

# **Women's Empowerment through Dairy Co-operative**

**(A Case Study of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Society Pvt. Ltd.,  
Dhikurpokhari, Kaski)**

**A Thesis**

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**of the Requirement of the Degree of**

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## **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

This thesis entitled "**Women's Empowerment Through Dairy Co-operative: A Case Study of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd.**" is prepared by Bishnu Adhikari under my supervision. I hereby recommend this thesis for approval by the thesis committee.

Date: September 15, 2014

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## LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

This thesis entitled "**Women's Empowerment Through Dairy Co-operative: A Case Study of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd.**" submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Bishnu Adhikari has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts in Sociology by the undersigned member of the thesis committee.

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Bishnu Adhikari

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	:	Asian Development Bank
AGDP	:	Agricultural Gross Domestic Production
APP	:	Agricultural Prospective Plan
BMSS	:	Biratnagar Milk Supply Scheme
CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
DDC	:	Dairy Development Corporation
FAO	:	Food and Agricultural Organization
FWLD	:	Forum of Women Law and Development
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
GON	:	Government of Nepal
ICA	:	International Co-operative Alliance
INGO	:	International Non-governmental Organization
KMSS	:	Kathmandu Milk Supply Scheme
LARC	:	Regional Agricultural Research Centre, Lumle
MPA	:	Milk Producers Association
MPCS	:	Milk Producers Co-operative Societies
NDDDB	:	National Dairy Development Board
NGO	:	Non-governmental Organization
NMPCL	:	Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Society Limited
SLC	:	School Leaving Certificate
TAF	:	The Asian Foundation
UN	:	United Nations
VDC	:	Village Development Committee

## **ABSTRACT**

*Co-operative means working together. It is a form of economic as well as social organization based on certain values. Cooperative effort is ultimately the group instinct in man, which enables him to live together, work together and help each other in times of stress. Co-operatives are voluntary, people-oriented and self-help organization. The very motto of co-operatives, 'each for all and all for each', signifies loyalty, trust, faith and fellowship.*

*Empowerment of rural women depends on the range of services they receive from the cooperatives and their ability to have access to and control over income, expenses, savings and credit and household decision-making. The study entitled "Women empowerment through dairy co-operative "A Case study of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd., Dhikurpokhari, Kaski.. The main objectives of this study are i) to analyze women participation in dairy co-operative. ii) to explore women access to income and decision making, iii) To examine the role of dairy co-operative for women empowerment.*

*The following methodologies were used for meeting the different objectives of the study. Nature and sources of data, rationale for selection of the study area, research design, sampling procedure are methodologies for the study. The universe of this study are women members of Nagdanda dairy co-operative Pvt. Ltd. of Dhikurpokhari V D C. Out of 409 members of co-operative, 71 are female i.e.17.35% so all 71 female members have been selected as respondents of this study. The techniques and tools of this study were household questionnaire survey, field observation, key informant interviews, informal interview, focus group discussion, field note.*

*However, it is also found that several years of developmental and awareness of women based research and practice have clearly shown that has enhanced economic opportunities, such as access to financial services, are a necessity but not sufficient requirement for sustained reduction in poverty levels. Also, required are improved in social development as measured by education and health standards, as well as a supportive policy environment by civil society.*

*On the basis of the findings of the study "Women empowerment through dairy co-operative" the co-operative has been able to raise the decision making power.*

*Among other findings and lessons learnt this study identifies that the major concerns of women members of NMPCL includes: education for self and for children; having own and own income and savings from that livelihood; improved security/reduced vulnerability; improved access to institutions/individuals with resources, and freedom to make own choices or decisions.*

*I hope that the study and my analysis and recommendations for future activities to strengthen the co-operatives with both financial and social interventions will be useful to all those who are interested in strengthening the NMPCL and co-operative movement in Nepal. It is also useful to the entire researchers who are involved in various organizations to empower and gender equity to the empowerment and gender equity movement in Nepal.*