

Satoshi Mori

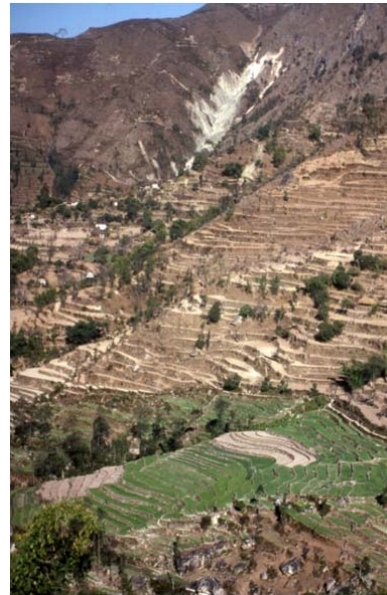
Satoshi Mori was an agriculturalist working in RDC, Pokhara. After some time he was transferred to Okhaldhunga district to work with farmers there.

Instead of having a project plan or offering technical trainings as was the culture and custom, Satoshi settled his family in the small village of Umbu and just lived there. It looked like he was doing nothing at all. There was no plan and no trainings given. A year passed. Satoshi spent his time sitting in the local tea shops listening to farmers and visiting with his neighbors in the VDC.

After a year, Satoshi really understood what the farmers challenges were like in that area. And the farmers knew Satoshi and his family and what he had to offer them. There was trust and friendship and real understanding. Then only did Satoshi start the agricultural work as we would recognise it. In contrast to the hierarchical plans of UMN, Satoshi worked in an adhocracy, seeking to find the best solution to the specific challenges of that area in ways meaningful to the local residents, rather than in ways that met organisational rules and deadlines.

It is no surprise that the church that also grew up there was one of the first in Nepal to found an NGO dedicated to community service, Samaj Sewa Sanstha, completely without outside funding.

Written by Ron Stoufer



Terraced fields around
Okhaldhunga
Photo: Mick Langford