

Dr. Rajendra Uprety, PhD

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Nationality: Nepali

KEY EXPERTISE

- ❖ Agriculture research, agriculture intensification and livelihood development
- ❖ Agriculture technology innovation, integration and dissemination
- ❖ Business plan development and agriculture value chain management
- ❖ Intensive rice farming technology including System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method
- ❖ Cereals and vegetables based crop management and seed production
- ❖ Farmers group/cooperatives development and management
- ❖ Program planning, monitoring and evaluation
- ❖ Irrigation management and plant nutrient management
- ❖ Agriculture mechanization
- ❖ Conservation agriculture, organic farming and climate-smart agriculture
- ❖ Training and capacity development
- ❖ Qualitative and quantitative data analysis.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Agriculture): Research on **Agricultural intensification in Nepal, with particular reference to systems of rice intensification (2016)**. Wageningen University, the Netherlands.

M.Sc. (Agriculture Extension): Thesis on **Factors Influencing Participation of Members in Farmers Group Activities in the Sunsari District of Nepal**. (2000-2002). Tribhuvan University, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Chitwan, Nepal.

B.Sc. Agriculture (Plant breeding and Agronomy): (1987-1990). Tribhuvan University, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Chitwan, Nepal.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperative, Province-1, Nepal

Chief, Food Security and Agribusiness Promotion Division

July 2019

- Spokesperson of the ministry.
- Food security and agribusiness promotion.
- Resource mobilization (>10 Millions USD annually) and coordination.
- Promoted Agriculture-mechanization, climate-smart agriculture.
- Need assessment, program planning, result-based monitoring and evaluation.
- Problem-focused interdisciplinary field research.
- Voucher based grant management collaboration with SDC and Caritas/Nepal.
- Lead Province level stakeholder consultation workshop on "Climate -smart Agriculture Investment Plan" organized jointly by the FAO-Nepal and World Bank.
- Focal person of ACIAR/CIMMYT funded Roadmap project.

ADB/Egis Eau-ISEWP (Improving System Efficiency and Water Productivity) project, Sri Lanka

International Agriculture Specialist

2 months (Oct-Nov 2019)

- Support Pilot demonstration programs with professional experience gained from other countries.
- Review the Maha (major) 2019/20 season's cultivation plans and advice to improve them.
- Advice with new technologies and practices adopted in other countries to save water, reduce labor and increase productivity and returns.

Agribusiness Promotion Support and Training Center, Province-1, Nepal

Chief

10 months

- Coordination and facilitation of agriculture training for > 1100 (extension workers and farmers) on
 - Bee-keeping
 - Plant propagation techniques and nursery management
 - Organic farming
 - Organic manure, vermi-compost, bio-fertilizers production
 - Protective agriculture and hydroponic technology
 - Rice, maize, potato cultivation technique and seed production.
- Training need assessment
- Explore agri-business possibilities and promoting
- Facilitation linkage between farmers/producers and market/traders/processors
- Technology innovation and dissemination

Freelance consultant (short-term)

> 10 years

- Technology innovation development and dissemination.
- Sustainable agriculture intensification and mechanization.
- Climate smart agriculture including System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method.
- Training and capacity development.
- Program planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Regional Agriculture Directorate, Biratnagar, Nepal

Senior Agriculture Extension Officer/Acting Regional Director

> 2 year

- Supervision and monitoring of regional agriculture development programs implemented by the 16 District Agriculture Development Offices within eastern development region Nepal.
- Coordination and collaboration with development partners (GOs/NGOs/Private sectors).
- Spoke-person of the directorate.

Department of Agriculture, (Okhaldhunga, Jhapa and Morang districts) Nepal

> 6 years

Senior Agriculture Development Officer

- Lead program planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Supervise (technical/administrative) 49 staffs and financial management of > one million US\$ annual budget.
- Promotion of agriculture mechanization.
- Program collaboration and coordination with GOs/NGOs/Private sector.
- Lead different mission programs (fine and aromatic rice, stress-tolerant rice varieties promotion with IRRI, fish, vegetables, bee-keeping, mushroom, maize and soybean, oilseed seed production)
- Chairperson of district project appraisal committee assigned for the project selection, funded by Commercial Agriculture Development Project, Nepal (project funded by ADB, Manila).
- Chairperson of multi-stakeholders district project coordination committee assigned for the local level project selection and investment, funded by Sustainable Soil Management Program-SSMP (project funded by SDC Switzerland).
- Training coordinator-"Training of IPM/FFS facilitators"; jointly organized by National IPM program-FAO/Plant Protection Directorate, DADO Jhapa and FAO from 6-17 December 2010 at DADO Jhapa.
- Resource person (SRI) of Curriculum Development Workshop for officer level IPM/FFS TOT, 8-11 February 2011, PPD/DOA and ERCU/FAO Lalitpur, Nepal.
- Training facilitator-"Season long officer level IPMTOF on rice", jointly organized by Plant Protection Directorate/National IPM program in Nepal and EU Food Facility Project (GCP/NEP/065/EC) from 29 March to 06 July 2011) at Agriculture Development Bank Limited, Central Region Training Center, Birendranagar, Chitwan, Nepal.
- Coordinate training and demonstration on cereals and vegetable (fresh and seed) production, fruit orchard management (citrus).
- Facilitation of Farmers Field School (FFS).

Regional Agriculture Training Centers, Eastern and Western Region, Nepal. 1.75 Year
Senior Agriculture Extension Training Officer

- Coordination and facilitation of different type's agriculture, climate change adaptation, Farmers Field School TOT and management training conduct for agriculture extension personals and farmers.
- Administrative and financial control of the training center and supervise 18 staffs and activities.

Department of Agriculture, (Sunsari and Morang districts), Nepal. 10 years
Agriculture Extension Officer

- Leads System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Promotion **Project funded by Nepal Development Marketplace 2005 Award organized by The World Bank.** It was conducted in Morang and Panchthar (hill) districts and trained more than 2400 farmers and disseminate SRI nationwide.
- Coordinated agriculture extension program of Second Sector Irrigation Project (SSIP), Shallow Tube-well Irrigation Project (CSTIP) and Sunsari Morang Irrigation Project (SMIP).
- Advised and facilitated agriculture mechanization program implemented by domestic airlines Buddha Air in Morang district
- Coordination agricultural training.
- Program planning, monitoring & evaluation.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES

Agriculture Research and Extension Project, Kathmandu, Nepal One year
Planning and Monitoring Officer

- Program planning, monitoring and reporting at Project Coordinator Unit of World Bank funded (30 million US\$) Agriculture Research and Extension Project (AREP).
- Project selection and investment.
- Coordination of AREP research and extension program.

Nepal Agriculture Research Council (NARC), Dhankuta, Nepal. 4 Year
Horticulture Scientist

- Conduct trial on Fruit (especially citrus), nursery, and Fruit storage.
- Fresh Vegetable and Vegetable seed production.
- Potato seed production from TPS and tissue-culture mini tuber.
- Master trainer of horticulture training.
- Citrus extension service in the command area of research station.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

UNDP, Zambia One Year
Irrigation Specialist

- Project planning, guide and monitor project activities.
- Promoting viable innovative technology on irrigation and crop management.
- Produce irrigation management and crop management training materials.
- Trained 64 government officers and more than 1124 farmers of southern province of Zambia on different irrigation management methods, water lifting devices and production technology of different crops (rice, maize and vegetables) in the context of climate change.

IRRI, Los Banos, Philippines(December 2017) to present seminar and attained interview for the position of **IRRI Country-representative Nepal.**

Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry, Thai Nguyen City, Vietnam.
International training participant

Wageningen University, Netherlands (21 months during 2007-2012)
PhD candidate at Knowledge Technology and Innovation group, Social Science Department

Maejo University, Chiang Mai, Thailand (one month-2004) *International training participant*

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

Relevant Trainings

- **Digital Transformation for Agriculture. May 12- June 30, 2021.** Dimitra Academy www.dimitra.io
- **Sustainable Investment in Agriculture: Executive Training Program. June 12-25, 2021.** Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment. New York, USA.
- **Agricultural Risk Management Tools. May 2020.** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations E-Learning Center.
- **Agricultural risk management strategy, policy and mainstreaming. May 2020.** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations E-Learning Center.
- **Climate Change: from Learning to Action. May 2020.** United Nation Institute for Training and Research and The One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership.
- **Introduction to Green Economy. May 2020.** United Nation Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE).
- **SDG Indicator 2.4.1 - Sustainable agriculture. May 2020.** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations E-Learning Center.
- **Conservation Agriculture-based Sustainable Intensification (a six weeks online course).** March 2020. Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), IIT Kanpur, India Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada and Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur.
- **Agriculture Technologies and Sustainable Development in Agriculture.** 14-19 July 2017. Organized by Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry, Thai Nguyen City, Vietnam.
- **e-Learning- Sustainable Agricultural Land Management Projects: Soil Carbon Monitoring:** 24 November- 12 December 2014. The World Bank Group.
- **Philosophy and Ethics of Food Science and Technology:** February-March, 2008. Organized by the VLAG Graduate School in co-operation with Wageningen University, The Netherlands.
- **Long-term dynamics of food and human development:** 15-22 February 2008. Organized by Wageningen Graduate Schools, Wageningen University, The Netherlands.
- **Project Proposal Writing:** 27-31 December, 2004. Organized by Agriculture Training Directorate, Department of Agriculture, Hariharbhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal.
- **International Training on Agricultural Resources Management.** 27 June to 26 July 2004. Organized by DETC/Thailand and Maejo University, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- **Training of Trainers:** 24 March to 4 April 2003. Organized by Central Agriculture Training Center, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **Management Skill Development:** 16-20 June 1998. Organized by Agriculture Project Service Center (APROSC) and Community Shallow Tube-well Irrigation Project (CSTIP), Biratnagar, Nepal.
- **Seed Production and Supply:** 7-12 September 1997. Organized by Central Agriculture Training Center, Kathmandu, Nepal.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Nepal Agriculture Society, Nepal Agriculture Extension Society, SRI International Network and Research Center/SRI-RICE (<http://sri.ciifad.cornell.edu/>), Nepal SRI Network, SRI India, Nepal Red Cross Society, Development Marketplace, Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS), Nepal Krishi Company

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATION

- **Extension policies and reforms in Nepal: an analysis of challenges, constraints, and policy options.** In Agriculture Extension Reforms in South Asia: Status, Challenges and Policy Option. Edited by Babu and Joshi. 2019. Elsevier Inc.
- **Hybridizing technology: The case of rice farming in Nepal.** Oral presentation (15th October 2018). In 5th International Rice Congress 2018. 15-17 October 2018, Singapore.
- **Low rice yield and varieties and fertilizer use situation in Nepal.** Oral presentation (17th October 2018). In 5th International Rice Congress 2018. 15-17 October 2018, Singapore.

- **Rural Change in the Kosi River Basin: A Capital Goods Perspective.** 2017. Working paper. Biggs, S.; Sharma, A.; Justice, S. and Uprety, R.
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3194417
- **Agricultural intensification in Nepal, with particular reference to systems of rice intensification.** 2016. PhD dissertation. Wageningen University, the Netherlands
- **Knowledge and Skill for Change: Leasehold Vegetable Farming a Case Study of Landless Poor People from Nepal.** 2016. *Advances in Plants & Agriculture Research, Volume 4 Issue 4.*
- **Getting the most nutritional value out of the farm.** 2014. LEISA India, December 2014.
- **Farmers in focus: Nutrition from diversity** Farming Matter, December 2014.
- **Hybridizing Technology: The case of rice farming in Nepal.** 2013. Landscapes Blog for People, Food and Nature. 8th May 2013. http://blog.ecoagriculture.org/2013/05/08/sri_nepal/
- **Learning from farmers.** 2013. Farming Matter 29.1, March 2013, The Netherlands.
- **Participatory learning for technology shaping and its dissemination: a case from Nepal.** 2011. Extension Farming System Journal, Volume 7, Number 1, Australia.
- **SRI: A new opportunity to reform rice farming system in Nepal.** Poster presented during national conference of Agriculture Development Strategy Planning, 29-30 November 2011, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **Meshing mechanization with SRI methods for rice cultivation in Nepal.** Oral paper presented at the 3rd International Rice Congress, 8-12 November 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- **Irrigation management systems and their effect on agriculture and livelihood in Nepal.** 2010. In the proceeding of Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems (FMIS) Promotion Trust, Nepal 5th International Seminar on Dynamics of Farmers Managed Irrigation Systems: Socio-institutional, Economic and Technical Contest. 25-26 March 2010, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **The large impact of a small article.** 2009. LEISA, Volume-25, No-1, The Netherlands.
- **System of Rice Intensification (SRI): Experiences of Nepal.** Extended summary of 3rd National Symposium on SRI in India: Policies, Institutions and Strategies for scaling up. 1-3 December 2008, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore, India. Organized by WWF, Government of India, and other organizations.
- **Growing much more rice:** Nepal can easily boost paddy productivity and be self-sufficient again in Nepali TIMES, 24 October 2008.
<http://www.nepalitimes.com/issue/2008/10/24/Nation/15323>
- **SRI takes root in Nepal.** 2006. LEISA, Volume-22, No-4, The Netherlands.
- **The System of Rice Intensification (SRI): A good alternative for increasing irrigated rice cultivation and its productivity in Nepal.** 2006. In the proceedings of the Farmer Managed Irrigation Systems (FMIS) Promotion Trust, Nepal Fourth International Seminar on Irrigation in Transition: Interacting with Internal and External Factors and Setting the Strategic Actions. 6 and 7 November 2006, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **System of Rice Intensification (SRI) a new method of rice cultivation: Experience in Nepal.** 2006. in Abstracts of 26th International Rice Research Conference, 9-13 October 2006, New Delhi, India.
- **Economic analysis of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method in Morang district of Nepal, main season-2005.** Agricultural Development Journal, Vol.3, No.3, DOD, Directorate of Agricultural Training.
- **Extension under a political insurgency: Gaining approval of Maoist rebels in Nepal,** 2006. Proceedings of the 2006 APEN International Conference, 3-6 March 2006, Beechworth, Victoria, Australia.
- **SRI Performance in Morang 2005.** System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Workshop, organized by ICIMOD/PARDYP-Nepal, 19 December 2005.
- **Performance of SRI in Nepal.** 2005. LEISA, Volume 21 no.2, The Netherlands.
- KrishakkoSathi (Farmer's Friend) monthly Newsletter publish by District Agriculture Development Office, Morang (Editor) from 2003-2008.
- Several other technology booklets, posters, technical papers have been published in different magazines and newspapers.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS ATTENDED

- **5th International Rice Congress 2018.** 15-17 October 2018, Singapore.
- **Workshop to Enhance Cooperation and Sharing among SRI National Networks in Asia.** 18-19 October 2018, .The Leverage Business Hotel-Skudai, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.
- **2nd Taian Business Trips for Foreign Experts.** 7-9 September 2017, Taian City, Shandong Province, China. (Two letters of Cooperation Intention were signed).
- **Agricultural Extension Reforms in South Asia–Status, Challenges, and Policy Options.** Organized by IFPRI South-Asia, on February 17-18, 2015, NASC, Pusa, New Delhi, India.
- **Workshop on Smallholder Crop Production Equipment for the System of Rice Intensification (SRI).** 1-3 November 2014. Organized by SRI-Rice (Cornell University) and Asian Centre of Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Intensification (ACISAI) at the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand.
- **4th International Rice Congress 2014.** 27 October -1 November 2014, Bangkok, Thailand.
- **Workshop on Building Alliances around SRI and Agro-Ecology.** Organized by Oxfam and SRI-Rice. 27-28 October 2014, at the Maple Hotel, in Bangna, Bangkok, Thailand.
- **5th World Conference on Conservation Agriculture.** 26-29 September 2011, Brisbane, Australia.
- **3rd International Rice Congress 2010 on "Rice for Future Generation.** 8-12 November 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- **Open source biology' and related legal, technological and development issues.** 25 February 2008. Seminar presented by Prof. Jack R Kloppenburg, Rural Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wageningen University & RC, the Netherlands.
- **Enovation System in Agriculture and Beyond.** 11 January 2008. Seminar organized at Wageningen University and Research Center, The Netherlands.
- **Discussion meeting world development report 2008 "Agriculture for Development".** 18 December 2007. Wageningen International Center (WICC), Wageningen, the Netherlands.
- **Poverty traps and social protection.** 28 November 2008. Seminar presented by Prof. Michael Carter, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wageningen University & RC, the Netherlands.
- **International Workshop on Water for Food in Pokhara, Nepal** from May 5-10, 2007. Organized by Helvetas, Switzerland.
- **CPWF International Forum on Water and Food.** 12-17 November 2006, Vientiane, Laos.
- **2nd International Rice Congress 2006,** Organized by International Rice research Institute (IRRI), 9-13 October 2006, New Delhi, India.
- **System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Workshop,** organized by ICIMOD/PARDYP-Nepal, 19 December 2005.

SKILLS/LANGUAGES/GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERIENCE:

Computer Skills: Microsoft office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher), Email/internet, SPSS

Languages: Nepali (mother tongue); English (fluent); Hindi (professional proficiency), Urdu (basic), Maithili (basic).

Countries of work experience and visited: Nepal, Zambia, Netherlands, Thailand, India, Australia, Vietnam, Laos, Belgium, France, Germany, China, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Malaysia.

REFERENCES:

- Dr. Yubak Dhoj GC
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Global SRI adviser, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA. Email: ntu1@cornell.edu