

A PROJECT REPORT

**STUDY ON COMMUNITY FORESTRY FROM
GENDER PERSPECTIVE**

**(A Case Study of Baikhola Community Forestry
Namjung-3, Gorkha)**

Submitted by

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RECOMMENDATION

This project work entitled "**Study on Community Forestry from Gender prospective**": A case study of **Baikhola Community Forestry in Namjung VDC.-3** submitted by **Rishi Ram Kapri** under my guidance and supervision. I therefore recommended this project work for final approval and acceptance.

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Date: 2063-03- 2

APPROVAL SHEET

The project report entitled "**Study on Community Forestry from Gender Perspective**": A Case Study of Baikhola Community Forestry in Namjung VDC-3 submitted by **Mr. Rishi Ram Kapri** has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of masters of Arts in Rural Development.

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ABSTRACT

Before 1957 no strict rules and regulations governed the use of the forest in Nepal believing that there was more than enough forest. At that time the government paid no attention to develop the forest. Under the forest rationalization Act of 1957, His Majesty the Government nationalized all of its private forest. However the government failed to explain the act to the rural people and the result was more destructive. Private owners converted forest to agricultural land. So the forest was destroying day by day. Although the government gave attention to protect and develop at of 1991, it could not get success to achieve the aim. Then the government amended the act of 1961 and made forest act 1967. The government could not fulfill own aim by this act too. In 1978 a real change of forest policy was initiated with two new categories like the Panchayat Forest (PF) and Panchayat Protection Forest rule (PPF). They were intended to involve local communities and private interests in the management of the forest. Through the forest Act of 1979 community forest programme were initiated to develop and manage both P.F. and P.P.F in 29 hilly district and 13 Terai districts with financial support from World Bank and other donor agencies. The government also established the community forest and a forestation division (CFAD) under the department of forestry support community forest programme. Thus in 1980 the community forest programme development project CFPD was set up in the hilly district with the assistance of World Bank. So the community forestry Development programme is a national level programme. The need for the programme was realized by central level policy makers and was not the choice of the villagers of Nepal. Taking in to view the fast depleting forest resources, this programme has received high priority during recent years. Therefore, the project report has chosen

the topic to write about Gender participation role in community forestry of Baikhola Community Forestry. This community forest situated at Namjung VDC-3, Gorkha District.

Baikhola Community Forest is used mainly for firewood, fodder grasses, leaf litter, other grasses, poles and timber. The forest products are collected for the domestic purpose. General rules for using forest products are outlined in the FUG constitution and forest operational plan. Women's roles are socially identified for caring family members, livestock, and croplands, which have provided them with an extensive knowledge of the uses and usefulness of the forest. Therefore, they are the key actors for managing forest product and agricultural resources. The society of the study area is male dominant as other part of Nepal. Therefore, the number of women's participation in Community Forestry management is very low. Women get a little time to participate in the village level development activities. Very low percent is attending community forestry user's group committee meeting regularly. Twenty-percent women are supporting to take care of forest. Fifty percent of women decide about selecting planting and seedling at the beginning, which is taken as an exercise of decision-making roles. Participation of women member in decision-making activities is rather low. But the community forest management and protection is impossible without their active participation.

However the participation on forest management by women is limited due to social rule. Only 20 percent women are found involved in executive committee. Women are found highly busy involving household chores and household level forestry activities however; their active participation in the group interviews and discussion.

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ABBREVIATION

PF.	Panchayat forest
PPF.	Panchayat Protection Forest
CF	Community Forestry
FUG	Forestry User's Group
FAU	Food Association Organization
CBS	Central Bureau Statistics
VDC	Village Development Committee
HMG	His majesty's Government
FUGC	Forestry Users Group Committee
CFUG	Community Forestry User Group
OP	Operational Plan
CFAD	Community Forest and Afforestation Division.
CFDP	Community Forestry Development Project
WB	World Bank
LSU	Live Stock Unit
NTFP	Non-Timber Forestry Products
PA	Protected Area
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
HMG/N	His Majesty's Government
CFAD	Community forestry and Afforestation Division
ha.	Hectors
DOF	Department of Forestry