

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT OF MICRO-HYDRO POWER PROJECT  
(A Case Study of Lakhar Khola Dubachaur Chunwang  
VDC, Rukum District)**

**A Thesis Submitted to  
The Central Department of Rural Development Faculty  
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Fulfilment of the Requirements for  
The Degree of Master of Arts  
In Rural Development**

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

I, hereby certify that the thesis entitled "**Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact of Micro-Hydro-Power Project: A Case Study of Lakharkhola Dubachaur Chunwang VDC, Rukum District**" submitted by Mr. Bhim Bahadur Bist Chhetri to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, Master of Arts in Rural Development is carried out under my guidance and supervision. I recommend this for the final evaluation.

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## **APPROVAL SHEET**

This is to certify that the thesis submitted by Mr. Bhim Bahadur Bist Chhetri entitled "**Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact of Micro-Hydro-Power Project: A Case Study of Lakharkhola Dubachaur Chunwang VDC, Rukum District**" has been approved by this department in the prescribed format of the Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences. This dissertation is forwarded for the final evaluation

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Bhim Bahadur Bist Chhetri

April, 2009

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The thesis work entitled "Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact of Micro-Hydro-Power Project : A Case Study of Lakharkhola Dubachaur Chunwang VDC, Rukum District." The study has attempted to display the socio-economic and environmental impact of MHP in rural areas. It is a descriptive type of study based on primary data.*

*The 56 respondents were selected from 139 household. It was selected random sampling method for this study.*

*The main objective of this study is to examine the socio-economic and environmental impact of Lakharkhola MHP plant, to find out the attitude of community and sustainability of micro-hydro project in rural area.*

*Among the total 56 respondents Magar caste (60.71%) has dominated other caste. All of the respondents (56) reported that their life standard has been changed after electrical facility.*

*Majority of respondent's (75%) family income has been increased after MHP. Most of the respondents (64.29%) have unable to meet their annual food demand by crops and livestock.*

*The status of forest has been improved after establishment of MHP in the study area. More than 53 percent respondents reported that the sanitation is improved after MHP. Positive impact has seen in human health.*

*One flour mill and oil mill is established in study area after electricity. Migration trend is zero percent in study area after MHP. More than 85 percent respondents reported that there is positive effect in*

*social cultural properties like change in behaviour and change in thinking.*

*There is operation schedule in powerhouse and maintenance responsibility has gone to user committee women's participation is lower in maintenance and using the electricity. More than 75 percent respondents are satisfied by electricity.*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Recommendation Letter</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Approval Sheet</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>Abbreviations/Acronyms</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>CHAPTER – I: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-7</b>
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	6
1.4 Significance of the Study	6
1.5 Limitation of the Study	7
1.6 Organization of the Study	7
<b>CHAPTER – II: LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>8-19</b>
<b>CHAPTER – III: METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>20-22</b>
3.1 Introduction to Study Site	20
3.2 Nature of Data	20
3.3 Sample Selection	20
3.4 Questionnaire Design	21
3.5 Method of Data Collection	21
3.6 Data Processing	21
3.7 Data Analysis	22
<b>CHAPTER – IV: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA</b>	<b>23-45</b>
4.1 Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact	23
4.1.1 Caste/Ethnicity	23

4.1.2	Change In Living Standard	25
4.1.3	Status of Family Income	26
4.1.4	Food Supply	27
4.1.5	Situation of Irrigation	28
4.1.6	Status of Forest	29
4.1.7	Status of Sanitation	30
4.1.8	Impact of Project	31
4.1.9	Effect of Drinking Water	32
4.1.10	Establishment of Industries	33
4.1.11	Status of Education	34
4.1.12	Pollution by Project	35
4.1.13	Status of Wild Animal	36
4.1.14	Trend of Migration	37
4.2	Attitude of Community Towards MHP	38
4.2.1	Effects In Social And Culture	38
4.2.2	Feeling/ Concept of people	40
4.2.3	Interest Of Loan	41
4.3	Sustainability of MHP	42
4.3.1	Operation Schedule	42
4.3.2	Peoples' Responsibility	43
4.3.3	Women's Participation	44

## **CHAPTER – V: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1	Summary	46
5.2	Conclusion	48
5.3	Recommendations	50

## **REFERENCES**

## **ANNEX – 1: QUESTIONNAIRE**

## LIST OF TABLES

	<b>Page No.</b>	
Table 4.1	Distribution of Respondents by Caste /Ethnicity	24
Table 4.2	Status of Living Standard After Electricity	25
Table 4.3	Status of Family Income After having Electricity	26
Table 4.4	Status of Crops and Livestock	27
Table 4.5	Situation of Irrigation in Farm	28
Table 4.6	Status of Forest After Project Launched	29
Table 4.7	Status of Sanitation after Electricity	31
Table 4.8	Impact of Project on Human Health	32
Table 4.9	Effect of Project in Drinking Water Supply	33
Table 4.10	Establishment of Industries After Electricity	33
Table 4.11	Status of Student's Education After Electricity	34
Table 4.12	Status of Environmental Pollution After the Project	35
Table 4.13	Type of Pollution Occurred After Project	36
Table 4.14	Status of Wild Animals After Project	37
Table 4.15	Trend of Migration After Project	38
Table 4.16	Effect of Plant in Social and Culture Properties	39
Table 4.17	Factor Affected by Project	39
Table 4.18	Feeling of People Towards Electricity	40
Table 4.19	Feeling of Respondents Towards Interest Rate of the Loan	41
Table 4.20	Status of Operation Schedule in Power House	43
Table 4.21	Concept of People Towards Maintenance Responsibility	44
Table 4.22	Status of Women's Participation in Maintenance and Use of Electricity	45

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

	<b>Page No.</b>
Figure 4.1 Distribution of Respondents by Caste/Ethnicity	24
Figure 4.2 Status of Family Income After having Electricity	26
Figure 4.3 Status of Forest After Project Launche	29

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADBN	:	Asian Development Bank Nepal
AEPC	:	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre
BSP	:	Biogas Support Program
CADEC	:	Community Awareness Development Energy Centre
CBO	:	Community Based Organization
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
ESAP	:	Energy Sector Assistance Programme
FY	:	Fiscal Year
HMG/N	:	His Majesty Government of Nepal
KW	:	Kilowatt
MHP	:	Micro Hydro-Power
MW	:	Megawatte
MWE	:	Megawatt Energy
NGO	:	Non-Governmental Organization
P. Ltd.	:	Private Limited
PRA	:	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RE	:	Rural Energy
REDP	:	Renewable Energy Development Program
SHP	:	Small Hydro-Power
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Program
VDC	:	Village Development Committee
WECS	:	Water Energy Commission Secretariat
WTO	:	World Trade Organization