Munuwa and Janakinagar VDCs are located eastern part of Kailali district where the Lutheran World Federation-Nepal in partnership with Digo Bikash Samaj Kailali initiated work with marginalized and oppressed households for their social empowerment, food sufficiency, income generation and poverty reduction. The village has mostly inhabitants of marginalized and indigenous ethnic Tharu households who rely mostly on agricultural labor and seasonal migration for meeting their food requirements, education, health treatment and other basic needs. Because of the limited land they own and little access to resources, they have limited opportunity for income. They suffer year-round food-insufficiency which enforces them to do seasonal migration and work for daily wages. They were little aware even of basic services from the local government and have poor information on production resources, and little access to markets and better new technology.

Most of the areas of these VDCs are flood-affected and have high land erosion in every year.

After the PEACE project under Nepal Development Program intervention, a social survey was done to identify the most marginalized and vulnerable households. Six-month-long empowerment education was launched in the community, organizing the households into groups which focused on literacy improvement and social women was assessment supported income and income orientation

System of for paddy interaction farmers

techology where they planted 51 Kattha (1.7 hectares) of land. They were provided improved paddy seeds (Radha-4 variety), fertilizers, equipment and technical support.

Process for SRI technology adopting:

- Variety of paddy: Radha-4, improved
- SRI paddy farming training and seed support to 30 members who cultivated 51 katthas of land.
- Paddy seedling production in nursery - 10 days.
- Seedlings and row distance: 30 by 30 centimeters

Quantity of seed and fertilizer per kattha:

- Seed: 250 grams
- Compost: 400 kg
- Fertilizer: 120:80:60 NPK
- Urea: 6 kg
- DAP: 3 kg
- Potash: 1.5 kg
- Zinc: 0.5 kg
- Plantation date: 2071/02/25
- Harvesting date: 2071/05/26
- Average production per kattha: 230 kg
When farmers initially adopted the SRI technology, they did not have confidence it would bring success. But in the farmer field schools they saw that this new methodology for paddy farming could bring growth quickly and saw high fruiting. They followed the technology what they received regular mobilization and technical coaching by a field technician of the local implementing partner DBS Kailali.

They produced 11.50 metric tons (225 kg per Kattha) of paddy rice. Compared traditional methods with the new SRI technology in the same area, farmers succeeded to produce 95 kg surplus more than the old methods. The total production of paddy contributed at least an additional three months of food sufficiency to the farmers. The chairperson of the Jan Chetana farmers group, Munuwa, says that “In the beginning, we did not believe the SRI technology with its planting only ten days young seedlings, but its high production brought happiness to her family.” These farmers will encourage adopting SRI technology for other group members as a way to attain food sufficiency. They also have planned to expand the new methods to additional land and to extend ot farmer to farmer.