

LIVELIHOOD IMPACT OF ECOTOURISM
(The Case of Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, Kathmandu)

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF
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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The thesis entitled “LIVELIHOOD IMPACT OF ECOTOURISM: THE CASE OF SHIVAPURI NAGARJUN NATIONAL PARK, KATHMANDU” has been prepared by Yadap Prasad Khanal under my guidance and supervision.

I hereby recommend this thesis to the evaluation committee for its final approval and acceptance.

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

The thesis entitled “LIVELIHOOD IMPACT OF ECOTOURISM: THE CASE OF SHIVAPURINAGARJUN NATIONAL PARK, KATHMANDU” submitted by Yadap Prasad Khanalin partial fulfillment of the requirements for the master degree (MA) in Sociology has been evaluated and approved by the evaluation committee.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

DFID	:	Department for International Development
DNPWC	:	Department of National Park and Wild Life Conservation
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Products
ICIMOD	:	International Center for International Mountain Development
IDS	:	Institute for Development Studies
MOFAGA	:	Ministry of Federal Affair and General Administration
NTB	:	Nepal Tourism Board
OECD	:	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PATA	:	Pacific Asia Travel Association
SL	:	Sustainable Livelihood
SNNP	:	ShivapuriNagarjun National Park
TIES	:	The International Ecotourism Society
TMJ	:	TinjureMilkeJaljale
TRPAP	:	Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program
TU	:	Tribhuvan University
UN	:	United Nations
UNWTO	:	United Nation World Tourism Organization
VDC	:	Village Development Committee
WTO	:	World Tourism Organization

ABSTRACT

The study entitled Livelihood Impact of Ecotourism: The Case of ShivapuriNagarjun National Park, Kathmandu tried to analyze social, cultural and economic opportunities brought in the wake of ecotourism development in the study area.. Altogether 134 respondents took part in the survey. The field findings have been further explained through the theory of sustainable development approach and ecotourism.

The study area comprises economically active working population in large number. Likewise, the participation of the female in tourism business is quite impressing. Similarly, the settlement comprises more number of ethnic residents like Tamang and newar community. These indigenous groups have their own culture, traditions and local farm productions to impress the new people coming to the area as tourists. Likewise, the livelihood impact of the tourism was clearly visible in the region. The increased tourism activities have reduced the number of people going to abroad for working. They have begun some innovative ideas in the tourism sector at their place. Cent percent people engaged in the enterprises are at least literate, however, the involvement of the high school passed graduates is very less in the sector.. They seem aware about the socio-economical, environmental and cultural impacts of the tourism industry and have expectations from the local government to lead on minimizing the possible hazards, which could hamper their livelihood activities in the near future. Regarding the relationship between the socio-demographic characters and the livelihood impact of the tourism, it was revealed that is no relationship between the caste / ethnicity and choosing the family occupation. People belonging to any caste/group have got engaged in tourism enterprises. Interestingly, the respondents, whose academic qualification is less than 10 are more conscious on this matter. They want to please the tourists by the locally grown agriculture, dairy products and ethnic food, costumes and dresses.

The study has high implications in the sector of improving the lives of the community people residing in the buffer zones of the national parks through tourism business. Further researches covering the larger number of sample and more diverse area of eco-tourism can be conducted to promote the tourism industry in Nepal. The local

government development priorities should encompass the eco-tourism and community benefit systems for promoting the sustainable development.

CHAPTER: ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Eco-tourism simply means eco efficiency in tourism activities that principally aimed to foster socio-cultural, economic and environmental development through tourism activities (Villepontoux, 2013). It is an alternative form of tourism that delivers income generation opportunities from natural resources without destroying the environment. Its fundamental principles refers to minimizing negative impact on the environment, representing the local cultures and actively contributing to the economic well-being of host communities as well as the stakeholders involved. Ecotourism has the potential to become a driver of sustainable tourism development and also provide opportunities for the development of the disadvantaged marginalized and rural areas leading to poverty alleviation. It stimulates economic development and social well-being of the people and at the same time preserving the natural environment and culture heritage through awareness creation. Strong arguments have been advanced in support of ecotourism playing a central role in conservation and rural Development in Kathmandu district (Bhatt, 2006).

In recent times, the quest for alternative forms of tourism to replace the traditional mass tourism phenomenon has resulted in new forms of tourism being proposed. Since the traditional mass tourism phenomenon was seen as being environmentally degrading, lacks respect for local culture, causes leakages and encourages the use of natural resources in an unsustainable manner, new forms of tourism were proposed to serve as an alternative to mass tourism. Prominent among these alternative forms of tourism is ecotourism. Ecotourism, a movement that began to take shape back in the 1980s, is the oldest and most commonly used word for it. More recent industry buzzwords include sustainable tourism, green tourism, nature tourism, responsible tourism, ethical tourism, mindful travel, conscious travel, pro-poor tourism, and many others (Mowforth& Munt, 2003).The principles as stated by Martha Honey for ecotourism are mentioned below:

- Ecotourism should involve travel to natural destinations.
- It should minimize impacts on the environment
- Ecotourism should be built on environmental awareness

- Ecotourism should provide direct financial benefits for conservation
- Ecotourism should respect local culture
- It should provide support for human rights and democratic movements
- It should provide direct financial benefits for the local people

Since Nepal opened its doors to tourism in the early 1950s Hillary Tensing first climbed Mt. Everest in 1953, visitors have been mesmerized by the magic of Nepal's kaleidoscopic natural scenery and the culture mosaic of its people and history. Even Lord Shiva during ancient past settled back in Nepal due to its fascination motivating pilgrims to visit holy places. Similarly birth of Lord Buddha has drawn attention of global Buddhist community. Nepal is strongly positioned as a preferred nature, culture, adventure destination in the world tourism map with range of products to offer visitors.

Ecotourism is environmentally friendly tourism where both host and guest are aware of environmental degradation as result of participation in tourist activities. Ecotourism as segment of tourism that involves the travelling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural area with the specific object of admiring, studying and enjoying the scenery and its wild plant and animals as well as any existing cultural features (Adhikari, 2005). Ecotourism is one of the fastest growing trends in the tourism industry. The term ecotourism is generally used to describe tourism activities that conducted in harmony with nature as opposed to more traditional 'mass tourism' activities. Ecotourism focuses on socially responsible travel, personal growth, and environmental sustainability. Ecotourism typically involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna, and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Ecotourism is intended to offer tourists insight into the impact of human beings on the environment, and to foster a greater appreciation of our natural habitats.

Ecotourism is a form of tourism involving visiting fragile, pristine, and relatively undisturbed natural areas, intended as a low-impact and often small scale alternative to standard commercial (mass) tourism. Its purpose may be to educate the traveler, to provide funds for ecological conservation, to directly benefit the economic development and political empowerment of local communities, or to foster respect for different cultures and for human rights. Since the 1980s ecotourism has been considered a critical endeavor by environmentalists, so that future generations may experience destinations

relatively untouched by human intervention. Several university programs use this description as the working definition of ecotourism. Generally, ecotourism deals with living parts of the natural environments. Responsible ecotourism programs include those that minimize the negative aspects of conventional tourism on the environment and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Ecotourism has the potential to become a driver of sustainable tourism development and also provide opportunities for the development of the disadvantaged marginalized and rural areas leading to poverty alleviation. It stimulates economic development and social well-being of the people and at the same time preserving the natural environment and culture heritage through awareness creation. Strong arguments have been advanced in support of ecotourism playing a central role in conservation and rural Development in Kathmandu district.

Therefore, in addition to evaluating environmental and cultural factors, an integral part of ecotourism is the promotion of recycling, energy efficiency, water conservation, and creation of economic opportunities for local communities. For these reasons, ecotourism often appeals to advocates of environmental and social responsibility. The ecotourism is also called sustainable tourism, green tourism, peace tourism and environment friendly tourism. In this background this study tried to analyze livelihood impact of ecotourism around Mulkharka-Sundarijal settlements of ShivapuriNagarjun National Park located in Kathmandu District. The major source of income for most people in the district is of course agriculture, animal husbandry and tourism as the settlements are located on popular trekking routes of Langtang and Gosainkunda.

1.2 Rationale of the Study

Rural tourism in general and eco-tourism in particular is the vital source of public revenue only if proper policy, management and marketing are formulated in favor of local communities with equitable benefit sharing and employment generation. However every aspects of tourism are not considered for promotion and development. Ecotourism is still under shadowed by adventure tourism in Nepal. People mostly the western Nepal is a land of diversity in unity. It has different cultures, festivals, history and so on which if developed and planned rationally will contribute in public revenue. The proper collaboration of government and private sector can yield in profit making. This study is

based on ecotourism as a pilot study in Kathmandu district. TRPAP developed Tamang Heritage Trail as new tourist destination with provision of vocational trainings and skill development trainings. The research will act as impact assessment of TRPAP that can contribute to address the objectives set by Tourism Vision 2020. Therefore the findings of the study may be useful for the future researchers in the very field. It can also be useful for decision maker's development. It can be an eye opener to the local communities to more actively participate in tourism development. The research may enhance the collaboration of public and private sector to efficiently design the ethnic tourism advancement in Kathmandu district.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Tourism is one of the largest and fastest growing industries. It is one of the world's largest industries, or economic sectors, contributing trillions of dollars. At present more than 260 million people are globally supported by travel and tourism industry either directly or indirectly (WTO, 2017). Tourism is Nepal also as an important sector to generate revenue in one hand and employment on the other for the sustainable development in the national economy. Tourism is emerging as the most viable industry of Nepal which has been providing skilled and unskilled jobs to many unemployed people and has helped to reduce poverty in the country. Tourism not only brings foreign currency but also other things such as positive changes in attitude and behavior of people. It has contributing to improve daily life and livelihoods of the rural people too.

Here is why, the problem of the study is more focus on livelihood impact of ecotourism around study areas. In so doing, some of the research issues such livelihood impact of ecotourism, availability of physical infrastructures and further collaborations among local development stakeholders and national park for promoting tourism activities have been highlighted. The research problems are also linked with the research questions such as what is the role of ecotourism in changing the livelihood of the people? What are the future possibilities for the development of ecotourism in these settlements? What is the degree of coordination between stakeholders, entrepreneurs and local people for the possible development of ecotourism? How has ethnic tourism induced change? What are the provisions of home stays/lodges/groceries in support of tourism?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general aim of the study is to ascertain the livelihood enhancement opportunities brought in the wake of ecotourism development in Kathmandu district whilst the specific objectives were to:

- To examine socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.
- To assess socio-cultural, economic and environmental impacts of ecotourism.
- To analyze the relationship between socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents and livelihood impact of ecotourism.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Ecotourism is used to describe ecotourism ventures that are characterized by high Environmental consideration, increased control and involvement of the local residents, as well as significant benefits for the host community. This concept is clearly distinguished from other Ecotourism ventures that are largely or even totally planned and managed by outside operators and generate negligible benefits for local people. Main significance of this study is to develop appears to meet the majority of the targets established in the definition of sustainable tourism, since it constitutes a tool for both social empowerment and long-term economic development of the local communities. This is even more crucial for small, rural and remote communities that often suffer from the lack of governmental attention and assistance. Self-development through ecotourism is particularly important for these communities, since it gives people the Opportunity to utilize their own internal strengths and resources in order to become more self-sufficient. But also creating positive socio-cultural and environmental benefits to the poor.

1.6 De/limitation of the Study

This study is based on following limitations:

- This case study was conducted in Mulkhark-Sundarijal settlements of ShivapuriNagarjun national Park.
- The respondents were 134 households directly or indirectly benefitted from ecotourism activities.
- The research issues are analyzed through the theoretical gazes of eco-tourism, sustainable livelihood and sustainability approach on tourism development.

- This study applied case study methodology as well as descriptive and explanatory research methods.

1.7 Organization of the Study

The dissertation is organized into five chapters. Chapter first describes background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, rational of the study, de/limitation and organization of the study. Similarly, chapter two describes the overall literature review with theoretical and empirical reviews. Chapter three defines methodological issues like research design, sampling and population, tools and techniques of data collection, description of geography and analytical tools. Chapter four presents data analysis and interpretations and finally chapter five presents summary of findings, conclusions and suggestions.

CHAPTER: TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1.1 Conceptual Review: Rural Livelihood

Conceptually, “Livelihood” comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. Making a living determines the existence of a person in society. The major components of livelihood are: 1) people: what capabilities do they have? 2) Activities: What do they do? 3) Assets and access: What bases/capital do they have? 4) Gains/ Output: What do they gain from what do they do?

Similarly, rural livelihood is a complex structure composing of mostly agriculture, with part of the population diversifying into non-farm activities in order to attain a sustainable livelihood to get better income for their households. It means that rural livelihood is a development approach concerned first and foremost with the people. It seeks to gain an accurate and realistic understanding of people on their livelihood assets/ capitals. It is crucial to analyse how people endeavour to convert these strengths into positive livelihood outcomes. (Mphande, 2016)

Babington(1999) argues that rural livelihood needs to be understood in terms of: a) people’s access to five types of capital asset; b) the ways in which they combine and transform those assets in building of livelihoods that as far as possible to meet their material and their experimental needs; c) the ways in which people are able to expand their asset bases through engaging with other actors through relationships governed by the logics of the state, market and civil society; and d)the ways in which they are able to deploy and enhance their capabilities both to make living more meaningful and to change the dominant roles and relationships governing the ways in which resources are controlled, distributed and transformed in society.

2.1.2 Diversified Livelihood Strategies

There is a two way linkage between ecotourism development and sustainable livelihood of the rural people. Hence, this study more focus on different livelihood options applying by the local people in the study areas based on diversified livelihood

strategies. Livelihood diversification is defined as the process by which rural families construct a diverse portfolio of activities and social support capabilities in order to survive and to improve their standards of living (Ellis, 1999). People have not always relied on similar activities because it might not be capable enough to provide them their household needs. Thus, they forcefully search alternative livelihood strategy according to time and situation. This type of livelihood strategies of individuals or household shaped by local or distant institutions, social relations as well as by economic opportunities (Ellis, 2000). A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base. (Chambers & Conway, 1991). There's a tendency of rural households to engage in the multiple occupations and this pattern is usually is seen in the household living in or below the poverty line. These attempts of multiple occupations is directly or indirectly linked with the income generating capabilities of that particular family.

Even the rural agriculture are failing to provide for the household. The causality for the adoption of the diverse income practices may be the poverty, income distribution, productivity, environmental conservation etc. and over time they are adapted. The future rural poverty reduction policies need to focus on these interactions. Evidence on diversification. Some of the past evidence suggest that the rural household do engage in multiple activities and rely on diversified income practices. In south Asia roughly 60 percent of the rural household income is from non-farm sources. This suggest that the farming practices in south Asia is generally based upon the subsistence farming practice. However, this proportion depends upon many factors such as the land ownership, agricultural practices. A common pattern of more diverse livelihood is seen in very poor household whereas the middle range household display less disparity. Poverty and income distribution: the household living below the poverty line widely adapt the diversification and it is also speculated that diversification is beneficial for them as having the alternatives for income generating sources can make difference in their livelihood. Agriculture: The technological change in agriculture results in the poor crops yield in Asia. In addition to that the withdrawal of labour inputs, alleviation of credit

constraints and reduction in the risk of innovation are some of the evidence of diversification (Ellis, 1999). And the poor migrants from the remote areas are less likely to re-invest their urban earnings in agriculture.

Policy making is about improving the context of private decision making. (Ellis, 1999) by reducing risk, increasing mobility, mainstreaming barriers to entry and ensuring fairness and transparency in the conduct of public agencies. It is about facilitating the poor to improve their assets to best effects (Ellis, 1999). Some of the general principle for the policy are likely to hold:

1. Human capital: it has the significance of education (in/formal and technical skills)
 2. Infrastructure: it contributes to the poverty reduction by increasing mobility and flow of information and technology.
 3. Enabling environment for grassroots initiative
 4. Targeting and safety nets: support rural social groups most vulnerable to shocks
- Credits.

DFID SL framework (Carney [ed.], 1998) focuses on people, their assets and activities rather than sector and their performance. It is concluded that livelihood diversification is important for the survival of rural population but they are not usually integrated in the policy making process. Diversity reflects to the subsistence livelihood of the rural areas and signifies poor population. This article suggests the incorporation of the diversification of livelihood in the policies and also suggest some practical policy priorities.

2.1.3 Nature of Rural Tourism

Rural tourism may be defined as the movement of people from their normal place of residence to rural areas for a minimum period of twenty-four hours to the maximum of six months for the sole purpose of leisure and pleasure. Rural tourism refers to all tourism activities in a rural area.

The concept of rural tourism is by no means well defined and is subject to a number of interpretations. Fleischer and Pizam associate rural tourism with the 'country vacation' where the tourist spends the vast proportion of his/her vacation period engaging in recreational activities in a rural environment on a farm, ranch, country home, or the surrounding areas. The OECD states rural tourism should be:

- Located in rural areas.

- Functionally rural, built upon the rural world's special features; small-scale enterprises, open space, contact with nature and the natural world, heritage, traditional societies, and traditional practices.
- Rural in scale – both in terms of building and settlements – and therefore, small scale.
- Traditional in character, growing slowly and organically, and connected with local families.
- Sustainable in the sense that its development should help sustain the special rural character of an area, and in the sense that its development should be sustainability in its use of resources.
- Of many different kinds, representing the complex pattern of the rural environment, economy, and history.

2.1.4 Livelihood Impacts of Rural Tourism

Tourism is a double-edged activity, which contributes a positive impact if proper management is done but at the same time uncontrolled or improper management can be the major cause of the environmental degradation and the loss of local identity and traditional cultures (Biological Diversity and Tourism, 2003).

In the context of Nepal, 11,72,073 international tourists visited Nepal last year that contributed 7.5% on GDP (Rs2.876 billion) and also created employment to the 4, 27,000 females and males (NTB, 2018). Similarly from rural economic development point of view, Khumbu Pasang Lhamu R/Municipality collected 44.61 million US\$ from 22,330 tourists in three months (October, November and December) last year (Village Level Profile, 2018).

Koirala (2002) studied about the *Tourism Potentiality and Impact on the livelihood of the local people of TMJ Trekking Route*. He raised some critical issue related to strengthen to increase the carrying capacity of the TMJ trekking route such as critical areas, resources, infrastructure, institution and critical behaviour. He also mentioned a number of steps that should be taken by Government to promote environmental friendly tourism and mandatory to bring kerosene for cooking and avoid pressure on natural resource.

Rai (2000) studied *Ecotourism of Langtang National Park* and stated that Langtang National Park has good carrying capacity. Forest management, appropriate

planning and action training should be provided to the local communities. Langtang National Park also consists of many endangered species waiting for conservation. He stressed that the overall status is good. Rural tourism creates an impact among the people on social, economic, cultural and environmentally. The younger generation may gain better prestige than their elders as they gain experience, jobs and money from tourism.

2.2.1 Theoretical Review: Sustainable Livelihood

The term 'sustainable' means lasting or enduring. A sustainable livelihood provides lasting security to a person and keeps him free from tension. Assets, are defined as: natural / biological (i.e., land, water, common-property resources, flora, fauna); social (i.e., community, family, social networks); political (i.e., participation, empowerment-sometimes included in the social category); human (i.e., education, labour, health, nutrition); physical (i.e., roads, clinics, markets, schools, bridges); and economic (i.e., jobs, saving, credit). The sustainability of livelihoods becomes a function of how men and women utilize asset portfolios on both a short and a long-term basis. Sustainable livelihoods are those that are: able to cope with and recover from shocks and stresses such as drought, civil war, policy failure through adaptive and coping strategies. One can describe a 'livelihood' as a combination of the capabilities and resources people have (including social, human, financial, natural and material assets) and the activities they undertake in order to make a living and to attain their goals and aspirations (Chambers and Conway, 1992). A livelihood is sustainable when people cope with and recover from shocks and crises (e.g., seasonal, environmental and economic) and can maintain or enhance their capability and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base.

The concept of 'sustainable livelihoods' (SL) is an analytical framework that emerged from existing studies of rural livelihoods systems, agrarian change, and community development going back to the work of William Cobbett, Karl Marx, Karl Polanyi, Amartya Sen and several influential household and micro-economists. Tony

Babington, Henry Bernstein, Debbie Bryceson, Robert Chambers, Gordon Conway, Susanna Davies, Frank Ellis, and Norman Long worked on new livelihood definitions and approaches in the 1980s and 1990s. They argued, in different ways, that the sustainability of rural livelihoods should form the basis for improved rural

development and poverty alleviation. Ian Scoones at the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) in the UK was also one of the key players. He wrote a short working paper that set out a succinct approach to understanding livelihoods, which he hoped would also be amenable to scrutiny by influential development economists, who believed poverty could best be tackled through utility maximization and modernization paths (Scoones 1998). It emphasized the economic attributes of livelihoods as mediated by social-institutional processes" (p.8). He designed a well-known diagram showing how capital, assets and resources lead to certain types of livelihood strategies and outcomes, influenced by a set of contexts and institutional processes.

2.2.2 Eco-Tourism

In 1983, a tour operator in Costa Rica registered the word “eco-tourism” for his tour operating business. Soon after the word was used in a few public articles in Costa Rica. The term Eco-tourism became more known when Hector CeballosLescurain , in an article in the Mexico journal in 1987, defined the work ‘ecotourism’ as “Travelling to relatively undisturbed areas or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific objective of studying admiring and enjoying the scenery and its wildlife as well as any existing cultural manifestation found in those areas.” The International Ecotourism Society(TIES) defines ecotourism as “ purposeful travel to natural area to understand the culture and natural history of the environment, taking care not to alter the integrity of the ecosystem, while producing economic opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources beneficial to the local people”(TIES, 1990). Ecotourism, sometimes also called as nature tourism is a travel of natural attractions that contributes to the conservation, respects the integrity of local communities, ethnic groups and enhances the tourists understanding of natural attractions, its conservation and local community (Wood, 2002).

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) defines ecotourism as- A form of tourism inspired primarily by the natural history of an area, including its indigenous cultures. The eco-tourist visits relatively undeveloped areas in the spirit of appreciation, participations and sensitivity. The Eco tourist practices a non-consumptive use of wildlife and natural resources and contributes to the visited area through labour of financial means aimed at directly benefitting the conservation issues in general, and to the specific needs to the locals. Ecotourism also implies a managed approach by the host country or

region which commits itself to establishing and maintaining the site with the participation of local residents, marketing them appropriately, enforcing regulations, and using the proceeds of the enterprise to fund the area's land management as well as community development. In short, travel with particular attention to Nature's wonders and leave them as you found them. (Kunwar, 2006)

A large variety of nature based activities are undertaken on eco-tourism. The most popular are trekking, bird watching, observing wild animals and plants which are often undertaken concurrently. Birds are the main focus for those who are primarily observing faunas. Photographic tours and participating scientific studies are also popular. The following activities are eco-tourism activities like nature walk, wildlife safari, elephant ride, nature photography, camping, scientific study, art tours, jungle drive, mountaineering, river rafting/kayaking, sightseeing, canoe rides on the jungle river and observing wild- flowers and other plants. These activities are highly dependent upon protected areas as these areas provide the majority of eco-tour destinations and attractions (Aryal, 2007)

2.2.3 Sustainability Approach on Tourism Development

Sustainable Tourism, in emulation of its namesake, was and still is broadly conceived as tourism that does not threaten economic, social, cultural or environmental integrity of the tourism destination even in the long term (Bhatt, 2015). WTO defines Sustainable Tourism "Sustainable Tourism Development meets the needs of present generation tourists and hosts regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future." Further, it refers to development in such manner and at such a scale that it remains viable over an indefinite period. It should neither degrade nor modify the existing environment, rather maintaining ecological balance, biological diversity, non-degradation of product quality, conserving national heritage, maintaining cultural integrity and promoting responsive and values based tourism are its characteristic features and poverty reduction is its priority.(WTO 2002).

However, Bhatt in his book "*Ecotourism in Nepal*" concludes that Sustainable Tourism is a derivative of Sustainable Development. He has highlighted two sustainability principles in ecotourism context that are ecotourism should i) support local economies ii) support conservation. He has also mentioned principles for Sustainable

Tourism by Tourism Concern, 1992 which are: i) using resources sustainably ii) reducing over consumption and waste iii) maintaining diversity iv) integrating tourism into planning v) supporting local economies vi) involving local communities vii) consulting stakeholders and the public viii) training staff ix) marketing tourism responsibly x) undertaking research.

According to ICIMOD, countries and regions where the economy is driven by the tourism industry are becoming increasingly concerned with the environmental, as well as the socio-cultural problems associated with unsustainable tourism. As a result, there is now increasing agreement on the need to promote sustainable tourism development to minimize its environmental impacts and to ensure more sustainable management of natural resources. The concept of sustainable tourism, as developed in the United Nations sustainable development process, refers to tourist activities “leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, and biological diversity and life support systems. These sustainability concerns are, therefore, beginning to be addressed by governments at national, regional and local, as well as international, levels. In addition, given the leading role of the private sector in the tourism industry in most countries, many initiatives have also been taken by this sector. Broadly speaking, the main policy areas regarding sustainable tourism are: (a) the promotion of national strategies for sustainable tourism development, including the decentralization of environmental management to regional and local levels, (b) the use of both regulatory mechanisms and economic instruments, (c) the support for voluntary initiatives by the industry itself, and (d) the promotion of sustainable tourism at the international level.

Tourism has environmental, economic and social impacts. Sustainable tourism is about maximizing the impacts which are positive and minimizing the negative ones. It seems that the environmental impacts are negative, the economic effects positive, and the social impacts a combination of both. However, it is also important to recognize that there are clear links between the three aspects of tourism the environmental, economic, and social dimensions.

2.3 Empirical Review

Pradhan (1979) concludes in his degree of *Masters of Arts* thesis that Nepal began to benefit from tourism industries after the political change of 1950s. The developing countries used tourism industries to sustain deficit financing and economic development. The topographical condition of Nepal is fruitful for tourism industries and it helps to solve the national unemployment problems.

Nepal RastraBank(1989) has done study on the heading “*Income and Employment Generation from Tourism in Nepal*”. The study showed that 20.6 percent of the employees in tourist and related industries were women. Carpet industry had 66.4 percent female employees. This study deals about the composition of tourists, duration of their stay, tourist expenditure and the impact of tourism industry on income and employment generation.

Anup and Resham (2014) has done study on “*Tourism and its impact on livelihood in Manaslu Conservation Area(MCA), Nepal*”. They concluded that socioeconomic variables such as marital status, size of household, education and landholding status had positive effect on tourism participation while livestock-holding status and occupation of the HH had negative effect on tourism participation. Number of visitors is increasing in MCA in recent years, and tourism participation is helping local people to earn more money and improve their living standard. So, awareness and education programmes related to tourism, gender empowerment of women, advertisement and publicity on tourism promotion in national and international level, adequate subsidy and training on ecotourism and skill development trainings on handicraft are recommended.

Rural tourism can be understand in three different ways, Firstly, Rural tourism can be understand as living in the house of local people, this concept is poor people oriented so it is also known as tourism of poor people, luxurious destination where huge sum of money is need to be expend for accommodation and food, in such places who can't afford for such tourist Rural tourism is developed. Secondly, rural tourism refers to involving tourist in different activities which is vastly different than the tourism activities done in the urban area, activities like, cycling, fishing, honey hunting, etc. falls under this. Thirdly, this is newly developed concept about rural tourism; it includes staying in

farm house, doing agricultural activities, studying about farming activities or enjoying watching these activities (Sharma &Kharel, 2011).

Tourism, in fact, in rural area is rural tourism. It is a common thought of tourist going and coming to rural areas, for relaxation in village and developing rural economy. Thus, rural tourism starts from "village stay concept". It is staying with the villager dwellers as like a family member. Tewari (1994) has summed up the concept of tourism as a movement of people to various destinations for journey and stay, both of which take place outside the normal area of residence and work. The movement is for a short duration, which distinguishes it from migration. It gives rise to activities at the destination. The main motive for participation in tourism is largely recreation and the visit is made for the purpose other than seeking permanent residence or employment. Tourism, in the pure sense, is essentially a pleasure activity and involves a discretionary use of freely disposable incomes and free time.

Similarly, technical definitions provided comparative tourism information for statistical purpose i.e. standardizes comparative international tourism data collection and tourism market segmentation: tourism with human experience, social behavior, with geographic phenomena, with business activities, with cultural practices and with applied resource and means of overall tourism activities (Pandey, 2008, p.112).

CHAPTER: THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

The study applied case study methodology in general and descriptive as well as explanatory methods in particular (Yin, 2013). More specifically, Mulkharka-Sundarijal settlements of ShivapuriNagarjun National Park are regarded as case of the study and randomly selected 134 respondents have been used to make inferences about the population as a whole. Hence selected respondents were regarded as unit of analysis. This study followed quantitative approach in which both descriptive, illustrative and inferential tools are applied during data analysis and interpretation.

3.2 Field Area

ShivapuriNagarjun National Park (SNNP) is located on the northern fringes of Kathmandu valley, covering an area of 159 Sq km and is surrounded by 9 municipalities and 2 municipalities. SNNP is primarily composed of Chirpine forests and mixed hardwood forests. The park is home to many endangered or threatened species, such as clouded leopards, orange-billed leaf birds and relict Himalayan dragonfly. It claims part of Kathmandu, Nuwakot, Dhading, and Sindhupalchowk Districts of Nepal (see in Annex B). The elevation range is 1350 m to 2732 m. However, this study was conducted in Mulkharka-Sundarijal settlements in ward 02, KageshworiManaharaMunicipality of Kathmandu District only. The municipality has 9 different wards with an area of 58.5 sq. km. It has total population of 1, 07,351 (Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, 2019).

3.3 Sampling and Population

Population sampling is the process of taking a subset of subjects that is representative of the entire population. The sample must have sufficient size to warrant statistical analysis. Sampling is done usually because it is impossible to test every single individual in the population. It is also done to save time, money and effort while conducting the research. According to Municipal profile there are 248 households in Mulkharka-Sundarijal settlements (directly or indirectly benefitted with tourism activities) which is regarded as population of the study. Out of total population, 134

sample households were randomly selected as sample numbers (see Table 3.1) which is generated with 95 percent confidence level and 5 percent marginal error by using sample size determination formula(see Appendix B) (Krejcie& Morgan, 1970).

$$\text{Sample size (n)} = \frac{\chi^2 * N * (1-P)^2}{ME^2(N-1) + (\chi^2 * P * (1-P))}$$

Where,

n = required sample size

χ^2 = Chi square (Value* 3.841 for 5percent confidence level with 1 degree of freedom)

N = Population size

ME = Desired Marginal error (expressed as a proportion)

P = Probability of success (0.5 value for unknown population)

Q= (1-P, i.e. 0.5 value for unknown population)

Table 3.1. Sampling Determination Process

S.N.	Settlements	Sample Population	Sample Numbers
1	Mulkharka	66	134
2	Sundarijal	182	
Total		248	134

(Municipality Profile, 2018)

3.4 Techniques of Data Collection

The present study is based on the primary data as well as secondary source of data. Required data are collected in the field based on the observation and survey. The primary data are collected through the questionnaire and interview with local villagers who are involved in serving the tourists in diversified field of the tourism service. Necessary information was collected through structured questionnaires filled by 134 respondents selected from Mulkhark-Sundarijal settlements. It was prepared to generate the realistic and accurate data from the people of the target area. The respondents were requested to fill up the questionnaire. In case of certain illiterate respondents, questionnaires are filled by the researcher himself. Secondary data are also used to make this research much relevant and comparative and for understanding the impact of tourism activities in the study area.

3.5 Reliability and Validity

Reliability is the extent to which research findings would be the same if the research were to be repeated at a later date or with the different sample of subject (Veal

2006). This means the result of the research has to be the same always in different periods of time even if the researcher uses the different tool to measure 'Validity is the extent to which the information collected by the researcher truly reflects the phenomenon being studied' (Veal, 2006). The validity of leisure and tourism data cannot be the same as social science. The numbers of science are almost the same in every case, but the choice of people could not be the same always so the result could not be the same. Basically it means does the survey or research meet the desired goals? It is necessary to be reliable for the validation of research.

3.6 Method of Data Analysis

All the data are analyzed systematically with the help of SPSS (version 20) program. All the quantitative results are analyzed by using by using descriptive and inferential statistical tools. Similarly, researcher also applied description, analysis, and interpretation methods. Description of data information helped to understand the meaning of the data. Analysis of data information helped to identify underlying meanings of my data to make a systematic description. Interpretation of data information helped to understand processes and meanings in the theoretical context (Yin, 2013).

CHAPTER: FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This chapter tried to analyze research the research objectives; to examine the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents, to assess the livelihood impact of eco-tourism in the study area and to analyze the relationship between the socio-demographic characteristics and livelihood impact of the tourism. In doing so, required data have been presented under different sub chapters with quantitative analysis by presenting tables, graphs and charts.

4.1 Social Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Social and demographic characteristics of the respondents have been presented and analyzed under different study variables such as categories of the respondents; age, gender, caste religion, land holding, educational status, enrollment in different educational institutions and so on. The presentation and analysis of the data on this category has helped to get the clear social picture of the study area.

4.1.1 Age Group of the Respondents

Altogether 134 respondents participated in the survey. Out of this nearly 60% of them were from the age group 21-35 years. Interestingly, one-fifth of them were from the age group 51 and above. The figure shows an interesting data that the study area covers the majority of energetic working population.

Table 4.1: Age group of the respondents

Age Group	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<20	38	28.4	28.4	28.4
21-35	78	58.2	58.2	86.6
>51	18	13.4	13.4	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.1 highlights economically active population is 15-64 years old and the study area comprising such a large number of population has more chances of getting economic activities in the region (UNFPA, 2017).

4.1.2 Gender of the Respondents

The surveyed settlement comprises nearly three-quarters of the male and remaining female population. Although, 26.9 % of the total populations were female, they were found to be engaged in different income generating activities. The following table 3 has presented the composition of the gender in the study area.

Table4.2: Gender of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Female	36	26.9	26.9	26.9
Male	98	73.1	73.1	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

4.1.3 Caste/Ethnicity, Religion and Mother Tongue

The survey has revealed that the settlement comprises almost equal number of people belonging to Hindhu and Buddhist religions. However, a small section of the respondents also follows the Christianity. Interestingly, the people belonging to the Christian religion are all from the Dalit community. Likewise, nearly 63% of the population is from Janajati community.

Table 4.3: Caste/Ethnicity, religion and mother tongue

Religion	Caste/Ethnicity	What is your mother tongue?				Total
		Nepali	Tamang	Newari	Other	
Hindhu	BCT	24	0	0	0	24
	Janajati	0	0	21	0	21
	Dalit	17	0	0	0	17
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
Buddhist	BCT	0	0	0	0	0
	Janajati	0	63	0	0	63
	Dalit	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
Christian	BCT	0	0	0	0	0
	Janajati	0	0	0	0	0
	Dalit	9	0	0	0	9
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	50	63	21	0	134

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.3 shows that there are three language-speaking people residing in the area. They are Tamang (47%), Nepali (37%) and Newari (16%). The majority of indigenous people in the area with their unique language habits and other cultural practices could be one of the reasons for promoting the tourism sector in the area. As per the 2011 census, Nepal has 126 castes and ethnic groups speaking as many as 123 languages. And 90 percent of these languages are spoken by Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples in Nepal have distinct cultures, languages and belief systems (CBS, 2011).

4.1.4 Land Holding Status

The major economic activities in the study area are aligned with tourism services in most of the households. However, the people residing there are engaged in agricultural activities too. Although the commercial farming practices have recently started there, due to the demand of the organic vegetables and foods in the hotels, people have been practicing subsistence based farming since from generation.

Table4.4: Land holding size

Land holding size	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1-10 ropani	20	14.9	14.9	14.9
11-20 ropani	60	44.8	44.8	59.7
21 or more ropani	54	40.3	40.3	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Above table 4.4 indicates that, around 85% of the people in Mulkharka-Sundarijal have at least 10 ropani land-holding size. Interestingly, 40.3% of them have more than 21 ropanis of land per household. The land system is an important adjunct of economic, social or political structure of an agriculture country such as Nepal (Chalise, n.d). These figure show many possibilities of enhancing the livelihood of the people through massive agricultural transformation through the proper utilization of land size in the study area.

4.1.5 Involvement in Tourism related Profession

The people engaged in tourism related activities are engaged in the business since from years. Almost 55% of them are new comers. They have experiences of maximum 3 years only. Interestingly, 31.3% of them have working experiences of 5 to 9 years.

Table 4.5: Experiences

Involve in tourism related profession	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
2 years ago	20	14.9	14.9	14.9
3 years ago	54	40.3	40.3	55.2
Since more than 5-9 years	42	31.3	31.3	86.6
10 years and more	18	13.4	13.4	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.5 shows that there are few people, who are working in the region in the tourism sector for 10 years and more. The number counted as 13.4%. These sections of people have developed large knowledge system regarding hospitality sector in the region. However, there is no formal mechanism to document the learning and their experiences from the governmental line agencies or tourism related organizations. “Knowledge Management can transform organizational new levels of effectiveness, efficiency, and scope of operation, using advanced technology, data and information are made available to users for effective productivity”(Dhamdhare, 2015, p.168). This unexplored sector has high potentiality to develop the tourism sector in Nepal.

4.2 Socio-cultural Impact

This section deals about assessing the impact of eco-tourism activities in the livelihood of the people residing in the impact zone of the Shivapuri - Nagarjuna national park. The respondents were asked several questions related with their occupational status, its connectivity with the tourism industry and its effects in their daily lives.

4.2.1 Primary Occupation

The people in the study area have at least one primary occupation. As it lies close to the ShivapuriNagarjuna National Park, most of the tourists come there to get refreshed

with natural beauties. Almost, three-quarters of the respondents replied that their primary occupation in tourism. It was visible during field visits as the settlements were covered with small shops, tea cafes, restaurants, guest houses, home stays and many tourist recreation centers.

Table 4.6: Primary Occupation

Primary Occupations	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Tourism	102	76.1	76.1	76.1
Agriculture	13	9.7	9.7	85.8
Other business	4	3	3	88.8
Foreign employment	5	3.7	3.7	92.5
Government job	5	3.7	3.7	96.3
Pensioner	5	3.7	3.7	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.6 highlights that 9.7% of the respondents said that agriculture was their primary occupation. Foreign employment (3.7%), government job (3.7%), pensioner (3.7%), and other business (3%) follow this. The less migration of youths in foreign employment and more contribution of tourism economy in the study area show the encouraging picture of tourism activities in changing the lives of the people living there. Despite these facts, every surveyed household were found engaged in small to big tourism related activities in the study area. However, in Nepal, more than half (57%) of the population of working age is reported economically active and among them 81 percent are engaged in agricultural activities. Contribution of non-agricultural activities is gradually increasing in the GDP (FAO, 2019).

4.2.2 Trade Engagements in Nepal and Impact on Foreign Employment

The data has shown that the households, whose primary occupation was tourism has 28.4% households, whose none of the members have gone to work abroad for earning money. Similarly, 441% of such households have only 1 member gone for foreign employment. In overall, 27% of the households in the study area have none of its members gone for overseas work.

Table4.7: Impact on foreign employment

Primary Occupations	How many members are working outside from the village?			Total
	None	1	2	
Tourism	29	45	28	102
	28.4%	44.1%	27.5%	100.0%
Agriculture	2	4	7	13
	15.4%	30.8%	53.8%	100.0%
Other business	1	2	1	4
	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	0	2	3	5
	0.0%	40.0%	60.0%	100.0%
Government job	3	2	0	5
	60.0%	40.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Pensioner	1	2	2	5
	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Total	36	57	41	134
	26.9%	42.5%	30.6%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

The data in table 4.7 indicates that after government job, tourism is the most secured and sustainable ways of earning. To our dismay, the percentage of the people, whose primary occupation is agriculture, have high rate of its family members going for foreign job. This could be due to subsistence based farming. Further, tourism as an economic activity produces various direct, indirect and induced impacts in the economy. It ultimately increases the foreign exchange earnings, generates employment opportunity and increases income (Gautam, 2011).

4.2.3 Trade Engagements and the Educational Status

The surveyed has revealed that almost every people in the study area are literate (or studied at least grade one). Out of this, 56% of them have passed the basic education, 31% have passed the secondary education and 13.4% of them have completed above high school.

Table 4.8: Educational Status of the Respondents

Trade Engagement	What is the highest educational grade you completed?			Total
	Basic Education (1-8)	Secondary (9-10)	High School >(11-12)	
Tourism	60	28	14	102
	58.8%	27.5%	13.7%	100.0%
Agriculture	6	5	2	13
	46.2%	38.5%	15.4%	100.0%
Other business	2	2	0	4
	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	0	3	2	5
	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Government job	5	0	0	5
	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Pensioner	2	3	0	5
	40.0%	60.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	75	41	18	134
	56.0%	30.6%	13.4%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.8 shows that households having tourism sector as the primary education as 59% people with basic education. Likewise, 27.5% of them have completed secondary education. Surprisingly, only 13.7% of them have high school and above degrees. The picture shows quite gloomy facts that, in Nepal, the hotel management related courses are taught in grade 11 and above classes only. Thus, it could be assumed most of the people engaged in hospitality services here have less academic ideas on this sector. However, their year's long experiences have taught those different skills and management idea to welcome and please the guest coming there.

4.2.4 Trade Engagement and Children's Education

The people residing in the study area do not seem quite aware in educating their children. The data shows that almost 37.5% of the children are out of school there.

During the survey, it was known that almost all of them were school dropouts. In the households, whose primary occupation is tourism; nearly 40% of the children do not go to school and help their parents in operating their business.

Table 4.9: School going children

Primary Occupation	Where are your schools going children studying?			Total
	Public school	Private school	Not studying	
Tourism	27	16	30	73
	37.0%	21.9%	41.1%	100.0%
Agriculture	7	3	0	10
	70.0%	30.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Other business	1	0	2	3
	33.3%	0.0%	66.7%	100.0%
Foreign employment	1	0	2	3
	33.3%	0.0%	66.7%	100.0%
Government job	2	0	1	3
	66.7%	0.0%	33.3%	100.0%
Pensioner	3	0	1	4
	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Total	41	19	36	96
	42.7%	19.8%	37.5%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.9 shows that most of the families have enrolled their children in public schools. This figure counted to 42.7%. Interestingly, children from one-fifth of the households are studying in the private schools. They are studying at the schools in Kathmandu city. The dismal picture of educational achievement in the study area, despite the grooming tourism lead economy shows different necessary interventions to minimize the dropouts of ethnic children from school education. The Census 2011 reports that, among 5-16 year-old children, 80 percent boys and 76 percent girls were attending school (CBS, 2011). This situation is more servers in the ethnic communities (Acharya, 2017).

4.2.5 Primary Occupation and Vocational Training Recipient

Skill has very important role in developing the professional character of an individual. The surveyed households have exposed that, the people whose primary occupation are tourism; have 71% households, who have received at least one training like hospitality/cooking, trekking and guide, crafts and farming.

Table 4.10: Skill recipients

Primary Occupation	Have you completed any vocational training?					Total
	Hospitality/Cooking	Trekking and guide	Crafts	Farming	Not applicable	
Tourism	32	14	14	13	29	102
	31.4%	13.7%	13.7%	12.7%	28.4%	100.0%
Agriculture	3	2	5	2	1	13
	23.1%	15.4%	38.5%	15.4%	7.7%	100.0%
Other business	1	0	1	0	2	4
	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	0	2	1	0	2	5
	0.0%	40.0%	20.0%	0.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Government job	1	0	0	2	2	5
	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Pensioner	0	0	2	1	2	5
	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Total	37	18	23	18	38	134
	27.6%	13.4%	17.2%	13.4%	28.4%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.10 shows, that majority of people in the study area have received hospitality management, cooking and trekking/guide related training. The gap of knowledge, which they could not get from the formal higher studies seems to have fulfilled through vocational skills. The learned skills have helped them to create many opportunities in the study area. The vision of CTEVT in Nepal is "Skilling Nepal for People's Prosperity-Vision 2030"(CTEVT, 2016, p. 1)

4.2.6 Direct Tourism Service

The respondents have been categorized as direct and indirect beneficiaries. As the study area lies in the buffer zone, nearly 67.7% of them have said that they are direct beneficiaries. Remaining others could be migrant and working there temporarily. The following table 4.11 has demonstrated this figure.

Table 4.11: Categories of the beneficiaries

Category related to ecotourism	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Direct beneficiary	92	67.7	67.7	67.7
Indirect beneficiary	42	31.3	31.3	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.12: Direct tourism services

Direct tourism service	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Restaurant	38	28.4	28.4	28.4
Indirect beneficiaries*	42	31.3	31.3	59.7
Resort/guest house	18	13.4	13.4	73.1
Teashop	18	13.4	13.4	86.6
Homestay	18	13.4	13.4	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

*Commercial farmers, porters, guide, employee etc.

Table 4.12 exposed different types of services, being offered to the guests as a part of direct tourism services. Most 28.4% respondents are offering restaurant services. Home stay facilities is also emerging gin the study area in which local people are organized in cultural groups and providing home stays services in culturally decorated houses to the tourists. The tourists visiting there get chance to see the typical tamang and newar dances, eat different dishes related to the ethnic communities; learn their different cultural habits and more. The data indicates that tourism is a people business and the

involvement of local community in tourism sector makes the community more sustainable and also strengthens the sense of ownership. Majority of the tourist hotspots in Nepal lies in rural vicinity where people have gradually adopted professionalism in their business to adhere to the growing need of tourism (Bayal, 2017). Thus the role of direct tourism services in attracting the tourists is quite crucial in the context of Nepal. Basically, the home stay services can be supported through market linkage, capacity building and other training schemes

Table 4.13: Enterprise registration

Registration	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	78	58.2	58.2	58.2
No	56	41.8	41.8	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

The following table 4.13 shows that the registration of the tourism related services shows promoting figure that almost 58% of them have been legally registered. However, the remaining ones have not registered in government offices. This could be lack of awareness among the people that, they became afraid of paying annual tax to the government after being registered. But, they can get many facilities like loan, skill training, enterprise development training, insurance services, and license to sell alcoholic liquors. However this is a common problem in other sector as well that people do not trust their government to pay the tax believing that the top-level bureaucrats and the politicians are highly corrupted and misuse the taxpayers' money.

Table 4.14: Involvement of parents

Involvements of parents	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	97	72.4	72.4	72.4
No	37	27.6	27.6	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.14 shows that almost 72% tourism related enterprises, the parents or immediate family members are engaged. This has reduced in hiring the extra working

staffs and paying them monthly salary. The earnings are saved within the family and it can be invested in receiving good food, health services and better education. It is the glimpse of our eastern values system, where we accept family as the core of our day to day living.

4.2.7 Indirect Tourism Service

Table 4.15: Indirect tourism services

Indirect tourism services	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Farming	13	30.95	30.95	30.95
Craft making	9	21.42	21.42	52.37
Guide/porter	12	28.57	28.57	80.94
Other	8	19.04	19.04	100
Total	42	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.15 interestingly, almost every people in the study area have been offering indirect tourism services. They can be categorized as farming (30.95%), craft making (21.42%), guide/porter (28.57%) and other (19.08%). The growth in tourism activities in the region have promoted the commercial vegetable farming, organic farm productions, fruits farming, poultry, livestock rearing in the region. Likewise, people have initiated other business like communication centers, stationeries, clothes shop, jewelry shop, electronic items selling shops and so on. Local peoples as well as the tourists are the regular customer of these shops.

Table 4.16: Registration

Registered	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	C/Percent
Yes	37	27.6	27.6	27.6
No	97	72.4	72.4	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.16 However, only 27.6% of these indirect tourism service activities are registered. A large section of these business are not registered due to the fact that farming is still taken as substance based component and people do not take seriously to register

the farm houses in the nearby agriculture offices or at local government bodies. The following table shows the data related to the registration of indirect tourism services.

According to table 4.16, it could be predicted that a large amount of money that could be formally deposited in the government's account from the local entrepreneurs have been not collected through formal channels. The local ward offices should keep an eye on this because the legal provisions have given full authority to local governments regarding these (GoN, 2017).

4.2.8 Job Satisfaction

Job satisfaction is one of the basic indicators for the success of any business. It could be from the either side of the employees or employer self. Interestingly, the data shows that out of surveyed 134 respondents, almost 72% are satisfied with the profession on which they are engaged.

Table 4.17: Job satisfaction

Primary Occupations	Are you planning to change your profession or job?		Total
	Yes	No	
Tourism	32	70	102
	31.4%	68.6%	100.0%
Agriculture	3	10	13
	23.1%	76.9%	100.0%
Other business	1	3	4
	25.0%	75.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	0	5	5
	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Government job	1	4	5
	20.0%	80.0%	100.0%
Pensioner	0	5	5
	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	37	97	134
	27.6%	72.4%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.17 shows that 67% of the respondents, whose primary occupation is tourism, do not want to change their profession of current tourism business. However, still 31.4% of them want to change the job/ profession due to several reasons like easy earning in foreign employment, not any encouragement mechanism to the novice

entrepreneurs, chaotic banking rules to receive loan, less flow of tourists in the region and more. Job satisfaction is defined as the extent to which an employee feels self-motivated, content & satisfied with his/her job. Job satisfaction happens when an employee feels he or she is having job stability, career growth and a comfortable work life balance (Human resource term, 2019). Thus large number of people satisfied in the tourism sector symbolizes good economic return of the tourism industry in the study area.

4.2.9 Encouraging Newer Generations

The people have been found of motivating their children to continue their profession. The following table reveals that 57% of the respondents, whose primary occupation is tourism, said that they have positively counseled their children to carry out with tourism related profession. However, 43.1% do not like to see their children in this profession..

Table4.18: Motivating Children

Primary Occupation	Are you motivating your children to start their career in your profession?		Total
	Yes	No	
Tourism	58	44	102
	56.9%	43.1%	100.0%
Agriculture	8	5	13
	61.5%	38.5%	100.0%
Other business	3	1	4
	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	1	4	5
	20.0%	80.0%	100.0%
Government job	5	0	5
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Pensioner	4	1	5
	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%
Total	79	55	134
	59.0%	41.0%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.18 shows that overall, 59% of the total respondents view that they do not like their children following their pathways. They deserve some change in their children lives. During informal conversation, most of them reveal that the newer generation should go to Australia or Europe and should settle there for the secured livelihood. Records from the Ministry of Education show 16,504 students had acquired the No

Objection Letter in the fiscal year 2013-14 while that number increased fivefold last fiscal year, with 62,800 students going for studies in 72 countries. Among them, some 32,200 students acquired the letter to study in Australia and 15,500 for Japan. Nepal is currently the third largest contributor of international students to Australia (Ghimire, 2019). This is one of the bitter examples of the brain drain from Nepal.

4.2.10 Focusing Area of Government for Socio-economic Prosperity

The respondents have different ideas for promoting the social and economic prosperity of the region through tourism development. They are seeking the support of the local government mechanism to intervene in reforming the various sectors like advertisements of the tourism product of the region locally and globally (41.8%), establish division office for tourism (17.2%), offering off-season package (13.4%), promote organic farming (14.2%) and facilitate in establishing new hotel and resorts (13.4%). Amongst all, the respondents want the help from their local government authorities in massive advertisement of their place.

Table 4.19: Socio-economic advancement in tourism

Focus of Local Government for mounting economic and social benefits of eco-tourism	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Advertisements (locally and globally)	56	41.8	41.8	41.8
Establish division office	23	17.2	17.2	59.0
Offer off-season package	18	13.4	13.4	72.4
Promote organic farming	19	14.2	14.2	86.6
Establish hotel and resorts	18	13.4	13.4	100.0
Total	134	100.0	100.0	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.19 highlights that Nepal Tourism Board (2009) in consultation with industry partners has produced Nepal Tourism Vision 2020, to guide tourism development throughout the country. The vision complements the national endeavor of economic reform and incorporates a spirit of inclusiveness for a broad based enabling environment that sets the pace of gradual but focused change in tourism sector. For this different focus of the local governments are required to grasp the socio-economic benefits.

4.2.11 Focusing Area of Government for Cultural Benefit

The settlement comprises many cultural institutions belonging to Tamang and newar communities. They have proposed different cultural reform preservations measure to be initiated by local governments. Some of them are establishing cultural museum (14.9%), conduct tourism trade fare (13.4%), financial support to the cultural institutions (17.2%), focus on religious tourists (14.2%), video shooting/documentary making (13.4%), focus on cultural tourists (13.4%) and cultural code of conducts to the tourists (13.4%).

Table 4.20: Cultural mounting

Focus of Local Government on Cultural Mounting	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Cultural museum	20	14.9	14.9	14.9
Conduct tourism trade fair	18	13.4	13.4	28.4
Financial support to cultural institutions	23	17.2	17.2	45.5
Focus on religious tourist	19	14.2	14.2	59.7
Video shooting/documentary making	18	13.4	13.4	73.1
Focus on cultural tourists	18	13.4	13.4	86.6
Cultural code of conducts to the tourists	18	13.4	13.4	100.0
Total	134	100.0	100.0	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.20 shows that cultural highlights are both tangible and intangible. Social linkages may include social group interactions, social and religious gatherings (rituals, games and dances, rites, and religious activities) visiting and kinship patterns, donations to traditional institutions, population movements (short and long term migration, journey to work), and land tenancies (Pradhan, 2004). These all are promoting the cultural diversity of an individual as well as community.

4.3 Economic Impact

4.3.1 Uses of Local Production in Tourism Sector

The local productions like beverages, dairy products, organic vegetables, fruits, livestock, herbs are greatly liked by the tourists visiting in the area. Mostly, they prefer to drink the distilled homemade alcohol prepared by Tamang communities there. Thus, the

following table reveals that almost 60% of the respondents claim that they have been supplying the local or indigenous productions to the guests coming to visit their place.

Table 4.21: Supplying in the local markets

Supplying local or indigenous products to the guests	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	79	59	59	59
No	37	27.6	27.6	86.6
On plan	18	13.4	13.4	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.21 however highlights that in comparison with the consumption of local materials by the guests visiting the national park, the sell of the local products is very less in the international markets. This could due to the weak publishing and marketing mechanism prevailing in the region. The following table shows that only 32% of the respondents claim that they are supplying the local /indigenous products in inter/national markets.

Table 4.22: Supplying in the inter/national markets

Supplying local indigenous products in inter/national markets	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	43	32.1	32.1	32.1
No	91	67.9	67.9	100
Total	134	100	100	

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.22 indicates as tourism is consumed at the point of production, it is giving local businesses and communities the opportunity to benefits by selling goods and services directly to visitors in local destinations and with assets to offer such as culture, art, music, natural landscapes and wildlife (Shrestha, 2018).

4.3.2 Primary Occupations and Bank Account

Having bank account means, a person is earning money, saving money and utilizing money at the time of needs. It is the way out for securing the life in this twenty first century. More than 85% of the people, whose primary occupation is tourism, have

opened their bank account. This is less than the average figure of the study area, where in overall population only 87.31% have opened the bank account.

Table 4.23: Having bank account

Primary Occupation	Do you have your bank account?		Total
	Yes	No	
Tourism	87	15	102
	85.30%	14.70%	100.00%
Agriculture	12	1	13
	92.30%	7.70%	100.00%
Other business	3	1	4
	75.00%	25.00%	100.00%
Foreign employment	5	0	5
	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Government job	5	0	5
	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Pensioner	5	0	5
	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Total	117	17	134
	87.31%	12.69%	100.00%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.23 shows that the less interest in opening of the bank account by most of the respondents is possibly due to their engagements in informal capital collection and loan disbursing mechanism. These types of groups are nowhere registered and they do not have the status of bank. The awareness of banking procedures and benefits should reach in every household of the settlements. Some benefits of opening bank account are convenience and security, interest earned on savings, access to ATM, online banking service, merchant outlets through pos terminals and for online commerce and any branch banking service (Standard Charter, 2019).

4.3.3 Investment

The survey has revealed an interesting fact that tourism related business can be started with small amount of seed money as well. In the study area, almost 14% of the respondents have invested money less than 50,000 to begin the business. Mainly small teashops and group home stays related business fall under this category. However, there

are more nearly 60% of the people, who have invested more than 5, 00,000 to start the tourism related business like guest house, resorts, home stays and so on.

Table 4.24: Investment in beginning

Primary Occupation	How much were you investment cost at the beginning?				Total
	Less than 50000	51000-100000	600000-1000000	More than 10 lakhs	
Tourism	14	28	30	30	102
	13.7%	27.5%	29.4%	29.4%	100.0%
Agriculture	0	3	5	5	13
	0.0%	23.1%	38.5%	38.5%	100.0%
Other business	1	1	2	0	4
	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Foreign employment	2	0	1	2	5
	40.0%	0.0%	20.0%	40.0%	100.0%
Government job and having some enterprises	0	4	1	0	5
	0.0%	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Pensioner and engaged in some enterprises	1	2	2	0	5
	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	18	38	41	37	134
	13.4%	28.4%	30.6%	27.6%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.24 indicates that investment in the business has relationship with the earning as well. Besides, proper management and good planning are essential to make any business successful. The term business administration also refers to the management of a business, i.e., management in all aspects. This includes finance, marketing, human resources, and accounting. It also includes business operations (Market business news, 2019). Thus, proper investment also needs proper planning and administrative management in the tourism sector.

4.3.4 Earnings

The people, who are providing direct tourism service, have revealed their earnings in this survey. The entrepreneurs, who are engaged in guest house and resort

business, have earned money from range 6 lakhs to 10 lakhs in a year. The earning from home stay is not satisfactory as all the people have earned the money in the range of 51 thousands to 1 lakh per year.

Table 4.25: Earning

Direct Service	Tourism	How much is your annual family earning from tourism sector?				Total
		Less than 50000	51000-100000	100000-500000	600000-1000000	
Home stay		0	38	0	0	38
		0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Guest house		0	0	23	19	42
		0.0%	0.0%	54.8%	45.2%	100.0%
Resort		0	0	0	18	18
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Teashop		18	0	0	0	18
		100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Restaurant		0	18	0	0	18
		0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total		18	56	23	37	134
		13.4%	41.8%	17.2%	27.6%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.25 shows that the home stay businesses are doing impressive earnings in other parts of Nepal like Sirubari, Ghalegaon etc. But the picture here is quite depressing. As a culturally rich country, Nepal has great prospects in homestay tourism. Tourists who are interested in experiencing culture, tradition and lifestyle of different ethnic groups of Nepal form the clientele of homestay business. The way Nepalilive and take care of their guests' touches tourists. This is why they prefer to live in homestay (Sunuwar, 2019).

4.3.5 Expenditures

The people in the Mulkharka-Sundarijal are investing their earning in different house hold activities like Medicine, food, clothes, child education, worship and travelling, electronic accessories and cosmetics and jewelries. High investments are observed in buying food, buying electronic accessories and jewelries.

Table 4.26: Expenses in different headings

Expenses in NRs per annum	Medicine	Food	Clothes	Child education	Worship and travelling	Electronic accessories	Cosmetics and Jewelries
Less than 10000	14.9	28.4	26.9	17.2	41.8	13.4	44.0
11000-30000	26.9	57.5	41.0	55.2	17.2	59.7b	14.9
31000-50000	44.8	0.0	32.1	27.6	27.6	26.9	27.6
51000-100000	13.4	14.2	0.0	0.0	13.4	0	13.4
Total (in %)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.26 indicates that the category 31000-50000, the expense on the food is nil. It could be the facts that the families are growing the necessary food items themselves. They have enough farm land to grow rice, vegetables, pulses, fruits, as its needs large money to purchase these items daily. Similarly, the people with earning category other than 51000-100000 have invested good money in their child education. But this category people have not invested single rupee money for their children education. Despite the facts, 80 respondents have invested money to purchase fixed assets line land, house, cattle by utilizing their earning. This is the brighter part of the enterprising activities of the people residing in the settlement. The following table has categorized the different headings where the respondents have bought the fixed assets.

Table 4.27: Buying fixed asset

Bought any fixed assets like; land, house, cattle	Frequency	Valid Percent
Land	43	53.8
House	18	22.5
Cattle	19	23.8
Total	80	100

(Field Survey, 2019)

4.4 Environmental Impact

4.4.1 Focusing Area of Local Government for Environmental Conservation

There are several impacts of tourism activities in deteriorating the environment. The locals have concern that their government should be proactive in minimizing the possible environmental hazards due to the excessive flow of the tourists in the region. They have focused in promoting eco-tourism to protect wild flora and faunas (16.4%), water processing center (11.2%), park people harmony (24.6%), assess agricultural impact of climate change (14.2%), organic farming (3.7%), integrated farming (11.9%) and focus of environmental friendly tourists (17.9%).

Table 4.28: Environmental mounting

Focus of Local Government on Environmental Mounting	Frequency	Percent
Eco-tourism	22	16.4
Water processing center	15	11.2
Park people harmony	33	24.6
Assess agricultural impact of climate change	19	14.2
Organic farming	5	3.7
Integrated farming	16	11.9
Focus on environment friendly tourists	24	17.9
Total	134	100.0

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.28 shows that the effect of expanding tourism services is responsible for creating less of more damage in the environment. The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made, is essential to tourism. However, tourism's relationship with the environment is complex. It involves many activities that can have adverse environmental effects. Many of these impacts are linked with the construction of general infrastructure such as roads and airports, and of tourism facilities, including resorts, hotels, restaurants, shops, golf courses and marinas. The negative impacts of tourism development can gradually destroy the environmental resources on which it depends (UNEP, 2011).

4.4.2 Perceptions about Tourism in Changing Lives

In order to analyze the perception of the local people in bringing changes in their lives, they were asked five different questions. They were ecotourism is creating earning

opportunities to the local people, women participation in tourism based service products has been increased, identity of this tourism destination has been established in inter/national market, hosts have good relationships with top level politicians and bureaucrats for tourism promotion and community fund generated from ecotourism is investing for physical infrastructure projects. The respondent replied their views in a 5-point likert scale (strongly agree-5, agree-4, disagree-3, strongly disagree-2 and I cannot say-1). **Table 4.29: Individual statistics on perception of tourism in changing lives**

tatistics		You believe that women participation in tourism based service products has been increased.	You believe that identity of this tourism destination has been established in inter/national market.	In your view, ecotourism is creating earning opportunities to the local people.	In your view, hosts have good relationships with top level politicians and bureaucrats for tourism promotion.	In your view believe, community fund generated from ecotourism is investing for physical infrastructure projects.
N	Valid	134	134	134	134	134
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		3.88	3.83	3.61	3.07	2.14
Median		4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	2.00
Mode		5	5	4	4	3
Std. Deviation		1.360	1.368	1.163	1.145	.824

Table 4.30: Overall statistics representation the perception about changing lives

N	Valid	134
	Missing	0
Mean		3.3060
Median		3.4000
Mode		2.80
Std. Deviation		.50364

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.30 indicates that, the average view of the respondent is 3.30. It signifies that the denser views of the respondents toward the impact of tourism in changing their lives is in between agree and disagree. Likewise, the median value 3.40 signifies that 50% of the respondents views is in the portion of strongly agree and agree and 50% of the respondents views is in portion of disagree, strongly disagree and I can't say. The mode value 2.80 means the largest repeating view is in between disagree an strongly disagree. These data signify that people do not perceive that tourism activities have really changed their lives. Nepal's travel and tourism sector injected Rs195 billion into the economy and supported more than 1.02 million jobs directly and indirectly last year (Prasain, 2018).

4.4.3 Perceptions about Tourism in Environment

In order to analyze the perception of the local people regarding the impacts of tourism activities in environment, they were asked two different questions. They were there is a negative impact of climate change on tourism and climate change related training conducted in the local level is helping for sustaining ecotourism. The respondent replied their views in a 5-point likert scale (strongly agree-5, agree-4, disagree-3, strongly disagree-2 and I cannot say-1).

Table 4.31: Individual statistics in perceptions about tourism in environment

Statistics		You affirm that there is a negative impact of climate change on tourism.	You believe that climate change related training conducted in the local level is helping for sustaining ecotourism.
N	Valid	134	134
	Missing	0	0
Mean		3.08	2.64
Median		4.00	3.00
Mode		4	3
Std. Deviation		1.482	1.185

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.32: Overall statistics regarding the impact of tourism in environment

N	Valid	134
	Missing	0
Mean		2.8619
Median		3.0000
Mode		2.50
Std. Deviation		1.02486

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.32 shows that the average view of the respondent is 2.86. It signifies that the denser views of the respondents toward the impact of tourism in environmental components is in between strongly disagree and disagree. Likewise, the median value 3 signifies that 50% of the respondents views is in the portion of strongly agree and agree and 50% of the respondents views is in portion of strongly disagree and I can't say. The mode value 2.50 means the largest repeating view is in between disagree and strongly disagree. These data signify that people do not perceive that tourism activities have any relationship with the environment conditions of the study area. The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made, is essential to tourism. However, the relationship of tourism with the environment is complex. It involves many activities that can have adverse environmental effects. Many of these impacts are linked with the construction of general infrastructure such as roads and airports, and of tourism facilities,

including resorts, hotels, restaurants, shops, golf courses and marinas. The negative impacts of tourism development can gradually destroy environmental resources on which it depends (Sulu, 2003).

4.4.4 Perceptions about Buffer Zone Management

In order to analyze the perception of the local people about buffer zone approach of tourism, they were asked five different questions. They were SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for tourism infrastructure development projects, SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for in IGAs, SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for local community development projects and awareness level of villagers on good health and hygiene have been increased due to buffer zone approach in ecotourism). The respondent replied their views in a 5-point likert scale (strongly agree-5, agree-4, disagree-3, strongly disagree-2 and I cannot say-1).

Table 4.33: Individual statistics about perceptions on buffer zone approach of tourism

Statistics		You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for tourism infrastructure	You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for in IGAs	You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for local community	You believe that awareness level of villagers on good health and hygiene have been increased
N	Valid	134	134	134	134
	Missing	0	0	0	0
Mean		3.72	3.34	2.45	4.15
Median		4.00	4.00	3.00	5.00
Mode		4	4	3	5
Std. Deviation		.698	1.125	1.037	1.357

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.34: Overall statistics on perception of buffer zone

N	Valid	134
	Missing	0
Mean		3.4160
Median		3.5000
Mode		3.25
Std. Deviation		.47190

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.34 shows that average view of the respondent is 3.41. It signifies that the denser views of the respondents toward the buffer zone approach of the tourism is in between strongly disagree and disagree. Likewise, the median value 3.5 signifies that 50% of the respondents views is in the portion of strongly agree and agree and 50% of the respondents views is in portion of disagree, strongly disagree and I can't say. The mode value 3.25 means the largest repeating view is in between disagree an strongly disagree.

These data signify that people do not perceive that tourism the intervention by governments in bringing changes in the lives of the buffer zone people seem less effective as the responses local people residing there have expressed quite depressing figure. Buffer zones have been announced in 13 wildlife reserves and national parks so far. Buffer zones were announced in the Chitwan National Park and the Bardiya National Park for the first time in 1996. The Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park is the latest park to be declared as the buffer zone in April, 2015 (RastriyaSamacharSamiti, 2016). This approach was oriented on protecting the wild lives as well as improving the livelihood of the people living in the area. Despite these interventions, the people do not take the idea of government positively.

4.5 Inferential Statistics

4.5.1 Relationship between Caste /Ethnicity and Family Occupation

The relationship between caste/ethnicity and choosing family occupations is one of the indicators for assessing the any relations between the social features and livelihood impact of tourism. For this, null hypothesis was set as: There is no relationship between the caste / ethnicity and choosing the family occupation. Likewise, alternative

hypothesis was set as: There is relationship between the caste / ethnicity and choosing the family occupation. To test the above-mentioned hypothesis, chi-square test was done. For this, we have set alpha value =0.05.

Table 4.35: Ethnicity verses primary occupations

Caste/Ethnicity	Primary family occupations						Total
	Tourism	Agriculture	Other business	Foreign employment	Government job	Pensioner	
BCT	19	3	0	1	1	0	24
	79.2%	12.5%	0.0%	4.2%	4.2%	0.0%	100.0%
Janajati	61	10	3	2	4	4	84
	72.6%	11.9%	3.6%	2.4%	4.8%	4.8%	100.0%
Dalit	22	0	1	2	0	1	26
	84.6%	0.0%	3.8%	7.7%	0.0%	3.8%	100.0%
Total	102	13	4	5	5	5	134
	76.1%	9.7%	3.0%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.36: Chi-square test

Statistics	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.298 ^a	10	.600
Likelihood Ratio	13.102	10	.218
Linear-by-Linear Association	.037	1	.847
N of Valid Cases	134		

(Field Survey, 2019)

From the above tabular data of tables 4.35 and 4.36, we got p value =0.600. This value is more than the alpha value =0.05. Here, the statistical data fail to reject null

hypothesis. It means there is no relation between, is no relationship between the caste / ethnicity and choosing the family occupation. People belonging to any caste/group have got engaged in tourism enterprises. In other words, tourism enterprise in the Markha settlement in does not belong to only ethnic communities, but also of other as well. Under the fundamental rights and duties section, the constitution of Nepal has mentioned freedom to practice any profession, carry on any occupation, and establish and operate any industry, trade and business in any part of Nepal (The Constitution of Nepal, 2015).

4.5.2 Relationship between Educational status and Promoting Tourism Products

The relationship between the educational status and promoting the local products is one of the indicators for assessing the any relations between the social features and livelihood impact of tourism. For this, null hypothesis was set as: there is no relationship between the educational status and promoting the local products. Likewise, alternative hypothesis was set as: there is relationship between the educational status and promoting the local products. To test the above-mentioned hypothesis, chi-square test was done. For this, we have set alpha value =0.05.

Table 4.37: Educational status verses promotion of local products

Educational stauts	Are you supplying local indigenous products in inter/national markets?		Total
	Yes	No	
Basic education (1-8)	20	55	75
	26.7%	73.3%	100.0%
Secondary (9-10)	23	18	41
	56.1%	43.9%	100.0%
High school(11-12) and above	0	18	18
	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	43	91	134
	32.1%	67.9%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.38: Chi-square test

Statistics	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	20.362 ^a	2	.000
Likelihood Ratio	24.967	2	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	.193	1	.660
N of Valid Cases	134		

(Field Survey, 2019)

From the above tabular data of 4.37 and 4.38, we got p value = 0.000. This value is less than the alpha value = 0.05. Here, the statistical data reject null hypothesis. It means there is a relation between, is between the educational status and promoting the local products. Interestingly, the respondents, whose academic qualification is less than 10 are more conscious on this matter. They want to please the tourists by the locally grown agriculture, dairy products and ethnic food, costumes and dresses. For a developing country, domestic production of goods plays a vital role in its economy. Whether it is in terms of improving trade positions, creating employment or improving the overall outlook of the economy, domestic production plays a crucial role. Encouraging domestic producers, is therefore, more important for Nepal's developing economy (TNM team, 2017).

4.5.3 Relationship between Religion and Motivating children to Parental Profession

The relationship between the religion and motivating children to continue their parental profession is one of the indicators for assessing the any relations between the social features and livelihood impact of tourism. For this, null hypothesis was set as there is no relationship between the religion and motivating children to continue their parental profession. Likewise, alternative hypothesis was set as: there is relationship between the religion and motivating children to continue their parental profession. To test the above-mentioned hypothesis, chi-square test was done. For this, we have set alpha value = 0.05.

Table 4.39: Religion verses motivating the children

Religion	Are you motivating your children to start their career in your profession?		Total
	Yes	No	
Hindhu	30	32	62
	48.4%	51.6%	100.0%
Buddhist	49	14	63
	77.8%	22.2%	100.0%
Christian	0	9	9
	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	79	55	134
	59.0%	41.0%	100.0%

(Field Survey, 2019)

Table 4.40: Statistics

Statistics	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	25.013 ^a	2	.000
Likelihood Ratio	28.813	2	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	.127	1	.721
N of Valid Cases	134		

(Field Survey, 2019)

From the above tabular data 4.40, we got p value =0.000. This value is less than the alpha value =0.05. Here, the statistical data reject null hypothesis. It means there is relation between the religion of the participant and motivation of the children in continuing their parental profession. Interestingly, the people belonging the Buddhist community (Tamang, Newar), have high percentage of motivation rate to encourage their younger children to continue their parental profession of tourism service. Nepal is multicultural country. Nepal has hundreds of castes, religions and ethnic group and whole of them have their own cultural significant. Culture of Nepal is really unique one in the world. One can explore our cultures in different places with different tastes. Specially, Brahmin Culture, Gurung Culture, Tamang Culture, Tharu Culture, Maithili Culture, Tibetan Culture, Sherpa Culture, Thakali Culture and Newari Culture are popular in Nepal. These Cultures gives you cultural taste and experience in different parts of Nepal which are still alive (Adventure land Nepal, 2019).

CHAPTER: FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the summary, conclusion and recommendation of the research work. The respondents involved in the survey of livelihood impact of ecotourism in Shivapuri-Nagarjun national park buffer zone area has expressed their valuable views regarding the role of tourism activities in the Mulkharka-Sundarijal settlement of the national park. The settlement being itself the buffer zone has high potentiality of tourism development.

5.1 Social and Demographic Characteristics

Altogether this study consulted with 134 respondents participated in the survey. Out of this nearly 60% of them were from the age group 21-35 years. Interestingly, one-fifth of them were from the age group 51 and above. The surveyed settlement comprises nearly three-quarters of the male and remaining female population. Although, 26.9 % of the total populations were female, they were found engaged in different income generating activities. The survey has revealed that the settlement comprises almost equal number of people belonging to Hindhu and Buddhist religions. However, a small section of the respondents also follows the Christianity.

Interestingly, the people belonging to the Christian religion are all from the Dalit community. Likewise, nearly 63% of the population are from Janajaticommunity. Around 85% of the people in Mulkharka-Sundarijal have at least 10 ropani land-holding size. Interestingly, 40.3% of them have more than 21 ropanis of land per household. The people engaged in tourism related activities are engaged in the business since from years. Almost 55% of them are new comers. They have experiences of maximum 3 years only. Interestingly, 31.3% of them have working experiences of 5 to 9 years.

5.2 Socio-cultural, Economic and Environmental Impacts

Almost, three-quarters of the respondents replied that their primary occupation in tourism. It was visible during field visits as the settlements were covered with small shops, tea cafes, restaurants, guest houses, home stays and many tourist recreation centers. The households, whose primary occupation was tourism has 28.4% households,

whose none of the members have gone to work abroad for earning money. Similarly, 44.1% of such households have only 1 member gone for foreign employment. In overall, 27% of the households in the study area have none of its members gone for overseas work. Almost every people in the study area are literate (or studied at least grade one). Out of this, 56% of them have passed the basic education, 31% have passed the secondary education and 13.4% of them have completed above high school.

The people whose primary occupation is tourism, have 71% households, who have received at least one training like hospitality/cooking, trekking and guide, crafts and farming. Different types of services were being offered to the guests as a part of direct tourism services. They were home stay (28.4%), Guest house (31.3%), Resort (13.4%), Teashop (13.4%) and Restaurant (13.4%). Home stay facilities was the major service offered to the tourists as most of the households were organized in cultural groups and providing home stays services in culturally decorated houses to the tourists. Almost every people in the study area have been offering indirect tourism services. They can be categorized as farming (42%), craft making (17%), guide/porter (28%) and other (13%).

The local productions like beverages, dairy products, organic vegetables, fruits, livestock, herbs are greatly liked by the tourists visiting in the area. Mostly, they prefer to drink the distilled homemade alcohol prepared by Tamang communities there. Almost 67% of the respondents, whose primary occupation is tourism, do not want to change their profession of current tourism business. However, still 31.4% of them want to change the job/ profession due to several reasons like easy earning in foreign employment, not any encouragement mechanism to the novice entrepreneurs, chaotic banking rules to receive loan, less flow of tourists in the region and more.

Nearly 57% of the respondents, whose primary occupation is tourism, said that they have positively counseled their children to carry out with tourism related profession. However, 43.1% do not like to see their children in this profession. More than 85% of the people, whose primary occupation is tourism, have opened their bank account. This is less than the average figure of the study area, where in overall population only 87.31% have opened the bank account. Almost 14% of the respondents have invested money less than 50,000 to begin the business. Mainly small teashops and group home stays related business fall under this category. However, there are more nearly 60% of the people, who

have invested more than 5,00,000 to start the tourism related business like guest house, resorts, home stays and so on. The entrepreneurs, who are engaged in guest house and resort business have earned money from range 6 lakhs to 10 lakhs in a year. The earning from home stay is not satisfactory as all the people have earned the money in the range of 51 thousands to 1 lakh per year. The people in the Mulkharka-Sundarijal are investing their earning in different house hold activities like medicine, food, clothes, child education, worship and travelling, electronic accessories and cosmetics and jewelries. High investments are observed in buying food, buying electronic accessories and jewelries.

Regarding the social and economic prosperity the respondents are seeking the support of the local government mechanism to intervene in reforming the various sectors like advertisements of the tourism product of the region locally and globally (41.8%), establish division office for tourism (17.2%), offering off-season package (13.4%), promote organic farming (14.2%) and facilitate in establishing new hotel and resorts (13.4%). The settlement comprises many cultural institutions belonging to Tamang and newar communities. They have proposed different cultural reform preservation measures to be initiated by local governments. Some of them are establishing cultural museum (14.9%), conduct tourism trade fare (13.4%), financial support to the cultural institutions (17.2%), focus on religious tourists (14.2%), video shooting/documentary making (13.4%), focus on cultural tourists (13.4%) and cultural code of conducts to the tourists (13.4%).

The locals have concern that their government should be proactive in minimizing the possible environmental hazards due to the excessive flow of the tourists in the region. They have focused in promoting eco-tourism to protect wild flora and faunas (16.4%), water processing center (11.2%), park people harmony (24.6%), assess agricultural impact of climate change (14.2%), organic farming (3.7%), integrated farming (11.9%) and focus of environmental friendly tourists (17.9%). The statistical data signify that people do not perceive that tourism activities have really changed their lives. This could be due to they are accepting the tourism business as their ancestral business and the earnings are being used in meeting the hands to mouths problem of the family members. The data signify that people do not perceive that tourism activities have any

relationship with the environment conditions of the study area. The data signify that people do not perceive that tourism the intervention by governments in bringing changes in the lives of the buffer zone people seem less effective as the responses local people residing there have expressed quite depressing figure.

5.3 Relationship between Socio-demographic Characteristics of the Respondents and Livelihood Impact of Eco-tourism

The statistical test reveals that there is no relation between, is no relationship between the caste/ ethnicity and choosing the family occupation. People belonging to any caste/group have got engaged in tourism enterprises. In other words, tourism enterprise in the Mulkhark-Sundarijal settlement it does not belong to only ethnic communities, but also of other as well. The statistical test reveals that there is relation between, is between the educational status and promoting the local products. Interestingly, the respondents, whose academic qualification is less than 10 are more conscious on this matter. They want to please the tourists by the locally grown agriculture, dairy products and ethnic food, costumes and dresses.

For a developing country, domestic production of goods plays a vital role in its economy. The statistical test reveals that there is relation between the religion of the participant and motivation of the children in continuing their parental profession. Interestingly, the people belonging the Buddhist community (Tamang, Newar), have high percentage of motivation rate to encourage their younger children to continue their parental profession of tourism service.

5.4 Conclusions

The study area Mulkharka-Sundarijllies in the buffer zone area of Shivapuri-Nagarjuna National Park has high potentiality of tourism development in the region. Besides natural beauties, the study area has several social and cultural features to attract more number of tourists in the region. The study area comprises economically active working population in large number. Likewise, the participation of the female in tourism business is quite impressing. Similarly, the settlement comprises more number of ethnic residents like Tamang and Newar community. These indigenous groups have their own culture, traditions and local farm productions to impress the new people coming to the area. They have inborn good hospitability characters. Also, most of the people there have

years of long experience. This unexplored sector has high potentiality to develop the tourism sector in Nepal. Similarly a large number of people have land holding size more than 10 ropanis. This has possibility to promote organic farming, local breeds of crops, livestock rearing, horticulture, which could be the alternative source of income for the settlement dwellers. However, it needs massive planning in the agriculture transformation in the region.

The livelihood impact of the tourism was clearly visible in the region, however majority of the people do not accept this fact. Out of the total surveyed respondents, three-quarters has primary occupation as tourism, while the rest also take tourism as their secondary livelihood options. The increased tourism activities have reduced the number of people going to abroad for working. They have begun some innovative ideas in the tourism sector at their place. Cent percent people engaged in the enterprises are atleast literate, however, the involvement of the high school passed graduates is very less in the sector. There are some other depressing picture that the above 40% of the children, whose family as tourism as the major occupations have drop out from the educational institutions. Certain educational awareness campaigns or interventions are urgent to launch in the area to encourage newer generation to enroll in high schools and reducing the dropouts (above 11).

Similarly, almost 30% people engaged in the tourism sector here are unskilled. Their capacity building through skill training programs can help in improving their livelihood. Additionally, the job satisfaction of the people engaged in the tourism sector is high. They have good earnings and investments are on both daily needs as well as buying the fixed asset. They seem aware about the socio-economical, environmental and cultural impacts of the tourism industry and have expectations from the local government to lead on minimizing the possible hazards, which could hamper their livelihood activities in the near future. .

5.5 Scope for the Further Study

The study confined itself to Kathmandu valley only, so complying the result of the research may not suit other national parks buffer zone area. .Therefore similar research should be conducted in other regions, to extend the bounds of the current study into additional geographical populations, choosing more settlements and buffer zone

areas by comparing and determining determine whether there is consistency among the studies. It is also suggested that studies on indigenous ideas to protect the local biodiversity, role of education in promoting tourism business, role of gender in expansion of tourism enterprise, trend of expenditures in a Nepali household, potentiality of the religious tourism etc can be conducted.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Questionnaire to the Respondents

A: Name:	Address:	Cell Number:
Date:		
<p>Dear respondent,</p> <p>This is completely a thesis work of Master Degree. It does not carry any official record. You are requested to answer the question honestly. The importance of this study depends on your valuable answers. According to statistics act 2018, your privacy will be secured and information you provide does not effect on it. So, please answer the following questions on your knowledge and practice as far as possible.</p>		

Section A: Socio-demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Q. N.	Socio-Demography (Variables 1-15)	Response Categories and Possible Responses							
1	What is your permanent address?	Address Details						Response	
		Municipality						1	
		District							
2	How old are you?								
3	What is your sex group?	Female	Male	Others					
4	What is your caste and ethnicity?								
5	What is your mother tongue?								
6	What is your religion?	Hindu	Buddhist	Islam	Kirat	Christianity	Others		
7	What is your marital status?	Unmarried	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Don't want to say		
8	What are your family occupations?	Agriculture	Business	Foreign Employment	Govt.job	Army/Police	Pension	Tourism	
9	How many members are working outside from the village?								
10	Where are they working?	In own District			In own Province			In Foreign Country	
11	What is land holding status of your family?	Ropani →				Aana →			
		Bigha →				Kathha →			
12	What is the highest educational grade you completed?	Grade	Subject						
13	How many children do you have?								
14	Where are your schools going children studying?	In public or community school			In private or boarding school			Not studying	

15	Where are your colleges going children studying?	In public/community college		In private college		Abroad		Not st	
Q. N.	Tourism Related Variables (16-30)	Response Categories and Possible Responses							
16	Have you completed any vocational training?	Hospitality/cooking	Culinary art	Trekking	Crafts	Farmig	Others	None	
17	What is your category related to ecotourism?	Direct beneficiary		Indirect beneficiary		Non-beneficiary			
18	What is your direct tourism service (DTS)	Homestay	Paying guest	Guest house	Hotel	Resort	Teasp	Restaurnt	
19	Is this registered then?	Yes	No	On plan					
20	Did your parents also involved in DTS?	Yes	No						
21	What is your in direct tourism service (IDTS)	Farming	Craft making	Employment	Guide/Porter	Medical Healer	Horse riding	Others	
22	Is this registered then?	Yes	No	On plan					
23	Did your parents also involved in IDTS?	Yes	No						
24	When did you involve in tourism related profession?	Year							
		Month							
25	Are you supplying local or indigenous products to the guests?	Yes		No		On Plan			
26	Are you supplying local indigenous products in inter/national markets?	Yes		No		On Plan			
27	Are you planning to change your profession or job?	Yes		No		On Plan			
28	Are you motivating your children to start their career in your profession?	Yes		No		On Plan			
29	Do you agree that technical support of local government helped to sustain your occupation/profession?	Yes		No		On Plan			
30	Do you agree that final support of local government helped to sustain your occupation/profession?	Yes		No		On Plan			

Section C: Impacts of Ecotourism

Q. N.	Impact Analysis (Variables 31-55)	Response Categories and Responses					
31	Do you have your bank account?	Yes		No		On Plan	
32	How much was you investment cost at the beginning?	Rs.					
33	How much is your annual expenditure for this particular tourism service?	Buying local products		Rs.			
		Buying non-local products		Rs.			
		Salary to the staffs		Rs.			
		Tax payment		Rs.			
34	How much is your annual family earning from tourism and other sector?	Earning from tourism sector		Rs.			
		Earning from non-tourism sector		Rs.			
35	How much is your annual family expenditure in different purposes?	Fooding		Rs.			
		Clothing		Rs.			
		Medicine		Rs.			
		Child education		Rs.			

		Worship and travelling		Rs.		
		Electronic accessories		Rs.		
		Cosmetic and jewellery		Rs.		
36	Did you bought any fixed assets like; land, house, cattle etc?	Yes		No		On Plan
		Land				Land
		House				House
		Cattles				Cattles
37	In your view, ecotourism is creating earning opportunities to the local people.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
38	What can be the focusing areas of local government for mounting economic benefit of ecotourism?	Establish division office				
		Offer off season package				
		Establish hotel and resorts				
		Promote homestay				
39	You believe that women participation in tourism based service products has been increased.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
40	You believe that identity of this tourism destination has been established in inter/national market.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
41	In your view, hosts have good relationships with top level politicians and bureaucrats for tourism promotion.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
42	In your view believe, community fund generated from ecotourism is investing for physical infrastructure projects.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
43	What can be the focusing areas of local government for mounting social and economic benefits of ecotourism?	Provide financial support to the local entrepreneurs			Peace and conflict management	
		Provide appreciation letters to the role model entrepreneurs			Foster social inclusion through tourism	
		Provide technical and financial supports to the non-beneficiaries of tourism			Motivate local youth and women to become direct beneficiaries of tourism	
		Provide technical/financial supports to community run homestay			Motivate local youth and women to become indirect beneficiaries of tourism	
44	In your view, most of the tourists visit the village during winter festivals.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
45	You affirm that CBOs are preserving cultural norms/values for nation-state.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
46	In your view, villagers are acquiring reading/travelling habits from tourists.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
47	You believe that local children, youths and women are becoming interactive.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say

48	What can be the focusing areas of local government for mounting cultural benefit of rural tourism?	Establish cultural museum			Focus on religious tourists	
		Conduct tourism trade fair			Shooting documentary	
		Conduct cultural ceremony			Focus on cultural tourists	
		Financial support to cultural institutions			Cultural code of conducts to the tourists	
49	You affirm that there is a negative impact of climate change on tourism.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
50	You believe that climate change related training conducted in the local level is helping for sustaining ecotourism.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
51	You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for tourism infrastructure development projects	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
52	You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for in IGAs	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
53	You affirm that SNNP and Buffer zone Committee are investing for local community development projects	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
54	You believe that awareness level of villagers on good health and hygiene have been increased due to buffer zone approach in ecotourism.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I can't say
55	What can be the focusing areas of local government for mounting environmental benefit of ecotourism?	Eco-tourism		Waste processing center		
		Park people harmony		Assess agricultural impact of climate		
		Organic farming		Assess tourism impact of climate cha		
		Integrated farming		Focus on environment friendly touris		

Appendix B: Sampling Determination Table

Margin Error

Required Sample Size				
Confidence =		95.0%	3.84	
Population Size	Degree of Accuracy/Margin of Error			
	0.05	0.04	0.025	0.01
10	10	10	10	10
20	19	20	20	20
30	28	29	29	30
50	44	47	48	50
75	63	69	72	74
150	108	126	137	148
200	248	160	177	196
250	152	190	215	244
300	169	217	251	291
400	196	265	318	384
500	217	306	377	475
600	234	340	432	565

The recommended sample size for a given population size, level of confidence, and margin of error appears in the body of the table.

For example, the recommended sample size for a population of 1,000, a confidence level of 95%, and a margin of error (degree of accuracy) of 5% would be 278.



Change these values to select different maximum margins of error.



Change these values to select different (e.g., more precise)

(Krejcie & Morgan, 1970)

Appendix C: ShivapuriNagarjunNational Park and Buffer Zone

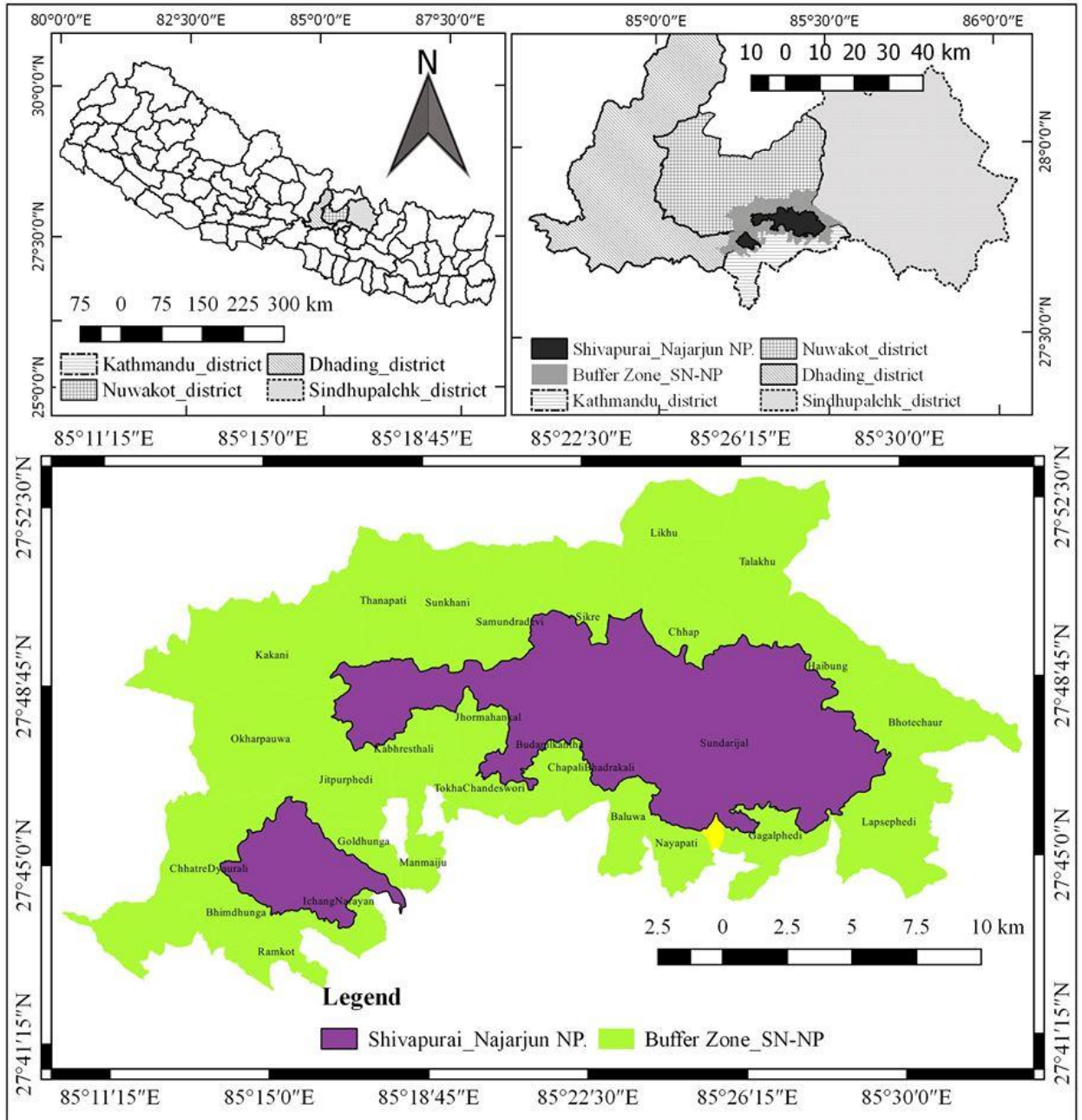


Fig: Map of SNNP and their Buffer zone