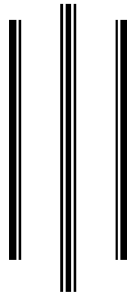


**ROLE OF NGOS IN SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PEOPLE'S
PARTICIPATION:
A Case Study of Budhabare VDC, Jhapa District,
Nepal**



**A Thesis
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements
for the Award of the Degree of Master of Arts
in Rural Development**



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Letter of Recommendation

This is to certify that **Mr. Homnath Pokharel** has completed this thesis entitled **“ROLE OF NGOS IN SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PEOPLE’S PARTICIPATION: A Case Study of Budhabare VDC, Jhapa District, Nepal”** under my supervision and guidance. I, therefore, recommend this thesis for final approval and acceptance.

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ABSTRACT

The concepts of social exclusion and its twin, social inclusion, were introduced at first in France and then popularized in social policy discourse in Europe in response to the crises of the welfare state and then used in other regions, especially in developmental discourses. Social inclusion is based on the belief that we all fare better when no one is left to fall too far behind and the economy works for everyone. Social inclusion simultaneously incorporates multiple dimensions of well-being. It is achieved when all have the opportunity and resources necessary to participate fully in economic, social, and cultural activities which are considered the societal norm.

Emergence of inclusion movement in Nepal today is the result of continuous exclusion and indifference of the history. There are three layers of exclusion continue in Nepal: exclusion because of remoteness leading to low access to schools; exclusion because of caste and ethnicity; and exclusion because of gender. Therefore, in the context of Nepal, inclusion refers to the equitable political representation of the excluded segments of population, including women, various caste and ethnic groups, and those who live in underdeveloped regions.

There is a long tradition of community networks and partnerships in Nepal. But, the NGO movement gathered momentum only after the restoration of democracy in the country in 1990. The government alone cannot meet the numerous needs of the people. So NGOs evolved as a drivers and partners of development to make the prosperous, modern and just Nepal in Three Years Interim Plan (2064/065-2066/067). Social Welfare Council, as an apex body, is responsible for the promotion, facilitation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the NGOs in Nepal. The NGO movement is gaining strength but they are criticized due to their urban-based, partisan, projectized and interest-based nature.

More than 70 local NGOs are registered in the DAO office Jhapa. Among them, most are working in the field of community and rural development. On one hand the adequate number of NGOs in the VDC shows the development concern of the people in the VDC, but on the other hand, only a dozen or two are operating, to some extent, satisfactorily and rest are passive with inconsequential role in social inclusion. The great challenge of NGOs of the VDC is to revitalize such passive NGOs and to develop their capacities with contribution to promote social inclusion. Most of the NGOs of VDC are individual based institutions founded by leadership motives. The running of an NGO appeared like running household affairs or some private enterprises. Institutionalization of NGOs, Scarce of resources, Co-ordination with DDC, VDC, empowerment and capacity building of excluded gender, caste and ethnic group are major problems to foster social inclusion and people's participation among the NGO community of the VDC. To face the above challenges and to tackle the problems., there should be an effective action plan is needed to ensure women, Dalit, Indigenous Nationalities, Mdhesies and other disadvantaged and poor people's maximum participation in NGOs activities(planning, decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and the sharing of benefits) of the projects in the VDC, which ultimately promotes social inclusion.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER TITLE	PAGE
RECOMMENDATION	I
THESIS APPROVAL	II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	III
ABSTRACT	IV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	V
LIST OF TABLES	VII
LIST OF FIGURES	VIII
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	IX
I INTRODUCTION	1-6
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the study	5
1.4 Significance of the study	5
1.5 Limitations of the study	6
1.6 Organization of the Study	6
II LITERATURE REVIEW	7-27
2.1 Social Inclusion: Concept and Definition	7
2.2 Theoretical literature on social Inclusion\Exclusion	9
2.3 History of Exclusion/ Inclusion in Nepal	11
2.4 Agenda for Inclusion in Nepal	12
2.5 People's Participation: Concept and Definition	13
2.6 Review of Plans, Policies on Inclusion and Participation	15
2.7 LSGA, NGOs and their role in Inclusion and Participation	17
2.8 Other Acts and Laws to Promote Inclusion and Participation	19
2.9 Past Studies on NGOs in Social Inclusion and Participation	20
2.10 Nepalese Perspectives on NGOs	22
2.11 Institutional Environment for NGO in Nepal	24
2.12 Conceptual Framework of Research	27

III	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	28-30
	3.1 Research Design	28
	3.2 Rationale for the selection of the Study Area	28
	3.3 Sampling Procedure and Sampling Size	28
	3.4 Sources of Data Collection	29
	3.5 Techniques and tools of data collection	29
	3.6 Questionnaire Survey	30
	3.7 Key Informant Interview	30
	3.8 Field visit and observation	30
	3.9 Presentation and Analysis of Data	30
IV	INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY AREA	31-35
	4.1 The Jhapa District	31
	4.2 Geographical Description of Budhabare VDC	32
	4.3 Socio-Economic Setting of the Study Area	33
	4.4 Population Distribution in the Study Area	34
V	DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS	36-56
	5.1 Description of Sample Characteristics	36
	5.2 NGOs Role in Social Inclusion and Participation	40
	5.3 Problems and Prospects of NGOs in Nepal	53
VI	SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	57-63
	6.1 Summary	57
	6.2 Conclusion	59
	6.3 Recommendation	61
VII	REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY	64
VIII	APPENDICES	66