifying the relevant participants and providing logistical support in the region. The participants were from diverse backgrounds and found the training very informative. A site visit followed this in Katahariya, where participants filled out an O&M checklist and had discussions around the SIP systems.

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The session at both sites concluded with rich post-training discussions, feedback on training, and a certificate distribution ceremony. The two main anticipated outcomes from this training include:

1. Most farmers were struggling to receive the O&M support for their SIP as most technicians are Kathmandu-based, and the timeline of receiving O&M support is very high. They will now have trained local technicians at their disposal to receive quick preliminary O&M support.
2. The local technicians involved in other professions will have an opportunity for additional income becoming SIP technicians and open doors for other entrepreneurship opportunities.

Photos from the field:



*Mr Gautam explaining about SIP systems to the participants in Rautahat
Photo: IWMI Nepal*



*Certificate distribution ceremony at Saptari
Photo: IWMI Nepal*