

CHAPTER: - ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

There are many countries in the world, among them Nepal is one. It occupies 0.03% total land of the world and 0.3% total land of the Asia continent. It is one of the country which is rich in natural resources like forest. People are the nation's pillar, Human beings living and occupying the particular land or country are known as people. According to Oxford dictionary "People are human beings in general or considered collectively members of particular nation, community or ethnic group". People do the different activities with in their life period which affect the natural or artificial environment by the activities of people ecosystem and biodiversity are affected. Rather people also contribute the nations development for all aspects by providing services or producing goods to strengthen the GDP of nation. Nepal is one of the first countries to introduce people focused forest policy. Community Forestry Development Program (CFDP) is a major program in the forestry sector of the community forestry is to meet basic needs of the local people particularly fuelwood and timber, through a sustainable forest management and utilization. Before the Rana regime, the forest cover was good and no special efforts were made for forest protection. During that time, in addition under the provision of Jagir, Kipat and Birta, forest was given to army officers and high ranking palace officials. These forests area were used for their own interests, which increased encroachment. But during the Rana Regime encroachment on forests increased due to conflicts among the Rana brother over power. A number of rules were drawn up to regulate access to forest and for removal of forest products. (Mahaat et al. 1987).

The promulgation of these rules coincided with increased removal of forest product of sale to India. After the dawn of democracy different political movements caused deforestation, particularly the political change of 1950/51 and political movements of 1979/80. An estimated 4% of the total forest land was cleared during 1979/80. (Thapa et al. 1995). It was in 1957, the nationalization of forest led most of the forest of the country towards deforestation due to its improper management and increase demand of forest products by increased population of man and livestock (Shrestha 1995). As a result of nationalization of forests in 1957 people gradually lost all benefits and deprived their right to

manage and benefits from forests. Similarly, programmed on wide scale could help to close the gap of energy crisis and to meet the increased demand of the fodder, timber and other forest products? Prior to 1957 the state exercised little control over the forests on the contrary, individuals were encouraged to convert forestland into agriculture land as means of extending state control over territory and increasing state revenue (Wallance1987). Having failed to manage the forest resources through bureaucratic machinery, the government in 1976 recognized that management of forests by local villagers who had used forest in the past was the only practical way to ensure protection and sustainable supply of forest products for subsistence needs. By law resources was entrusted to the community through the political body called the PANCHAYAT. This policy was continued over a decade, which finally proved to be ineffective because of lack of requisite infrastructure. Finally the government has come with new Forestry Act Rules And Regulations by implementing the forest Act 1993 to meet the growing needs of various forest products and to restore the ecological balance as well as to make economic use of the forests.(dec-3 2002 S Paudel).

‘‘Hariyo Ban Nepal Ko Dhan ‘‘ has been a very popular slogan in Nepal and to some extent a reality as well. However, with the nationalization of forests by the government in 1957, the local people who had been using the forests resources as well as protecting the forests were deprived of the living of their rights. The nationalization of forests by the government has let to mistrust among the people towards the efforts made by the government for forest protection. To add woe to this the increasing population was bound to depend on the adjacent forests for meeting their basic needs such as firewood, fuel, fodder, and timber (Pendit and Bevilacqua 2011a). As a result of this, the forests were exploited in the manners that were not conducive to sustainable management practice. Consequently, this led to deterioration of forests particularly in the hills in the form of accelerated forest encroachment, illegal logging and continued deforestation. To stop the rapid decline and deterioration of forest conditions, the government initiated the community forestry program. The community forestry program was specifically brought in with an objective of meeting the subsistence needs of local people and at the same time for protecting the forest by transferring user rights for forests resources to the users (Gautam et Al, 2002; Gentle et al, 2007).

The need for a community forestry program in Nepal was first emphasized by government policies as early as 1976 (By the National Forest Plan ,1976). This resulted in amendment of the conventional Forest Act (amendment 1977) by making provisions for handing over of part of government forests to the smallest local governance unit, then known

as 'Panchayat'. It further produced regulations called Forest Rules, in 1978 for smooth implementation of the program. After the panchayat system was overthrown, political instability was created. In the absence of proper legislative structure, forest administration started handing over the forests directly to the local groups involved in protecting forests. Providing ownership of forest management directly to the local forests users made the community forestry program more acceptable, and users started contributing for forest protection and forest management, such as thinning, pruning, weeding, etc. thus local communities started to have more responsibility in forest management and the started to get benefits from forest products such as tree fodder, grass, poles and firewood.(As per web page of Ministry of Forestry June.2018)

A master plan of the forestry sector (1989) placed the community forestry program as one of its six primary programs. The forest Act was enacted in 1993, where community forestry was recognized as one of the forestry programs for Nepal. Regulations were passed in 1995, which elaborated operational modalities for community forests. The regulations allowed local people to manage the forests and to use the forest products according to the management plan approved by the District Forest Office (DFO). Community forestry is a participatory forest management system in Nepal that was started in the late 1970s. Glimour and Fisher (1991) defined community forestry as the control, protection and management of forest resources by rural communities for whom tress and forests are an integral part of their farming systems. The community Forest Act 1993 gives local people significant control in the management and harvest of resources (Euphrat and Shrestha 2002). Bhatta (2001) reported that about 850,000 hectors forest areas have been handed over to eleven thousand forest user groups. Shrestha and Sapkota (2001) reported that the forests users of Dhading, Kaski, Baglung and Parbat districts of Nepal pay money for fuelwood, timber, cutgrass, resin and stone gathered from community forest areas. Forest products that are commonly sold in Sindhupalchok and KabhrePalanchok districts are saw logs, round poles and green fuelwood (Hunt et al, 1995).

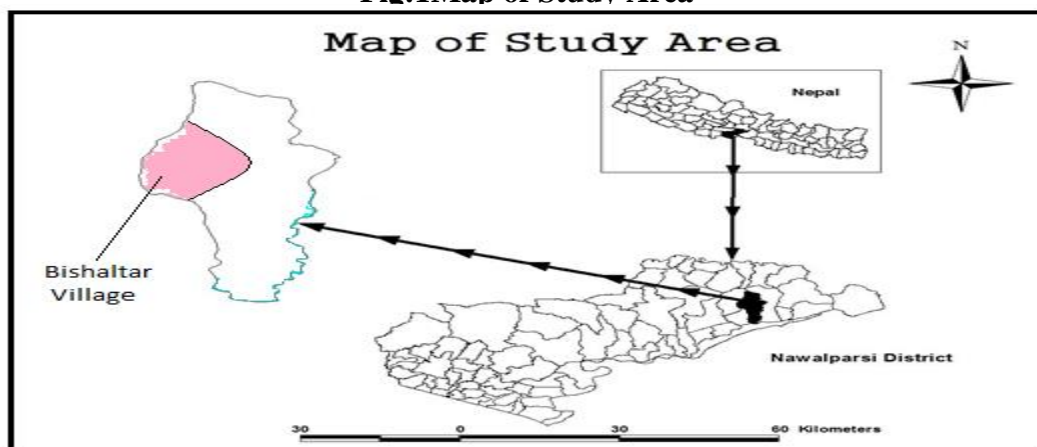
A joint five years survery conducted by Department of forest and survey and national forests products survey project in between 2067 to 2071 BS shows that of the total 147,181 square kilos meters area of Nepal, forest area makes up 44.74 % of it 40.36% percent is covered by forest and remaining 4.38% is scrubland. If this percentage is converted into digit the maximum sections of forest area while the far west covers the least section. According to data made available by the Department, the west region has 1,846,365 hectors

of forest area while the forest area in the far west is expanded to 135,900 hectares. The mid hill area is greater than other region as forest area here makes up 37.8% and is followed by 32.25% in the high hilly land 32.25 percent in the hilly land 23.03% in the chure region and 6.90% in Terai (Kathmandu post, may 13 2016). About 1.45 million household or 35% of the total population of Nepal is involve in Community Forest Management. A total of 18,13,478 hectares of National Forest have been handed over as CF and 24,61,549 households have benefited (according to the Ministry of Forest and Environment, oct. 2018).

Gilmour and Fisher 1991, define community forest in terms of control and management of forest resources by the rural people who use them especially for domestic purpose and as an integral part of their farming system. Many local populations have benefited their livelihood obtained from the forest and traditionally they are coming to give generation and conservation of forest for the supply of their needs. Access to forest products for animal benefitting fodder and firewood and construction timber was generally controlled by few simple rules and prescriptions. The authority was essentially locally organized and locally monitored. (Gilmour et al; 1989).

Community forest has great importance not only with ecological and biodiversity perspective but also with the use of its possibilities to ensure the living of the people. Nepal, a pre- dominantly in agricultural and substance basedcountry, where agriculture is the backbone for Nepalese economy. To this context necessity of forest cannot be under estimated. 1.6 billion people depend on varying degree on forest for their livelihood (Dhakal and masamda 2008). In the lack of alternative energy forests has become the main sources of engery in rural life. Forest accounts 85% of the total energy consumption by the residence sector in the country(CBS,2011)

Fig:1Map of Study Area



The study explores to identify the impact on the economic life of the people of the community forest area of Devchuli municipality ward no 9 of Nawalparasi district on the north of Mahendra Highway about 5 km from Pragatinagarbazaar. Moreover, this study also examines the relationship between forest and people and tries to understand existing preventive measure applied by the local people and forest authority in the study area.

1.2. Statement of Problem

Lumbini zone is the holy place as it is known as the birth place of lord Gautam Buddha. It is very beautiful zone rich in natural resource like forest, water, iron etc. there are 201-community forest in this district. Conservation of forest, herbs, wild lives is possible due to conservation and utilization of forest by district involvement of community people.

Community forest program is global model, which has been one of the most successful programs in Nepal. Following more than thirty –five years of implementation experiences, the program now represents arguably the most advanced and progressive model worldwide for the participatory management of natural resources (Nurse et al, 2014, cited in Pokharel and Nurse, 2014). during the last 35 years of CF history, nearby 1.7 million ha national forest have been handed over to more than 17,685 CFUGs(CFD, 2013). Local users organized as CFUG take the lead and manage resources. The advantages of community forest include employment and income generation from forest protection, tree falling and log extraction as well as non-timber forest products. Additional economic benefits are in the form of sustained wood fuel sources, which contributes more than three quarter of energy needs to household (UNEP,12014). Some community activities have initiated a scholarship program for low-income people as well as savings and credit operation among members including loans to finance income generation activities. Important progress has been made in improving overall living standard. A great majority of the population of Nepal lives in villages and a big segment of this rural population are under the absolute poverty. HMG/N, (2012) statistics shows that about 24% people are under the poverty line. The main vision of the community forestry is to create employment and income generation activities for disadvantaged groups and people living below the poverty line (H.M.G 2014).

Poor households do not benefit from community forests as much as affluent households became of product distribution decision by influential groups of people and also the opportunity cost of participation, which often yields disinterest in participation. Medium class households benefit the most in comparison to high and lower class households. Upper

class households are indifferent in community participation whereas poor people are suffering since they cannot afford to participate. Different level of participation have been observed in community forest management. In collective action, levels of participation include attending meetings, participating in weeding the forest once a year, and decision making in relation to forest management. Since Nepal is a patriarchal society, there are currently fewer women than men in decision-making level of participation even though policy of government encouraged more participation by women recent years.

Ghumauri community forest is the one of the most renowned forest in the Nawalparasi district. It had got second prize in 2069 and 7071 and consolation prize in 2074 being good conservation of forest and mobilization of people in forest conservation activities. It is located at the height of 500m, 5km north of Mahendra highway from Pragatinagar city. It lies Devchuli municipality ward no-9, Bishaltar. It has boundary of surrounded by small Ghumauri in the east, Jaluke stream in the west, conservation forest in north and Bishaltar village in the south. It covers area of 207.16 ha. This community forest has benefited to 525 household of 2620 people. Among them 1210 are female and 1410 are male. It was handover by the government to the community in 2052 BS. The first chairperson of this Ghumauri Community Forest was Mr. Nandalal Kandel. It was registered in District forest office in 2055/11/9 B.S as per rules and regulation of community forestry act of government of Nepal. During the registration time it has 11 members chaired by Mr. Pratap Sen Thakuri. (as per record of Ghumauri Community Forest

It is equally important to note that participation does not equal local development, nor does local development equal participation. They are mutually dependent. For participation to be meaningful, local involvement and consultation must mean a partnership of equals. If local people are consulted and action based on mutual cooperation and a better understanding of the variety of issues involved is the result, then meaningful participation is achieved. (Furge et al, as cited in Regmi, 2009).

The deforestation in Nepal is upsetting the delicate ecological balance and affecting the lives of many of the people, especially the hill women, who use these resources in their household. The deforestation increases erosion, causing landslides, and raises the silt in rivers, changing their course and flooding the southern plains. The majority of Nepal's population is rural and they depend on agriculture for their livelihood. It is estimated that 95% of the wood taken in deforestation is used for fuel primarily used in cooking. The farmers developed a complicated system of land preparation and terracing, but this has not

stopped erosion on the steeper slopes. Since women are the ones who get the wood for fuel and other products, they must become an integral part of any conservation plan. With the Nationalization Act of 1957, the forestland became the property of the government and therefore managed under the Ministry of Forests through the department officers. Later legislation involved the communities in replanting and long-term care and transfer of tracts for protection and management. In addition, nurseries were created for seedlings and the improved wood burning stoves were distributed. Women were not initially involved in these programs because of their traditional role, but through training programs involving local communities, the importance of women in forestry conservation was recognized. Women were first employed in nursery labor and then as supervisors and now more are involved in project activities and forestry staff. They have been most helpful in training others in using the new fuel-efficient stoves. (As per the web pages of Ministry of Forestry. March 2018).

1.3 Objectives of the study:

1.3.1 General Objective of the Study:

The general objective of the study is to study the socio-economic impact of the community forest on its user group.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives of the Study:

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- i) To explore the importance of community forest on the local development.
- ii) To study the economic contribution of community forestry in social development.

1.4 Rationale of the Study:

The main objective of this study is to find out the socio-economic impact on the user group. The research area represents the community forest of the east Nawalparasi. Moreover, to be specific it reveals the impact of community forest of Devchuli municipality of Nawalparasi district. This study area has been confined to ward no-9..

This study will give information about the social condition of people benefited by community forest and their role and participation in the FUG of devchuli-9, Bishaltar. This study will try to focus on the level of women and marginalized people activities in relation with socio-economic factors. Therefore, it will be useful to help in increasing the participation of women and focused group in social activities.

This study will also reveal the information about the different income generating activities within the CFUGs and other possibilities of income for sustainable livelihood of local people. This study's socio-economic impact of CF ' ' is anticipated to be useful as baseline information for policy makers, planners, NGO/INGOs and development workers in various aspects for uplifting the socio-economic conditions of the local people.

1.5 Organization of the Study:

The whole thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one includes the introduction which includes background of study, statement of study, objective of the study and the rationale of study. Literature review is presented in the second chapter, which gives general review, related literature review of the community forestry and conceptual framework.

The third deals with the research method as research design, rationale for selection, nature and sources of data, sampling procedure, tools and techniques of data collection, data management and analysis, reliability and validity of the data and limitation of the study. The fourth chapter is major part of the study. It shows the main analytical part of the study with socio-economic characteristics of the respondents such as socio- economic and cultural setting, distribution of ethnic group, presentation of data and analysis.

Finally, the fifth chapter presents the summary, major finding of the study and conclusion aroused from research.

CHAPTER- TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 General Review

Community forestry in Nepal has been evolving towards the complete participatory management by user group, where the users utilize and manage forest resources. The initial state was participatory conservation of environment through planting of trees which later developed into institutional development of community forest user groups where the forest management and resources control was undertaken by the user groups. Later the objective of community forestry expanded towards mobilization and empowerment of the user group towards development of the rural community. The Community Forest (CF) program is one of the most prioritized programs of Forestry Master Plan 1989 of Nepal (HMG/N 1998). According to the Master Plan 60% of total national forest can be handed over to communities. The government has already handed over 34.92% (1.7 million ha) of the national forest to about 18000 households (25%) residing near the forest for management and utilization (CFD, 2013), analysed the economic contribution of the community forestry in household income among different economic classes.

Community Forestry broadly refers to the transfer of the state-owned national forests to communities organized into Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) for the protection, management and utilization of the respective patches of forest. The willingness and capacity of users to manage Community Forest are the two basic criteria that are considered during CFUG formation. Whether the people are traditional users of a given forest area and whether the forest is located near to the willingness and capacity of the CFUG members. There is no limit placed on the area, group size, political or geographical boundary and socio-economic characteristics.

Well-defined property rights give users incentives to work on common property (Arnold, 1992). Property rights also give people incentive to adopt technology that increases long-term benefits. This in turn gives resource users an incentive to improve the resource through management, determining the equality in the accessibility of the resource (IFPRI, 1999). Meizen-Dick, R; Brown Lynn R; Feldstein, Hilary Sims; Quisumbing, and Agnes R. (1997) stated that property rights are based on age, gender, class, caste and intra household characteristics. In order to motivate users to participate in the community forestry, users should have a right to extract products from the forest and exclude specific individuals who do not hold the rights. The economy of Nepal largely depends on the use of its natural

resources, and is dominated by the agrarian sector (D.D.P 2012 mega pub.). Dependency of rural population on forest is high for fuel wood, timber and fodder etc. forest accounts 85% of total energy consumption by the residence sector in the country (CBS,2012).

Realizing the importance of the forest for rural livelihoods the government of Nepal has given emphasis on community based resources management. As a result, the community forest (CF) program was initiated during 1970's. the potential area of CF in Nepal is 35,61,600 hectares, which is 61% of the total national forest (HMG/N, 1989). Out of the forest land 17,52,654 hectares of forest have handed over to 17, 685 community forest user groups (CFUGs), benefiting 21,77.858 households, which is about 25% of the total potential CF area of Nepal (Kalpabrichaya 2012). After almost three decades, community forestry is the most prioritized program of Nepal's forestry sector for poverty alleviation. Its main focused is on fulfilling the basic forestry sector needs of local people with their active participation in conservation, management and utilization of forest products (FPs) (HMG/N, 1989). However, poverty alleviation in CFUG through commercialization of forest products is an immerging issues in community forestry of Nepal. CFUGs are legally authorized body to take management decisions (Acharya, 2002) and to distribute the FPs according to their operational plan (OP). Timber, fuel, wood, fodder, grasses, leaf litter and many other Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) are the direct benefits from CFUG. All users should agree on distribution system of the products, without this, participation of the majority of users will be lost and management system will break down (Thompson, 1990). However, there are only limited data related to equity-based distribution of forest products to different groups of people (Verma,1998). According to Timilsina and luitel (2003) the approaches of natural resources management must be devised to allocate more resources to disadvantaged groups so as to make the system, as a whole, more fair. Generally rich prefer more valuable FPs as they have limited source of income (Poudel,2003). Regarding participation, mostly rich dominate the decision-making forum (Gauli,2003; Uprety, 2005). Nevertheless, the study shows that community forestry program is playing important role in minimizing income inequality with in community.

Community forests in Nepal range from less than 1 ha to more than 4,000 ha (DOF 2009), and the average size of a forest managed by a CFUGs is 79 ha (Kanel and Kandel 2004). Likewise, the number of households in a CFUG ranges from fewer than a dozen to more than 10,000 households, and the average is 111 households. A CFUG may include all members of a village, a select subgroup of households, people from another village or even from another district, irrespective of administrative boundaries. The institution is inclusive

rather than exclusive of households in village, and in practice all households of one or more villages become members of a CFUG, representing diverse interests in forest. Interest-based subgroups (such as fuel sellers, landless, and non-timber forest cultivators) are often formed to articulate diverse interests in CFUG decision making processes. Other common modes of citizen participation within CFUGs include a wide array of institutional mechanisms such as Tole (hamlet)based decision making, elected executive committees, annual assemblies, and formulation of forest management plans. There are many donor agencies implementing different projects for the development of CF. for example NARMSAP, a Danish projects, is implemented in 38 hill districts running different projects for CF development. Australia project NACRMP in Sindhupalchock and Kavre, FDP in Siraha, Saptari, Udayapur under GTZ (German project), LFP under DFID (British government) in 4, 5 & 6 districts of eastern, western and mid-western region of Nepal. Like wise SAGUN, under USAID in Banke, Bardiya, Dhading and kailali, since 2001 BISEP-ST under Netherland government is running its program in 8 districts of Inner Terai (Chitwan, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusa&Makwanpur) & 3 district of western Nepal (Bardiya, Knchanpur&Kailai)-Zeevan Monthly, 2060.

Along with NGO alliances, it has brought civil society perspective into the policy-making process that used to be dominated by technocrats and bureaucrats. The most important policy issue in which FECOFUN, has made significant contributions in the past few years concerns the extension of CFUG rights over forest resources in the hills as well as in terai. Community forestry has come a long way from its preliminary objectives to improve forest conditions through people's participation. The belief that CF should provide inputs to uplift the livelihoods of the forest-dependent poor has been felt over the past several years. The forth national workshop on community forestry in 2004 highlighted the multiple aspect of community forestry that contributes to the achievement of national and international development goals. One of the major findings of the workshop was that CF has substantial potential to attain poverty reduction goals within its framework through the enhancement of various natural, social and financial capitals of user's households. (According to the web page of government March 2018).

2.2 Related Literature Review

Many scholars and researchers have devoted them to forestry issues of Nepal. Their effort to find out the forestry problems and solutions are considered valuable contributions.

However, here is an attempt that has been made to review the publications of some scholars related directly to C.F management.

According to Dick and Knox (2001), all members of the community group need to have equal participation in management in order for economically disadvantaged groups to receive benefits. Equal participation is necessary to create effective and equitable management for collective decision-making, which ensures equal benefits for all user groups. Demand for forest products also affects participation in community forest management. Involvement in community forest management practices is necessary to have access to desired forest products and to bring success to the community forestry project (Devkota, 1998). Hobley (1990), in Ph.D. dissertation, argued that, although the objective of social forestry program in Nepal is to help women and the poor, the class and patriarchal structure women and control over social forestry projects. She cited example from Tukkuha and Banskhara Panchayat of NAFP project area.

The program initially received major momentum from international agencies, but later became owned and sustained by local actors and institutions. During the early 1980s, Nepal's mountains were widely perceived as a site of a double crisis, affecting both the environment and livelihood locally and beyond (Eckholm 1976). Around the same time, a global environmental movement was gathering momentum. The Nepal Himalayan became a matter of concern and international agencies began to pour in technical and financial support (Gutman 1991), initially to establish forest plantations as a quick fix, but later to address policy and institutional drivers of deforestation (Gilmour and Fisher 1991).

According to Hymen (1995) community forestry projects must place a high priority on socio-economic and environmental changes and have devised solution and strategies to tackle the problems they are facing. Many of strategies are based not only considerations rationale, but based on environmental terms. Overall socio-economic development and increased economic activities in Nepal have led to the rapid transformation of some rural agrarian society to an open and market oriented one (as in Kavrepalanchok, market influence is greater than other remote hill district due to its proximity to Kathmandu (Malla 1993).

Case study of forest user groups in two districts (Baitadi & Achham) done by Chhetri and Pandey (1992), suggested that people's active participation is a key solution to effective management of common property resources particularly forest.

According to Byron (1991) community forestry and rural development in developing countries are clearly economic matters, covering not only, the efficiency of problem of forest

products needed by the communities but the equality distribution of the costs and benefits among the local people. But, the social aspect is equally important.

The importance of community forest products to the households living in the rural areas has been increasingly recognized, the program is however, not yet able to fully ensure equitable, gender sensitive and poverty focused outcomes. Detailed analyses on the level of participation of user household in major forest management rural poor, remains a critical gap. This study examines the factors influencing participation of user household in community forest management activities, namely forest protection, resources utilizations and decision making. Examples of proper innovations generally include designating loans, land for cultivation, or areas of the community forest for fodder collection to be explicitly reserved for marginalized groups or poorest households and setting up women dominated small business enterprises (Joshi et al 2006).

Although, the community forestry is successful program in Nepal in terms of conservation, there are still various emerging issues related to marginalized people in the community. Though the involvement of marginalized people in CF with their perception and actions have direct impacts in forest system in forest system and their livelihood, marginalized groups in multi-stakeholder setting have often been excluded and under-valued, with the perception that they have less ability to address and act on the decisions. Furthermore, it has been increasingly recognized that inequitable distribution of benefits. Combined with uneven sense of ownership and motivation in the CFUGs, and lack of the clear options, as well as technical knowledge and some policy implementation constraints have resulted in relatively passive managements of forest. (Ministry of Forestry may. 2018)

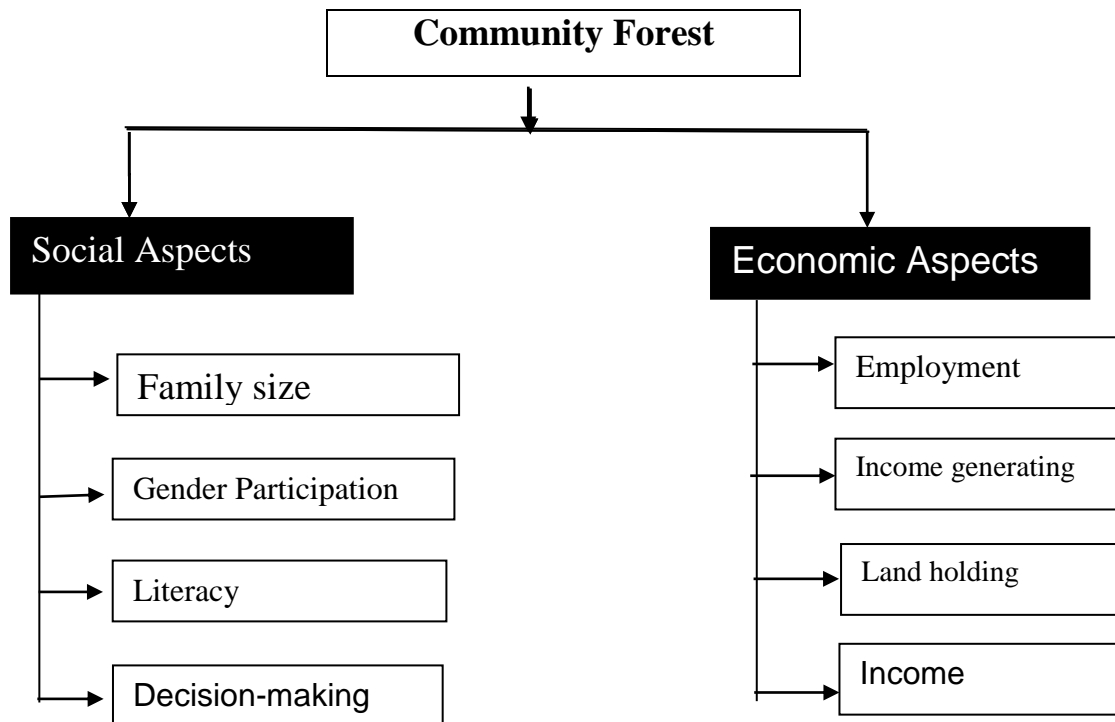
However, community forestry has gained popularity even though it has some weakness. Socio-economic condition of the targeted area plays a role for the success of development progress effective approach to community forestry management must be what actually works in Nepal. New strategies have the greatest chance of success if they are based on bio-physical possibilities as well as social economic realities. Therefore, technical and administrative feasibilities must be combined with socio- economic feasibility, if the forest and communities are to be flourished.

2.3 Conceptual Framework

This framework helps to achieve the objectives of the study by measuring the possible elements concerned with Socio-Economic impact of CF. here the literacy, family,

size, decision making, gender, participation & local development are the determining factors concerned with society. Like-wise income, income generating activities, employment and economic status are the economic factors of the society

Figure-2: -Conceptual Framework of Community Forest



There are the dependent variables whereas people centered development as in depended variables. It shows that community forest has impact on all the above variables. Having positive impact on variables, community forest can be achieving its goals.

CHAPTER -THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

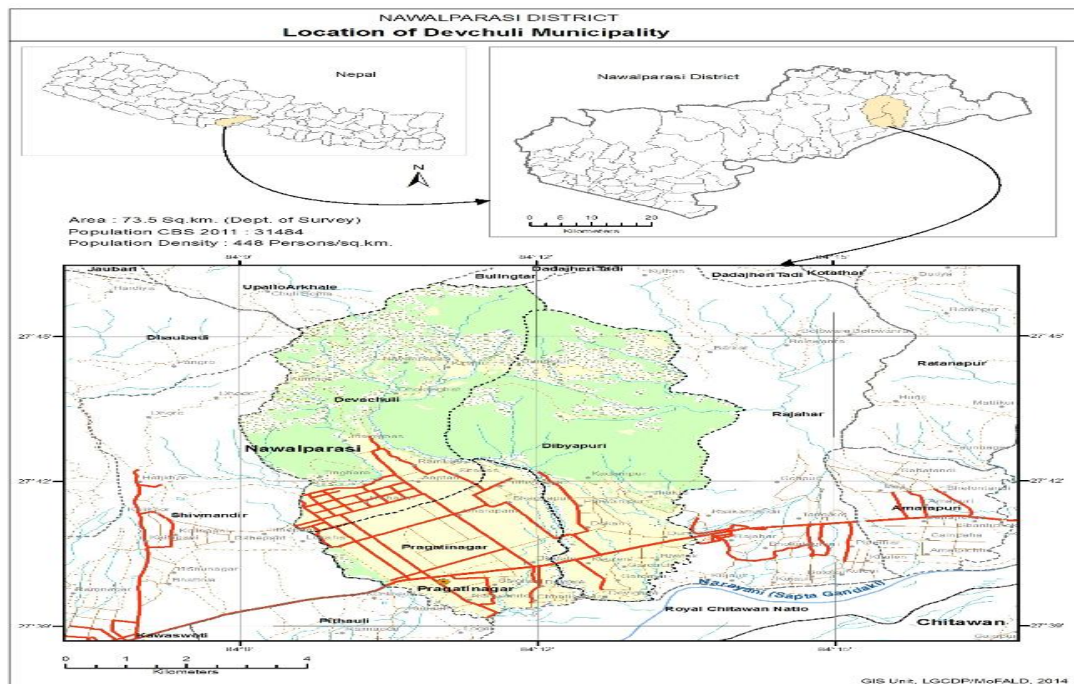
3.1 Research Design:

The present study is based on descriptive and analytical research design because the descriptive research involves the systematic collection and presentation a data to give a clear picture of a particular situation where as analytical research design focus on to investigate the impact of CF on its user groups, their participation and benefits to them.

3.2 The Study Area and Rationale for the Selection

Previously this study area, Ghumauri Community Forest of Devchuli municipality is known as community forest. It is juxtaposition of the Mahabharat range and is full of bio-diversities. This community forest has a plain and hilly physiography and is divided into 4 segments for the betterment management of forest. They are named as sector-1,2,3 & 4. The study area lies in the north of Bishaltar village which has high magar caste. This community forest is surrounded by north PA, west Maharaja community forest, south Bishaltar village and east small ghumauri. It coverage total 207.16 ha.

Fig: -3 Map of Devchuli Municipality



Source: From Internet

Hence, by the study we can get general picture of community, their social and economic status as well. And also this area carries lots of potential for picnic and tourism. Here we can see picnic spot where, most of the people come to enjoy their holidays during winter. It is believed that this study will reveal some impact made by the tourist/ tourism, the main reason for selecting this area as the part of the research is that in the past there is no any study in this issue of the impact on CFUGs of this community forest. And as the researcher is the native of the Bishaltar village and has agrarian background, so this particular study is the field of his Bishaltar. This community forest established in 2052 B.S which is Nawalparasi's first CF.

3.3 Nature and Sources of data:

This study concerned with socio- economic impacts or study so the nature of both qualitative and quantitative. The sources of data are both primary and secondary data. Both primary and secondary data were collected and generated.

3.3.1. Primary Data collection:

Primary data refers to the information, which has originated directly as result of the particular under investigation. Primary data is mainly collected through structure and unstructured questionnaires of all local users' household survey. The primary data has been required to find out the economic effect of Ghumauri Community Forest. To fulfill the objectives, the data of CF activities, economic and demographic characteristics of local users were collected by sample survey.

3.3.2 Secondary Data collection

Secondary data on above parameter has also been obtained from various sources. Among them sources of secondary data most significant is three decade of community forestry in Nepal. And other literatures like relevant literature on community forestry, research work and report journals, newspaper and articles were obtained from GCF, Devchuli municipality, DFO, departments of forestry and several related organizations as well as their websites. Research publication of these several organizations have been thoroughly consult as secondary data for the study.

3.3.3 Universe and sampling

Among the 7 CF under the supervision of Devchuli range post, as a universe the users of Ghumauru Community Forest, ward no-9, Bishaltar is taken and the household are randomly selected. Ghumauri Community Forest has 525 household and the total population of user group is 2620. This study has been completed on the basis of sample survey method. This study conducted within the users' area of Ghumauri Community Forest, including 262 households out of 525 which come to be around 50 percent of the total (use even number) sample size. Who can give the exact details was asked questions as questionnaires and by which real data and information were successfully collected.

3.4 Tools and Techniques of data collection

Different methods, tools and techniques of data collection were used to collect the primary data by the researcher. As a tool data collection, a set pre-tested questionnaire was used. To determine the forest use pattern, observations were made during the field visit. Each of the tools used in explained below.

3.4.1 The Household Survey

The household survey has been conducted using both structured and unstructured questionnaires. The basic quantitative information such as age, sex, educational attainment, landholding, occupation and other socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the households have been gathered through household survey.

3.4.2 Observation

During the period of field work, researcher observed the collection and use pattern of the forest product as participants as well as non-participant observer. this was also one of the major tools of data collection. The condition of forest, types of plants in Ghumauri Community Forest, visible benefits from the forest were determined through this tool. Participation observation is key method of data collection for the research study. The researcher surveyed the physical condition of the research site and observed the program activities. researcher participated in everyday life of the local people, as possible, observed their regular activities for utilization of their resources and capabilities. Researcher also participated in various social gatherings and observed their planning, implementation and decision making process.

3.4.3 Field Dairy

The researcher used a hard dairy to maintain the record of day to day necessary information observation observed during field survey. It was meant to note supporting information not covered by the survey questionnaires, important incident, events and discussions are recorded in the hard dairy

3.5 Method of Data Analysis

In the study, the data analysis has been tried to attempt in qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative data analysis required information can't have obtained in terms of numerical form of quantitative form. So, some of the information are collected in form of qualitative data. The qualitative data described in derivative and analytical terms. The collected data have been classified, tabulated and analysed in terms of simple statistical tools like frequency, percentage and mean. Descriptive method has been taken into consideration to obtain the basic purpose of the study, Chart diagram also have been used. The gathering data were presented in different table. The research data were explained to make the research report more analytical.

3.6 Data Processing and Analysis

After the completion of data collection work, data processing was systematically analysed like editing, coding, classification etc. in the analysis part, data are presented in tubular form. For qualitative information descriptive analysis was done. Simple statistical and SPSS tool were used where it was necessary for the quantitative data.

3.7 Limitation of the Study:

As a student of sociology this dissertation research is conducted to fulfil the requirement of the degree of Master of Arts in sociology. Every research work is not free from the limitation. The limitation can be visualized as follows: -

- a). It has been naturally constrained by time and some problems like materials and budget.
- b) This is a small scale case study and it tries to describes the impact of community forest on socio-economical aspects. So, this findings of study may not be generally conclusion in all areas

c) This study only includes case of Ghumauri CF, so the findings are not necessarily to resemble the impact of other places of country and conclusion may not be fruitful for the other places.

d) This study has been simple descriptive study which has not included in depth information relating to CF approach.

CHAPTER - FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.1 Social Aspects of the Respondents

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to describe the socio-economic characteristics and data analysis and presentation of the main finding of the study. Socio-economic characteristics such as gender description, caste/ethnicity, religion, family size, educational and economic status etc. have been highlighted. In sociological research these characteristics are generally taken into consideration for explaining variations in different aspect of lives of the people. This section provides information on age/gender description, caste/ethnicity, religion, family size, educational status of the respondents.

4.1.1 Age and Sex Description

The users of GCF were interviewed with prepared semi-structured questionnaire.

Table no 1: Age and Gender Description of the Respondents

Age group	No. of Respondent	Male	Female	Respondents in %
15-24	45	23	22	17.17
25-34	82	37	45	31.29
35-44	60	30	30	22.90
45+	75	30	45	28.62
Total	262	120	142	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Most of the respondents were female i.e. 54.20% whereas 45.80% constitute male. The majority of respondents were in between 25-34 years. This shows that there is a great active participation of youth in this community forest

4.1.2 Caste/Ethnicity

Caste/Ethnicity is still prevalent in Nepalese society. It is a system in which a person living in the society is classified as higher or lower caste. In order to describe the social identity of the respondent their caste/ethnicity identification has been taken into consideration which is important social and cultural identity of an individual ascribed by birth.

Table no 2: Caste Composition of Respondents

S.N	Caste	Number	Percentage
1	Brahmin/Chhetry	60	22.90 %
2	Magar	125	47.70 %
3	Gurung	35	13.35 %
4	Damai/Sarki	30	11.45 %
5	Newar	20	7.63 %
6	Tamang	22	8.39 %
Total		262	100 %

Source field survey 2018

Table no 2 shows the caste of users of GCF. It shows that there is a majority of Magar population with 47.70% and Newar with the least of 7.63%. except Magar, other dominant caste is Brahmin/Chhetry, Gurung, Damai, Tamang.

4.1.3 Religion Distribution of Respondents

Religion is a collection of cultural systems, belief, systems and worldviews that established symbols that relate humanity to spirituality and sometimes to moral values. Religion is also one of the affecting factors in demographic and sociological interest. The practice of a religion may also include sermons, commemoration of the activities of a god or gods, sacrifice, festivals, feasts, trance, initiations, funerary services, matrimonial services, meditation, music, art, dance, public service, or other aspects of human culture. Out of total population 80% people are Hindu, though Nepal is Hinduism country, it has been practicing religious tolerance.

Table no 3: Religion Distributions of Sampled Household

Religion	No. of sampled Household	Percentage
Hindu	215	82.06 %
Buddhist	24	9.16 %
Christian	16	6.10 %
Islam	5	1.90 %
Other	2	0.76 %
Total	262	100 %

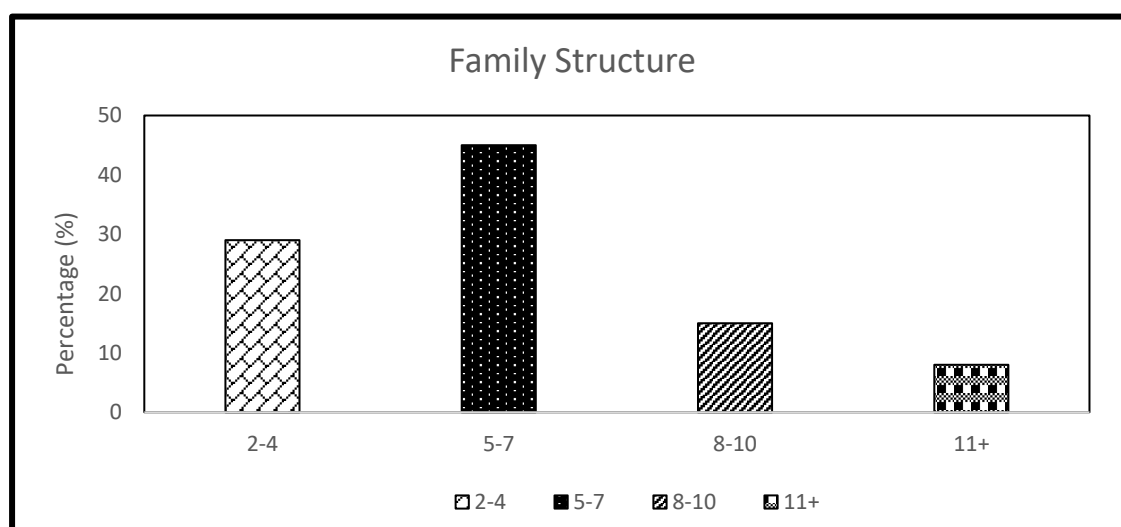
Source: Field Survey, 2018

Regarding the composition of religion, the table no 3 shows that there are 215 households i.e. 82.06% of Hindu out of total sample household whereas others consists of 0.76% of total sampled household. This shows that there is dominance of Hindu among the users of CF which gives hint that there is a presence of elites which affect benefit sharing among the users.

4.1.4. Family Structure

Family is very old and the most important institution. It plays a decisive to affect the economy of the family. The numbers of members in family indicate that workload in domestic work and also indicate the practice of family planning.

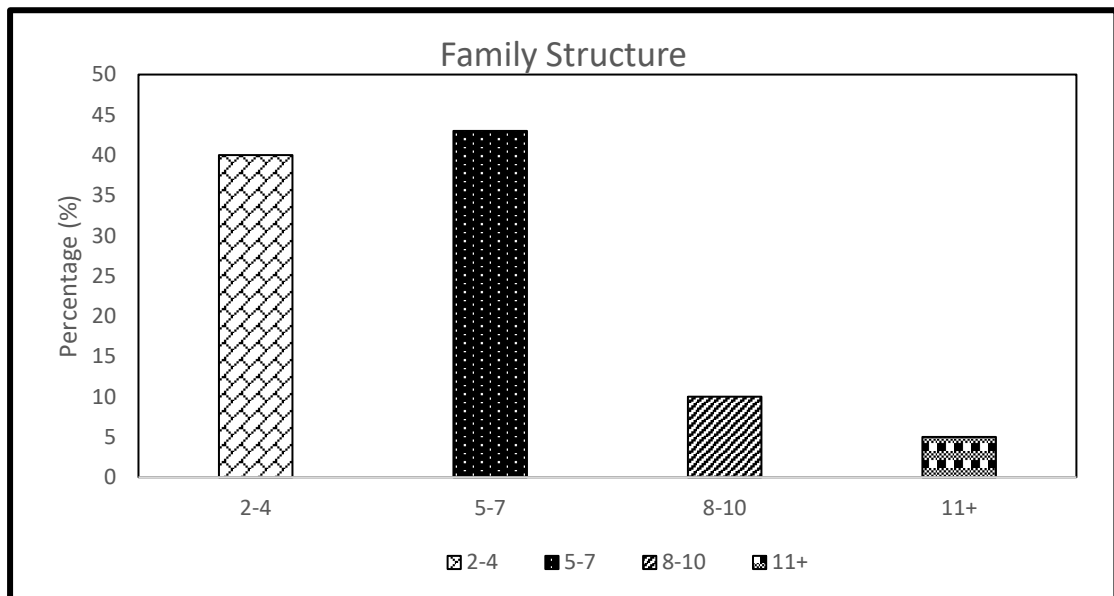
Fig 4: Average Family Size Before CF



Source: V.D.C. Record, 2051

The figure no 1 shows the average family size of ward no 9, Bishaltar, who later became the users of GCF. There is a great number of family living together which is the major cause for the insufficiency of food throughout the year. There is just 28.42% family out of 262 house have the family members 2-4 members and have sufficient food. This shows that there is majority of people living in the joint family.

Fig No. 5: Average Family size of the respondents after CF



Source: Field Survey, 2018

The fig no-2 shows the average family size after the CF. the people have started living in single family rather than joint family. 39.68% out of 262 house sampled has family members of 2 to 4, which gives them enough food throughout the year and maintained the quality of life. There is considerable decrease in the no. of large family size 8 to 10 and 11+ ie.11.11percentage and 6.35% respectively. This is the impact of CF on decreasing pattern on family size, which ensures the food sufficiency.

4.1.5 Educational Status of the Respondents

Educational status is important in every sector. The educational background of the people is an important social characteristic in influencing behaviour and attitude. Crop cultivation, livestock husbandry, bio-gas plantation, sanitation, health care are directly influenced by their educational level. The educated person can take right decision in every aspect of life/

Table no. 4: Literacy Rate of the Area Before CF

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Literate	45	36%	40	29.19%	85	32.44%
Illiterate	80	64%	97	70.81%	157	67.56%
Total	125	100%	137	100%	262	100%

Source: VDC record, 2051

The table no: - 4 shows that literacy rate of ward no-9 before the initiation of CF. Before the CF out of 125 males 36% male are literate and 64% of male were illiterate, similarly out of 137 females 29.19% were literate and 67.56% were illiterate.

Table no 5: Literacy Rate after CF

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Literate	70	56 %	78	56.93%	148	56.48%
Illiterate	55	44%	59	40.07%	114	43.52%
Total	125	100	137	100	262	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The literacy level of the study is quite good after the initiation of CF. The table no 5 shows the literacy rate after the initiation of CF. Literacy b rate has marginally grown among male and female. In comparison female percentage has grown about 27%. Overall literacy rate has increased to 56.48% from 32.44%. GCF provides scholarship for the intelligent student as well as to the poor student. It is assumed that CF has played vital role in increasing literacy rate.

4.2 Economic Aspects of the Respondent

This section provides information on landholding, agriculture, occupational status and animal husbandry among the respondents.

4.2.1 Landholding of the Respondents

Landholding is one of the key indicators to find out the economic condition of the people. Rural economy depends upon the landholding size. More is the land more is the production and higher the economy and economically strong. The land where irrigation facility is available is known as khet and where no irrigation facility and sloppy in structure is known as baari.

Table no 6: Land Holding Before CF

Landholding including (In Kattha)	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
1-5	80	30.53%	19	7.25%	99	37.78%
6-10	55	20.99%	21	8.01%	76	29.00%
11-15	23	8.77%	13	4.96%	36	13.74%
16-20	37	14.12%	-	---	37	14.12%
Greater than 1 ropani	12	4.58%	2	0.76%	12	4.58%
Total	207	79.00%	55	21.00%	262	100

Source: VDC Record, 2051

Above table no 6 shows landing of the people ward no 9 before CF. out of the 262 households, 207 households i.e. 79% had land in the name of man whereas just 21% household had land in the name women. Women who possessed land in their name also had little land. The table also shows that there is greater percentage of land holding of 1-5 kattha which means they have not enough land for food sufficiency.

Table no 7: Landholding Status of the Respondents after CF

Landholding including (In Kattha)	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
1-5	73	27.86%	27	10.30%	100	38.16%
6-10	47	17.93%	29	11.06%	76	29.00%
11-15	18	6.87%	17	6.48%	35	13.35%
16-20	29	11.06%	5	1.90%	34	12.97%
Greater than 1 ropani	10	3.81%	7	2.67%	17	6.48%
Total	177	67.55%	55	32.45%	262	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The above table no 7 shows that landholding percentage among women has increased. Out of 262 households, 32.45% of women possess land in their name. though man possess more land than the women, the trend of naming land in women's name has increased. This is probably due to the voice raised by women, which is the impact of awareness grown by CF.

6.2.2. Agriculture

After the seeding of community forest, agricultural activities have increased by which people are getting extra income from agriculture. Ten main crops are produced in this area such as paddy, maize, wheat, potatoes etc. farmers have been attracted towards vegetables production. Cauliflower, cabbage, radish carrot, tomato etc. are some remarkable vegetables produced in this area. Before community forestry, people used to make dung cake for fuel. But after community forestry, the number of animal husbandry has increased and manure for the agriculture purpose is sufficient. From the table we can calculate the impact of CF which has helped in increase in production.

Table no 8: List of Main Crops Produced Before and After CF

	Before CF	After CF	Cultivated Land in Kattha	Changed Quantity in(quintal)
Crops	Quantity in Quintal(average)	Quantity in Quintal(average)		
Paddy	800	1200	400	300
Maize	450	800	300	250
Wheat	250	400	300	150
Total	1500	2400	1000	700

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The table states that the average quantity has increased in huge amount after the initiation of CF.

Before these main crops, people grow seasonal vegetables, which have become the secondary source of their income. Most of the household have tap at home. They are found using the overflow of drinking water in the vegetable land and other agriculture land. people used to buy vegetables for daily use before community forestry but now they can sell vegetables. Thus, vegetables production is the extra source of income. The table below shows the production of seasonal vegetables by the users of GCF.

Table no 9: List of Seasonal Vegetables Produced

	Before CF	After CF
Name of the vegetables	Quantity sold (In Doko)	Quantity sold (In Doko)
Cauliflower	35	65
Carrot	20	60
Cabbage	40	45
Tomato	25	35
Potato	25	50
Radish	15	25

Source: Field Survey, 2018

There is considerable increase in the quantity of seasonal vegetables produced. Before CF, the users used to sell only 35 Doko of cauliflower but after CF they sell 65 Doko. The production of potato has increased by triple in quantity. This huge increment is because of awareness raised in the farmers/users. They use dung farm instead of making dung cake and also waste water in the farm.

4.2.3 Occupational Status

To identify the economic condition of the respondents' family it is important to measure how much a household earns. Income provides financial security and social status as it is attached with varying degree of power and prestige. The following table shows the occupational break down of the respondents' family

Table no 10: Occupational Stratus Before CF

Occupation	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Agriculture	78	29.77%	72	27.48%	150	57.25%
Government Service	10	3.81%	11	4.19%	21	8.01%
Non Gov. service	5	1.90%	4	1.52%	9	3.43%
Business	10	3.81%	15	5.72%	25	9.54%
Labourer	15	5.72%	30	11.45%	45	17.17%
Other	7	2.67%	5	1.90%	12	4.58%
Total	125	47.70%	137	52.30%	262	100%

Source: VDC Record, 2051

The table no 10 shows that most of the people are engaged in agriculture, i.e. 57.25%. of the total sampled groups depend on agriculture for their livelihood. 17.17% do labour for living and 8.01% do government job.

Table no 11: Occupational Stratus After CF

Occupation	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Agriculture	58	22.13%	65	24.80%	123	46.94%
Government Service	20	7.63%	15	5.72%	35	13.35%
Non Gov. service	15	5.72%	7	2.67%	22	8.39%
Business	15	5.72%	15	5.72%	30	11.45%
Labourer	10	3.81%	23	8.77%	33	12.59%
Other	7	2.67%	12	4.58%	19	7.25%
Total	125	47.70%	137	52.30%	262	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2018

After CF, users have found other ways of income through agriculture is their main occupation. 13.35% are engaged in governmental services and 8.39% engaged in non-governmental services which is the impact of higher level of education attained. Also there is considerable increase in business like livestock farming i.e. poultry farming, pig farming and people are slowly diverting their mind in other occupation.

4.2.4 Animal Husbandry

Forest is the sources of bedding grass and fodder for animal. GFC is providing enough grass and fodder for the animals. Most of the household of the study area domesticate both animals and birds. They rear animals and birds on the basis of agriculture, religious and economic values depending upon the kin of animals. Animal husbandry is supportive to the compost manure at the local level and is more useful to agriculture. Ghumauri Community Forest has positive impact towards animal husbandry. The number of animal and production of milk, and meat is increasing gradually.

Table no 12: Types and Number of Livestock Reared by the Users

Names of the Animals	Before CF		After CF	
	Number	%	Number	%
Buffalo	50	19.8%	64	16.3%
Cow	32	12.7%	66	16.8%
Goat	108	46.9%	202	51.5%
Pigs	52	20.6%	60	15.3%
Total	252	100%	392	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The above presented table no 12 shows that no. of livestock keeping has increased to 392 from 252. There are increase in member because the users get leaf-litter for animal bedding, fodder from CF. 16.8% cows and 16.3% buffaloes are domesticated. Goat 51.5% and pigs 15.3% are reared for the purpose of selling when they need cash. It also fulfils the demands of meat needed during festivals and other occasions. Because of animal's husbandry, households are successful to produce milk in large scale. By selling milk dairy in the Milk Collection Centre nearby, they can fulfil their daily necessities. Though the study area is mostly populated by Magar, pig farming is remarkable because GCF provides loan for such income generating activities.

4.3 Use of Firewood as Alternative Source of Energy.

The overall energy consumption in the study area is largely dominated by the use of traditional energy such as fuel wood, agricultural residue and animal waste. Before community forestry, there was big problem of firewood. People were compelled to manage themselves with animal waste and agricultural residue. Cow dung was need to make dung cake to use as fuel. Some people those who had a bit better economic conditions were using Kerosene for cooking purpose. Now, community forest provides firewood for the users. Staying under the rules and regulations of the committee anyone can collect firewood. Because of information in livestock and with the support of GCF, some people planted bio-gas.

Table no 13: Energy Consumption

Types of Energy used (fuel)	Before Community Forest		After Community Forest	
	Number of HHs	%	Number of HHs	%
Firewood	50	19.08%	60	22.90%
Animal Waste	15	5.72%	5	1.90%
Kerosene	10	3.81%	2	0.76%
Bio-gas	20	7.63%	30	11.45%
Electricity	12	4.58%	10	3.81%
L.P.gas	18	6.87%	30	11.45%
Total	125	47.70%	137	52.3%

Source: Field Survey, 2018

In the above table there is considerable decrease in the use of animal waste as a fuel from 5.72% to 1.90%. this means that people have started using animal waste in fuel rather than kitchen use. Before CF 3.81% used kerosene but after the CF users of kerosene was found only 0.76% which helped them to save money. Likewise, CF helped the users to plant Bio-gas as the result Bio-gas user inclined to 11.45% from 7.63% and also the number of buffaloes and cows have increased it has helped for providing dung needed for bio- gas. Some of them have enough money to use L.P. gas at their home. The use of fire-wood among users roused by 3.82%.

4.4 Well Being Ranking

The users of this CF have been categorized under well ranking. it has been categorized as category I, Category II and Category III. The criteria for the ranking in category I, II, II is the availability of food throughout the year, literacy, economic aspects etc.

Table no 14: Wellbeing Ranking of the Respondents

Category	No. of Respondents	%
I	52	19.84%
II	75	28.62%
III	135	51.52%
Total	262	100.0%

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The above table no 14 shows that nearly the half of total sampled house falls under the category III which means most of the users are living with low quality of life. Only 19.84% have maintained quality of the life which means they have sufficient food throughout the year, good education etc. in future it is certain that most house hold will fall under category II as the contributions of this CF has been significant in all aspects.

4.5. Contribution of GCF

The establishment of Ghumauri Community Forest has been a boon to its users. The work of GCF is appreciable. It's been contributing in many aspects like social security, health facility, environment conservation, income generating activities. Its conservation has been given below.

4.5.1 Alternative Source of Energy

This CF donates certain amount of money yearly for the plantation of alternative source of energy as bio-gas plant, solar energy. In the fiscal year 204/75 it donated about NRs. 1,00,000 for plantation of biogas.

Table:-15 Source of Energy

Source of Energy	Amount	Percentages
Bio-gas Plant	75,000.	46.87%
Solar Energy	50,000.	31.25%
Cow-dung	35,000.	21.87%
total	1,60,000.	100%

Source:- Record of GCF 2018

This table shows that yearly it is expending in the alternative sources of energy like bio-gas, Solar energy and cow-dung. It expended 46.87% in the biogas plant, 31.25% in solar energy and 21.87% for cow-dung as the alternative source of engery.

4.5.2 Health and Sanitation Program

It has been conducting certain health camp in a year. Recently, dental camp was conducted by GCF in which users of other CF also came for the check-up. It carries out blood donation program from time to time. It has conserved the water sources around its circumference. To keep its area clean, it has divided its users into groups and maintained a

routine to work on weekly basis. To make its area open defecation free area it has denoted some amount to build toilet among the user groups. It financially helps people who want to do permeant family planning. For it CF provides NRs 1000/- for women and NRS 800/- for man. Also provides NRs 3000/- for operation and Nrs 10,000/- to help pregnant women for her care and support.

Table:-16 Health and Sanitation Program

Health program	Amount	Percentage
Sanitation	35,000	22.8%
Health Camp	50,000	31.25%
Family Planning	30,000	18.75%
Awareness Program	20,000	15.5%
Preganant women	25,000	15.62%
total	1,60,000	100%

Source: - Record of GCF 2018

The above table shows that in the fiscal 2074/75 this CF has invested about 1,60,000/- in the field of health and sanitation. About 50 thousands have invested in health camp in order to promote the living standard of its members. It is found that they have launched the sanitation programme in the village

4.5.3 Poverty Alleviation

Ghumauri Community Forest has been contributing in the alleviation of the poor household selected by wellbeing making by providing them economic support for livestock farming, vegetable farming and some other income-generating active.

4.5.4 Reward

It provides vital scholarship of NRs 30,000/- for ten students among its users. It also rewards NRs 1000/- for the elderly people of the community above 70 years and also gives NRs reward for the household who actively take part to conserve the forest resources.

4.6 Economic Activities of FUCG

Various activities are done to collect fund. The users are scattered in four different places. Among these users following activities are conducted to collect money.

1. Every household has to pay NRs 200/- every year at FUCG, this way NRs is collected every year.
2. Users can collect fodder and leaf and litter twice a year. The tax system is as follows

Tickets of person	Amount
1	200
2	300
Above 3	400

3. Unnecessary and useless timber and shrubs, branch and dried trees distribution are conducted time to time. Users have to pay NRs 100 for one bhari of branch. And they have to pay NRs 1500/- for one cube feet of timber.
4. Fund collection by the punishment or penalty system is another way of generating income of GCF

Tables no17: Penalty System Conducted by GCF (in NRs)

Crime	Unit Wise punishment		
	First time	Second time	Third time
Stealing fuel wood	100	200	500
Stealing fodders & beddings	100	250	500
Grazing cattle	50	200	400
Putting fire	200	500	1000
Hunting	500	1000	5000
Cutting trees	1000	2500	10000

Source: GCF 2018

This penalty has been formulated by the CFUG itself to prevent the forest. if any person carries out the activities which is prohibited in the policy shall be penalized. For stealing firewood one shall be fined NRs 100 for the first time, if he is found committing the mistake again then he shall be fined NRs 200 and for the third time NRs 500. The reason could be the penalty system adopted by CFUG and the ban in using the

benefits given by the CF and also the forest guard kept by FUG, likewise, other crime has also decrease through setting fine in the forest is still prevalent.

4.7 Yearly Income of Ghumauri Community Forest

The consecutive three fiscal year income of GCF is given below.

Table no 18: Yearly Income of GCF (In NRs)

Income	Fiscal year 2072/73	Fiscal year 2073/74	Fiscal year 2074/75
From selling of FP to other CF	15,20,650	11,12,203	16,50,200
From selling of FP to users	8,45,650	5,23,890	8,56,890
Other Income	1,20300	1,520302	2,30102
Total	23,78,600	17,86,395	25,30,192

Source: GCF 2018

From the table no 16 we can find the yearly income of GCF has collected during last three fiscal years. This shows that this fiscal year has collected large income as compare to last two fiscal years' income. This year they are able to generate more income because they sild large FP and applied the policy enforce by the Government of Nepal.

4.8 Local Development

There is a great hand of this CF in the community development. it has helped in construction of dam in Bishaltar. It has also helped financially in the construction of road (gravel road). It also made effort to bring electric in their locality. Before CF there was no electricity in the area. Some of the areas that CF has financially helped are as listed:

- a) Road construction: NRs 2,00,000/-
- b) Trust construction: NRs 1,50,000/-
- c) Water tank construction: NRs 1,00000/-
- d) BRIDGE: NRs 2,00000/-
- e) District level football match: 80,000/-

For the construction of gravelled road it financially helped village. Gravelled road is constructed from Bishaltar chowk to ghumaupicinic spot and pragatichowk to lokahakhola about total length 1500m.

4.9 Problems

Forest is a renewable resource which plays a predominant role in the all-round development of the country and community. The users of GCF are heavily dependent on forest resources in order to meet their requirements of fuel, fodder, grass and bedding. The major problems regarding the community forest are problem of forest fire due to carelessness, illegal tree cutting and selfishness of some users and so on. The respondent households have taken as a problem to pay tax as government's provision because government charges money but never works as commitment, spending as equal of the paid tax in return. This is also problem of this FUG according to selected respondents, encroachment and stealing are often problem of this area by poor people.

Many users claim that FUG is successful to preserve and utilization of the forest. But it can clearly be seen that there is lack of proper Monitoring and Evaluation by the side of concerned authority.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, MAJOR FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary

The past experience of community forest management witness tremendous shift in forest policies and producers in Nepal. This runs parallel with the changing objective of forest management from subsistence to sustainable economic transforms. The Community forestry approach has been highly successful the protection of forests. The local user groups is responsible for the control, protection and management of the forests. Community forest advocates strong community participation, bottom up planning and sustainable use of forest resources.

This is micro level of study. It is a case study of CFUG, Shree Ghumauri Community Forest of Devchuli municipality ward no 9, Bishaltar, East Nawalparasi. This study has attempted to highlight the socio-economic impact evaluation aspect of community forest in Bishaltar.

The general objective of this study is to study the socio-economic impact of the community forest on its user group. Both primary and secondary information were used in study.

The sample of households was selected even number from the list of respondents. Data were collected from households survey, interview and observation. Among the users respondent, high majority were magar. There were also other caste like Brahmin, chhetri, newar, gureng, etc. users were using forest product on equal basis. Collecting fund from every household was a significant aspect. One jungle guard was selected from the users group. Income of forest is found to mobilize in infrastructure development of the concerned area. The positive impact was found like increment on livestock, cash crops and vegetables production, increment on water resources and natural beauty are other advantages of this area. The most important thing to highlight about GCF users group committee is that it gives priority to its users suggestion. For it community forest has formed three committee users in all four tole of its area.

Users were identified on the basis of traditional use of the user respondents are found that they are only partially dependent upon forest products. FUGC is working as a main body of the forest. It is giving equal opportunity to women. Women participant in both FUGC and FFS looks significant. Positive impact has been seen in the income generating activities

through agriculture and animal husbandry. Apart from this, positive impact has been seen in education, participation, rural tourism and awareness enlistment.

The CFUG fund management has been increasingly focused on community development and poverty reduction activities. In this study area, pro-poor activities on the livelihood have been positive but the constitution and operational plans of CF low emphasized to involvement of the poor and dalit in CF. comparatively high economic status people are being user in most of the community forests.

It is found that the trend of forest degradation has decreased since handing over of national forest to local communities, but some no of uninterested social irregularities has crooped up. The executive committee makes most of the decision on behalf of users and committee mrmbers are not accountable for those decisions. The poor rarely voice their argumentsin their favour to extract products for meeting their livelihood. Poor and disadvantaged groups suffer the most in this type of sharing mechanism.

Forest provides a variety of goods and seVICES to the local users mainly of Devhuli municipali ward no 9, Bshaltar. The main products are fuel wood, fodder, timber and some medicinal herbs. Local people are advantaged by agricultural equipments and husehold articles, sanitation, which is provided by the community forest. The financial support provided by the CF has helped the users in business such as poultry farming, pig farming etc which supports their household economy.

The CFUG has been generatin income from selling of forest products, penalties, entry fees, etc and collected fund is allocated to the community development and forest development. People of community are using improved variety of seeds for agriculture after the introduction of CF. community forestry is a source of inspiration and vechile for change of the village. Moreover, GCF has stood as example of women's participation in community development too.

5.2 Major Finding of the Study

Forest is the life of rural people from each and every aspect.GCF users group also realizees this fact. The major finding of the study as regards to the impact of Shree Ghumauri Community Forest of Bishatar has been summarised below.

The user of Shree Ghumauri Community Forest have felt the need of the protecting and preseving community forest because the main sources of their livelihood is agriculture and livestock. They need water and manure for agriculture and grass, fodder, bedding for

livestock. To join hand and mouth they need firewood which is also obtained from the forest. So, it seems that villagers protect this community forest as their own common property. Daily lives of the users have been easier than previous. They had to go far from the village to collect forest products before the establishment of this CF. Now they can save time and energy. They can use their surplus time in other income generating activities.

Literacy percentage among users is found to be quite significant which helps to distribute the forest resources with out disturbing the natural growth of the forest. It has been found step by step adopting pattern in improved cooking stove, bio-gas and L.P. gas which helped to develop the forest. Forest user pattern has been seen more scientific. FUGC allocated the forest products by pruning and thinning (JHADI CHHATNE or PATLYAUNE, in local language.). every user has equal right to use forest products paying certain amount, anyone can collect forest product according to rules and regulations. Because of good co-operation of FUGC the pace of development looks like good in the study area.

It is seen that direct and indirect impact of CF have played great role in the social and economical life of the users of the area. It is seen that users have started planting trees in their own private land. It is due the time to time awareness program conducted by the CF for the sake of increasing users' attitude towards the forest and its benefits. They have also started planting improved seeds which has resulted in the increase of yield of the major crops. They have also started utilizing the animal dung in their farm despite of their kitchen. Similarly, people are more attracted towards income generating activities like bee-keeping, mushroom, cultivation livestock farming CF has supported the users for this all with the economic support.

5.3 Conclusion:

According as the discussions and data analysis in the preceding chapters about the socio-economic impact of CF on its people since the establishment of GCF in Bishatar has played great importance. The impact of this forest on its users is seen very remarkable. There are various positive impact on social and economic aspect of the users. Shree Ghumauri Community Forest has helped its users in achieving higher level of education which can be seen as number of users engaged in prestigious occupation. Also women of the community are getting more respect and basic decision making process in the CFUG has grown significantly.

Talking about the economic aspects of the users. Shree Ghumauri CF has contributed in achieving better economic status than the past. better economic status is achieved by higher yield from the agriculture products and the cash crops and employment in the prestigious occupation. Users are very keen in engaging themselves in income generating occupation like poultry farming, pig farming, livestock farming and bee-keeping. Time to tme health camp conducted by CF with the help of health post has helped in maintaining quality life. By the effort of CF the study area has been declared as the open defecation Free area and for this CF has provided certain amount for the construction of toilet.

Through this CF has maintained good governance and hears the voice of its users, conflict and lack of coordination among the people because of the diverse ethnic groups, political, biological, gender and socio-economic pattern is still visible.

REFERENCE

Acharya, K.P, 2002, Twenty-four Tears of community Forestry in Nepal, International Forestry Review Vol, 4(2), 149-156.

Acharya, D.P, Shrestha, R, Niraula, D.R and Ghimire, K, 1999, Community Forestry for Everybody Forever, In Proceeding of the Third National Community Forestry Workshop, 27-29 Oct, 1998. His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Department of Forest, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Banjade, M.R., Timilsina, N.P., Neupane, H.R., Bhandari, K. Bhattra, T. Rana, S.K., 2006, Transforming Agency and Structure for Facilitating Pro Poor Governance in Community, Journal of Forest and Livelihood 5(1), 22-33.

Baral, N.R., 1993, "Where is our Community Forestry?" Banko Jankari: A journal of Forestry information for Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Bhatta, B, R (1989). Community and Private forestry in Nepal: the institutional issues. Paper prepared for the ICIMOD-UNESCO-MAB Symposium on Mountain.

Bartlett A.G, Malla, YB, 1992, Local forest Management and forest policy in Nepal. World for Resource Management 6:99-116.

Byron, N., and Arnold, M., 1999, What Futures for the People of Tropical Forest? World Development, 27(5), PP 789-805.

CFD, 2007, Community forestry Division, MIS Data Base. Department of Forest, Kathmandu, Nepal.

CFD, 2008, Community Forestry Division, MIS, Data Base. Department of Forest, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Chetri, RB, Pandey, TR 1994, User-group forestry in the far western region of Nepal: Base Studies from Baitadi and Achham, ICIMPD, Kathmandu, Nepal.

CFUGs in Nepal. PH.d. thesis, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, Austria.

Dhakal, M and M. Masauda, 2008, Role of community based management to address climate change problem. A case of Nepalese community forestry. Nepal at Forest Adaptation.

Dhital and Poudel, K and Ojha, H (2002), Inventory of communtiy Forest in Nepal:

Euphrat and Shrestha , R. P. (2002), Overtime changes in community Forest in Dhading, Kaski, Baglung and Parbat District of Nepal: In Community and Fores Resources Management.

Gautam et al, 2002; Gentle et al, 2007; Community forestry programs in Nepal and their effects on poorer households.

Glimer and Fisher (1991), Villagers, Forests and Foresters: The philosophy, Process and Practice of Community Forestry in Nepal, Sahayogi press, Kathmandu, nepal.

HMG/N (1993). Forest Act , 1993. Unofficial Translation, Kathmandu.

Hunt, S. M, Jackson, W. J and Shrestha, K.B. (1995) Income Generation through Community Forestry in nepal. In proceeding of the Regional Seminar on Income Generation Through Community Forestry, oct. 18-20, 1995,RECOFTC, Bangkok, Thailand.

Kathmandu post, 13 May 2016, Community Forestry Program of Nepal.

Khanal DR 1994, A review of FUG: a case studies from western Nepal. ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Mahaat T. B. S. D. M. Griffin and K.R. Sherpherd (1987). Human impacts on some forest of middles hills of Nepal. Part 3, Forest in the subsistence economy of Sindhu Palchok and Kabhre Palanchock. Moutain Research and Development 7(I) 53-70.

Nurse et. Al , 2014, cited in Pokhrel and Nurse2014, world forestry program.

S Paudel,dec-3 2002, Community forestry in Nepal. Brookfield Int'l Collage, Kathmandu.

Shrestha R.P and Sapkota, S (2001) Regulatory Framework and Rules in use in forest Management; In Community and Forest Resource Management.

Thapa et al, 1995, A comparison of Management Systems Between Indigenous, University of East Anglia, England.

Verma, D.p.s., 1988, Fuel and fodder from village woodlots: A Gujarat (India) Experience. Agroforestry systems. 7(1): 77-93.

Wallence, M .B (1987). Community forestry in Nepal: Too little . Too late? Research Report Series, Kathmandu: HMG-USAID-GTZ-IDRC-FORD-WINROCK PROJECT.

Wolff, H.K. and Pant, P.R. 2002, a Handbook for Social Science Research and Thesis Writing, Kathmandu: Buddha Academic Publishers and Distributors.

Wunder, S. 2001, Poverty, Alleviation and Tropical Forest: What Scope for Synergies? World Development, 29(11), Pp: 1817-1833.

5th National Workshop on Community Forest, 2004, Twenty- Five Years of Community Forestry? Contributing to Millennium Development Goals.

ANNEX I

Questionnaires Sheet

(Individual Questionnaire survey for Socio-economic importance of forest, of GCF of Devchuli Municipality).

I, Mahendra Kumar Shrestha, an inhabitant of Devchuli Municipality. Ward No. 9, Bishaltar, Nawalparasi request to the individual to provide me the data concern with the socio-economic impact of community forest on people and hereby I request to the respect one this data will be used only for the study for the partial fulfilment of the Master Degree in Sociology/ Anthropology to prepare the research for thesis.

1. Name:

2. Address: Municipality

Ward No.:

3. Caste/Ethnicity:

4. Age:

5. Sex:

6. Education:

Education Level	Literate	Above SLC	Under SLC

7. Occupation:

8. Family Member:

9. Family Types: Joint Single:

10. How much land you have? (in Ropani and Bigha)

11. How much yield do you get from your land?

a) Paddy b) Maize c) Wheat d) Others

12. What is your family occupation?

13. What is the main source of income?

14. Livestock:

Animal	Number
Buffalo	
Cow	
Goat	
Sheep	
Pig	

15. How long have you family been a member of this CF?

16. Have you ever gone to participate in the group meeting of this CF?

a) Yes b) No

17. Are you involved in decision making process?

a) Yes b) No

18. What type of role do you play in CF meeting and decision making?

a) Like Audience

b) Give Suggestion

c) Involve in discussion

d) Decision making

19. How is the benefit shared?

Types	Yes	No
Fire wood		
Scholarship		
Irrigation		
Electricity		
Others		

20. Do you go to the forest of FP collection? If Yes, Which FB?

21. Is this CF helpful in raising your livelihood?

22. I there any development activities carried out by the CF in your village?

a) Yes b) No c) Few

23. Has the CF done well-being ranking?

a) Yes b) No

24. If Yes, in which category do you fall?

25. Do you feel CF has contributed in environment conservation?

a) Yes b) No c) May be

26. If yes, how has it contributed?

27. What are the activities don by the CF for poor, privileged group?

28. Do you feel that this CF has helped in poverty alleviation?

29. What is your suggestion for the CF?

ANNEX II (PHOTOES RELATED TO GCF)





