

**Rainwater Harvesting System in Nepal;
An impact evaluation of Ashden Domestic
Rainwater Harvesting Project (BSP-Nepal)**

A thesis submitted in requirement
for the partial fulfillment of the Degree of Master of Arts in
Rural Development

Submitted to:
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of Rural Development
Tribhuvan University
Kritipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

Submitted by:
Nishan Rai
Exam Roll no: 5154 (5th batch)
TU registration no: 6-1-38-707-98
Submitted on: November, 2008

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Rhiddi Bir Singh (my thesis supervisor) for his guidance and kind cooperation re: this study. I also thank to Dr. Indira Shakya (program coordinator, NPW) and Mr. Sroj Rai (ED, BSP-Nepal) for their kind cooperation and official support for this study.

I appreciate the cooperation of Mr. Janak Rai from Rapati Gobargas Company Pvt. Ltd. (RAP) in Lalitpur, Mr. Janardan Shrestha from Mahla Jagrati Gobargas Company Pvt. Ltd (MJB) in Kavrepalanchok, Mr. Lekh Nath Tiwari from Bageshori Gobargas Company Pvt. Ltd. (BGG) in Kaski, Mr. Ratna Bd. Sharki from Gandaki Gobargas Sewa Kendra Pvt. Ltd. (GGK) in Syanjga and Mr. Tirtha Dhakal and Ms. Kamala Dahal from Pathabhara Gobargas Company Pvt. Ltd. (PAR) in Illam for providing kind support during my field visit for this study.

I would like to give my special thanks to my friend Er. F. B. Bal for his kind support and inspiration. I am also thankful to Mr. Ramesh Parajuli, Mr. Komal Bhatta & Ms. Laia Domenech Pertus for their valuable support regarding this study.

Nishan Rai

November, 2008

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AEPC	Alternative Energy Promotion Center
BSP	Biogas Support Program
BSP-Nepal	Biogas Sector Partnership Nepal
CBS	Center Bureau of Statistic
DDC	District Development Committee
ED	Executive Director
HH	Household
KFW	Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau of Germany
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NP	Nagarpalika/Municipality
RHCC Nepal	Rainwater Harvesting Capacity Center Nepal
RHS	Rainwater Harvesting System
R & D Unit	Research and Development Unit, BSP-Nepal
Rop.	Ropani
RWH	Rainwater Harvesting
SNV/N	Netherlands Development Organization in Nepal
VDC	Village Development Committee
WHO	World Health Organization

Abstract

Ashden Domestic Rainwater harvesting Project is also putting a remarkable mark in the emerging RHS technologies to solve the water problem in water scarce areas. It is not able to reduce total women's drudgery but again reducing in some level and also minimizing the social conflict related to water. In the hill areas most of the settlements are located on the hilltop. Where the water supply is very unreliable and also suffering from the seasonal water scarcity. Availability of water in RHS is supporting users to improve the quality of life from different aspects and contributing to MDG too.

Main objectives of this study is to assess the socio-economic, health-sanitation and educational impacts of Ashden Domestic RHS Project of BSP-Nepal. Random sampling method has been selected for the individual questionnaire survey for this study. Both the quantitative and qualitative data has been collected for this study. And MS Excel computer programme is used to analyze the data from the field.

This study had included 34 HH RHS at least from 1 year and 7 neighbor HH which don't have RHS at their house. Though, using period of this RHS has not been longer and is difficult to measure the benefit. Initial investment to the RHS is somehow high but will be fully returned within the period of 1-2 years of operation. Each HH is saving 3.5 hrs per day (NPR 38.00, equivalent to the per day women's wage in local level). Saved time through the availability of water is being utilized in different activities by the users and started to realize positive impacts on their livelihood.