

GENDER ROLE IN COMMON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

A Case Study of Chisakhola Community Forest, Sarangkot VDC, Kaski, Nepal

A Thesis

***Submitted to the* Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences,
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Pokhara In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Master Degree in Sociology**

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This dissertation entitled “**GENDER ROLE IN COMMON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: A Case Study of Chisakhola Community Forest, Sarangkot VDC, Kaski, Nepal**” submitted to the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Bagar, Pokhara by **Narayan Prasad Sharma** has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology by the undersigned members of the dissertation committee.

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ABSTRACT

Community forestry was introduced in Nepal in 1978. The community forestry approach has been highly successful in the protection of forest in the Hills of Nepal. Women and men are playing an important role in sustainable development of community forests. However, the role of female is neither properly identified nor explored. So, the study focuses to the Gender participation in community forest management of Chisakhola community forest user's group. The general objectives of the study is to find the participation of male and female in community forest user group's activities whereas the specific objectives of the study are: analyze the socio-economic condition of male and female members of community forestry as well as to find out their attitude towards community forestry. Chisakhola community forest was selected for the study. This study was based on primary and secondary data and the nature of data is qualitative. There are 108 households all of them were chosen for study. Both male and female respondents were selected for interview, Key informants and focus group discussion. During the study, primary and secondary data were collected by using both quantitative (applied Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools) and qualitative methods (used questionnaires). For the study, total 108 households (100%) were interviewed. The data of the study has been analyzed using both quantitative and descriptive methods.

During the field survey some obstacles were observed and understood for women to participate community forestry activities. Traditional male dominated culture, household works load, lack of empowerment, poor economic condition, lack of knowledge and lack of awareness were pointed as the key obstacles.. Majority of respondents (86.4%) reported that both male and female were getting benefit from community forest. Participation of women in attending meeting was like audience is high (43.17%). Taking part actively in general meeting, sharing in decision making and discussion was very low. In this community forest Brahmins and Chettris are the dominating forest user groups whereas dalits are in minority. Participation of Brahmin and Chettri is high in comparison to others. Women participation was satisfactory but less with the comparison of male. The users are satisfied with the work carried out by forest user committee and community forest program.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CCF	Chisakhola Community Forest
CF	Community Forestry
CFM	Community Forest Management
CFP	Community Forestry Program
CFR	Community Forest Resources
CFUG	Community Forestry Users Group
CPR	Common Property Resource
DDC	District Development Committee
DFO	District Forest Office
DoF	Department of Forest
EC	Executive Committee
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
FUC	Forest Users Committee
FUG	Forest Users Group
GoN	Government of Nepal
GOs	Government Organization
Ha	Hectares
HH	Household
HRD	Human Resources Development
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
MFSC	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
MPFP	Master Plan for Forest Products
MPFS	Master Plan for the Forestry Sector
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Product
OP	Operational Plan
UG	Users Group
VDC	Village Development Committee