


Economic & Social benefits -

following the implementation of sustainable animal fodder production systems in Nepal

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Partners

- 300 Nepalese farmers
- Nepal Agricultural Research Council
- Department of Livestock Services
- NZ Plant & Food Research
- Quaker International Oat Nursery
- Specialty Seeds NZ Limited
- PGG Wrightson Seeds NZ LImited
- United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation 2003-05
- NZ Aid Programme (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade) 2008–11

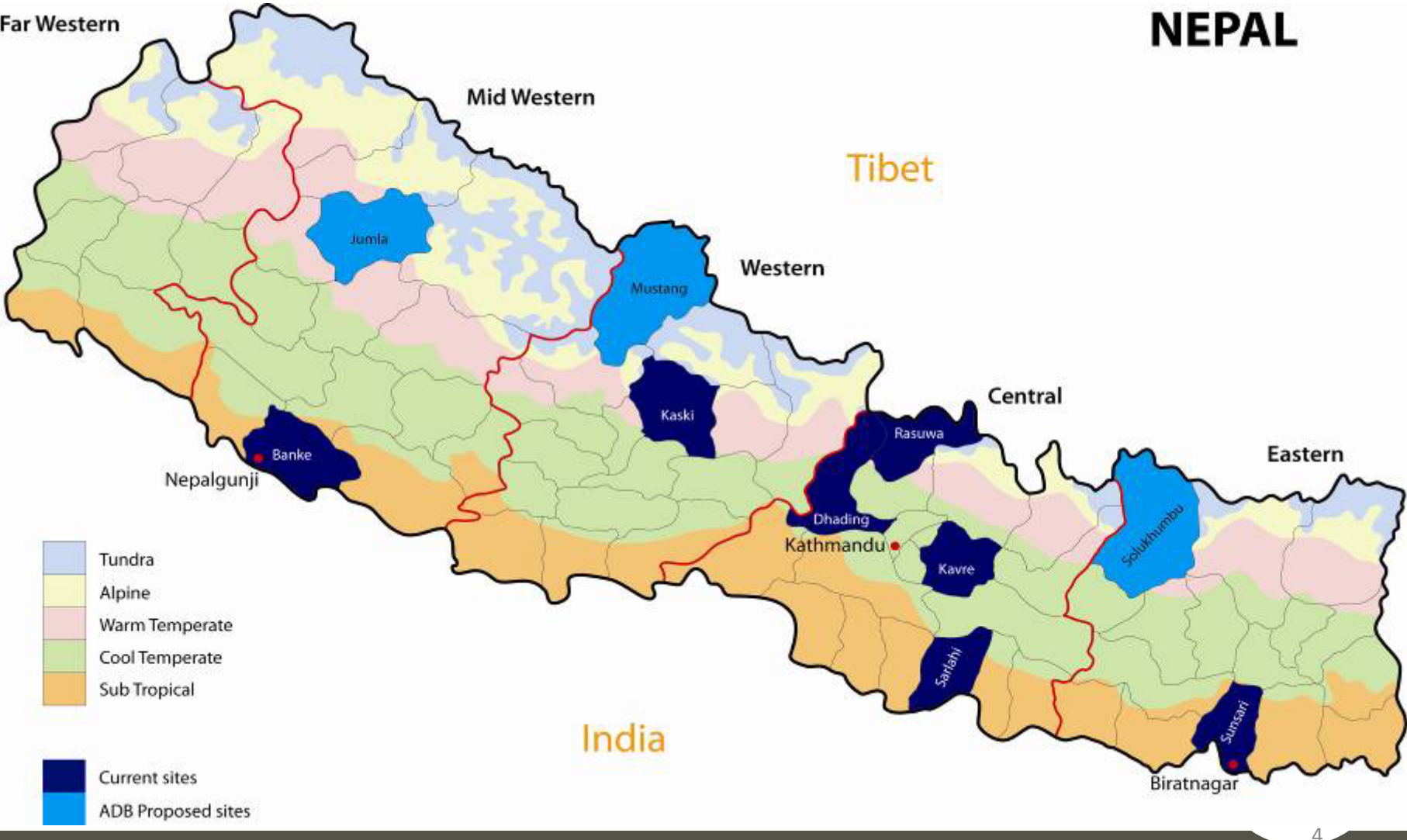
The problem

- Scarcity of fodder
- poor animal health, fertility, & productivity
- High daily work loads for rural women gathering fodder

The solution

- *Implement on-farm fodder production systems to improve milk yields*
- *Improve farm production/supply chain efficiencies*

Location of Farmer Clusters – 300 households



Process *2003-2005*

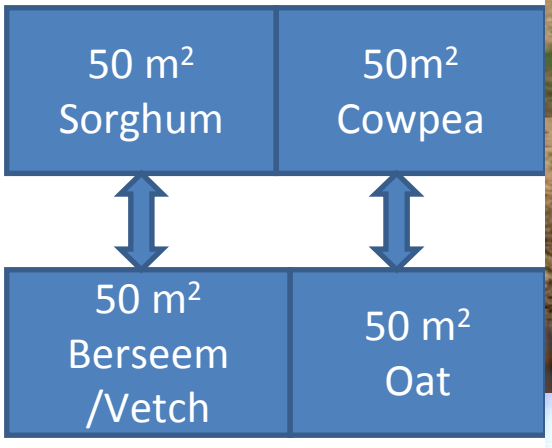
- introducing **on-farm** winter fodder cropping systems
- Utilising ***winter*** fallowed fields
- Participatory testing of ***'fit-for-purpose'*** **winter oat cultivars and legumes**
- **Coaching farmers to become expert fodder producers**

Process 2008-2011

- Implementing sustainable ***year round fodder*** production
- Training farmers and milk processors in milk quality control systems
- Integrating farm service, and marketing supply chains
- Replicating technologies to neighbours
- ***Measuring impacts***

On-farm cut & carry

- Summer
- Winter



- Winter/Summer crop rotation
- On-farm training and demonstration
- 300 farmers – 6 district clusters (202 women 98 men)

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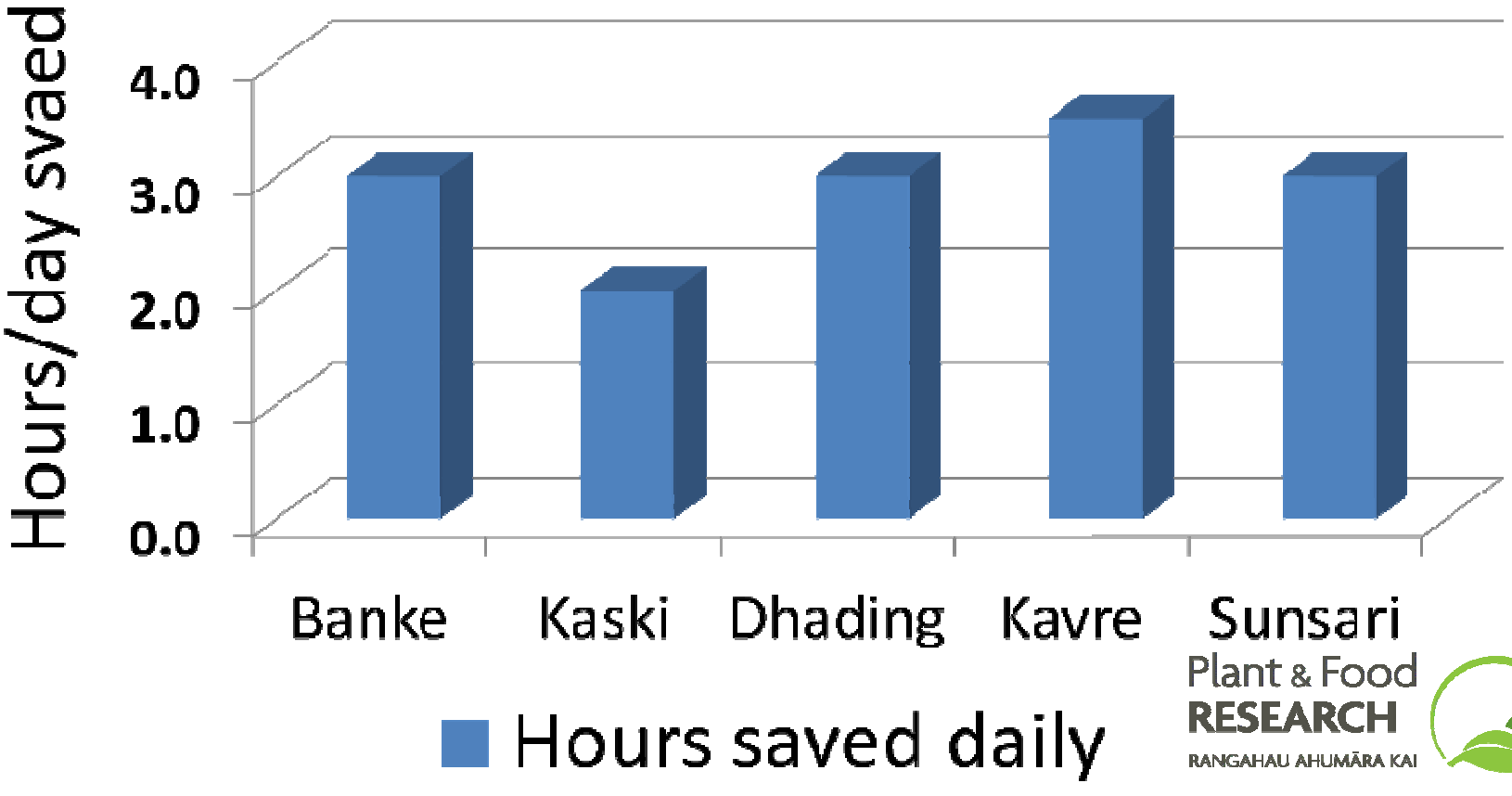
Reduced daily workloads 2003-05

Number of hours gathering winter fodder saved daily before and after intervention 2003-05



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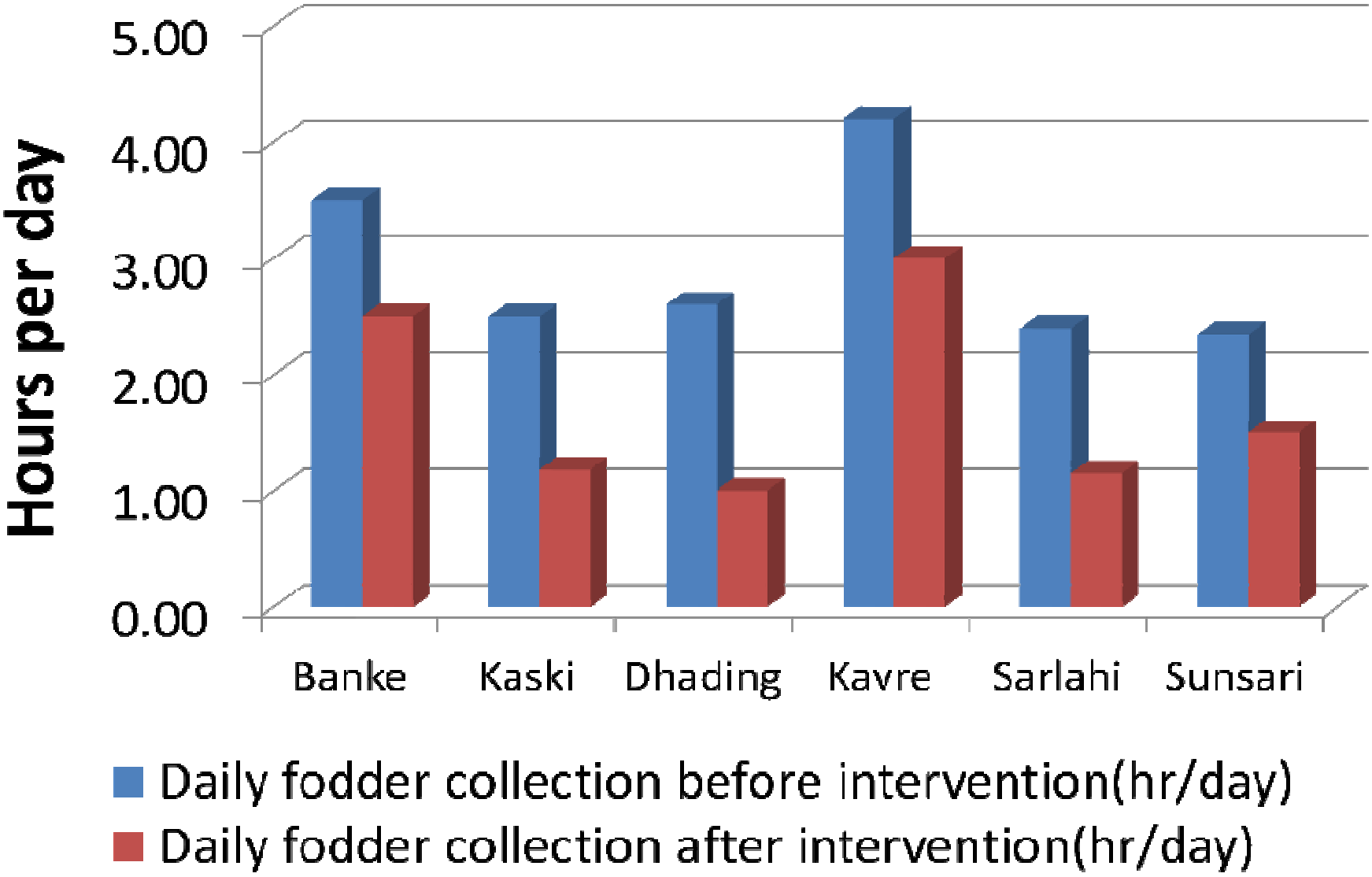
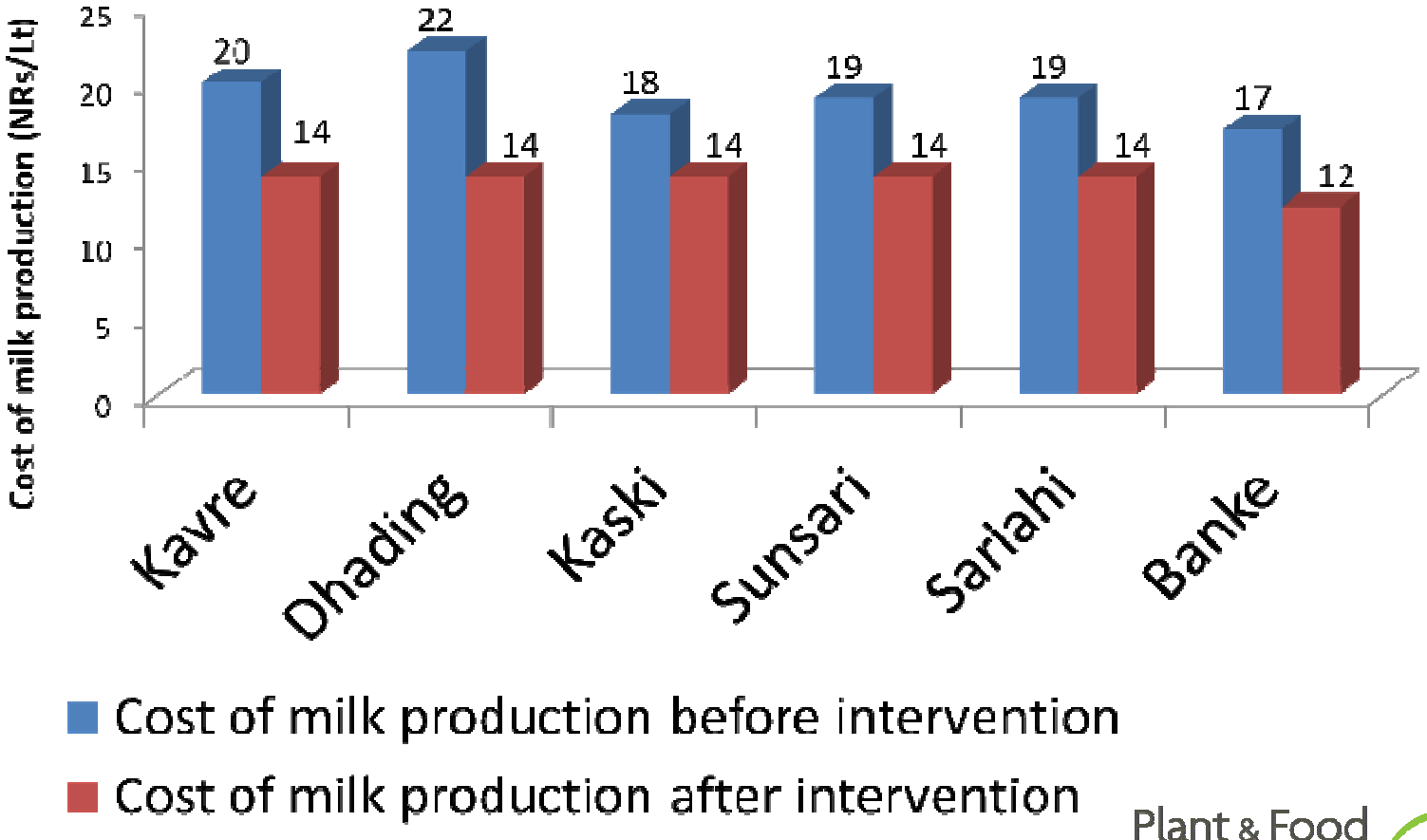
Actual fodder workloads -2008-11



Reduction in cost of producing each litre of milk 2008 – 2011 per cluster



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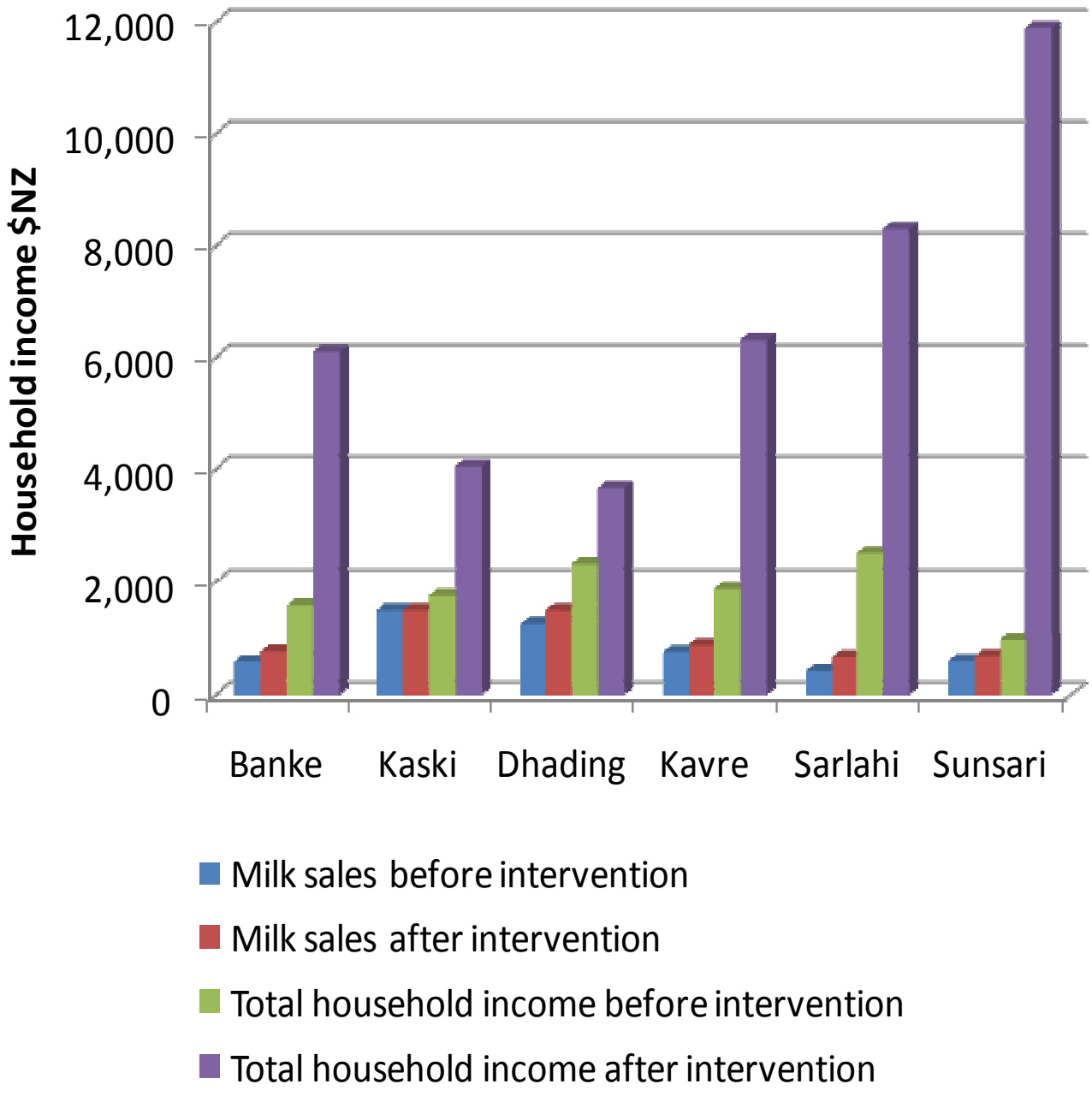
Household income $NZ
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
Banke
Kaski
Dhading
Kavre
Sarlahi
Sunsari
Milk sales before intervention
Milk sales after intervention
Total household income before intervention
Total household income after intervention

Summary of impacts

1. 10,800 farming households adopted project fodder technologies
2. Fodder supplies secured - efficiency of farm operations improved
3. Community, family, and business relationships have been strengthened
4. The entrepreneurial potential of women has been revealed and a number of innovations are now being pursued across farm sector

Impacts cont.

5 Household incomes have increased and diversified

6 Householders have better financial security and confidence

7 Vertically integrated farm support structures now exist

8 Farmers have capacity to manage risks and emerging issues

Project Monetary Impacts

- Total cost of project – in-kind and cash inputs = $NZ1.4million
- Cost per farmer = $NZ130
- Additional annual cash flow generated -10,800 farmers =$NZ45.5 million

Next steps

Building community based networks for;

- seed refreshment and oat cultivar renewal
- community based cultivar cerea and grass seed production
- **Check out you-tube video title**

'From the ground up – sustainable fodder systems for improving incomes in Nepal'

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