

**A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF FORESTRY: A CASE
STUDY OF BASAHATHAN MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY FOREST,
DAGATUMDADA VDC, BAGLUNG, NEPAL**

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By

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled "**A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF FORESTRY: A CASE STUDY OF BASAHATHAN MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY FOREST, DAGATUMDADA VDC, BAGLUNG, NEPAL**" has been prepared by Sabitri Thapa under my supervision. I hereby recommend this thesis for examination by the Thesis Committee as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS in ECONOMICS.

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APPROVAL LETTER

We certify that the thesis entitled "**A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF FORESTRY: A CASE STUDY OF BASAHATHAN MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY FOREST, DAGATUMDADA VDC, BAGLUNG, NEPAL**" submitted by Sabitri Thapa to the Central Department of Economics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS in ECONOMICS, has been found satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this thesis as a part of the said degree.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CF:	Community Forestry/ Forest
CFP:	Community Forestry Programme
CFUC:	Community Forestry User Committee
CFUG:	Community Forestry User Group
DDC:	District Development Committee
DFO:	District Forest Office
DOF:	Department of Forest
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organization
FUGs:	Forest User Groups
GON:	Government of Nepal
Ha.	Hectare
HH:	Household
HMG/N:	His Majesty Government of Nepal
INGO:	International Non-Government Organization
NGO:	Non-Government Organization
No.:	Number
NPC:	National Planning Commission
NTFP:	Non Timber Forest Production
PRA:	Participatory Rural Appraisal
Rs:	Rupees
VDC:	Village Development Committee

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Ecologically, the country is divided into three regions running east west. They are the Hill, the Mountain and the Terai region which run parallel from east to west with the high mountain along the northern border and Terai to south. Owing to its geographical diversity, the country's vegetation ranges from sub-tropical jungle to plain shrub. Economic survey (2066/67) shows that 39.6 percent of total area of the country is covered with forest, of which 29 percent forest land, while 10.6 percent is bushy areas.

Forestry sector plays an important role in country's economic development. It is estimated that forestry sector contributes about 17.22 percent of country's GDP through its production as well as environmental services (HMG, 2002). Forest is the integral part of the country's livelihood as it provides most of the basic goods like timber, poles, fuel wood, fodder and herbal medicines.

Nepal is rich in natural resources and bio-diversity, among the natural resources forestry in Nepal is foundational resource. It plays a crucial role to the people of Nepal where most of the rural people are participating subsisted farming. Forest is being used fuel wood, fodder, grass, timber, medical herbs, oil fruits and many other items. Forestry sector is impotent in the development of Nepal because it supports agricultural, farming, tourism and provides enormous bio-diversity resources and water. The nation, therefore, largely based upon the forest resources, (Tiwari, 2008).

In Nepal 86 percent of its population lives in the rural areas (Shrestha, 2005) where poverty acute. The development target needs action for rural areas and its people. The primary issues and the challenges of the country at present is poverty reduction, government implementation of pro poor policy and people participation in development people involvement (Ojha, 1999). The main mission is to promote a holistic and dynamic process through which local people continuously improve their productivity and consequently the quality of the life through efficient and sustainable utilization of internal and external resources (Shrestha, 2005). This model is

becoming popular in Nepal which community organization have been develop with the assistance of government or NGO's and the community member select their leaders ,formulate goal make plans , implement programs , rise the resources and derive benefit from it. The nation, regional and local government also have key role to play in sustainable community development (Lekhk & Lekhk, 2005).

The role of forest resources can take place in economic development, Poverty reduction, and environmental balancing and lot more for country like Nepal. The forests resources classified in five categories to protection and utilization. The main objective behind this classification is better enhancement, protection and utilization of forest resources. They are:

1. National forest: - National forest managed by Nepal Government with the main objective of production of forest products. The department of forest manages the forest.
2. Religious forest: - A part of national forest which is being used under the control of religious institution under the Guthi act is termed as religious forests.
3. Leasehold forest: - Forest that have been leased by central or local agencies of the government, private owners, co-operations, institutions etc.
4. Community forest: - National forest handed over to a user group for development, conservation and benefit of the community.
5. Private forest: - Raised on people's private land and managed by an individual is called private forest.

Among the classification of forest, C.F. is one of the most popular and flourishing program in our country .The system of protection, utilization and management of forest by legally recognized local forest user is called community forest and forest managed thus is a community forest (Kandel and Kandel 2003).

The attempts done by Nepal government in the 1950s and 1960s to improve the management of government forest through centralized structure failed to provide for the needs of rural communities and conserve forest. So, in 1978 Nepal government adopted a new strategy aimed at promoting the participation of local people in the regeneration, protection, management and utilization of forest. This new strategy is called by name

community forestry, which initially emphasized people's participation in reforestation of degraded lands.

The concept of community forestry has been widely practiced in recent years from government of Nepal. It is small scale village level forestry practice where decisions and actions are often made on the collective communal basis for establishment management harvesting of forest crops. Receiving a major proportion of the socio-economic ecological benefits from pure forest cropping and food crops agro forestry on the other (Kayastha,1991).

Since the late 1980's C. F. has emerged to embrace broader participatory forest management and rural development issue. Nepal's forestry sector policy envisage handing over in order control the local forest's to a group of people who have locally recognized rights to use a forest (forest act 1993) this is called forest user group.

There are several act, plan and policy made in order to establishment and promotes the concept of community forestry. Some legal documents under which the community forestry operate are as follows:

Forest Act 1993

Forest Regulation 1995

Master Plan for the Forestry Sector 1998

Forestry sector Policy 2000

Periodic Plans of Government

Under these Act, plan and policy documents, a CUFG requires preparing its constitution and operation plan and managing the forest affairs accordingly.

Government has emphasized the community forestry program since 7th plan and regularized it to eight, ninth, tenth and eleventh plan equally. Identification of benefit is strongly linked with effect of community forestry on the economic and financial, environmental and social aspect of communities. Identifying the benefit of community forestry may present on major conceptual difficulties but can be very difficult to carry out practice due to the multipurpose nature of community forestry

generally we can find two type benefits from community forestry, these are direct and indirect . Direct benefits are contributed in infrastructure development in community and fuel supply and indirect benefit are environment benefits, natural beauty, and social benefit. Community forestry helps to increase the employment opportunities and save time for fire wood fodder collection. These benefits have certainly changed the life style of local people.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Piple Basahathan multipurpose Community Forest is situated Dagatumdada VDC and it is located in five kilometer north of the Kharbang Bazar. However the rural area of the Bazaar does not represent the high profiled life-style of the Bazar area. It lacks several facilities available in Bazar and so is the case with the people of Piple Basahathan multipurpose Community Forest. They have basically agro based life style out their standard of living is considerably backward among the Bazaar population. Thus, the study tries to explore the socioeconomic effects of the Piple Basahathan multipurpose Community Forest while doing the major activities like timber construction, Chiuri collections to save of the green and other type of furniture fire wood etc. It basically focuses agro-economic activities.

Thus it is evidence from above that the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest is playing a crucial role on social and economic betterment of a user group. The essences to find out how exactly the community forestry plays role for fostering the economic status of the community forestry user group is a pertinent question. The particular measures of community to ensure the economic benefits are capable of making a major thrust over poverty reduction and development activities in the C.F. user group. Community forestry show that for successful community forestry program more women and lower cast people should be involved in decision making process, management process and in leadership. This study has been tried to find out that community forestry program involves ethnic group and empowers them.

Considering these types of problem the study tries to answer the flowing questions regarding what and how benefits were received by community forestry user group in Dagatumdada VDC, Baglung district.

1. What is the socio-economic condition of community forest user households?

2. What role does the community forestry play to reduce poverty?
3. Does community forestry help to the development of local level infrastructure?
4. Does community forestry help the participatory and empowerment among the ethnic Group?
5. Are the members equally benefited by CF programme?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objective of the study is to analyze the socio-economic status of the community forestry user group. For the specific objectives are

1. To analyze the socio-economic benefit from Piple Basahathan CF.
2. To examine the forest products mobilization in user group of the Piple Basahathan forest.
3. To recommend policy measure for beneficial exploitation of community forestry.

1.4 Justification of the Study

The Community Forestry is directly related to the rural people livelihood. It is activities cannot be separated from community development activities. This study may give about the impacts of the Community Forestry programme on the socio-economic condition of the forest user groups. This study can help for project planning too. The finding of the study will serve a good source of information about the technique of generating income and employment and its impacts in the backward groups of people of the community. This study may be useful to the researcher and policy makers for the implementation of Community Forestry programs.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Every study has its own limitations while carrying out the research. This study has following limitations: The study was related only one CFUG "Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest Dudewachaur Community, Dagatumdada VDC of Baglung district. So, the finding of the study may not give the forestry of the country.

The notion of generating by deriving conclusions from single case study is obviously misleading.

The units of sampling adopted in this study are from two wards out nine wards of Dagatumdada VDC. It does not cover up the other issue which may be significant besides the topic of the study. Some crossovers will be taken into consideration. The data analysis is based on simple statically techniques.

1.6 Organized of the Study

This study has been divided into seven chapters. The first chapter has been covered the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives and justification of the thesis. Chapter two has been related to the literature review. This helped to understand the shift in development thinking global perspectives. Chapter three covers the methodology of collection of data and procedure of data analysis. Chapter four presents the present status of community forestry in Nepal which gives the detail information of community forestry programme. Chapter five describes the description of the study areas and analysis of collected data. It is also analytical portion of the thesis. Chapter six is about socio-economic benefit derived by the user group form the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest User Group. It includes socio-economic status of FUG, income generating activities from CF and participation of women in decision making and benefit sharing. Last but not least chapter seven depicts the main findings, conclusion and recommendations for the community forest user committee and for policy makers and implementing agencies.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

There are many scholars and researchers who have devoted their time to study forestry issues of Nepal. Their efforts to find out the forestry problems and solutions are considered valuable contributions. However, here only some literatures of scholars and researchers have been reviewed in order to know about the existing status of community forestry in Nepal.

This chapter first deal with the review of literature on the concept and historical background of community forestry and the second part deals the review of empirical studies as well.

2.1 Conceptual Literatures

A community is defined as the human population that lives with in a limited geographical area, shares common interest and carries a common interdependent life. The member of a community have a 'we' feeling. Community forestry, as its name indicates, has two major components: resources of forest and local communities. The process of establishment and maintenance of the relationship between these two elements could be called community forestry.

The food and agriculture organization of the United Nations defines community forestry as "any situation which intimately involves local people in forestry activity. It embraces a spectrum of situation ranging from wood lot areas which are short of wood and other forest products for local needs, through the growing of trees at the farm level to provide cash crops and the processing of forest products at the household, artisan or small industry level to generate income, to the activities of forest dwelling communities". This definition includes all the forestry related activities performed by individual household, farmers and communities as community forestry. However, there is no specific definition of community forestry that applies everywhere. We find variation in the definition of community forest from one country to another country.

Tiwari (1983) describe in his book community forest management for rural development as a new people oriented concept. Its objectives are to make all land space surrounding the local community productive in raising the rural living standard.

Uninhibited by traditions or established administrative patterns, community forest management for rural development seeks to direct public policy and private initiative both towards achieving maximum sustainable growth in land productivity. He concluded community forest management as a workable definition which is a combination of the productions and management system. Forestry covers all non-field crops produced farm land surface that can be either directly consumed or easily harvested and marketed by the local community people.

Gerald and Geoffrey (1984) in their book defined community forest as a community program based on growing trees on public or community land as opposed to private farms. The degree of private participation in planning and looking after the trees varies. The theoretical attraction of community programmers is considerable. In principle, they provide a means which land-less people can take part in tree growing and thereby obtain benefits which are other wise reserved for land owners. Some programmers' may even be designed so that the benefits are deliberately channeled towards the poor. In this view, the most common type of community forest programme is that, in which the forest department takes the responsibility for carrying out the planting. Input such as fertilizer and seedling are provided without any outlay by the community. The engagement of local community in the implementation of scheme of this type is largely passive and normally restricted to the provision of hired labors for planting and an agreement to cooperate in protecting planting.

A progressive forest acts has been promulgated by government of Nepal. This legislation clearly established FUGs as the responsible organization for regeneration, protecting and harvesting local community forests (Forest Acts, 1993).

Major debate is about nuclear guideline where the objective of community forest is only to fulfill subsistence need of forest produce or where it may commercialize the community forest by permitting installation of wood based industries in sustainable way. The sustainable of community forest managed in Nepal depends upon economic, social and cultural diversities of Nepal. Diversity of social cultural setting make diverse natural resources management practice and allied resource use conflict. Conflict in community forest in Nepal is of them, which are seen within a forest uses group or between forest users group and district forest office (Shrestha, 2005).

According to community forestry development programme, community forest is the forest managed and utilized by local user groups. Community forestry program is the process by which government through the department of forest makes community a reality for rural communities. The poor and the land-less people should also be included in the community forestry programme.

2.2 Empirical Literatures

There are many scholars and research who have devoted their life time of emerging forestry issue of Nepal. Their effort to find out the forestry problems and solutions are considered valuable contributions. However, here only few literatures of scholar and researchers have been reviewed in order to know about the existing socio-economic status of community forestry in Nepal.

Gilmour, in his paper work concluded that the forestland in the two District i.e. Sindhupalchowk and Kabhrepalanchowk, consist of total area of (12700 Ha.) which 2.1 percent forest was being degraded. However, this figure included a substantial area of forest (3, 82,000 Ha.) that was actually removed from the forestland base by clearing (largely in terai) excluding that area from consideration the loss of crown density in the remaining forest amounted to 5,79,000 Ha. including areas converted from forest land to shrub land that represented loss of 15 percent country wide over the 14 year period (1964-1978) equivalent an annual loss of 13 percent. Using an area of 12,700 Ha. of natural forest in the two Districts, and a degradation figure of 1.3 percent per year, the resultant loss of forest over a 20 years period would be equivalent to 29,000 Ha. He suggest that recognition and open acceptance of this reality coupled with active efforts in implementation improved management of all natural forest with the participation of local villagers would greatly improved the resources and assist in halting the decline in the forest condition moreover he maintained that villagers would generate employment opportunity and increase income implementation community forestry program (Gilmour, 1991).

Gilmour and fisher in their research paper, concluded that CF usually involves an interaction between forestry technicians and villagers, the object of which is that the villagers should develop the ability to manage their forest better to improve both their own access to forest products and the quality of the forest it self. This is the novel

approach for groups of major actors, the forestry technicians and the villagers (Gilmour and fisher, 1991).

Malla (1993) studied that there has been rapid socio-economic changes in Nepal and the development of domestic markets. These changes have placed new demands on resources including forest. In addition, more rural people have been involved in off-farm employment which has played a key role in rural household economy. These results have changed the economic and resource management strategies of the rural people. In some rural areas these changes have rapidly affected the traditional agricultural system.

Jha has tried to find out present condition of CFUG of Ramechhap district special reference to the socio-economical characteristics. He described and analyze how the forest user group have been utilizing and sharing the benefits from their community forest resources. He concluded that the community forest resources. In his study area, is more successful in the sense of its increasing number of forest user groups are determined by few rich people. So the minimum involvement of the poor and low caste in the decision making process and a leadership building has become a difficult job. The forest user group are found becoming increasingly active in forest development. The perceptions of the forest user group show that they are enthusiastic about initiating some income generating activities and community development activities in the community forestry area. The project and the department of forest have realized community forestry as a means of raising socio-economic condition of the people through income generating activities and community development activities (Jha, 1998).

Poverty is a serious challenge of Nepal. The majority of population lives in the villages and the big segment of them are poor. Poverty cannot be alleviated from external efforts of programmers imposed from above. Participation of the poor themselves is very important in every program which aims at poverty alleviation. As such the poor need made capable, empowered and then mobilization for this is very necessary to ensure maximum access of the poor to social economic and commercial natural resources and services. It also equally essential to create opportunities for the poor and enable them to participate in decision making policy and programmers formulations and implementation of development program (Roy,1999).

Sharma has studies in the sector of community forestry to find out the impact of community forestry on income distribution. His research was conducted on Badikhel VDC of Lalitpur district in his study, concluded that community forest slightly reduces "rich-poor" but any hasty conclusion can be erroneous and premature. Based on the studies, he founded that community forest has a crucial role in the sustainable living of land poor households. Furthermore the rich households are also getting various products from the community forestry. He also added that the linkage of community forests and poor suffer from the lack of complementary resources with the later community income also trickles to poor households. However, for signification reductions in gap he suggested to reduce the economic display by establishing and strengthening the mentioned linkages. Economic proceeds of community forestry should be challenged in educations and health (Sharma, 2000).

The original envision of community forestry was to protect soil erosion, in prevent environmental degradation and provide basic needs of forestry production to the rural people . In the present context community forestry management is complex situation often meeting confliction objectives and dynamic process than traditional forest management system. As recently been reported, land owners and wealthier households are interested in long-term of intermediate produces while landless and poor families are interested of cash income products gaining experiences and leaning process will greatly help to develop the system. However, effective leaning to sift protection-oriented forest management approach of the CFUGs to active approach have not been seen in the past. To maximize the benefits and to make successful community forestry program there is an urgent need to shifty fore active forest management. To address the livelihoods issues in community forestry, there is need of leasing part of CF area to poorer section of community so the forest area will be used more productivity and poorer will get more benefit from CF (Acharya, 2001).

Prasai, studying about 50 percent households of this community forestry found that community forestry found that community forestry fulfill the demands of forest products like fuel wood, food of green grass leaf litter, timber etc required to day to day lives of villagers. In CF products are distributed proportionally on the basis of household size. In general its users perceive that they are getting an equitable share of the products currently available from their forests. CF has grater impact on other monetary benefits like income generating activities by using saving time to collect

fuel wood fodder or their time saved on poultry farming and earn around Rs.100,000 Per household in each year. It has been demonstrated in Bhagawanthumki CF. community are capable of organizing themselves and conserving local forest, local resources. Beside the monetary benefits, the people of the study area are being entertained with real benefits like co-operation among the people, environmental improvement etc after the implementation of community forestry program (Prasai, 2000).

Community forestry in Nepal has been perceived as a mean to fulfill the basic needs of people such as fuel wood, timber and other forest production. Operative for more than two decades, community forestry is moving towards grasping the opportunities provided by the Forest Act 1993. CFUG are focusing on marketing and commercialization of forest product to generate fund and mobilized the resources and fund for different activities. Fund of CF are being generate through various internal and external sources. Grant and reward from Government of Nepal VDCs, entrance fees from the visitor and interest from the banks are the major external sources of income, while income from the sale of forest products, application fees, new entrance fees, membership fees, penalties and income from the micro project are identified as major internal sources of income. External sources of income primarily Government of Nepal grants uses to constitute highest share of income of CFUG but contributor of FUG fund. Income from the sale of forest products is now the main income sources of the FUG especially from the timber. The potential to increase FUG's fund is very high but FUGs are adapting operational plan. Therefore, the incomes they are generating comprise only fraction of what they could generated (Maskey, 2001).

The community forests annually generate about US \$ 12 million from the sale of forest products. However CFUGs have experienced difficulties in investing their fund in right kind of activities. They are now sending 36 percent of their expenditures in community development activities such as school, road, and health post and other development activities. The benefit is spent of Pro-poor programs. Additional spending on the livelihood improvement of poor, disadvantaged group and women are big challenges in community forestry (Kanel and Niraula, 2004).

Thapa in his thesis, case study community forestry concluded that there is positive impact of community forestry on user group. Such impact is related form of income generation, constructions of natural resources. The main objectives of community forestry program has been envisaged to meet basic forestry needs such as fire wood, fodder and leaf litter and timber for communities . The capitalized fond which was accumulated deferent activities such as selling products, penalty, membership, application fees, award, subsidies etc. The studies founds that the distribution process of firewood is fair and equitable (Thapa, 2004).

Community forest is a village and community level forestry practice where decision and actions are often are made collectively where in rural people participate in planning, establishment, management and harvesting of forest crops and receive the major proportion of the socio- economic and ecological benefits. CF is not just a special technology by rather a process of socio-economic change that requires a continuous participation of community in planning, implementation and problem solving. The overall aim of CF is to decreases the socioeconomic hardship of the people living in the rural area. Majority of these people suffers from actual poverty and their basic need most be mate so that they can lead a better life. The issue of resource conservation and sustainable development can only be address if people enjoy a secured livelihood. CF approach, therefore, is particularly significant for the socio-economic uplift of the user (Shrestha, 2005).

Luitel (2007), in his thesis also analyzed the forest of Nepal is essential for the wellbeing of rural communities who depend on it for supplies of fuel – wood, fodder, poles, timber and many other products. It also provides essential raw materials for infrastructural development and helps to maintain a sound environment.

Tiwari (2008), on her master thesis describe the socio-economic impact and women's participation in Maulakali CFUG of Nawalparasi district. She concluded that CF has played a positive role to conservation protection and regeneration of forest resources of the country. Women's and lower cast participation in decision making is very low. However, the leadership and decision making right of women's and other lower cast group is increasing. She suggests that in her thesis, CFUG should involve more women and members from economically and socially disadvantageous groups to

discourage the lower participation in decision making process of women and marginalized people.

Pokhrel (2008), analyzed the contribution of C.F., in the journal of SANDEE. He focuses that C.F.U.G. usually invest their fund in four areas; (1) forest development, (2) public infrastructure development, (3) pro-poor activities and (4) forest administration. Forest development is defined as any activity that improves the forest condition such as silvicultural operation, hiring a forest watcher and awareness campaigns. Public infrastructure development includes building schools, roads and water reservoirs. Pro-poor activities refer to allocating soft loans and programmes for training self-employment skills. Forest administration refers; honoraria for training self-employment skills. Forest administration refers; honoraria for executive members, meeting allowances, per diem and traveling allowance regarding operational plan, auditing and making signboards and stationery (Pokhrel, 2008).

Joshi concluded that there is positive impact of community forestry on user group. Such impacts are related to income generation, conservation of natural resources. The main objectives of community forestry program has been envisioned to meet basic forestry need such as fire wood fodder and leaf litter and timber for communities. The established fund was accumulating by different activities such as selling product, penalty, membership fee application fee, awards, subsidies etc. The study found that distribution of fire wood and other benefits are fair and equitable (Joshi, 2010).

2.3 Conclusion

In conclusion, it is evident from above that the benefits of community forestry among users groups are very immense. But, the lack of efficient management of such forest and optimum utilization of its resources have been frequently seen as problems of community forests. Thus the prevalent limitations of optimum and efficient utilization of CFUG fund on poverty reduction programs a present question. So my study tried to contribute some new idea in literature of community forestry and also identify the actual socio economic benefit to Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest User Group of Baglung district.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Area Selection for the Study

This study was undertaken in Dagatumdada VDC ward no. 7 of Baglung district, Nepal. The researcher has chosen the area because the area is resident of researcher and he is very familiar with the environment of this area so this made easy for data collection and rapport building among the community people.

3.2 Research Design

Descriptive and exploratory research and design was used in this study. The emphasis is given on the qualitative rather than the quantities for aspect of the information relating to the income level and consumption pattern of forestry product of forest user group as well as role and activities of people participation in forest management system. Factor determining economic impact of community are briefly described by the attitude of the respondents. An attempt it made to analyze the sharing benefit to the user through underlying motives of human behavior.

3.3 Sources of Data

This study has been based on primary data, but in some cases secondary information also included.

3.3.1 Primary Data

Primary data has been collected through the technique of sampling survey, direct observation, face to face discussion, questioner and interviews with community forest user group and stakeholders by the researcher.

3.3.2 Secondary Data

The secondary data has been collected form the various publications, journal, articles, theses and text book related with community forestry. But the study mainly based on the primary data.

3.4 Data Collection Techniques

The data has been collected in the field with the help of questionnaire, containing various questions covering socio-economic status, distribution pattern of forest production among the forest user group. The field survey includes interview, observation and other related data have been collected from VDC, district forest office, department of the forestry and relevant web search etc.

3.4.1 Questionnaire Design

A survey questionnaire sheet was prepared and administrated to the local people in order to collect quantitative and qualitative data. A set of structural questionnaire has been used to get quantitative data in the field of personal identification, population composition, education status, land holding patterns, forest utilization pattern etc.

A structured questionnaire has been used to collect qualitative information of people's attitude towards forest conservation and development, attitude of the villagers towards the future forest magnets, development etc.

3.4.2 Interview

Interview method was used to collect empirical information relevant to this study. Interview was conducted in those households that were previously selected as the samples. It was an oral response method for data collection. Information related to beliefs attitudes and opinions were obtained through the interview. The interview was taken by questionnaires which were structured, semi-structured as well as open.

3.4.3 Observation

All the desired information may not be obtained through the survey questionnaire & interview methods. Therefore, this study also utilizes the benefits of data collection through observation method. So, several observations were made during data collection. Native system of agricultural, techniques of forest clearance, method of fire wood collection, fodder collection etc. are the main areas of interest to collect the data through the observation method.

3.5 Method of Sampling

It hasn't been possible to take detail information of forest user group i.e. (limited time and cost) at that situation census survey not relevant. Simple random sample method has been taken to conduct the research work. Among the 260 no. of household, 52 no of household are selected for in-depth study through lottery method. Some knowledgeable person who are not selected as respondents are also taken as respondents purposively.

3.6 Data Processing and Analysis

Generally, analytical and descriptive approaches have been used to analysis the collected data. The collected data has been tabulated, processed and analyzed by using simple statistical tools like table, bar graphs and pie chart etc. After processing the data, statistical tools like average, percentages, and ratio has been used. The secondary data and information also included incorporated of this study.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENT STATUS OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY IN NEPAL

4.1 Current Status of Community Forestry in Nepal

In Nepal, forests have long been an integral part of rural life. Traditional societies historically coexisted with the forest and their and production systems were grounded in utilizing wild resources on a sustainable basis. When the government began preparing management plan for managing the forests they were not effective because local people who were using the forests and were not involved in the planning processes, with local people viewed as threats to the forest and were often even deprived access to the natural basis of their livelihood. This led to resentment and demolished any sentiments of forest stewardship, which in turn led to over demolish any sentiments of forest resources both by the government and local people. However, in the early 1980's, the government realized the role and value of the local communities in sustainable forest management and began community forestry as a forest management system (Joshi, 1997).

The development of community forestry in Nepal is an attempt to improve the socio-economic conditions of rural communities and halt environmental degradation. The transfer of the management rights from the government to the local people for selected forests represents an important opportunity for the local communities to manage and utilize the forest. Hence, local communities are establishing legally recognized communities known as forest user Groups (FUGs). Plantation on degraded lands, enrichment plantation under existing forests, their management, as well as management of well-established natural forests, their carried out by the FUGs. The Ministry of Forests provides technical supports on silvicultural operations and writing management plans. The timber and non-timber production from the FUG managed forests belongs to the local community. Distribution and sale of the forest products is decided by FUGs. One hundred percent revenue from its sale gets deposited into FUGs treasury. The FUGs solely decides the use of the revenue on forest and community developments, such as drinking water, school and others (Carter, 2000). Some FUGs can even afford to employ forest rangers. Presently, nation level FUGs federation has been established with legal reform. Managing local forests by FUGs are supporting

community livelihoods by providing fire wood, fodder, and timber and non-timber forest products. Although scientific studies yet needs to be carried out, local people and development workers point to the reduction in soil erosion, establishment of gullies, water sources conservation and improvement in water quality, as positive environmental impacts resulting from community forestry in Nepal.

Forest protection and management by customary rules by the local people has a long history in most of the hills in Nepal. But legal institutional arrangements for participatory forest management were not democratic and transparent in those days. Most of the forest spots were under the control of local elites. This control made people think that the forest is theirs. Forests became an economic and political focal point with increasing demand for forest product and agricultural land as well as sates growing interest in collection revenue from the forest. There forest Government of Nepal enacted the private Forest Nationalization Act 1957, which not only create a shift in perception from people's forest to government forest but also eliminated the indigenous system of forest management. However, that can be considered as the first major step of government concerning the management of forest. The successive acts dealt only with sale of forest products, prohibition, punishment and organization changes. None of the changes dealt with sustainable management, future planning and needs of local people. These changes in acts and policy could not control the forest degradation and deforestation, instead the rate if deforestation and degradation speeded up. Department of forest was unable to manage the remaining forest in successive years. It was until 1976, the government felt that the remaining forest could not be managed only by the bureaucratic machinery and enforcement of law and eventually persuade to change the policy. In 1976, the government prepared the National forestry plan. The Panchayat protected forest fuels 1978 were enacted under this plan with the provision of handing over national forest in an attempt to renew the conservation of the forest resources. This was the first step of formal commencement of the community forest program in Nepal. The governments have further emphasis on community forestry and private forestry programs as a major component of development. Master Plan for the Forestry Sector was published in 1988 as a concrete suppuration the people's participation concept. On the basis of Master plan for Forestry Sector (1988) Forest Law 1993 was finally passed. This act has also inspired the community forestry as a major priority through users group.

The latest documentation in forest department has shown that 1.31 million hectares forest area has been already handed over to 15,076 forest user groups (FUGs). The total Involvement of the household is 1763825 million (DOF, 2010). All the FUGs have been benefited from community forestry. The generated fund by all FUGs varied widely. This variation related to the size, condition, age and type of the forest, the level of forest utilization, and user's ability to pay and proximity to markets. It is Difficult to obtain accurate figures of financial status for user group .The status of total CF of Nepal. The Number of FUGs, Total community forestry area that had been handed over to the community forestry area that had been handed over to the community and the number of households involved in CF in Five Development regions of Nepal are listed in table 4.1

Table 4.1: Regional Community Forest Distribution (As of Nov, 2010)

Development Region	No. of FUGs	Total CF Areas (Ha.)	No. of HHs
Eastern Development Regions	2866	367,556	347880
Central Development Region	3462	282,982	416778
Western Development Region	3981	206,554	469153
Mid-Western Region	2634	272,167	314529
Far-Westerns Region	2133	189,856	215485
Total	15076	1319115	1763825

Source: - District Forest Office, 2010, Government of Nepal.

Table 4.1 shows that there are 1319115 hectares forest area that has been already handed over to 15076 forest user group where the total involvement of the households in 1763825.

From regional perspective Eastern Development Region consists of 2866 FUGs, 347880 HHs with total handed over CF area in 367556 hectare. Similarly, Central Development Region consists of 3462 FUGs, 416778 HHs with total handed over CF area in 282982 Ha. While Western Development Region consists of 3981 FUGs, 469153 HHs with total hand over CF area in 206554 Ha. In the mid-Western Development Region, there are 2634 FUGs and 314529 HHs with total handed over CF area is 272167 Ha. Where as in Far-Western Development Region, there are 2133 FUGs, 215485 HHs with total handed over CF area is 189856 Ha.

4.2 Trend of CFUG, CF Area and Households Involved in CF

All the FUGS have been benefited from CF. However the general fund by these FUGs varied widely from place as it depends on the size, condition age and type of forest, the level of the forest utilization, and user's ability to pay and proximity to markets. It is difficult to obtain accurate figures on financial status of the user groups. The District wise current status of FUGs is given in appendix A. The total number of CFUGs registered in department of forest, CF handed over to the community and the number of households involved in community forestry in each year in Nepal is given in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Total Community Forest User Groups in Nepal (1984/85-2009/10)

S.N	Fiscal year	Number of Handover FUGs	CF Area (in Ha.)	No. of HHs
1	NA	101.00	6002.89	10622.00
2	1984/85	1.00	15.50	53.00
3	1987/88	1.00	27.00	35.00
4	1988/89	10.00	567.00	1115.00
5	1989/90	42.00	1972.57	4492.00
6	1990/91	87.00	5011.53	12973.00
7	1991/92	339.00	20759.90	34952.00
8	1992/93	729.00	51585.12	80180.00
9	1993/94	1204.00	87692.80	131809.00
10	1994/95	1645.00	119775.60	178499.00
11	1995/96	1743.00	156023.94	194677.00
12	1996/97	1586.00	132634.29	180377.00
13	1997/98	1438.00	135886.15	168504.00
14	1998/99	1157.00	99065.79	135090.00
15	1999/2000	1079.00	93678.22	123528.00
16	2000/01	862.00	90451.54	99167.00
17	2001/02	645.00	57618.77	91407.00
18	2002/03	615.00	45144.29	72115.00
18	2003/04	593.00	71448.19	71616.00
20	2004/05	415.00	40480.69	51509.00
21	2005/06	57.00	4815.43	7520.00
22	2006/07	51.00	6709.39	6747.00
23	2007/08	31.00	1757.10	6663.00
24	2008/09	392.00	57562.35	66284.00
25	2009/10	253.00	22428.00	38331.00
	Total	15076.00	1319115.00	1763825.00

Source: - District Forest Office, 2010, Government of Nepal.

The decentralization of powers in the forestry sector and the improved access to natural resources for the local community is certainly laudable out comes of progressive legislation, policy and practices participatory management of forest

resource in Nepal. In the past, income from forest mostly went to government treasury. CFUGs are now allowed to keep all the income generated through the sell and distribution of forest products by their respective CFUGs (forest Act, 1993 and rules 1995) i.e. CFUGs collect funds and can use for local development activities like infrastructure development of local school, village and drinking water supply.

Considering the positive aspects of their community forest, Danida is supporting "Natural resource management sector-wise helping programme" from 1995. Among the various Natural resources management Sector-wise helping programme unit, the community forestry development implementation projects are running in 38 hilly districts, 6 in Eastern development region, 8 in Central Development Region, 9 in Western Development Region, 8 in Mid-western Development Region and 7 in Far-western Development Region. (Rijal, 2009)

4.3 Impacts of Community Forestry

Different impacts that a CF can bring about to the community is shown bellow:

Economic Impacts:

-) Income
-) Production
-) Labor
-) Capital

Environment Impact

-) Soil fertility
-) Soil erosion
-) Soil moisture
-) Vegetative cover

Social Impact

-) Attitude and perceptions
-) Women participation
-) Physical quality of the index
-) Participation in decision making

Community forest has three impacts as shown above: Economical impact, environmental impact and social impact. By economic impact, the source of income will increase production rate which is turn result in the increment in labor supply. It

finally helps in capital formation. The whole process ultimately assists in the economic upliftment of CFUGs.

FUG is concerned with its environmental impact. Soil fertility moisture and vegetative cover will be increased in the areas where CF exists. It helps to minimize soil erosion that may occur otherwise. All these benefits eventually help to maintain proper ecological balance. Another major impact of community forest is social one. Initially, community forest helps to change the attitudes and the perception of the people in the positive direction.

It in turn assists to women participation. Once women's participation is increased, due to positive attitude and perception as well as awareness, the life quality of FUG member will be increased. These factors strengthen the people in decision making for their own betterment. All these factors finally help in launching the CF programmes successfully.

4.5 Forest User Group: National Profile

Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) are autonomous institutions, empowered under the forest Act, 1993 to manage and utilize their community forests under the guidance of an operational plan, which they develop by themselves. FUGs choose an executive committee to make daily decisions on their behalf. Out of the total number of 15076 (CFUGs) about 14.15 percent of CFUGs had only women as its members. Women CFUGs which are totally managed by women are well managed as compared to those administered by men or mixed. The number of households in CFUGs varies at an average being 121 households per group. Studies have shown that CFUGs smaller than the total population of the country are benefited from the CF program (CFD, 2010). Table 4.3 provides national profile of community forestry program in Nepal.

Table 4.3: Community Forestry National profile

Total Area of the community Forest Handed over	1319115
Average Size of the Community Forest	88.55
Total number of FUGs	15076
Total number of household involved	1763825
Average size of executive committees	8.35
Average size of community forest user group	117hh
Average number women in CFUGs	14.15

Source: - District Forest Office, 2010, Government of Nepal.

CF programme has played a vital role in the economic and social life of the people however there is a lack of empirical evidence of its contribution in rural livelihood improvement of national level (Banko Jankari, 2004: 19).

Forest attribute such as diversity and abundance provide a range of goods and service to the people in economic analysis these goods and service are generally divided into use value (physical goods and recreational benefits) and non-use value i.e. the ecological functions (Banko Jankari, 2004:20).

The community forest is programmed in Nepal has succeeded in generating the spontaneous participations of many rural people. Nepal forest policy provides an environment to practice and learn from community forest and many more have been achieved in terms of capital formation and its flow, governance reforms and community empowerment. However, there are many challenges related and gender equity, livelihoods, and forest sustainability. Nepal's community forest has proved that communities are able to protect, manage and utilize forest resource sustainably. Community forestry approach is therefore a source of inspiration to all of us working for sustainable forest management and user rights. In spite of the benefits, community forestry in Nepal is neither free from problem nor does it seem to be adequately conscious of and prepared to address current and further challenges.

CHAPTER FIVE

DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

5.1. Geographical Situation

Baglung District lies in Western region at Dhaulagiri Zone. The total area covered by the district is 182486 hectare. Which is divided into five subtitle which are agriculture land which covers 46435 hectare (25.45%) forest land 98046 hectare (53.73%) grassland 28294 hectare (15.51%) river cover and 5096 hectare (2.80%) and other type of land covers 4613 (2.51%). It is located at 83⁰-00' to 83⁰-36' North latitude. It is bounded in east by Parbat west by Rukum Rolpa and Pyuthan, North by Magdi and South by Gulmi and Pyuthan district (Source: District Profile of Baglung)

Topography of this district is slightly steep. Some area are plane and some are hilly though it is generally known as hilly district. The main religion of the people in Baglung district is Hinduism and Buddhism then comes others Nepali is main language then come other languages like Magar, Gugung and Newari

5.2 Status of Community Forestry in Baglung District

In Baglung district Community Forestry initiatives were started in 1980 immediately after the amendment of forest legislation in favour of community forestry. The early phase of the community forestry programs included nursery establishment aforestation of the denuded hills and handing over of the forest area to local communities in the Village Panchyats. This programme is further highlighted after implementation of the master plan for forestry sector (1988) (MPFS). Community forestry activities have been implemented in the Dhaulagiri hills through the district forest offices since 1990 Nepal-UK Community Forestry Project (NUKCFP) took the responsibility of financial and technical support for Baglung district from 1993 to 2000. In April 2001 the livelihood and forestry programme (LFP) begin with the purpose of enhancing assets of rural communities through more equitable efficient and sustainable use of the forest resources.

5.3 Historical Background and Description of the Selected Community Forest

The forest is dens with large and tall trees such as Sal, Chilaune, Khayar, Chiuri, etc. The head man of the village had found those who were found stealing timber from the

forest. Any villagers who need fire wood timber could use the forest by paying some nominal charge to the headman. Due to the heavy population pressure and forest nationalization act this forest had been degrading 2020 B.S. people start destroying tree freely to construct houses increasing number without any control after the government of Nepal realized to involved the local community in the forest management. The rules and regulations were in acted continuously. Then, the process of the community forest protection has been initiated by the local people the user of community forest planted different type of species and conserved the existing species.

Approximately 25 percent of the VDC area is covered by the forest. It fulfill the demand for firewood timber, fodder, fruits, valuable non-timber forest productions and provides habitat for wild life, grazing land and recreational sites it is one of the major tools for the villagers for their sustainable livelihood.

The forest is located in ward number 6 of Dagatundanda VDC and its total area is 215 Ha. Almost all parts of CF are plain land. It is surrounded by Mayur Pokhari CF in north, residential area in west. It was handed over to user in 2053 B.S. currently 260 household with 1591 people are involved in this CF. Agriculture, business, government service etc., main income source of users. It is easily accessible from through gravel road. There are variously trees like Sal, Khayar, Saj, Chilaune, CHiuri, Pine, Amala etc.

5.3.1 Forest Management

Forest management is essential for sustainable use of the forest products. To fulfill everyday demand for forest products of the user group and to sustain the supply of forest products, Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest has prepared forest management plan for next seven years.

5.3.2 Mission

Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest management committee has set the mission as increasing the capacity of development timber supply to user group by strengthening the forest management practice and developing the user group as self sustaining institution as well as improving livelihood of user group members.

5.3.3 Goal

The goals of the forest management are as follows:

1. To supply grass, fuel wood, timber in future.
2. To carry out soil conservation, watershed conservation, spring water and natural resources conservation activities.
3. To conservation the wild life and biodiversity.
4. To improve the social, educational and financial condition of users.
5. To restore environmental stability.
6. To promote income generating activities with effective forest management.

5.3.4 Objective

The objectives of the forest user committee are as follows:

1. To improve the forest condition by using scientific and technically sound management.
2. To supply timber, fuel wood, fodder, leaf litter in sustainable manner.
3. To improve forest productivity
4. To increased people participation in the development of the forest
5. To develop technical knowledge and skill of FUG members on forest management related activities.

5.3.5 Protection of Forest

Protection of forest is one of the major activities of the CF management. Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest had been patrolling the forest in rotational basis categorizing the user group into different sub-groups. Grazing, poaching of the wild animals and plants, illegal cutting, mining and encroachment of forest are strictly prohibited in the CF. the person violating the rule has to bear Penalties.

5.3.6 Offences and Penalties Rule

FUG has made some norms and rule regarding forest management and protection and posed penalties for any person who violates the rules. Its constitution does not permit a person to enter the forest without notice. S/he would get penalties in accordance

with his and her nature of offence. There are different rate of fines for different offensive activities. Detail of offence item and penalties are mentioned in table 5.1.

Table 5.1: The Rate of Fines for the Violation of Rules of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF

S.N.	Offence item	Penalties Rs. (I-III attempts)
1	Fodder collection (Per-head load)	50-100
2	Leaf litter and grass cutting (Per-head load)	20-50
3	Fire wood collection (Per-head load)	50-100
4	Timber cutting and coal making (Per cubic feet)	100-300
5	Damage in seeding (Per plant)	50-100
6	Grazing (Per animal)	50
7	Land encroachment	100-200
8	Hunting	200-500
9	Fire hazards	1000-3000
10	Absence in General Assembly	50-100

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest, 2011.

Offend attempting offenses 1 to 3 times shall pay fines within five days to FUG committee. For the fourth attempt, a case is field in District Forest Office (DFO). DFO will punish under the Forest Act 1993.

If fire occurs, all forest users are responsible to control fire hazards. If any household member is absence to extinguish the fire it is suspended for one year from general membership. Wild animals and bird of the forest are strictly prohibited for hunting.

5.4 Demographic Characteristics of Sampled User Group

Among the various components of population composition, age and sex composition hold a prime place for demographic study. Separate data for male and female are imported for various types of planning and for the analysis of other demographic characteristic such as mortality migration marital states, economic characteristics etc. The balance of sex affects the social and economic relationship within a community.

Similarly, the age structure of the population guides many types of planning, particular planning of community institutions and services, manpower supply etc.

Table 5.2: Age and Sex-Wise Distribution of Sampled User Households

Age group	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total	Percent
0<15	22	14.76	26	17.10	48	15.95
15<64	111	74.50	109	71.71	220	73.09
65>	16	10.74	17	11.19	33	10.96
Total	149	100	152	100	301	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011.

A table shows that the population of sample household. Out of 301 household where 50.49 percent is female and 49.51 percent is male it is further shows that 15.95 percent is below than 15 years, where population of male female are 14.76 percent and 17.10 percent respectively. 10.96 percent population are old age groups, where male and female population of again are 10.74 percent and 11.19 percent respectively. The population economically active is 73.09 percent, where population of active male and female are 74.50 percent and 71.71 percent respectively.

5.4.1 Ethnic Composition of Sampled User Household

The caste and ethnicity plays important roles for socio-economic development of every society. The villages where forest user has been living are inhabited by various ethnic groups.

Table 5.3: Ethnic Composition of Sampled User Household

S. N.	Ethnic group	No. of household	Percent
1	Brahmin	15	28.84
2	Kshatri	15	28.84
3	Kumal	13	25.00
4	Dalit	4	7.70
5	Others	5	9.61
Total		52	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The table depicts that out of the total sample household of the community Brahmin Kshetri are the dominant ethnic group which covers 28.84 percent each followed by Kumal 25.00 percent, lower cast 7.70 percent and other 9.61 percent.

5.4.2 Household Size of Sampled User Household

The average family size of selected household is 5.79. Family size affected the economic condition, health condition and social condition of the family. The family sizes of various ethnic groups are given in table below.

Table 5.4: Average Family Size by Ethnic Group

Ethnic group	Households	Population	Average family size
Brahmin	15	73	4.87
Kshatri	15	77	5.13
Kumal	13	82	6.30
Lower cast	4	31	7.75
Others	5	38	7.60
Total	52	301	5.79

Source: Field Survey, 2011

In the present study found that the dalit has largest family size 7.75 person per household and the Brahmin have small size 4.87 person per household.

5.4.3 Sex- Ratio of Sampled User Household

The numerical measurement of sex composition of population is often expressed in terms of sex ratio. The sex ratio is generally calculated as no. of males per 100 females. It is computed for different ethnic groups and is given in table.

Table 5.5: Sex Ratio of Sampled User Household

Ethnic group	Male population	Female population	Sex ratio*
Brahmin	38	35	108.57
Kshatri	38	39	97.43
Kumal	39	43	90.69
Dalit	15	17	88.23
Others	19	18	105.55
Total	149	152	98.02

Source: Field Survey, 2011

*sex ratio =no. of male/no. of female x 100

5.5 Social and Economic Structure of Forest User Group

Nepalese economy is based on agriculture. More than 33 percent GDP comes from agricultural sector of Nepal. The major products are cereal crops, livestock, and forestry products and CF is playing a major part in earning live hood of farming and contributing in farm production. Socio-economic structures of selected HHs are presented bellow.

5.5.1 Occupational Composition of Sampled User Household

Agriculture is the main occupation in Nepal, so the case is in this study area. When the primary resources of a country are utilized on a commercial scale, a country is industrialized and when the new technologies are introduced, it generates diversification of occupation structure. Due to lack of these factors, there is not alternative opportunity in non- agriculture sector for employment in Nepal.

Table 5.6: Occupational Composition in Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest Users Groups Sampled Household

Occupation	No. of household	Percentage
Agriculture	29	55.76
Business	10	19.23
Services	8	15.38
Wage labour	5	9.61
Total	52	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of sampled household too. The above table shows that 55.76 percent of the total sampled households are dependent in agriculture and other household are engaged in other profession like business, services and wage labor.

5.5.2 Educational Structure of Sampled User Household

Education is considered as human capital and important infrastructure of the development as well. It plays a crucial role in all sector of the society. Educational

structure of the community people has played important role for the participation in different CF activities. If the entire person as household is educated, their participation on any development activities is more effective. Here the level of education has been divided in to five categories. They are:

- I. Illiterate
- II. Literate
- III. Primary level
- IV. Secondary level
- V. Higher secondary level

Illiterate are those who cannot read and write. Literate represents those person who can read or write either from formal or informal education, primary education means the academic education up to class five. Secondary is known as the academic education up to class ten. And higher secondary education refers to that the academic education which is above SLC level. The education status of Sampled CFUG is tabulated bellow.

Table 5.7: Educational Status of Sampled Household

S.N.	Level	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
1	Illiterate	25	25	40	13.29
2	Literate	39	31	70	23.26
3	Primary level	44	54	98	32.56
4	Secondary level	31	26	57	18.93
5	Higher secondary level	20	16	36	11.96
Total		149	152	301	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The above table shows that out of 301 people there are 13.29 percent are illiterate, 23.26 percent can read and write, 32.56 percent of the people had primary education, 18.93 percent people had got secondary level education and near about 12 percent people had access to higher level education.

5.5.3: Land Holding Patterns of the Sampled Household

In Nepalese context, land holding is one of the most prestigious things as well as determinants of the income and food sufficiency of the people. The more land more income, less the land less the income because more people depend upon agriculture in the study area. In the study area, largest land holders are Kshatri and Brahmin. The following table shows the average land holding pattern of sampled household in Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG.

Table 5.8: Land Holding Patterns of the Sampled Household

Land size in ropani	No of HHs	Percentage
<10	9	17.30
10-20	17	32.70
20-30	11	21.15
30-40	10	19.23
40>	5	9.61
Total	52	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The above table shows that 17.30 percent of the sampled households have less than 10 ropani. Majority of the household have holding in between 10-20 ropani, it is 32.70 percent.

5.5.4: Animal Husbandry Patterns of the Sampled Household

Animal husbandry plays an important role in agricultural production. Livestock is considered as a liquid asset as it can easily be converted into cash selling them where there is a money crisis in home. Accordingly, livestock plays multifunctional role in Nepalese farming system. They provide milk, meat, ghee, and draught power for filling the land and manure for maintenance of soils. Livestock is also a part of agriculture. It plays an important role for the upliftment of their socio-economic status of related households. The prosperity of a family can be also judged by the number of animal. The following table shows the total number of livestock according to ethnic group.

Table 5.9: Animal Husbandry Patterns of the Sampled Household

Ethnic group	HHs	Buffalo	Cow/ox	Goat	Chickens/Ducks	Pig	Total
Brahmin	15	27	15	41	87	-	170
Kshatri	15	31	21	46	121	-	219
Kumal	13	7	34	31	277	29	378
Lower cast	4	-	6	2	55	10	73
Others	5	2	8	9	61	5	85
Total	52	67	84	129	601	44	925

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The present field survey found out that the people of the study area have on the average 17.79 domestic animal and birds per household.

5.5.5 Feeding Pattern of Livestock

Forest is the main source of fodder and green grass for livestock. Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest provides facility for collection and cutting green grass to its member. However there is very large area of its user group, so all member are unable to come in CF to collect fodder and green grass. Only nearly members are using these facilities. Other members meet their demand for grass and fodder from privet forest, private land agriculture residues using.

Some people of the sampled households keep their livestock by stall-feeding and some people take livestock for grazing. The following table shows that feeding pattern of livestock of the user group in sampled households.

Table 5.10: Feeding Pattern of Livestock in Piple Basahathan Multipurpose Community Forest Sampled Household

Feeding pattern	No. of HHs	Percentage
Stall Feeding	44	84.61
Grazing	8	15.39
Total	52	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The above table shows that 84.61 percent households practice stall feeding while only 15.39 percent households goes for grazing.

CHAPTER SIX

SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFIT DERIVED BY USER GROUP FROM PIPEL BASAHATHAN MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY FOREST

Poverty in rural society is common phenomenon. More farmers live in poor condition. They have less land, less livestock and less access to several economics commodities. How can the living condition of these farmers be increase and the poverty be reduced? This question is arising continuously. Several national plans have been lunched in these context i.e. five year national plan, agriculture perspective plan, poverty alleviation plan, many plans have considered agriculture production to be prioritize. Farm production is required to increase to enable to break serious poverty chain in the rural area. Government has considered supply of four agro inputs i.e. improved seeds improved technology, fertilizer and irrigation. These four factors are concerted primary as well as highly prioritized components to supply in the farming system.

In present days, increasing human encroachment, deforestation is the main problem in western side. Forest here is far more degraded and farmlands eroded compared to other zones. So community forestry is like an investment to restore the degraded forest. It provides the people with a management system which offers suitable and efficient forest protection and utilization patterns.

6.1 Community Development Activities Undertaken by Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF

Community development activist are essential to improve the quality of life and empower the local people. For the sake of wellbeing of local people, different organizations are involved in carrying out community development activities in the rural areas with regard to community development. VDC or the local level unity of government has been focusing in basic needs of the local people in supporting the construction and repairs of community development projects such as health care, drinking water, school, trails, bridges, irrigation, subsidies on sanitation and bio gas plants.

There is the close relationship between rural development and natural resources and local people are encouraged for the promotion and conservation forest as well as community development. Some of the community development activities under taken by Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF user groups have been analyzed as flows.

6.1.1 School support

CFUG has been contributed to the educational sector in many ways. Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF user group has been providing timber required for the construction of school building free cost. It has also help to the school providing scholarship for student and salary for private sources teacher. CF is main sources of timber for school construction and regular maintenance. School supporting pattern since 5 year showing in table bellow:

Table 6.1 Investment Pattern in Education Fund of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF

Particulars	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Salary for private source teacher	22000	27500	35200	45400	60500
Scholarship for student	4500	6150	6500	7300	8600
Constructing building (Timber in Rs.)	6650	4300	7340	4600	12300
Stationery item	2000	3000	3500	5000	5000

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF annual report

Table shows the fund of CF is utilized in the sector of education. Now days near about 1 million rupee is invested in the education field which help to increase of literacy rate of Dagatumdada VDC.

6.1.2 Trial Improvement

CFUG has been found to use their organizational mechanism to mobilize the human and other resources to improve the trial and roads in order to facilitate easy mobility and transportation. The Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF user group gives the subsidy to gravel the local road. Every year seventy *Tip Gity* were provide by CFUG fund. Investment pattern of trial improvement since 2005/06 to 2009/10.

Table 6.2 Investment Pattern in Trial Improvement

Specification	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Gravelling	21560	22800	30000	30000	35000
Culvert construction	12000	14600	15700	18000	22000

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF annual report

Above table shows the investment pattern of CF fund in the gravelling and small bridge, in this sector approximately Rs.60000 is spent. This fund has immense role to develop community. The transportation is becoming easy and it helps to expand agricultural sector. The user groups and villagers are highly benefited from Transportation.

6.1.3 Community Building and Rest House Construction

The Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG has provided timber free of cost for construction and regular maintenance of community building. Similarly; it has also constructed rest place "Chautari", "Public Tap" "Partikshalaya" near the forest area by mobilizing human labor as well as financial capital.

6.1.4 Health programme

CF committee announces annually health programme in the community. In health programme community forestry committee hire medicine and specialist doctor. The poor people, dalit and backwardness people has been highly benefited. This programme created healthy society.

6.1.5 Other Development Activities

Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG has undertaken many other activities. It gives subsidy to every required household to make Bio-gas plant every year to its user group. Beside this it has launched many training i.e. tailoring training, unseasonable vegetable production training etc. to its user group. Its create opportunities and has utmost role reducing unemployment and social criminal activities. Invest pattern in tanning and other programme given bellow:

Table No. 6.3: Investment Pattern in Other Sector

Specification	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Bio-Gas	10000	14000	12000	16000	24000
Sanitation	5000	4000	5700	6500	6150
Skill training	8450	9800	10000	11300	14000
Counseling/ Study tour	4400	5150	5600	6250	6700

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF annual report

The projected table trace out the expenditure of difference sector like as Bio-Gas, Sanitation, Skill training and Counseling. In given title Rs.76000, 27350, 53550 and 28100 has been invested respectively. CF committee has been decided to give subsidy per house two thousand in bio-gas sector and one thousand in sanitation sector. Who is interested to build bio-gas and toilet they get financial support easily from CF committee.

This type of programme of CF committee has been given lots of positive impacts in social sector as a reducing environmental pollution and other key sector like as reducing deforestation and improve grass land. Similarly it has play crucial role to increase the skillful manpower and awareness people.

6.2 Benefit Derived by User Group from CF

Identification of benefits is strongly kinked with effects if community forestry on the economical and financial, environmental and social aspects of communities. Identifying the benefits of community forest may present on major conceptual difficulties, but can very difficult to carry out in practice due to the multipurpose nature of CF. Benefits are more difficult to compute as they usually occur in the long future for example; the benefits of forestry is mainly social service, therefore, it is not possible to access its projects purely on the basis of commercial benefit cost analysis. Its benefits and cost must take into account the various relevant factors which affect national welfare, environment, resources and security. Man's welfare depends upon air, soil and water management, in which forest plays the vital role. CF provides

various benefits in various sectors. Some of the benefits derived by user groups are categorized in the following topics:-

6.2.1 Social Benefits

Community forestry is launched in the society. It provides the benefits to the people living in the society. Some of the social benefits of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forestry are as follows:

6.2.1.1 Strengthening Organization

Mechanism for encourage and farming user group committee, this builds up the social capacity for rural development. After the establishment of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF, people are united to tackle every types of social problem through strong organization.

6.2.1.2 Increase the Peoples Participation

Effective implementation of CF has increased the women participation and other ethnic group participation in community. Which can helps the empowerment of women and such kind of lower cast and ethnic group.

6.2.1.3 Co-Operation among the People

The sustainable supply of forest products like firewood, fodder etc. helps people not to quarrel. Conflicts arise due to shortage and sustainability helps people to live in harmony. People in this area have united to increase the economic status, preservation, proper utilization of resources and efficient co-ordination among the user's group members.

6.2.1.4 Social Relation

None of the respondent said that is any conflict among the FUG members. It was also observed that series of meeting, assemblies etc of FUG have created opportunities for the users to discuss about the mobilization of fund for their local development. During the meeting, they also discussed and resolved the conflicts and issue of benefit-sharing. Working together for their village development and resolution of their conflicts by themselves in the meeting has built the social unity. From the field study,

it was observed that due to community forestry, Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF has maintained good environment in their community by attaining social unity and protecting their natural environment. This indicates that there is good team spirit and forest user's committee members have good leadership to manage the community forest.

6.2.1.5 Reduction of Women Works Load

According to the respondent and women group discussion indicates that before the implementation of CF sufficient forest products are not available in the nearby forest due to its deforestation therefore they have to spend 1-2 hours to collect one head of forest production.

6.2.1.6 Women and Dalit Participation in FUG Committee

There are 11 members in the committee. The researcher was able to approach vice chairperson, secretary, committee members, and ex-treasurer of the community forest. Current committee they have elected one female as vice chair person, there are five female members in the committee that comprised of 45 percent of the total committee member. It is a positive sign towards women's participation to leadership development. The Disadvantage Group (DAG) women and other lower cast are also involved in this committee. It helps to empower the DAG and women in society.

6.2.1.7 Participation in Meeting

From the household survey, it is found that 10 percent of the total respondents do not know how many times and when assembly and committee meeting held in a year. This is because several women respondent did not attend the meeting themselves but someone like husband or father from that household participated in the meeting.

About 80 percent of the respondents said that they do always attend the general assembly. The respondent also said that fine would be levied if they do not attend the assembly. Similarly 18 percent of the respondent says they do not attend the assembly at all. It is because either they do not get information or they do not have a time to attend the assembly. From the table 6.4, we see that both the number of FUG meeting and the participation of male and female users is increasing gradually in the committee and assembly meetings.

Table 6.4: Trend of Participation of Forest Users in Meeting and Assembly

Fiscal Year	With respect to FUC meeting				With respect to FUG assembly			
	No. of Meeting held	Participation			No. of Assembly held	Participation		
		Female	Male	Total		Female	Male	Total
2005/06	9	13	43	56	1	37	98	135
2006/07	9	20	112	132	1	55	143	198
2007/08	12	33	143	176	1	78	123	201
2008/09	12	61	138	199	1	85	145	230
2009/10	12	69	140	209	1	97	151	248

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF annual report

From the table 6.4, it can be seen that the number of FUG meeting suddenly increased in 2006/07 and remaining constant over the years. The male and female participation has gradually increased in the assembly meeting over the years.

For general assembly, the FUC members have put effort to pass the information to all FUG members as far as possible. If some of the FUG members do not happen to receive the mail, the neighboring members do inform them by home visit. When asked, most of the respondent replied that they get information of general assembly either written or verbal.

All respondents replied that the date, venue and time are fixed by secretary with the decision made in earlier meeting and the permission of chairperson. All the respondents said that the day and time of assemblies are fixed with due consideration of FUG members convenience. From this, we can say that meetings are held in democratic way.

6.2.2 Economic Benefits

Most expected economic benefits of community forestry to the rural communities were expected to be non-monetary and strongly related to sustainable use. The creation of increased forest resource and proper management of these resources in the CF has provided the significant economic benefits to the users. Some of the economic benefits derived by Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF user group are as follows.

6.2.2.1 Sustainable Collection

The people of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF user group now get sustainable firewood and fodder for their daily needs. It was possible only after 2053 BS. Prior to 2053, the degraded forest couldn't provide sustainable supply. Reforestation by community forestry programme became helpful to increase the livestock rearing which is very important to increase the income of the local people.

6.2.2.2 Impact on Household

These types of impact could be measured of time saving to collect fodder, fuel wood, grass, leaf litter and other available and necessary forest resources through it was not assessed directly in many studies but I came to know after informal discussion with villagers that more than 25 percent time being saved now a days. It helps to engage them tin fulltime in their agriculture and business works which has direct positive impact on economic aspect.

6.2.2.3 Availability of Forest Product

The Piple Basahathan Multipurpose forest was highly contributed to increase the forest product such as grass, leaf litter, fire wood, fodder, medical herbs and poles. The user group has accumulated the significant amount in its community fund from its indigenous forest management and this fond is used for the community welfare.

6.2.2.4 Multiplier Effect

It is expected that the surplus of fuel wood, timber and other products from CF can help the users to enter in to market economy. This will bring a significant, effect in CF by increasing further job opportunities for the rural people along with the income, consumption, sharing and living standard of the people.

6.2.2.5 Source of Energy

The villagers of the study area are dependent upon fire wood as main source of energy. Almost sampled 52 household have the firewood as main source. There is some practice of using alternative source of energy like Bio-gas, electricity and Gas etc.

6.2.2.5.1 Firewood

Firewood is major and direct income source for user groups. Fire wood is not being harvested as pruning. Singling or thinking and on dry product from all the CF. It is the major product that forms the community resources, supplemented from the private resources depending on availability. Users have been utilizing directly firewood for cooking and heating.

Table 6.5: Sources of firewood

Source of fire wood	Firewood (in Bhari) per year	Percentage
Community forest	2340	73.36
Private forest	540	16.93
Other source	310	9.72
Total	3190	100

Source: Field Survey, 2011

The villagers of the study area are depends upon fire as main source of energy. Almost sampled household have the firewood as main source. There is some practice of using alternative source of energy like bio-gas, electricity and gas etc. almost firewood are available from CF, trends of use various source of firewood present table bellow.

It can see from that the annual consumption of firewood sampled household is above 3190 Bhari each of the household is betting 2340 Bhari firewood only from the CF. in other words the contribution of community forestry to fulfill the total demand of fire wood is more than 73.36 percent and other demand was fulfill from the private forest

more than (16.93 percent) and other sources like agricultural residues (9.72 percent). It is clearly shows that the role of CF is crucial for supply of firewood.

6.2.2.5.2 Source of Fodder for Livestock

Forest is the main source of fodder for life stock. Fodder trees are important for hill communities as they provide quality food for livestock. The CF cannot alone meet the demand of fodder for livestock. Private land are also used for fulfilling such needs in the study area.

During Asahd to Aswin 25 percent sample households depend completely on CF for fodder their livestock and collect 4-5 Bhari per week. And during winter season around 30 percent sampled household depend on CF as well as private land for fodder to feed their livestock. During that period they collect 1-2 Bhari per household from CF for fodder every week. But this can not meet that total demand during that period. In this time they depend on private land and straw.

Table 6.6: Source of Green Grass and Fodder

Source	Fodder (in Bhari)	Percentage	Amount (in Rupees)
Community forest	765	63.86	15300
Private forest	433	36.14	8660
Total	1198	100	23960

Source: Field Survey, 2011

Note: 1 Bhari=25 kg

Market price per Bhari=Rs 20

In the local market per Bhari fodder Price Rs.20, from the above Table 6.6, it is clear that the sampled households save Rs. 15,300 per year in fodder due to community forestry programme.

6.2.2.6 Employment and Income Generating Activities

The major source of income of household is agriculture (55.76%) the off farm activities, especially business (19.23%) is the second major source of income for households. Out of total households 15.38 percent seen to be involved in government

service. From the researchers general observation, educated households and job they receive is positively correlated.

Females contribute most of the labor related to agriculture and housework. It was confirm by home visit and observation. Women, in fact, are the backbone of agriculture. Females tends to be involved in planting, weeding, harvesting etc. males carry out plugging, bounding, irrigation, threshing etc. works. Household jobs such gathering firewood, cooking food, fetching water and grass leaf litter, child care, livestock care are essentially the responsibility of female members.

Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forestry has lunched various income generation activities. It has given unseasonable vegetable production training, tailoring training and other skill training to its member. Through this, these people have got employment. Similarly it has initiated some programme to rural people for their upliftment by distributing goat selecting very poor person of the community. Similarly in the process of cutting and thinning of timber and firewood more than 10 men employee create here.

Similarly, in the community development activities, FUG members have to volunteer to provide labor for the particular task. Only the Chaukidar (Forest watch man) have been paid wage. This year, the committee has given high priority for the need of patrolling the forest to prevent from smuggling of timber. Therefore, the FUG committee instructed the users to patrol the forest at least 10 days. For their activities they will get some fuel wood and leaf letter free.

6.2.3 Environmental Benefits

Some of the major environmental benefits of community forestry are as follows.

1. Increase in forest cover
2. Increase in soil fertility
3. Increase aesthetic/increase in bio diversity
4. Soil and water conservation by retaining and maintaining forest cover in micro watershed areas.
5. Soil erosion control
6. Soil moisture

7. Vegetative cover
8. Natural beauty
9. Availability of fresh air
10. Environmental balancing

6.3 The Fund Generation of the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG

The timber is the major sources of fund generation of the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose forest. Bank interest membership fee, subsidies, fines and penalties, forest products are also other sources of CF fund. In the beginning they used to collect rupees 50 for each FUG members to renew fee and rupees 1500 for new member. The detail of the fund is given bellow.

**Table: 6.7: Income Source of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG
FY(2006/07-2010/11)**

Particulars	Total income rupees in FY (2006/07 to 2010/2011)	Percentage
Bank balance (previous year)	1,80,750	13.23
Bank interest	21,650.75	1.58
Entry fee/membership/application/identity card	1,82,640.35	13.36
Selling a forest production	83,600.95	6.11
Subsidies	1,25,205	9.16
Penalties	36,920	2.70
Fodder	15,520	1.13
Timber	6,72,775.95	49.23
Other income	47,580	3.48
Total	13,66,643	100

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG Report 2010/11

The table 6.7 shows that till now FUG have generated Rs13,66,643. The main source of income of the CFUG is timber and new entry fee. Which are contributed the 49.23 percent and 13.36 percent respectively.

6.4 The Fund Utilization of the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG

The fund of the community member of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF has been spent in different forest management activities like planning, thinning, cleaning, seeding, nursery and plantation. The fund has been spent also in the local infrastructural development like school construction, Road, construction, Construction of rest house and training etc. The detail of fund utilization is given in following table.

**Table 6.8: Fund Utilization Structure of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG
(2006/07-2010/11)**

Particulars	Total expenditure (in RS)	Percentage
Planning expenditure	43568	3.71
Administrative expenses	52400	4.46
Salary (Chaukidar)	157000	13.35
Electricity and telephone	15439	1.31
Auditing	7500	0.64
Training	57300	4.87
Fire control	31700	2.70
Purchasing expenses	33400	2.84
Election expenses	26450	2.25
Advertising and stationary	15567	1.32
Public development and construction	221660	18.85
Plantation and rolling	53780	4.57
Welcome to guest	9800	0.83
Scholarship for student	33050	2.81
Salary for teacher	190600	16.21
Health camp	52400	4.46
Subsidies(bio gas, sanitation)	103350	8.79
Nursery	11700	0.99
Stationary item for school	18500	1.57
Study tour and counselling	28100	2.39
Other	12400	1.055
Total	1175664	100.00

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG Report 2010/11.

Table 6.8 shows that the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG has spent highest amount in public development and construction in Rs.2, 21,660 and, Rs.1,03,350 has been spent on subsidies of bio gas and sanitation. Expenditure on training programme and salary for Caukidar in 2005/06 to2009/10 is Rs.57, 300 and Rs.1,57,000 respectively. Expenditure on scholarship to student and salary for teacher is Rs. 33,050 and Rs.1,90,600 respectively. Above table shows that CFUG of Dagatumdada VDC are highly benefited from CF programme. Income and investment pattern since five year given bellow.

Table 6.9: Income and Expenditure of the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CFUG since Five Year

Fiscal Year	Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Balance (Rs)
2005/06	3,34,320	1,53,570	1,80,750
2006/07	3,82,968	2,07,620	1,75,348
2007/08	4,39,114	2,78,490	1,60,624
2008/09	4,26,050	2,54,300	1,71,750
2009/10	4,72,627	2,81,648	1,90,979

Source: Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF

Annual income and expenditure of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose CF for five years is given in table 6.9. There is not any systemic trend in income and expenditure over the years (2006/07-2010/11). Both the annual income and expenditure Increasing gradually, which we see in the table.

CHAPTER SEVEN

MAJOR FINDING, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Major Findings

The major findings obtained from this study are as follows:

1. The fund of Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forest user groups is used to construct the social infrastructure such as road constructions and regular maintenance of existing ungraveling road.
2. The Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forest user group has been providing timber for the construction and regular maintenance of school and collage building free of cost.
3. The community forest user groups product for the construction and regular maintenance of community building activities.
4. The main income of poor people are only wage labor and from animals. So some poor people go to foreign country.
5. Among the users, the highest percent of poor people are from Dalit and Kumal are the second highest. And then other castes are followed.
6. The CFUG has taken the main objective to improve the people livelihoods by reducing poverty. So CFUG identified poor HHs and some amount located for people programme.
7. CFUG provided some employment opportunity to poor users. By cutting, wedding, thinning and carrying in CF, some poor households getting income per year.
8. For poor student CFUC provided scholarship and dress.
9. For needy and poor user group CFUC provided Rs.3000 per households to construct the toilet and biogas plant.
10. All the users are satisfied user are with benefited sharing process. Among users, poor funds are highly benefited.
11. After implement of the community forestry program people are united to tackle each type of social problems through mutual co-operation.
12. In the study area, it is also found that more than 25 percent time is saved from the implementation of community forestry programme.

13. As the aspects energy, I found that the contribution of community forestry has fulfilled the total demand of the more than 73.36 percent.
14. Some times there is arisen some conflicts in some points it can be solved by mutual understanding.

7.2 Conclusion

Community forests have played an active role in supplying the forest products and balance the eco-system. Moreover, this has direct impact in day to day life of FUG members. So People were actively engaged in planting, weeding, bush clearing, singling, thinning and pruning of forest crop and forest protection activities. Although they could not have more direct benefits from community forest they were yet very eager to develop it. But the level of income has been affected positively. Community forest programme has been vital necessity in providing the forest products to the user. The forest resources has been conserved and utilized efficiently. People are very conscious and aware of natural conservation. In response to the limited products available from the community forest, household's demand of fuel wood, fodder and leaf- litter is satisfied partially from their own agro plots in addition to the products from the community forest.

Community forest fulfills the wants of forest products like firewood, fodder, green grass, litter timber etc. partially which is required for day to day lives of villagers. In Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forest products are distributed proportionally on the basis household size as well as time spent in the conservation works in the forest. In general, its users perceive that they are getting an equitable share of products current available from their forest.

The study also concluded with the objects of identifying to analyze the economic benefits of community forest among the user group members. It is found that there is positive impact of CF on user group. Such impacts are revealed from of income generating, construction works and awareness of people on the need for conservation of natural resources. Since 1990, CF in Nepal has taken a holistic approach that embraces forestry as a source of income, employment, women participation and social development. Many of the FUGs in Nepal have used CF as a source of income and to gain capital for investment. The study has been designed to review the policy

statement and subsequent actions by the user group for sustainable forest development.

On basis of the study, it is concluded that CF has helped the user to save their time from day to day activities by making available of fuel wood, fodder, leaf litter in the nearby area. The women had spent a lot of time in walking just to get a Bhari of firewood and fodder. These days, they do not have to walk a long distance since they get it from CF. It's clearly seen that user can perform such activities easily taking less time than earlier. The saved time has been used for other purposes, such as vegetable farming, beekeeping, cattle rearing etc. furthermore, it is also a good opportunity to enhance their live hood by development a skill oriented training program in the area and for this, special focus should be given to the housewives.

It was realized, that there is a need of various training and technical support regarding utilization of forest products, record keeping has now become the part of life of the rural community in the study area. Despite some negative issue CF is providing different facilities to the people of the community. The various benefits played the greater role in the community people in the study area.

FUGs have own fund and the bank account. The surplus fund of the FUG was spent for different purposes. The FUGs mobilized fund in the form of small loan for interest. And it has also used on forest development and community welfare programmed. Generally, community forestry management committee spent on benefited work for majority. The status of book keeping system of their income and expenditure was not known exactly. Now days FUGs have started well book keeping system of their income and expenditure. CF programme has brought the following outcomes in the study area.

1. Increase the awareness and sense of belonging to the forest.
2. Improvement in the economic and social condition of the forest user group.
3. Increase the women's and ethnic group's participation in forestry developments.
4. Saving of time to collect firewood and fodder.
5. Improvement the economic condition of forest user group.
6. Increase the exchange of technology between user groups of different areas.
7. Utilization of fund of FUG in infrastructure development in local area.

7.3 Recommendations

Based on the fact observed and mentioned in the present study, some points were identified which should be improved for the betterment of the Piple Basahathan Multipurpose community forest user group and similar forest.

1. Compulsory provision of community forest management general meeting attend must be made who is really involved in forest resource collection.
2. Awareness program must be launched for male and female to make active participation of women and backward group in forest management.
3. Forest resources mainly timber and firewood must be collected by skillful hired workers and distributed being conscious about family size also.
4. User's committee should do survey and systematic need assessment prior to timber distribution so as to minimize the conflicts and biasness.
5. The women and children are the main collectors of the forest products. So, they should participate in all assembling and training. Their views are also to be incorporated.
6. The supply of timber and other required forest productions to the social institutions should not be stop.
7. The dependency of firewood on the community forest should be decrease by installing the alternative sources of energy such as solar energy, bio-gas, and improved cooking stove etc.
8. User's committee should be production oriented rather than protective so as to take maximum benefits from their available resources for sustainable development.
9. To safeguard the new plants and the whole forest, the cattle-grazing should strictly be prohibited as well as the community forest should hire the guard which helps to control the illegal activities on forest.
10. There is a good potentiality of medical plants like Asuro, Harro, Barro, Bojho, Nimpatta, Tulasi, Kurilo, and Amala. Users are aware of the value of these products but have the lack of the technical knowledge on how to grow. Therefore, technical knowledge should be providing to FUGs member and they should have link with the market.

11. DFO should focus poor for different forestry training for their knowledge and skill development.
12. The fund should be mobilized in skill training on income generating programme like poultry farming, bee keeping, unseasonable vegetable production, cash crops plantation and animal husbandry etc.
13. Government and non-government organizations should be encouraged to work on community forestry based programmed.

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Appendix: A

Questionnaire

Community forestry Programme

Household Survey 2011

1. Household no:-

2. Name of the household :-

Age: - Sex: - M/F Ethnic Group: - Education:-

Language: - Occupation:-

2.1 Family Description:-

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Education	Occupation	Remarks

3:- Description of land

(A) Do you have own land? (I) Yes (II) No

(B) If yes holding size of land is

(C) If not how much other's lands do you cultivate?

4:- Income sources of people/household:-

Occupation	Income in Rs.	Remarks
Agriculture		
Business		
Services		
Labour		
Other		

5:- What do you grow in your land?

S.N.	Types of major growing 2008/09	Production in muri/kg
1	Paddy	
2	Maize	
3	Wheat	
4	Potato	
5	Cucumber	
6	other	

6:- Is your household self-sufficient in food production? (I) Yes (II) No

If no, How long is it sufficient.....month.

7:- How many livestock have you got?

S.N	Name(type)	numbers	Income per year (k.g.)	Remarks
1	Buffalo			
2	Cow/ox			
3	Goat/sheep			
4	Cock/hen			
5	Pig			
7	other			

10:- How do you feed the animal? (I) Stall feeding () (II) Grazing ()

11:- Do you know about the community forestry? (I) Yes () (II) No ()

12:- If yes, are you a member of community forest groups?

(I) Yes () (II) No ()

- 13:- where do you get the fodder?
 (I) Community forest () (II) Private Forest () (III) Other ()
- 14:- who collect fodder? (I) Women () (II) both man women ()
 (I) Children () (IV) Man ()
- 15:- what are the sources of your energy need?
 (I) firewood () (II) other ()
- (16) If fire wood, from where do you get?
 (I) Govt. Forest () (II) Private forest () (III) Market ()
 (IV) Community forest ()
- 17:- How much *Bhari* of fire wood you need weekly.....
- 18:- How much contribute community forestry programme is in the supply of fire wood?
 (I) Very much () (II) little () (III) Not more ()
- 19:- If other then firewood sources what is that?
 (I) Electricity () (II) Kerosene () (III) Gas () (IV) Bio gas
- 20:- Are you aware to conserve fire wood?
 (I) yes () (II) No idea ()
- 21:- If yes how do you conserve?
 (I) Use alternative sources () (II) Use improved stoves ()
 (III) Other ()
- 22:- Have you used timber recently?
 (I) yes () (II) No ()
- 23:- If yes for why? (I) House consumption () (II) Furniture's ()
 (III) Tools ()

24:-

- (A) Are you a member of forest user group committee?
(I) yes () (II) NO ()
- (B) If yes what is the Position?
- (C) How many times do you participate in meeting/assemblies in a year?
.....times.
- (D) Have you done any voluntary labor contributing to your community forestry?

25:-

- (A) Have you got any temporary/permanent job from your community forest?
(I) Yes () (II) No ()
- (B) If yes what kind of job?
- (C) Have you got special aid from community forestry? (I) Yes () (II) No ()
- (D) If yes what proposed?
- (E) How much money? In rupee.
- (26) Has community forest helped people in income generating activities besides forest products?
(I) Yes () (II) No (III) No idea
- (A) If yes how?

- (B) Had there any development programme supported by your community forest in your village?

Yes () (II) No () If yes, what are they?

.....

27:- What are the changes you have a witnessed after the introduction of community forestry programme?

(I) Increase in forest area. (), (II) Proper use of resources. ()

(III) Effective preservation of forest. (), (IV) Promotion of people. ()

28:- Has community forestry helped to reduce poverty?

(I) Yes () (II) NO () (III) No idea

29:- In your opinion community forestry is:-

(I) Very beneficial () (II) Good () (III) Not very importance ()

(IV) Not good ()

30:- Have you realized any problems in community programme?

(I) Yes () (II) no () (III) No idea ()

31:- If yes how?

(I) Conflict () (II) Illegal cutting of tree () (III) Fire and grazing ()

(IV) Problem of distributing of forest product ()