

# Bioengineering gains popularity

*Construction of the bioengineering wall and channel will save the school from flood during the rainy season.*

All pics: Pramod Kumar Tandan



The local community in Tilahar VDC of Parbat has managed to secure the local school during monsoon by adopting to bio-engineering technology (Top left); Dry wall being constructed to save the road (Top right); Locals conducting a meeting in Bhatkhola VDC of Syangja (Above left); Another example of bio-engineering in Bhatkhola of Syangja.

Development activities often have negative side effects. When an earthen road connecting Dimua bazaar with Thamarjung was constructed five years ago, a school had to bear the brunt in Tilahar VDC of Parbat. Naw-Jagrit Secondary School faced a new threat of flood with construction of this earthen road.

Under the IUCN's Ecosystem Protecting Infrastructure Communities (EPIC) project, a 215-metre-long wall and a 175-metre-long drainage channel were

built along the road by using bioengineering method.

Bishnu Prasad Subedi, the school's principal, says construction of the bioengineering wall and channel save the school from flood in the rainy season.

Constructions of the wall and drainage line are not over. When these works are over, the Dimua-Thamarjung road will remain open even in the rainy season. "We hope we will not have to fear flooding in the monsoon," says Subedi. "And

vehicular movement will remain uninterrupted."

Under the EPIC project, an earthen road in Bhatkhola-7 of Syangja district is also being improved. Brooms are being planted on either side of the road. These brooms will stop soil erosion, prevent landslides and allow vehicles to move freely in the rainy season.

Anu Adhikari, a programme officer at the IUCN, says, "Bioengineering method is gaining popularity in Panchase area."