

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE FARMING AND ITS
IMPACT ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

A Study on Hemja V.D.C., Kaski

A Thesis Report

**Submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to certify that Miss. Rebati Acharya has worked under my supervision and guidance for the preparation of this thesis entitled **Commercial Vegetable Farming and Its Impact on Women Empowerment: A Case Study on Hemja VDC Kaski** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. Therefore, I hereby recommend that the thesis be evaluated by the thesis evaluation committee.

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ABSTRACT

*This thesis report entitled **Commercial Vegetable Farming And its Impact on Women Empowerment: A Study on Hemja VDC Kaski District** an analysis of women status in the study area. The main objectives of the study are to find out the socio-economic status of women in the study area, to determine the level of empowerment before and after commercial vegetable farming and in sum to identify the impact of commercial vegetable farming.*

This thesis also oriented to find out the women empowerment status in relation to awareness, capacity building, participation in resource mobilization and decision making that lead empowerment and also strengthening women's institution leading to sustainability.

The field survey was conducted in November _ December 2011. Both primary and secondary data and various research techniques have been used. Both quantitative and qualitative information have been collected from the field. The study was based on exploratory and descriptive research design. Field study was undertaken using questionnaire, group discussion and checklist.

This study is oriented to find the socio economic condition and problems of women from adopting the commercial vegetable production. The study was carried out in Hemja VDC. The majority of the settlement are Brahmin followed by Chhetri, Dalit and others. In the study area the total population of female is 5519 out of them 1085 women are adopting commercial vegetable farming. Among the women farmers only 50 women farmers were selected purposively.

Literacy is one of the prerequisite steps for overall development of individuals and community as well. This study shows the women literacy rate is 88 percent. 54 percent can just read and write. But only 8 percent

attained higher than S.L.C. However, the situation in literacy has been improving overtime due their economic independence.

Nepali social norms and taboos discourage women for decision-making in all sphere of life especially for rural women. In the study area out of 50 respondent 62 percent of them participate in their household decision-making process. But 24 percent of them never participate on household decision-making process.

Gradually, commercial vegetable farming bring a positive result on women's livelihood on the basis of education, economic access, awareness level. Commercial vegetable farming give house to houseless. Social status and identity to the rural women farmers.

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ABBREVIATION/ ACRONYMS

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| APP | : | Agriculture perspective plan |
| APPSP | : | Agriculture Perspective Plan Support Program |
| CBS | : | Central Bureau of Statistics |
| DADO | : | District Agriculture Development Office |
| DDC | : | District Development Committee |
| GAD | : | Gender And Development |
| GDP | : | Gross Domestic Product |
| GO | : | Governmental Organization |
| HDI | : | Human Development Index |
| ha | : | Hectares |
| INGO | : | Agriculture Research Center |
| mt | : | Meters |
| NARC | : | Nepal Agriculture Research Center |
| NGO | : | Non Government Organization |
| PCRW | : | Production Credit for Rural Women |
| S.L.C. | : | School Leaving Certificates |
| WAD | : | Women And Development |
| UNDP | : | United Nation Development Program |