

ROLE OF COMMUNITY MANAGED FOREST ON
THE UPLIFTMENT OF PEOPLE'S LIVING
STANDARD:
(A Case Study of Badahare Patal Community Forestry User
Group, Lamjung District)

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Kiran Neupane

Exam Roll # 2735/062

T. U. Regd #. 5-1-19-710-97

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LETTER OF RECOMENDATION

This thesis entitled "**ROLE OF COMMUNITY MANAGED FOREST ON THE UPLIFTMENT OF PEOPLE'S LIVING STANDARD: A CASE STUDY OF BDAHARE PATAL FOREST USER GROUP, LAMJUNG DISTRICT**" has been prepared by **Mr. Kiran Neupane**, under my supervision. I hereby recommend this thesis for examination by the Thesis Committee as a partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS in RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

(Dr. Chandra Lal Shrestha)

Associate Professor

Thesis Supervisor

Date:

LETTER OF APPROVAL

The thesis entitled "**ROLE OF COMMUNITY MANAGED FOREST ON THE UPLIFTMENT OF PEOPLE'S LIVING STANDARD: A CASE STUDY OF BADAHARE PATAL FOREST USER GROUP, LAMJUNG DISTRICT**", prepared by Mr. **Kiran Neupane**, in the prescribed format of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been accepted as the partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of **MASTER OF ARTS** in **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

.....

Head of Department

Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka

.....

External Examiner

Associate Prof. Dr. Uma Kanta Silwal

.....

Thesis Supervisor

Associate Prof. Dr. Chandra Lal Shrestha

Date:

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This study has been undertaken as a part of regular course for Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. It has tried to analyze the socio-economic characteristics, general trend of people's participation, factors affecting people's participation and rural development activities completed by Badahare Patal Forest User Group.

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ABSTRACTS

The study entitled "Role of People Managed Forest on the Upliftment of People's Living Standard: A Case Study of Badahare Patal Forest User Group in Jita VDC of Lamjung District" done in the issues of socio-economic status of Badahare Patal Forest User Group, people's participation in community forest management & factors affecting to people's participation. Community forest is the people's participatory approach in which the local users of the forest are involved in planning, development, protection, production and use of forest resources. The concept of CF came into practice in Nepal in the late seventies (1978). At present, the CF programme is launched in most of the parts of Nepal.

Community forestry is people oriented forest program in Nepal. The effectiveness of CF in relation to people's participation is very crucial. Still, the primary forest user group (women) is not participated properly in the CFM. This study focused on the participation of people in decision making, implementation, monitoring & evaluation and benefit sharing, effecting factors relation to people's participation in CFM. To fulfill these objectives, Badahare Patal Community Forest of Jita VDC of Lamjung district was selected as study area. Badahare Patal Forest Group has 94 households, among them 29 households i.e. 30 percent households were selected as sample units choosing by simple random sampling without replacement method. To meet the objectives of the study, primary & secondary data were collected from the field survey. These data are analyzed descriptively & analytically with the help of computer software programme.

The study has showed that the community forest is dominant by Brahmin castes (53.35 percent) followed by 11.16 percent Kami, 9.08 percent Damai and 7.59 percent Sarki. So, Brahmin has occupied vital posts of committee members. The educational status of the respondents was not seen satisfactory, only 24.14 percent female respondents are literate. 25 households have very little amount of Bari from which they could produce themselves food for only six months. 31.03 percent of the households are directly

engaged in traditional agriculture and 6.9 percent households are participating in small business besides agriculture.

The study has revealed that 31.02 percent people are strongly agree on the statement fuel wood is more sufficiently available after CF. 44.83 percent people are agreed on timber is more sufficiently than before. Most of the people are agreed on the statement about quality of fodder has improved. 15.38 percent of female are strongly agree on the statement forest product is less time consuming and 34.14 percent of female are agree on the statement on the process of forest product collection is easier than before. Most of the male (46.15 percent) are agree on the statement agriculture implements are more sufficiently than before. While taking the increasing population of wild animals due to community forestry, 86.78 (92.31 percent female) percent people are strongly agreed on this statement. 76.92 percent of the female are strongly agree on the statement environmental quality has been maintained due to formation of community forest.

The study has revealed that the involvement of people in CFM is limited. Access of ordinary people in decision making is found lower. Women's participation in FUG general assemblies & regular meetings was not active & decisive. It was found that from the FUG record, only 25 percent of female are actively participate in general and regular meetings. Only 35.58 percent people are strongly agree on the statement women are to be encouraged to participate in CF activities. But in the case of benefit sharing access of both sexes was found almost equal. There is no gender based forest resource distribution system. Only Executive Committee members take part in monitoring and evaluation aspect. Women EC members was less active in vital discussion & in taking decision. The educational level was found influential factor in active participation. The people who are less participate & are less active are found less aware & less motivated. Lower caste users are far behind in participation in CF activities. Therefore, training should be conducted to make active to all users for higher participation. In overall, this CF was found a moderate condition but, some major changes should be made to improve people's participation in Community forestry management & development.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAH	Annual Allowable Harvest
ACAP	Annapurna Conservation Area Project
BPCFUG	Badahare Patal Community Forestry User Group
CBS	Centre Bureau of Statistics
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CF	Community Forestry
CFD	Community Forest Division
CFM	Community Forest Management
CFP	Community Forest Program
CFUG	Community forest User Group
CM	Committee Meeting
DFO	District Forestry Office
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest Users
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
FUG	Forest User Group
FUGC	Forest User Group Committee
GA	General Assembly
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSM	Global Service for Mobile
Ha	Hectare
HH	Household
HMGN	His Majesty's Government Nepal
ICIMOD	Integrated Centre for Mountain Development
I/N/GO	International / Non / Governmental Organization
IUCN	International Union of Natural Conservation
LFP	Livelihood Forestry Project
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoFSC	Ministry of Forestry and Soil Conservation
MPFS	Master Plan for the Forestry Sector
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Product
OP	Operational Plan
PF	Panchyat Forest
PPF	Panchayat Protected Forest
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
TGS	Total Growing Stock
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VDC	Village Development Committee
VHF	Very High Frequency
WB	World Bank