

I learned to save money and I could buy a circular saw



Every day Mr. S. should walk for long distances to fetch water. Since he has water right next to his house, he has time to develop. His health improved and he is able to save money to facilitate his life and that of his family.

My name is Mr. S., I'm 40 years old, I live in S. village and I have a family with 4 children.

Before the project came working in my village, the life of my family was very difficult because every day I had to walk long distances to fetch water. Each time my walk would take once hour: once in the morning and once in the evening. I used that water to drink, to bath, to wash clothes and to water my garden. That water was really dirty. I was tired and lost a lot of time. My family often fell sick: we had stomach ache, diarrhea, and malaria. We had all these diseases because we drank untreated water from dirty places, since we didn't build fences for the animals, we practiced open defecation and we didn't use soap. All these things made me very poor.

Since the project came working in my village, I have developed many activities. The gravity fed water system built near my house is convenient to use water, to use latrines, to wash our equipment and our clothes at the same time. I have a nice garden right next to my house with a lot of nice vegetables and I have fruit trees. I eat a lot of fruits. And since I know how to raise animals, I can regularly eat food from each of the 5 families food.

Now all the villagers and I clean our village and use soap to wash our hands. I and my family don't have diseases and we don't lose money. I learned to save money and I could invest in a circular saw to build my house. My wife doesn't lose all her strength with her work as before. Now the villagers and my family are very happy.

I am proud, I am head in my village



Mrs. N. didn't have much knowledge. After the project work in her village, she learned a lot and specifically how to develop. Now she uses all her knowledge to improve her life and help the villagers to develop.

My name is Mrs. N., I'm 24 years old, I live in K. village and I am not married yet.

Before the project came working in my village, I didn't have knowledge or techniques: my lifestyle was not healthy and I often fell sick.

When the project arrived, I started helping and working on the leading board in the agriculture team. I learned a lot: I finally had enough knowledge to improve my life. I started farming the land, raising animals and I often went to trainings and followed the village education delivered by the project technicians.

Now I am proud because I am the head of my village. I collect data, I write a lot more, and I transmit information to the villagers (from the district, the province and the project). The villagers also have more knowledge, which allows them to plant more vegetables that they can sell in the market. I am happy to be able to help poor families: their life is better than before.

My rice production multiplied by four



Mrs. L. used to lose a lot of time, energy and money for only a few bags of rice. Since the project came to explain the technique to cultivate a rice field, she trusts them: she followed the advice of the technicians about rice production and increased her own production.

My name is Mrs. L., I'm 36 years old, I live in A. village, I'm married and I have two children.

Before the project showed me how to plant rice, my family would just do as usual and follow the traditional technique. I would sow seeds too close to each other and when I transplanted my rice, I would put too many sprouts together: I would use 10 of them for a single seed pocket. The sprouts did not look good. During harvests, I would only get 20 bags of rice. I didn't know the proper way to produce rice, so I lost a lot of time, strength and money for only a few bags of rice.

Then, the Community Agriculture Development Project came to work in our village. They answered our questions and explained us how to grow rice in our paddy fields. Then I spaced out my seeds when I sowed them. The sprouts were big and splendid. And when I transplanted my rice, I only used between 1 and 3 sprouts for a seed pocket. We had been taught indeed that using fewer sprouts together will allow them to grow properly and that there would be much rice to harvest. In the same field, then I harvested 96 bags of rice: my rice production was multiplied by four.

Now, my family knows the proper way to produce rice in our paddy fields: I had a lot of rice in the same field by only transplanting 1 to 3 sprouts. Now I trust the project, the trainings and the teachings delivered by the technicians to the villagers.

There is more harmony in my family



Mrs. D. was always tired due to her hard daily work. Since she got water right next to her house, she has strength to take good care of her family.

My name is Mrs. D., I'm 33 years old, I live in S. village, I am married and I have 3 children.

Before the project, my family was very poor: every day, I had to walk long distances to fetch water. I would go up and down hills, I spent a lot of time to get dirty water and I was tired because the garden I had to water was big and I worked a lot more than my husband. I would weed my upland rice fields, transplant the rice in my paddy field, go to fetch water in the river, cook for my family, and when I took care of upland rice fields, I would still look after a garden I had to water. And the next day I would start all over again. I was tired, I did not have time to clean my house or to boil water and my family would always fall sick: I wasn't happy at all.

Then the project came in my village, we were taught by the technicians, a gravity-fed water system was built next to our house, which made the use of clean water practical. I followed their advice to have a clean house, I got latrines that I use, I have a garden with nice vegetables next to my house and I have a water filter that allows me to have drinkable water all the time.

Now we have an easier life than before and there is more harmony in my family. My house is pleasant because I have time to rest and take care of my family. My husband helps me a lot more than before with work: he cooks, he goes to fetch water and we like to go to meetings together.