

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The economy of Nepal is based on agriculture. Agricultural sector has been contributing more than forty percent of the gross domestic production of the country (CBS Report, 2004). Agriculture is an art of doing farming, animal husbandry, horticulture and floriculture. Animal husbandry is the branch of agriculture and it is developing as the second occupation in Nepal. Agriculture and livestock farming are the important economic institution since the commencement of human civilization. In the early stages of civilization when agriculture was not properly known and practiced, cattle were the principle property of people. In the course of time, together with the gradual development of agriculture livestock farming was also pursued and properly developed. Man first came to practice agriculture which included the raising of domestic animals in the new Stone Age i.e. the Neolithic age.

Nepal has a long standing history of informal community based co-operatives. Traditionally, these groups were based on Kinship, ethnic and religious bonds. Some of the major traditional informal cooperatives are as follows: *Parma* related to agriculture sector is a free labor exchange among the rural households of particular localities and thus wage savings. *Gumba* is related to cultural protection in Buddhism. *Dharmabhakari* literally means a religious strong of grains that is often used to protect social welfare activities and natural calamities. *Guthi* is an institution of immovable property set aside for religious purpose in the care of some persons without having any kind of alienable rights. Primarily, the *Guthi* came into existence as a step to provide endowments for upkeep of the temple and domestic observance and rites. (Co-operative Devt. Board, Sahakari adhyanmala) In course of time, *Guthi* developed as an institution which tended to keep social groups and their individual members safe from process of disintegration by providing adequate economic sections against the same. In its original form, *Guthis* are communal temple and land tenure association, common among the ethnic Newars of Kathmandu valley.

The co-operative programme adhering to the globally recognized co-operative principles and values started in the country only in 1956 when 13 credit co-operatives were established in the Chitwan Valley. (Sahakarita Ra Nepalma Yeasko Bikash) The objectives of the co-operatives societies (registered under an Executive order of the Government, as there was no Co-operative Act at that time) was to provide agriculture credit to flood-stricken people resettled in the valley. Following the successful delivery of the agricultural credit by these co-operatives, the Cooperatives Societies Act was promulgated in 1959. After this, many legal and other reforms have been made to continue the co-operative movement in the country.

However, during the last five decades, the co-operative movement has experienced many difficulties. Prior to the 1990s, the government had used to set a target for registering co-operative societies: This usually restricted the public initiatives to promote cooperatives. Hence, the growth was almost negligible. However, with new act and liberal environment, where government did not restrict co-operatives from being registered, co-operatives were free to promote them. Hence, a mushroom growth was recorded during the 1990s (Mali, 2005). There were 33 district co-operative unions by the year 1990, but there were no national and central federations. After 1992, the mushroom growth took place at all levels of co-operatives societies, ranging from grass root to secondary and central level. The government had celebrated “Co-operative Golden Jubilee Celebration Year 2000” with a slogan “Adopt Co-operative System and alleviate poverty and unemployment”.

Co-operative is a form of business enterprises or community organization, incorporated in service to its members and users in order to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations. Co-operative is jointly-owned and democratically controlled by its members and users on the basis of one member one vote.

Co-operatives follow democratic, participatory and transparent decision-making processes and organizational structures so that their members and users (i.e. owners, workers and consumers) may be directly responsible for benefiting themselves and the society in general.

Co-operatives are based on the value of self-help, mutual help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. Co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, owners, social responsibility and caring for others. Cooperative principles by which co-operatives put their values into practice are:

-) Voluntary and open membership
-) Democratic member control
-) Member economic participation
-) Autonomy and independence
-) Education, training and information
-) Co-operative among co-operatives
-) Concern for community

Now a concept of co-operative is getting wider and success day by day we find different types of co-operative working in different sectors. A co-operative is a voluntary organization of person with limited means to safeguard their needs and interest. Unity in the diversity is the main motto of co-operatives society. The philosophy behind co-operative movement is "all for each and each for all". A cooperative is defined by the International Co-operative Alliance's Statement on the Co-operative Identity as an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise. It is a business organization owned and operated by a group of individuals for their mutual benefit. Co-operative may also be defined as business owned and controlled equally by the people who use its service or who work at time there are different types of co-operative on the basis of working nature.

A diary co-operative business is owned operated and controlled by the dairy farmers who benefit from its services members finance the co-operative and share in profits. It earns in proportion to the volume of milk they market through the co-operative. Dairy co-operative is found everywhere in both developed and developing countries. In developing countries it is one of the income sources of their rural economy whereas in developed countries. It takes as a substance business. The history of diary co-operative is related with the history of civilization.

Diary co-operatives have been getting various opportunities as well as facing different challenges. They formulate different types of strategic planning to cope with those challenges and to get success. Strategic plans of diary co-operatives in developing countries are generally to increase the production volume of milk bring about the internal improvement in co-operation societies reduce cost of production and provide quality service to consumer through skill trained and educated man power. Strategic plan of developed countries is quite different from that of developing countries.

Livestock farming being a major component of Nepalese Agriculture System is becoming one of the important occupations in the rural area of Nepal it is an integral part of Nepalese agriculture since those are used for labor (bullock) production manure production religious production and milk & meat production. Dairy farming has been helping the farmers to earn cash income to fulfill their basic needs at the same time they can get manure as by product and draft power for agricultural production.

One of the important aspects of dairy farming is to generate energy in household level for cooking and heating in terms of biogas, which is produced by decomposition of animal dung into an airtight digester. Major dairying animals in Nepal are cows and buffaloes. Those are reared from mountain to Terai regions of country whereas yaks are other dairy animals of sub Himalayan regions. Out of the total milk produced in Nepal, share of buffalo milk is higher, which is around 70% of the total milk production. A 20 years long Agricultural Prospective Plan (APP) has been effective in the country since 1997/98 which targets an annual growth rate in Agricultural Gross Domestic Production (AGDP) of 5 %. Livestock sector has been taken as one of the most potential sectors with an expected average annual growth rate at 5.5% as a whole in livestock sector and 6.1% in the dairy sector. However, the social exclusion of some of the ethnic groups, especially the scheduled castes, in the dairy co-operatives in rural areas has been seen as one of the constraints to achieve the targets. Still now, milk produced by some of the scheduled castes of the country has not been bought by the dairy cooperatives in the rural areas of the country.

The Dairy development activities in Nepal was began in 1952 with the establishment of small scale milk processing plant on experimental basis in Tusal, a village in

Kavrepalanchok. There are 1748 dairy co-operatives in Nepal (VDC and demographic profile of Nepal).

When we take a glance of rural animal husbandry then we find the vital role of women's participation. So this study mainly focused on the impact of dairy co-operative upon a woman of Dhikurpokhari VDC.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Nepalese economy is largely characterized by disguised unemployment and subsistence farming with limited prospects for modernization and commercialization of agriculture. Government have given emphasis on the establishment of co-operative by giving slogan "one village one co-operative". The main aim of this programme is to help economically deprived people. The economic condition of Nepalese rural community is low. In such case the dairy co-operative is one measure to ease and lower the blows of the poverty and under development of the state and people. Therefore, dairy co-operative are established and managed to solve the problem of mass rural people. This study tries to focus on the impact on women after they became the member of dairy co-operative.

Agriculture perspective plan (APP) has also accorded gender issue a higher priority and recognized it as one of the important implementation strategies. One of its objectives is to bring women into the mainstream of agricultural growth. Not only does it give explicit consideration to gender issue in all aspects of the plan but also specifies for every aspect as to how women may be brought into the main stream of accelerated growth. Specifically the APP aims to improve access of women for production inputs and credit bring women actively into the income generation and marketing activities ensure that both women and man have access to development opportunities being promoted (Upadhaya, 2004).

Context from sociological and anthropological point of view, it is very important to find out the impact of dairy co-operative in women empowerment. On the other hand after the empowerment, what sort of change have been seen in family life in past and in present. It is to be studied that how the dairy co-operative helps/makes women empowered. Hence the problem of the study should be understood as to what extend

women of Dhikurpokhari has undergone change after they become the member of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd. Whether they are benefited or what sort of impact have been seen on their life. So the main problem of the study is to make inquiry answer of the above raising issues. The specific research questions are as follows:

-) Who does what in Animal Husbandry?
-) Where do women spend income earned from dairy co-operative?
-) What are the change in women's social status brought up by dairy?
-) How is women's role in household decision making regarding use and invest of income?
-) To what extent, women are empowered after being the member of dairy co-operative?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objective of this study is to analyze the women's empowerment through dairy co-operative. The specific objective of this study are:

- i. To analyze women's participation in dairy co-operative.
- ii. To explore women's access to income and decision making.
- iii. To examine the role of dairy co-operative for women's empowerment.

1.4 Significance of the Study

In Nepal, nearly eighty percent of population depends on agriculture for their livelihood (CBS, 2004). Country is facing deficit due to subsistence farming, small and fragmented land holding size, low agriculture input and productivity.

Dairy co-operatives which are formed by the farmers, governed by the farmers, can run by the factors in a democratic fashion are an ideal mechanism to increase livestock and agriculture production and farm income through co-operatives farmers and empowered and economic growth is stimulated.

The study is concerned with the impact of dairy co-operative in women. The Gender issues has become an interest and hot cake to the sociologists, scholars, professionals, politicians, planner, policy makers, social workers, development agents, feminists, INGO's/NGOs and even everyone in recent years throughout the world as well as in Nepal in order to balance and integrate women and men in development. The

researcher hope this study will be useful not only for those mentioned above but also to all those who wish to make an egalitarian society for both women and man . Such a study of impact of dairy co-operative on women empowerment, may also be equally important to all who are interested in similar studies in the contest of other places also. This study focus on Nepalese woman's status being the member of dairy co-operative.

1.5. Limitation of the Study

This is an academic research. Thus it has to be taken within boundary of certain time, budget, place as well as other resources. This study has some major limitations which are enlisted as below:

-) Only women member from Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Limited are sample for this study. Therefore the finding of the study is not generalized to other area of the country.
-) The study is confined only with women respondent of Dhikur-Pokhari who have been involving in dairy co-operative.
-) This study has been done within limited resources and time and it may have many weaknesses and can be further improved.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This dissertation has been divided into eight different chapters. The First chapter includes introduction, Second chapter includes reviews of studies related to concept, history of cooperative, cooperative in Nepal and dairy cooperative. Besides this chapter two also deals with the empirical study regarding cooperative and dairy cooperative. The third chapter presents research methodology. This section deals with rationale for the selection of study area, population and sampling, tools and techniques of data collection, household survey, key informant interviews, observation, interview, focus group discussions and at last data presentation. Chapter four presents the basic information about socio-economic and demographic background of the study area. The fifth chapter deals with women's participation in dairy co-operative includes division of work, women's work load. The sixth chapter examines the women's access to income generation. The seventh chapter discusses about women empowerment and major problems faced by woman in dairy farming. In the last chapter the summary, conclusion and recommendations are presented.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter discusses the relevant literature available on different aspect of woman issues. Such as women empowerment access and control over income generation gender and feminist perspective. Likewise, this chapter also discusses the literature available on co-operative. Such as concept of co-operative, principle types of co-operative, background of dairy co-operative, dairy co-operative in Nepal. On the other hand, it also reviews empirical studies on dairy and woman empowerment. After getting these literatures a conceptual framework has been developed.

2.1 Theoretical Overview

2.1.1 Gender Perspective

Sociologists propose dozens of important theories and ask thousands of questions (Regmi 2003: 40), but this study has been carried out under the theoretical framework of Gender perspective, which is new and an appropriate approach to analyze culture and society in (order to develop a theoretical framework for this study) the context of sociology.

Basically, sex is biologically defined, whereas gender is socially defined. Thus, sex refers to the biological fact that a person is either a man or a woman. Gender refers to socially learned traits associated with, and expected of, men or women (Giele 1988; cited in Regmi 2003:130). Therefore, to be a men or women is a matter of sex, but to be masculine or feminine is a matter of gender and attitudes, such as mannerisms, styles of dress, and activity preferences (Regmi 2003: 40).

Giddens (2001) stated that in general, the term sex to refer to the anatomical and physiological differences that define men and women bodies. Gender, by contrast, concerns the psychological, social, and cultural differences between men and women. Gender is linked to socially constructed notions of masculinity and femininity; it is not necessarily a direct product of an individual's biological sex. Gender differences are not biologically determined; they are culturally produced. According to Magill

(2003), gender differences between men and women are caused by the psychological and social development of individuals within a society.

Women and men may be physically different, but this does not mean that they are therefore innately different from each other. It is society and culture, which has decided that men and women possess different traits and attributes. Geetha (2002) said that gender is an aspect of our everyday lives as well as a social, economic and cultural category that subsumes and re-writes the meaning of human sex, the fact of being masculine and feminine.

The word gender is now being used sociologically or as a conceptual category and it has given a very specific meaning in its new incarnation. This concept enables us to state that sex is one thing, but gender is quite another. Everyone is born as man or woman, and our sex can be determined simply by looking at our genitalia. But every culture has its ways of valuing girls and boys and assigning them different roles, responses and attributes. Gender refers to the societies, which distinguish men and women and assign them social roles. It is used as an analytical tool to understand social realities with regard to women and men (Bhasin, 2003:1).

Oakley who was among the first few feminist scholars to use this concept says "Gender is a matter of culture; it refers to the social classification of men and women into 'masculine' and 'feminine'. That people are men or women can usually be judged by referring to biological evidence. That they are masculine or feminine cannot be judged in the same way: the criteria are cultural, differing with time and place. The constancy of sex must be admitted but so also must the variability of gender." Oakley concludes that gender has biological origin, that the connections between sex and gender are not really 'natural' at all (Bhasin, 2003).

Recently the realization has been spreading that any development model, which does not include women's needs and contributions, will be fatally flawed; as such a model neglects half of the needs and human potential of any nation (Uprety 1989: 9; cited in Uprety 2004:108). As this awareness has spread, so too has the call to focus on gender and development. Until quite recently, development plans and programs ignored gender inequalities and thus failed to harness Nepalese women's potential for contributing to national development. The impacts of the international decade for

women (1975-85) were set at the national policy level for the first time for women's participation in development.

2.1.2 Feminist Perspective

Feminism is a movement that attempts to institute social, economic, and political equality between men and women in society and end distortions in the relationships between men and women (Magill 2003: 556).

Conflict theorists also hold, of course, that social inequality leads to conflict as disadvantaged groups struggle to improve their power and status in society. This, too, is true in the case of sex roles. In the United States and many other societies throughout the world, one of the major social changes of recent decades that has been the emergence of feminism on a large scale. Feminism can be defined as a social movement and an ideology in support of the idea that a larger share of scarce resources (wealth, income, power, status) should go to women. Essentially, the governing principles of feminism are that women should enjoy the same rights in society as men and that they should share equally in society's opportunities and its scarce resources (Regmi 2003:151). Feminist theories are that part of the new scholarship in women which implicitly presents generalized, wide-ranging system of thoughts about the basic features of social life and of human experience as these can be understood from women centered perspectives. It takes women as 'subject' in the investigation process or tries to look at the world from the vantage point of women.

In one sense, there has always been a feminist perspective. Wherever women are subordinated and they have been subordinated almost always and everywhere, they seem to have recognized and protested that situation in some form (Lerner 1993; cited in Ritzer 1996). Feminist theory develops a system of ideas about human life that features women as objects and subjects, doers and knows. Since the 1970s, a growing presence of women in sociology and the momentum of the women's movement have established feminist theory as a new sociological paradigm that inspires much sociological scholarship and research (Ritzer 1996: 446-488). In this regard, this study was also inspired by such feminist vision.

2.2 Concept of Co-operative

A cooperative is defined by the International Co-operative Alliance's Statement on the Co-operative Identity as an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

Co-operatives are also commonly called non-profit corporations or patron- owned corporations. The distinction between co-operative and other businesses is that co-operatives return net income to users or to patrons, while other business firms return net income to users or to investment (Cobia, 1989). Cooperative activities have existed in Nepal since traditional times. The cooperative movement of Nepal can be divided into the three types.

Traditional Co-operatives

Since ancient times in Nepal there was saving and credit associations popularly known as Dhukuti, and grains saving and credit saving known as Parma that has worked for long period of time. Similarly, Guthi provided a forum to work together for smoothly running different socio-cultural practices in the different community of the country which are still in practice.

Early Co-operative Movement

Modern cooperative initiative date back to 1956 with the establishment of thirteen credit cooperatives in Chitwan District to assist flood victims. Establishment of the Cooperative Bank in 1963 that was converted into the Agricultural Development Bank in 1968 and the formation of the Land Reform Savings Corporation in 1966 can be cited as the major cooperative ventures in the early era of the cooperative movement in Nepal (NCFN, 2007). It appears that until 1990 most cooperative ventures were limited to credit and finance and were controlled by the government

After 1990's

The Co-operative Act 1992 provided a liberal and democratic framework for co-operatives societies. There were 33 district co-operative unions up to 1990 and no national and central federations. After 1992, the mushroom growth took place not

only in co-operative societies at the grassroots level, but also in secondary level and central level.

In 1990's National Co-operative Development Board and National Co-operatives Federation jointly took the initiative to distribute monetary benefits to the co-operative staffs established before 1991. Yet another achievement was made in 1997. National co-operative Federation was conferred with the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) membership. Similarly, Ministry of Agricultural and Co-operatives and Co-operative Act, 1992 first amendment was enforced in 2000. Cooperatives are also found in the areas of transportation, vegetable production, coffee and tea production, wood carving, furniture, the cottage industry, carpet industry, and in ginger production. Even though governmental agencies, international institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations, and other stakeholders have put some effort into the cooperative movement in Nepal, the results are far from satisfactory. Most profitable cooperatives are urban-based, and except for finance, credit, and dairy cooperatives, the rural sector has not felt the presence of the cooperative movement in the country. Cooperative movements have to strive for the inclusion of women, dalits, poor people, and other oppressed classes of society. Some of the reasons identified for failure of the cooperative movement in the country include: lack of national vision for the cooperative movement, lack of adequate monitoring, lack of inclusion of every sector of society in the cooperative movement, lack of managerial skills and professionalism, lack of working capital, lack of technological support and development, and lack of credibility (Mali, 2005). According to the VDC and demographic profile of Nepal 2013, there are altogether 22,646 co-operative in Nepal.

Table 2.1
Co-operatives of Nepal

Types of Co-operatives	No.
Agricultural co-operative	3144
Saving and Credit Co-operative	10558
Dairy Co-operative	1748
Multipurpose Co-operative	4096
Vegetable and Fruits Co-operative	161
Tea Co-operative	104
Coffee Co-operative	67
Herbal Co-operative	73
Bee Keeping Co-operative	51
Consumer Co-operative	1379
Energy Co-operative	371
Health Co-operative	61
Others	833
Total	22646

Source: VDC and Demographic Profile, 2013.

2.2.1 Principles of Co-operative

Principles of co-operatives refer to the guideline to give the concrete form to the norms and values of co-operative organization. In other words cooperative principles are the set of rules and regulation to regulate and govern the activities of co-operative enterprise. There have been three types of co-operative systems, which are Rochdale system, Refisen system and Schulze system.

The first system was concerned with consumer, the second with farmers and the third with traders. The Rochdale pioneers emphasized on cash transactions where as Refisen and Schulze organized co-operative as credit organizations. However, the principles, which have been commonly adopted all over, the world is that which is laid down by Rochdale pioneers.(Co-operative Training Centre, Sahakari Ra Nepalma Yesko Bikash,2048)

The principles of co-operative have been given new dimensions from time to time to suit the changing environment and situations in order to make the co-operative movement more meaningful and purposeful. Due to rapid changes in the economy of the world, the need for review of the principle of co-operative was increasingly felt. In 1963 the International Co-operative Alliance had reviewed the existing principles. In 1995, Sep. ,the ICA General meeting stated the followings as the principles of co-operative:

Voluntary and Open Membership

Co-operative organization is a voluntary organization. Its membership is open to all. It does not discriminate and show disparity to any person on the basis of caste, sex, religion, beliefs and any other such characteristics. Everybody is free to get in and out in this organization.

Democratic Management

The control and management of co-operative organization is performed by its members through democratic system. Every member enjoys equal rights in policy making and decision making of the organization and there is system of one-man one vote. Amount of capital does not determine the voting power like in Joint Stock Company.

Economic Participation by Member

There is legal and equal economic participation of the members in this organization. They possess a common capital. A co-operative organization makes provision for reserve fund, dividend fund, employees bonus fund, co-operative education fund and loss compensation fund. The members of co-operative have opportunities to participate in economic activities. In this way, we find two kinds of economic participation of members in co-operative organization. First to provide capital to the organization and second to get economic gains from the organization.

Autonomous and Freedom

Co-operative organization is an autonomous, independent and an organization controlled by its members. There is necessary to make the members acquainted with

the basic principle of co-operative education training and information to the members based on co-operative values.

Education, Training and information

Co-operative launches training to its members, elected representatives and staff members. Co-operative education is necessary to make the members acquainted with the basic principles of cooperative. It should provide cooperative education, training and information to the members based on cooperative values.

Co-operation among Co-operatives

Co-operative Organizations maintain a sound co-operation among themselves. Local, regional, national and international cooperative organizations work together for the development of co-operative campaign.

Concern to Society

Co-operative organizations direct their plans and policies towards the continuous and long-term development of the society.

The Interim Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic, Nepal (2007) recognizes men and women equally and prohibits discrimination between them. The notion that "women's rights are human rights" is a new phenomenon in Nepal. For the last several decades, women's rights did not get recognition as human rights. Even today there have been reluctances to recognize the concept of land and resources rights for women, granting them separate legal status and a degree of autonomy. Affirmative action programs on behalf of women have rarely been statutorily implemented (Beijing and Beyond, 2004).

2.2.2 Background of Dairy Co-operatives

Dairy farming was first introduced in Indonesia on the island of Java during the Dutch colonial era, when small herds of Holstein-Friesian cattle were kept close to the cities of Jakarta and Surabaya and in the highlands where the climate suited this temperate breed. After this nation gained independence, the herds were broken up and smallholder dairying emerged. Each farmer owned one or two cows and raw milk was

sold in urban areas through a system of private collectors who acted as middlemen; the farmers were paid about 25 percent of the retail price.

As is generally well known, land is perhaps the most important income-generating asset in the rural economies of Asia. Yet, scarcity of land and its skewed distribution are two of the major constraints of the rural Asian landscape. Close to 60 percent of the world's agricultural population lives in the villages of Asia, but its share of the world's agricultural land is only about 28 percent. This is much lower than in other developing regions. Furthermore, of this limited available land, a very large portion is comprised of holdings other than small farmers' holdings. While the conditions vary from country to country, small farmers in Asia, although accounting for more than two-thirds of the rural households, have access to only about 20 percent of the arable land. Against this background, economic activities that are not essentially land-based, such as dairying, have become crucial for small farmers and landless laborers. While farmers' cooperatives of various types play a useful role in promoting rural development, dairy cooperatives have special attributes that make them particularly suitable. Among these, they can facilitate the development of remote rural economies, thus upgrading the standard of living of the poor.

The main constraint that milk producers seek to overcome by acting collectively is the marketing of their product. The need to be assured of a secure market is a real one. It can be met by dairy farmers cooperatively establishing their own collection system and milk treatment facility in order to convert their perishable primary produce, which requires special and timely attention, into products with longer-keeping quality for marketing purposes.

Most dairy cooperatives adopt either a two - or three - tier system. One village or a group of two or three villages forms the basic unit of the primary cooperative. Only dairy farmers are allowed to enroll as members and they must commit to supply milk exclusively to the cooperative. While the day-to-day functioning of the cooperative is managed by full-time salaried employees, the committee or board of the cooperative, consisting of only elected members, makes the decisions on the affairs of the cooperative. Primary-level cooperatives bring together members with similar interests at village level to work towards common goals. This system can also identify good

leadership talent that would be given a chance to develop through interaction with other community leaders.

A group of primary-level cooperatives forms a union, which can be for a district, region or milk shed area. This is the second tier. The third tier is the unions joining up to form a federation at state or national level, depending on the size and system of administration in the country. The federation has the power to act on such issues as pricing policies, extension, training, control of milk and milk product imports, subsidies and credit.

2.2.3 Dairy Co-operative in Nepal

Dairy Co-operative is enhancing the socio-economic condition of the poor farmer so it is regarded as complementary agents to change the agrarian structure and removing socio-economic inequalities through progressive change. Dairy Co-operative brings all small milk producers in one group and help in solving their existing problems regarding their dairy farming. The principal organization for dairy development in Nepal has been the Dairy Development Corporation (DDC) established under the Corporation Act in 1969. Most milk-producing farmers are small landholders who have been organized to form producers' associations, which channel milk to DDC-run cooling centers. Under the new Cooperative Act, passed in 1992, the National Cooperative Development Board has been established to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country.

DDC has been collecting cow, buffalo and chauri milk from 29 districts. Milk is collected through the farmers owned, Milk producers Cooperative Societies (MPCS). Its present milk collection network has spread from Panchthar in the East to Surkhet in the West. Hetauda Milk Supply Scheme also supports KMSS & BMSS by supplying excess milk above their local requirement. Biratnagar Milk Supply Scheme manufactures skimmed milk powder from its excess milk and milk excess from other supply schemes. DDC has been playing a special role in contributing to uplift the economic status of rural farmers. Thus dairy has been recognized as an effective tool for poverty alleviation. In the Fiscal Year 2062/2063 (2005/2006) DDC purchased about (approx.) 1, 50,000 liters of milk per day from the farmers.

With GON announcement of the policy of privatizing DDC in early 1990, private sector grew at faster rate. The private sector involvement is mostly in Katmandu Valley where large private dairies are located. Its significant growth was seen only after the implementation and approval of "Ten Year Dairy Development Plan" by GON in 1990. The poverty reduction. Likewise, the dairy farmers in many districts have organized themselves in milk producers' cooperatives and milk producers associations. These associations collect the milk from individual farmers and supply it to nearby chilling center or processing plant. Some of these cooperatives have also started processing and marketing of milk from their own initiatives.

In order to coordinate private - and public-sector dairy development, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) has been constituted. The board will initiate intensive training of MPA farmers and committee members at the field level so that they fully understand their rights, obligations and management discipline. A progressive transfer of MPAs to cooperatives will be encouraged through necessary activities coordinated by the NDDDB, which will facilitate the participation of individual milk-producing farmers in the ownership of milk-processing plants.

2.3 Review of Empirical Studies

The livestock sector is very complex with many crosscutting issues and interrelationship with other sectors, it is a very important part of the agriculture sector and key role to play in the country's development and poverty reduction (Report, ADB 2001)

According to agriculture perspective plan in the sector will rise from 2.9% to 5.5% by the end of the plan period. Dairy accounted for about two-last decades was about two-third off the livestock sectors. The average growth of milk production over the last decade was about 2.6% per year (Pardhan et al. 2003). In 1995-96 Nepal introduced agriculture-led economic growth and rural poverty alleviation by implementing the 20 year APP which envisages researching and annual growth rate of 5.5% (Chapagain, 1995)

The demand for livestock in developing countries is predicated to double over the next 20 years due to human population growth, increasing urbanization and rising incomes more than 81% of the population of Nepal relies on the agriculture sector for

employment and income generation. But agriculture development has been sluggish and most importantly has failed to keep the place with population growth. Nevertheless, contrary to the relative decline of agriculture the live stock production index has continuously been increasing over the last decades (FAO, 2003).

Policies and strategies to promote milk production in developing countries often don't address the key issues of small scale milk collection and processing and these acts as a limiting success. For the growth and development of small scale sector can best be achieved through local level organization of small scale productions into working groups and associations or co-operatives. The main driving force to attract small holders into this supply cycle is to provide increased returns to stimulate production and encourage uptake of improved technologies (FAO, 2001).

The primary benefit to be derived from increase in livestock productivity is sustainable producers, many at whom are resource poor, many of these being women and some of whom are landless. (PPLPI, 2004).

Dairy has been recognized as an improvement tool for development and poverty reduction and is today accorded to status of a thrust area by the government. DDC, an undertaking of Government of Nepal has made significant contribution in bridging the gap between urban consumers and the rural milk producers. It has provided it's valued services to the farmers as their door steps sizeable increases to the farmers as their door steps sizeable increases in milk production has forced DDC to utilize milk in best possible ways and in recent times, massive diversification of dairy product has not only benefited the urban consumer's but has helped in the economic development of the rural mass milk producers (DDC, 2006).

Dupire (1962) explains that in the case of West African woman receive cattle from their families either s gifts or through inheritance. The cattle belong to the woman in that they control milk, keep animals of case of divorce and bequeath them to their children (Food and Agriculture Organization of UN, 1997).

Lindgaard (1993) in his research shows that when a household has a lactating cow, they meet their own demand for milk products and afterward they sell milk if they have any surplus. Then even though milk sales provide a reasonable possibility for cash income, the household requirements for the milk products is given high priority.

Development planners ignorance of the economic roles of women in pastoral societies indeed ignorance of pastoral socio-economic contributed to the relatively poor performance of "livestock projects" (Hurowitz, Jowkar, 1992).

Like Dairy Cooperative other types of co-operatives also grow quality and quantity if they receive fair government support capacity building assistance from within the outside the co-operative movement, (CICTAB, Pune, 2005)

Poverty in Nepal is mainly a rural phenomenon where households mostly land and livestock. Majority are dependent on agriculture for household income and livestock for petty cash. So it very necessary to realize the major benefits in livestock farming (PPLIP, 2004).

According to Department of livestock services under the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives of GON aims of developing the livestock sector by diversification and commercialization as an income generating and prosperous farming. The objectives of DLS in dairy sector include increasing production of milk, assisting in quality improvement of milk, helping in market identification and management, encouraging livestock based industries and developing human resource in the sector. In Nepal, women are actively involved in livestock production. Fodder collection, grazing and milking are generally performed by both woman and man, whereas activities like feed preparation, feeding, cleaning sheds and preparing milk products are women's domain (Acharya and Bennet, 1981; Katual, 1990). Women have a crucial role in detecting illness of the animal because of their close and frequent contact with them. Marketing of livestock is mainly done by men, but in consultation with women have the right to own livestock in Nepal. Girl children also share the responsibilities.

The milk put on the market in generally adulterated. Enquiries show that adulteration by producers is much less when compared with that practiced by collectors, distributors, etc. Producers are however primarily responsible for the initial contamination of milk as they play little or no attention to clean production of proper handling of the milk. The most common adulterants used are water and skimmed milk. The water added may be dirty and contaminated. Cane sugar and flour are also added to foil detection by lactometers or by the 'Khoa' test. Similarly they have discussed about the co-operative marketing of milk. Almost all the milk societies and

milk Unions have been organized with the primary object of improving the quality of milk supplied to towns and cities (Mamoria and Joshi, 1968).

In Nepal, a nationwide network of Department of Livestock services is working on improved buffalo production. External funding from the Asia Development Bank and the European Union has greatly strengthened its research and implementing activities. (Rasali, 2000).

Rural co-operative service provides research management, and educational assistance to co-operatives to strengthen economic position of farmers and other rural residents. The main motto is to work with co-operative leaders to improve organization, leadership, fixing prices, identifying market, to guidance to further development (Charles, 1996).

As envisioned by the Interim Constitution of Nepal, the cooperative sector has been recognized as one of the three pillars of development along with the public and private sectors. Various policies and programs mentioned in the approach paper of the Interim plan have considered co- operative as the medium of economic, social and cultural development through saving mobilization and increase in investments to restructure and strengthen the cooperative software, aimed at rural development. At present, Nepal has 9720 primary cooperatives, 5 central federation, one national cooperative bank and 133 district and sect oral federations. Altogether 1 million and 251 thousand members are associated with those cooperatives and their association, including 33 percent women members. Annual transaction of the cooperative sectors amounts to approximately about Rs. 50 billion. The share capital of the cooperatives societies amount to Rs. 1040 Million whereas balance of savings and investments amounts to Rs. 20 billion and Rs. 24 billion respectively. According to an estimate, the transaction of these cooperative has a contribution of approximately 1 percent in the GDP. Some 15 thousand people are directly employed in this sectors (Three Year Interim Plan 2064 -2067)

2.4 Conceptual Framework

The main focus of this study is to analyze the women involvement in dairy co-operative and its impact on them. The study is concerned with the gender role in Animal farming, Animal caring, Milking, Buying and selling of animals, Managing

water for animal, Veterinary management, Manure collection, Grass cutting and marketing. Those activities improve farmer's households' economy. When women farmers actively involved in this farming and marketing, their access in and control over income generation from milk and milk product increased. The study also concerned with the women workload and role of women's which it investigates within the social, economic and gender context of women's life style as a whole. Women involvement on these activities increased their mobility, expose in society, increased marketing and organizational activities. This also makes them self-confidence and independent too. The increment in family income has an impact on health, nutrition, education, and conjugal life. Women's participation in Dairy Co-operative builds their awareness toward organizational and communal activities. Likewise, these activities have effect on decision-making power in household as well as in community. These also induce power and awareness, training and capacity building, political awareness and bargaining power, which ultimately lead them to empowerment. The following figure shows these variables in intersecting relationships.

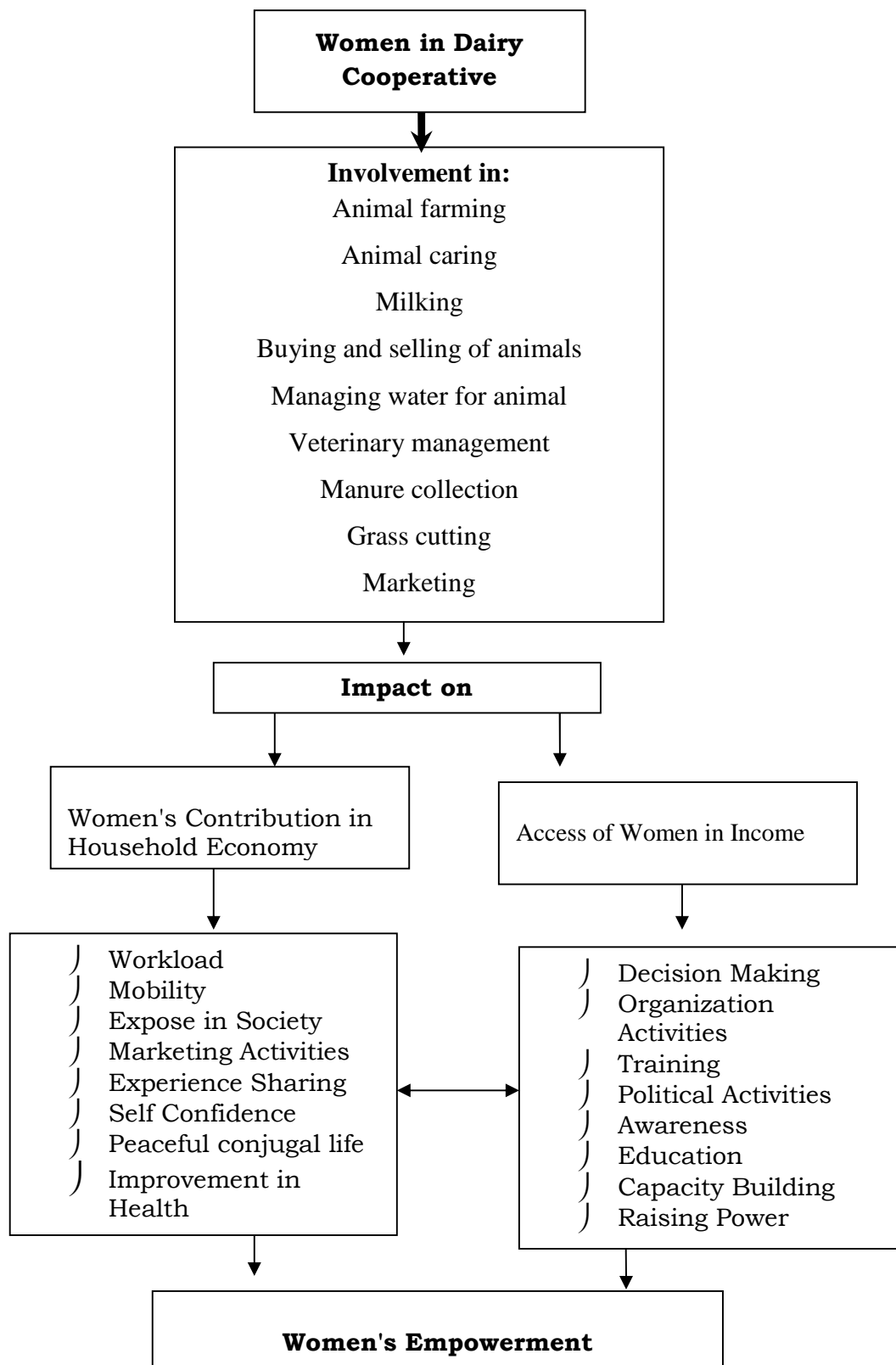


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODS

This study mainly focuses on the women's involvement in the dairy in Dhikurpokhari VDC of Kaski district. The study has been designed to obtain information on their position and their access over income generation. This section discusses research methods employed to accomplish the study objective.

3.1 Rationale of the Selection of Study Area

Kaski district is located between 28 degree 6 minute to 28 degree 36 minute latitude and 83 degree 40 minute to 84 degree 12 minute longitude. Its bordering districts are Lamjung to the east, Myagdi and Parbat to the west, Manang to the North and Syangja to the South, with the area 2017 Sq.Km. It lies in western development region. Its headquarter is Pokhara. There are 1 Sub-metropolis, 1 municipality and 43 village development committee. It lies between 45 to 7969 meter from sea level

This study was carried out in Dhikur Pokhari VDC of Kaski District. The total population of this VDC is 10,119. Among this 5191 are female and 4928 are male. This VDC has 12 co-operatives among them 6 are agricultural and 6 are saving. Among 6 agriculture 1 is dairy co-operative named as "Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd." established in the year 2049 with 149 members. Now it has 409 members with 71 female members. It has 5 sub-collection centre including the head collection centre. Thus the selected study area will be suitable and useful for women dairy co-operative members.

3.2 Research Design

The research design is complete framework of the research project. In other words, it refers to the conceptual structure with which research is conducted. It includes the specification of method and procedure for acquiring the information to solve the problems. This is the descriptive study which attempt to obtain a complete and accurate description of the complete situation. This study is basically based on primary data. In order to collect primary information, the majority of findings for

primary information are some questionnaires, interview that have been taken to various sample groups.

3.3 Nature and Source of Data

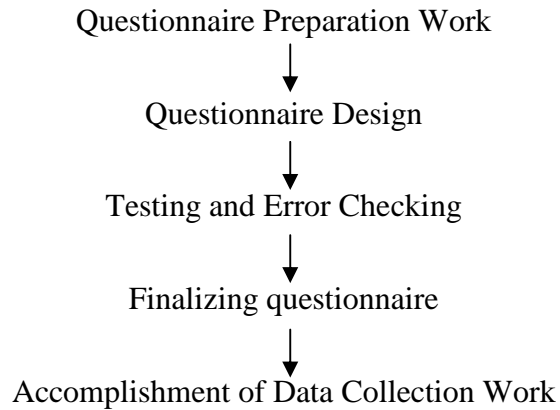
Primary as well as secondary data were used in this study. The primary data and information was extensively utilized as the main source of this research work. These primary data were both quantitative as well as qualitative. Most of the data were quantitative and some of the data were collected qualitative. To collect qualitative and quantitative data various data collection techniques searches, interview, observation, focus group discussion, key informants interview were employed. Secondary data and information were extracted from the different published and unpublished sources such as journal, books, articles, village profile etc as per need.

3.4 Sampling Procedure

Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Limited has 409 members. Among them 71 are female members. So the census was taken from seventy-one female members of the co-operative.

3.5 Method of Data Collection

Questionnaires and interview techniques both used in order to collect the data for the study. Questionnaires were designed in such a manner, which can cover all the objective of the study. The researcher has selected one prime location for data collection i.e. Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Limited, Nagdanda. Researcher has collected more exact information on the selected research topic with the help of those questionnaires. For research propose questionnaire was prepared by the following process:



The first step of the study was to collect data. The necessary information, questionnaire were distributed to the related person and collected after some days. The collected data were fresh and first hand in nature various collected facts were carefully studied and explored systematically under specific major heading.

3.6 Data collection Techniques/Instruments

In order to gather reliable information, it is very much essential to use techniques/instruments for data collection to make precise and accurate. Therefore, different tools and techniques such as interview schedule, focus group discussions, key-informant interview was collected for required information.

3.6.1 Interview Schedule

The 71 sampled women i.e. women shareholder of co-operative were interviewed individually. Both open and close-ended questions were used in interviews. The collected information was checked every evening.

3.6.2 Focus Group Discussion

For the focus group discussion a checklist (Annex B) was prepared and finalized by the help of thesis supervisor and colleagues. The major contents of group discussion was problems faced by the women in dairy farming and role of co-operative in women empowerment. The focus group discussion was held with the group of women being head of family, group of Dalit women and a group of women who are not supposed to be the head of family.

3.6.3 Key Informants Interview

A checklist (Annex C), was used to interview key informants. For getting special insights on certain aspects and for collecting more important qualitative data. Key informant interview with key or resource persons were also carried out. The interview was taken with the manager and chairman of dairy co-operative.

3.7 Data Analysis Process

In this study, the optimum primary data were collected from the sample respondent of Dhikurpokhari VDC. Most of the primary data were collected through face to face interview and interaction with the sample respondents. The semi-structured interview schedule were prepared and administered in the field visit to collect information as per the objective of the study. The information covered in the schedule were personal and family characteristics along with the dairy production, animals details, income and expenditure of dairy farming role of co-operative for the social economic change. The data collected through semi-structured interview were processed manually. The data were edited, coded and computerized for further analysis in Ms-Excel.

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

The study is particularly concerned with the role of women's dairy farmers, which investigates the social, economic and gender context of women's lives. Thus, in this chapter, information is presented on the socio-economic and demographic background of the study area and respondents. This includes study site, description, location, social organization, social structure, caste/ethnicity composition of respondents, religion and language, education, economic structure, occupational structure, land holdings and the number of animals beared, demographic structure, family size, age and gender composition. The chapter begins with a brief study of the site description. This study is particularly concerned with the role of the women member of Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Pvt. Ltd. which investigates the social economic and gender context of women. Thus in this chapter information is presented on the social-economic and demographic background of the study area and respondents.

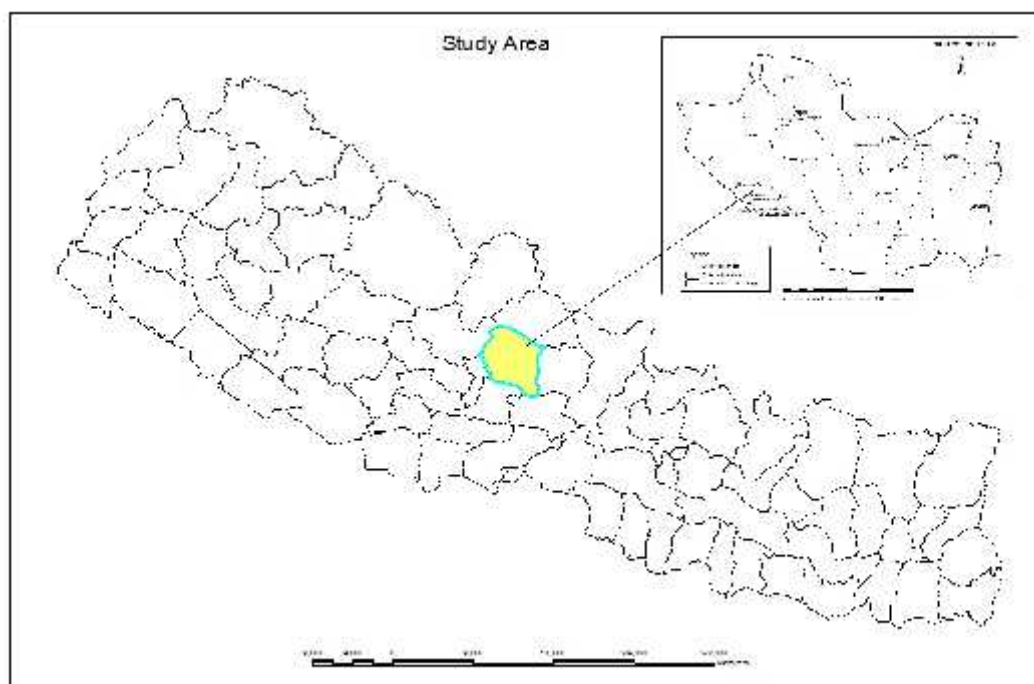
4.1 Study Site Description

4.1.1 Introduction to the Study Area

Dhikurpokhari VDC is located in Kaski district in Gandaki zone of west Nepal. Geographically it has an area of 27.23sq km. and surrounded by Lumle in the west, Dhampus and Dhital in the north. Bhadure and Kaskikot in the south and Kaskikot and Hemja in the east. The main occupation of the VDC is agriculture. There is a great potentiality for agro tourism in this area because of its land topography and the view of mountain and Fewa Lake from this area. Beside the agro-tourism, this area has a great potentiality of dairy farming and vegetable farming too.

According to the VDC profile 2010 the total population of Dhikurpokhari VDC is 10,119 and out of them 4928 are male and 5191 are females. The population consist of different caste/ethnic such as Brahmin, Chhetri, Gurung, Magar, Newar, Dalits and others. The majorities are Brahmin, Dalit, Chhetri and Gurung.

Figure 4.1
Study Area



Educationally there are 2 higher secondary schools, 1 campus affiliated to T.U. Beside the agriculture, people of this area are engaged in different income generating activities. Such as animal husbandry, business, cattle trading, wage and salaries, small enterprises etc.

This VDC has medium development on economic and physical infrastructures. Most of the people of this VDC are of medium class. Among them, some are in such miserable condition that they have insufficient food to feed their children throughout the year. Women are still engaging on unproductive works and are used as reproductive machine some women are illiterate as well as untrained, poor and they haven't received any vocational training.

4.1.2 Social Organization/Institution of Dhikurpokhari

This VDC has ten primary schools, one lower secondary school, five secondary schools, two higher secondary schools and one public campus.

The development agencies working in this VDC includes a village development committee, an agriculture service center, livestock service center, a health center, a

post office, Regional Agricultural Research Center-Lumle, beside these, different co-operatives, banks, micro-finance, youth clubs, youth network, women network, Dalit network, mother groups, different NGOs/INGOs are running their different programme. Additionally, there are some agriculture groups, saving and credit groups formed by the local farmers themselves.

4.1.3 Brief Introduction of Nagdanda Milk Production Cooperative Society Ltd.

The NMPCL was established in 2049 BS. It is situated in Ward No. 3 of Dhikurpokhari VDC, Kaski. It has five milk collection center. The average milk collection per day is approximately 1500 liters. It started the saving and credit facilities from 2066 BS. Till now it has collected four lakhs savings out of which three lakhs fifty thousands is circulated among the farmers as loan without any securities. Initially the co-operative members were 149 and the capital share was 2000. They have set certain criteria to be a shareholder of this co-operative such as farmers should be from the catchment area of the co-operative. In the date 2070 Chaitra there were 409 co-operative members.

Daily milk is collected from the shareholders and farmers. Dharapani center collected approximately 300 liters, Laxmi Deurali 300 liters, Nagdanda 200 liters, Sherachaur 400 liters and Adhikari Danda 300 liters of milk per day. Most of farmers are Brahmin/Chhetri, Janjati. There are also few dalit members in co-operative. There is no discrimination towards Dalit according to the co-operative. But the involvement of the Dalit in the dairy co-operative is very less.

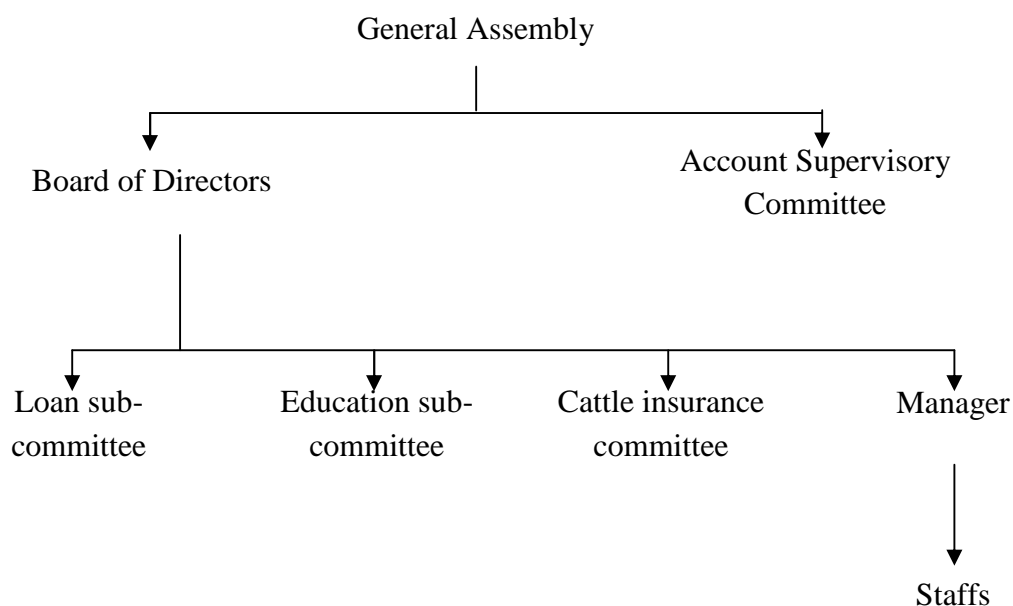
The objectives of this co-operative are:

- i) To raise the living standard of the member.
- ii) To strengthen the members socially, economically and other.
- iii) To promote/encourage for self dependent or independent.
- iv) Easy collection of milk of the local people.
- v) To provide training activities to improve members income and capacity.

4.1.3.1 Organizational Structure of NMPCL

The general assembly elects the 11 member Board of Directors for three year term with 3 member for accountant supervisory committee.

Figure 4.2
Organizational Structure of NMPCL



4.2 Social Structure

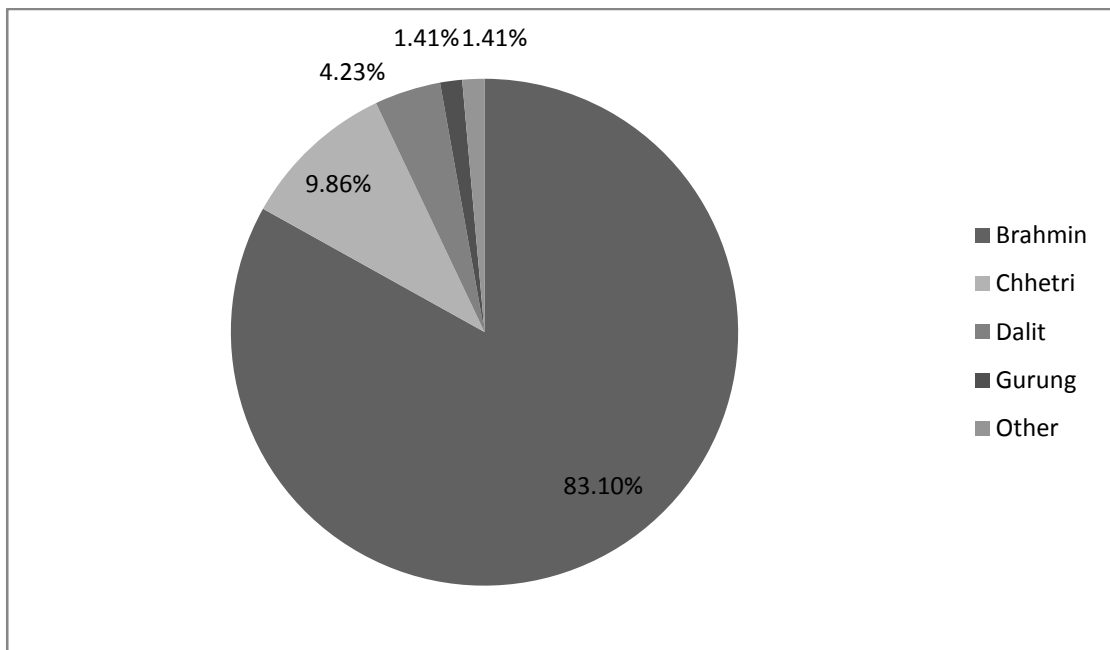
4.2.1 Caste/Ethnicity Composition of Respondents

Demographic represents mixed ethnic society. There is diverse caste/ethnic composition in the study area dominated by Brahmin 59.90% followed by Dalit (Kami, Sarki & Damai). 23.53% then Chhetri 7.40% and Gurung 4.30%.

The demographic composition of the women's shareholders of NMPCL dominated by Brahmin 83.10% followed by Chhetri 9.86% and then by Dalit 4.23% and other 2.8%. Dalit women were found to be the most deprived community group in the area.

Figure 4.3

Caste/Ethnicity Composition of Respondents



Dalit is considered a low caste and so called untouchable community in Nepal by higher castes and is the victim of cash-based discrimination. Dalits women represent almost 12% of total Nepalese population (Upadhyaya 2004) Dalits are under privileged by development interventions. Traditionally Dalits have been treated inhumanely as untouchables a category abolished by law in 1963 but still the practice exists in rural areas and study area. Dalits frequently live in a swamp of illiteracy, exploitation marginalization and absolute poverty and above all caste-based discrimination. In the study period most of the Dalits women say that so called, higher people discriminate them in while taking the milk to dairy co-operative.

In the co-operative 24 members i.e. 33.80% were widow. This shows that most of the female members adopt the membership as the head of the family. Widow women's main source of income is based on animal husbandry.

4.2.2 Social Hierarchy

Farmers in the study area can be broadly categorized as either privileged or underprivileged. Privileged village groups are relatively better off socio-economically. Generally, they belong to higher caste categories such as Brahmins and

Chhetris. Underprivileged are certain ethnic minority groups such as Dalit, especially Dalit women, who have been traditionally left behind by development interventions.

Social hierarchies of this study area differ in different castes. As a whole, social hierarchy of study area is determined by caste, which is highly influenced by Hindu religion and Hindu Varnaashram, Brahmin is in the higher position than Chhetri, and Dalit in caste hierarchy. In gender hierarchy, men are in higher position than women.

4.2.3 Religion and Language

Nepal has two major religion Hinduism and Buddhism. Among them majority of people (86.51%) are Hindus and only (7.78%) are Buddhists. In Dhikurpokhari VDC 96.84% are Hindus and 3.04% are Buddhists. But in the study area, the entire female member of Nagdanda Dairy Cooperative were found Hindus. All of them verbalize Nepali language.

4.2.4 Education

Education is a human right and an essential tool for achieving the goals of equality, development and peace (cited in FWLD and TAF, 2003).

Education has been regarded as a vehicle of change and development. However, in Nepal due to traditional value system prevalent in the society and gender discrimination at homes, most women and girls have been deprived of educational opportunities.

Table 4.1
Education Status of Respondents (Member of Dairy Cooperative)

Education level	Total Household	Percent
SLC pass	4	5.63
Literate	46	64.79
Illiterate	21	29.58
Total	71	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.1 shows that the education level of women respondents who are the member of Nagdanda Dairy Cooperative Pvt. Ltd. only 5.63 percent of the members have obtained SLC level. Majority of the respondents 64.79% reported that they can read

and write and they have gone to school also. Likewise, 29.58% of respondents are illiterate.

Table 4.2
Education Level of Sampled Household Member

Education level	Total no. of household members	Percent
Schooling	71	19.14
Illiterate	37	9.97
Literate	87	23.45
SLC pass	62	16.71
HSL pass (intermediate pass)	64	17.25
Bachelor pass	24	6.47
Master pass	8	2.16
Child	18	4.85
Total	371	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Most of the sampled household member were advantaged of access to education. Only 9.97% of the sampled household are illiterate. 23.45% of household member are literate, likewise, 16.71% have obtained SLC level. 17.25% have obtained higher secondary level, 6.47% have obtained bachelor degree, 2.16% have obtained master degree, 4.85% are found infant and 19.15% are in school level education which shows the education condition of the study area was very tremendous.

4.3 Economic Structure

The main source of livelihood in study area is agriculture. Among four branches of agriculture, farming and animal husbandry are more common to the comparison to horticulture and floriculture. In the study area primary crops like: paddy, maize, millet, wheat and seasonal vegetable are grown and now some farmers are doing commercial vegetable farming also. With the help of different governmental and non-governmental organization while talking about the animal husbandry in the study area. Most of the houses rear she-buffalos, cows, goat, ox and some are doing

commercial poultry farming too. In this VDC some part of LARC lies so the people gain some idea from LARC also.

4.3.1 Occupational Structure

Nepal is an agricultural country. The main source of livelihood of Nepalese people is agriculture. Nepal has subsistence types of agricultural system. Now the main problem of Nepal is unemployment. Most of the Nepalese people go for abroad job which is seen in the study area too. Cent percent respondent reported that their main occupation is agriculture.

Table 4.3

Occupational Status of Sampled Household's Member

Occupation	No. of household members	Percent
Agriculture	131	35.30
Abroad	46	12.40
Service	22	5.94
Business	13	3.50
Old/disable	9	2.43
Child	18	4.85
Students	132	35.58
Total	371	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.3 shows the occupational status of sampled households member. Majority of them are found students (35.58%). Agriculture is the main occupation of these household (35.30%). Except this, foreign employment (12.40%), service (5.94%), business (3.50%), child (4.85%), old/disable (2.43%).

4.3.2 Landholding Size of the Sample Household

Majority of the people living in the study area depend highly upon agriculture and it is the main source of their income and possession. Hence, it is an important factor of economic status. The overall landholding of respondents is low. The distribution of

landholding among the respondents is not even. The landholding situation of sample household is presented in table 4.4.

Table 4.4
Landholding Pattern of the Household

Land size (in Ropani)	No. of household	Percent
0-5	4	5.63
5-10	11	15.49
10-15	22	30.99
15 above	34	47.89

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.4 shows the landholding pattern of the female member of dairy cooperative. 5.63 percent of total respondent reported that they have less than 5 ropanies of land. 15.49% reported that they have less than 10 ropanies of land. Likewise, 30.99% reported that they have less than 15 ropanies and 47.89% reported that they have more than 15 ropanies of land.

4.3.3 Type of Animal Kept by Sample Household

Farmers have been keeping livestock for many years. Buffalo, goat, cow, ox and hens are major source of income from livestock in the study area. After the establishment of dairy cooperatives farmers have started keeping more milkable animals because they have realized that dairy farming is an important source of earning now. The animal holding by sample household is presented in the table 4.5.

Table 4.5
Animal Holding by Sample Household

Animal description	No. of animals	Percent
Local buffalo	74	27.40
Improved buffalo	21	7.78
Local cow	-	-
Improved cow	66	24.45
Goat	90	33.33
Other	19	7.04
Total	270	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

The table 4.5 shows the total animal holding size. Among the total number of animal 44.81% are milkable and 55.19% are not milkable. Likewise, when goat and other animals are taken then the data will be like this.

Table 4.6

Types of Milkable Animals

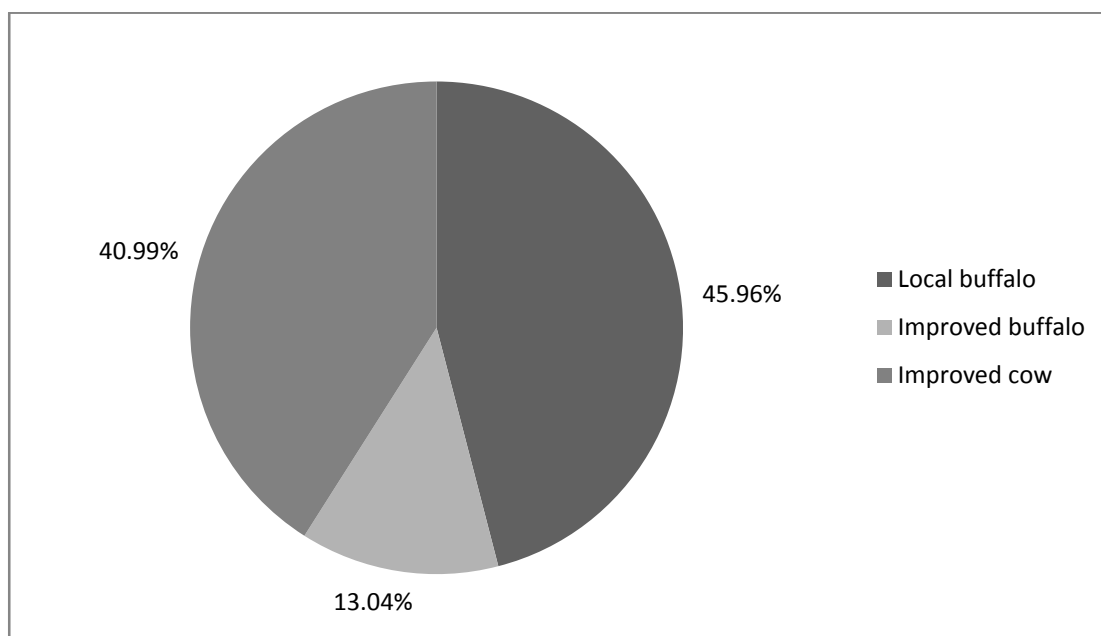
Types of animal	Number	Percentage
Local buffalo	74	45.97
Improved buffalo	21	13.04
Improved cow	66	40.99
Total	161	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

The table shows the types of milkable animals. 45.97% of animals are local buffalo. Likewise, 13.04% are improved buffalo and 40.99% are improved cow. This data shows that most of the farmers kept buffalo as the milkable animals.

Figure 4.4

Percentage of Milkable Animals



The data above shows that the members are keeping more improved breed animals to produce more amount of milk.

4.3.4 Milk Production

Milk production activity is one of the major economic activities of the farmer in the study area. Generally farmers keep cows and buffaloes for milk production. Comparatively the amount of milk production of improved cows and buffaloes is more than that of others. The tables shows that total milk production according to ward wise.

Table 4.7
Milk Production by Respondent in Ltr. Per Day

Ward No.	Sample Household	Milk production (ltr./day)
1	18	164
2	2	20
3	4	16
4	7	38
5	11	103
7	10	97
8	5	32
9	14	79.5
Total		549.5

Source: Field survey, 2014

The table 4.7 shows that the female member of dairy cooperative of ward no. 1 produce. 164 liter of milk. They have 11 local buffaloes, 18 improved buffaloes and 22 improved cows. From ward no. 2 the milk production is only 20 liter and the animal description is 3 local buffaloes and 2 improved buffaloes. In ward no. 3 from 4 members they produce 16 liter and they have kept 6 local buffaloes. In ward no. 4 from 7 cooperative member they produce 38 liter and they have kept 12 local buffaloes. In ward no. 5 from 11 members, they produce 103 liter of milk per day they have kept 10 local buffaloes and 20 improved cows. In ward no. 7 by 10 members they produce 97 liter of milk they have kept 9 local buffaloes and 15 improved cows. In ward no. 8 the respondent reported that they produce 32 liter and the member are 5. They have kept 4 local buffaloes and 4 local cows. Likewise, in ward no. 9 by 14 members 79.5 liter of milk is produced by 19 local buffaloes and 1 improved buffalo.

From this data we can say that in the ward having more improved breed of cows, the production of milk is high. So we can say that improved animals produce more milk than local ones. So, improved animal should be kept by replacing local ones.

4.4 Demographic Structure

The total population of Dhikurpokhari VDC is 10,119 comprising of male 4928 (48.70) and females 5191 (51.30) inhabit in 1970 households within 9 ward of the VDC. Population density of the VDC is 371.16 sq.km.

4.4.1 Summary of Population Distribution

Total area = 27.23 sq.km.

Total population = 10119

Male = 4928 (48.70)

Female = 5198 (51.30)

No. of household = 1970

Population density per sq.km = 371.16

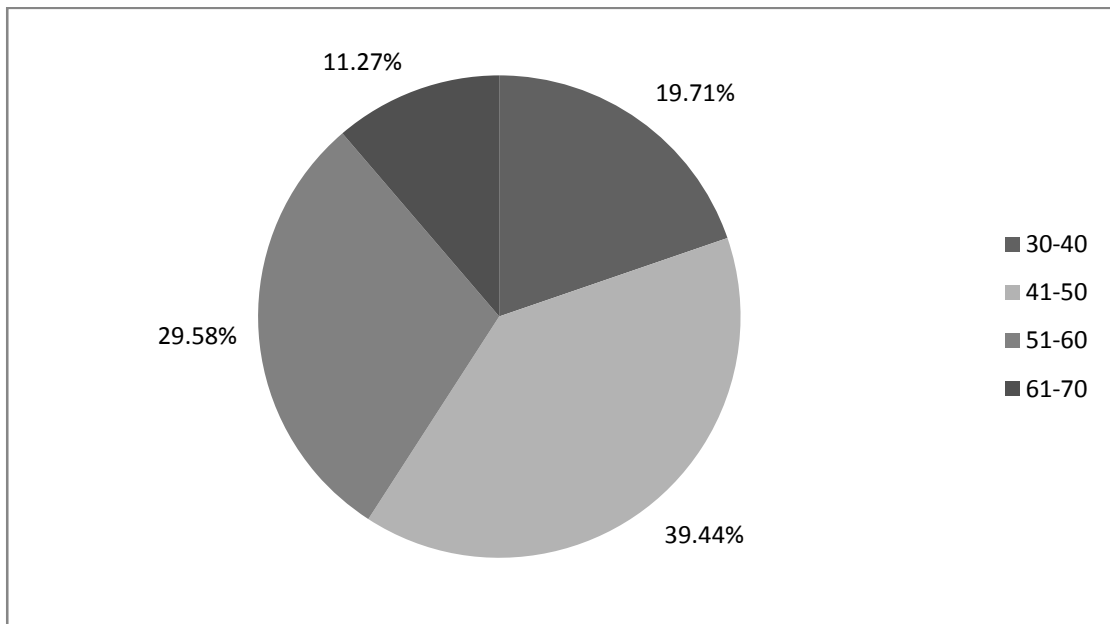
Head of the family (male) = 1623

Head of the family (female) = 347

4.4.2 Family Size, Age and Gender Composition

Household size of respondents ranges from a single to a maximum 8 members. The average size is 5.22. Figure 4.5 indicates that vast majority of the respondents 39.44% ranges from 41-50 years. Likewise, 29.58% ranged from 51-60 years. 19.71% ranges from 30-40 years and 11.27% ranges from 61-70 years. This data shows that the women between 41-50 years are mainly changed in animal husbandry and they are taking the membership of dairy cooperative.

Figure 4.5
Age Composition of Sample Household



Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.8
Sex Composition of Sample Household

Gender	Household	Percent
Male	184	49.60
Female	187	50.40
Total	371	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.8 presents the general information about the percentage distribution of household member by gender. In which 49.60% of total sampled household member are found male and 50.40% of total sampled household member are found female. Female majorities is found in the study.

Figure 4.6
Sex Composition of Sample Household

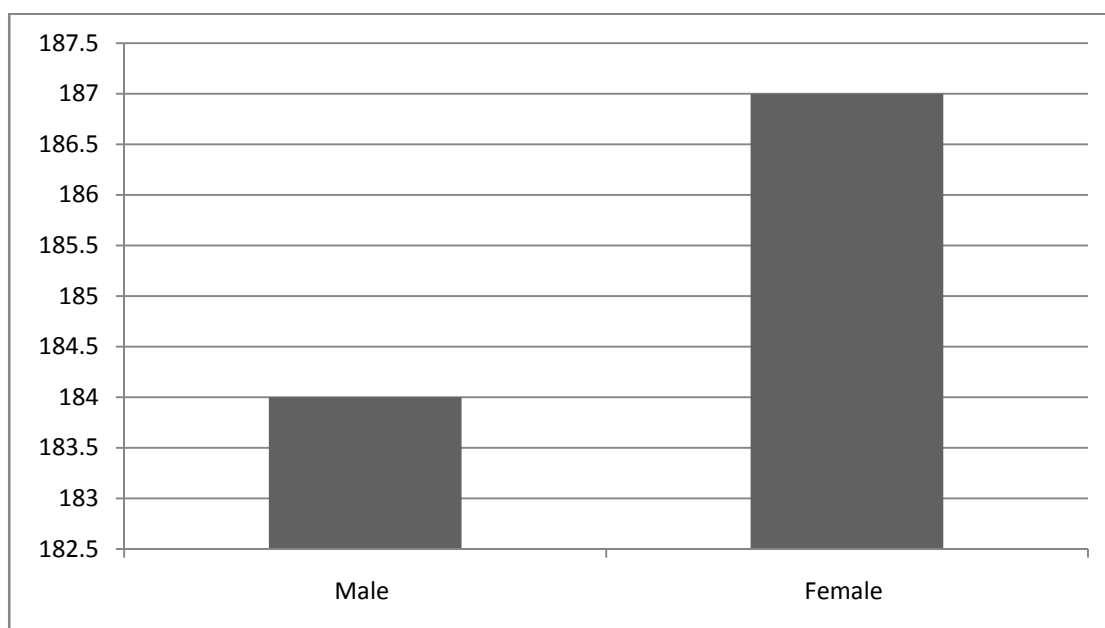


Figure 4.6 shows the sex composition of sample household. Out of 371 population of sample household, 184 are male and 187 are female. This data shows that the female population is higher than that of male.

Table 4.9
Population Distribution of Household Member by Age

Age in year	Number	Percent
0-5	20	5.39
6-15	67	18.05
16-40	177	47.70
41-60	85	22.91
60-80	19	5.15
81+	3	0.80
Total	371	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 4.9 shows the information about the population distribution of household member by age. The largest population of household members (47.70) are found in

the age group of 16.40. Likewise, 5.39% are found in the age group of 0.5 years 18.05% are found in the age group of 6-15. 22.91% were found in the age group of 40-60 years. 5.51% are found in the age group of 60-80 years and 0.8% are found in the age group 80+. The majority of the household member are found of productive age. Only 23.44% of household member are under age of 15 years and 5.95% of household member are found above the age of 61.

CHAPTER FIVE

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN DAIRY CO-OPERATIVE

Women contribute to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in community and in the work place. The empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty. (Platform for Action and the Beijing Declaration, cited in FWLD & TAF, 2003).

One of the main specific objective of this study was to analyze women's participation in dairy cooperative. Thus, this chapter focuses on woman participation in animal husbandry in contrast to the men. This chapter also deals with women's workload.

5.1 Women's Workload

Activities like animal caring, animal farming, milking, manure collection, take milk to dairy, grass cutting, veterinary management are done by women. There is no special season or off season in animal husbandry but at the time of winter when the environment is dry they give straw to animals and they transfer animals to the sunny open land which have two advantages one the animals receive sun and the next the manure will be in land which will be useful for doing farming no need to carry manure. Women time spent in other agricultural activities and household activities has not been counted in these working hours.

Table 5.1
Working Hours of Women in Animal Husbandry

Hours	No. of Household	Percentage
3	-	-
5	63	88.73
8	8	11.27
12	-	-

Source: Field survey, 2014

Women carried out majority of activities pertaining to animal husbandry in the study area. Men's involvement is relatively limited although the support from other member

is also seen. The average time spend by women (who are the member in dairy cooperative) in animal husbandry is 5.32 hours and minimum 5 hours to maximum 8 hrs per day. Table 5.1 shows that 88.73% of respondents spend normally 5 hrs and 11.27% of total respondent spend normally 8 hours per day for animal husbandry.

5.2 Process and Division of Work in Animal Husbandry

Animal husbandry is a branch of agriculture that deals with rearing animals and livestock. Doing agricultural activities in traditional ways are very difficult task. Day to day care is needed to animal when we look at other branch of agriculture, they don't need day to day care like animal husbandry. Looking after the kids in house is similar to the animal husbandry. While doing animal husbandry, different tasks have to be performed like animal caring, animal farming, milking, management of water.

When we have a glance in Nepalese farming system we find that the role of women is predominate in almost all the activities. During the field study the researcher have found the work division of animal husbandry like in table 5.2.

Table 5.2
Division of Work in Animal Husbandry (Dairy Farming)

Agricultural activities	Person involved						Total %
	Female		Male		Both		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Animal farming	36	50.70	1	1.41	34	47.89	100
Animal caring	36	50.70	-	-	35	49.30	100
Milking	38	53.52	6	8.45	27	38.03	100
Buying & selling	23	32.39	16	22.54	32	45.07	100
Managing water	60	84.50	2	2.82	9	12.68	100
Veterinary management	34	47.89	13	18.31	24	33.80	100
Manure collecting	43	60.56	2	2.82	26	36.62	100
Grass cutting	41	57.75	-	-	30	42.25	100
Marketing	34	47.89	7	9.86	30	42.25	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

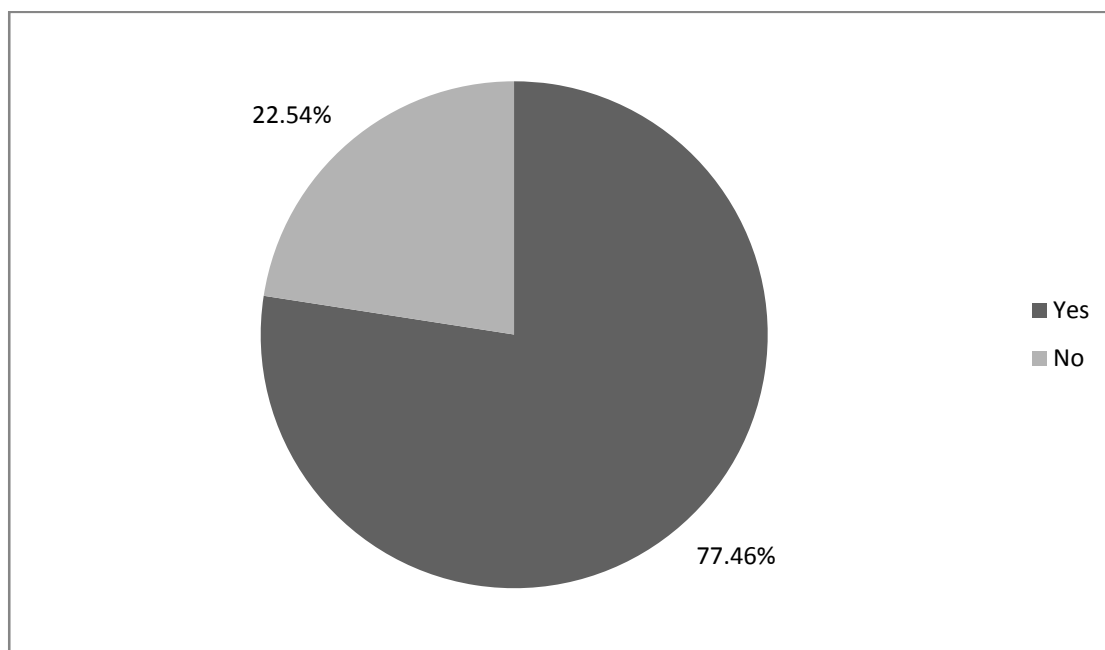
Table 5.2 shows the involvement of sex wise division of work in animal husbandry in animal farming. The involvement of women is 50.70, likewise, the male involvement is 1.41% and the both male and female is 47.89%. The female involvement in animal caring is 50.70 and both male and female is 49.30%. In milking activity the female involvement is 53.52% and male involvement is 8.45%. In this activity, both male and female involvement is 38.03%. Similarly, in buying and selling of animals we found 32.39% involvement of female, 22.54% involvement of male and 45.07% of involvement of both male and female. While in the activity of managing water for animal we found 84.50% involvement of women only 2.82% involvement of male and 12.68% involvement of both male female. The involvement in the veterinary management is 47.89%, female 18.31% male and 33.80% both male and female. Similarly, we found 60.56% of female involvement in manure collection, 2.82% involvement of male and 36.62% involvement of both male and female in manure collection activity. In grass cutting we found 57.75% of involvement of female and 42.25% of involvement of both male and female, 47.89% involvement if female is seen in marketing activity. 9.86% of involvement of male and 42.25% of involvement of both in seen in this activity.

This all shows that the women participation in different activities of animal husbandry is very high than their male members in almost all the activities. During the time of study we don't find any process of labour exchange and using paid labour also.

5.3 Family Member Help

Without the help of family member nothing is success, we know that the society is wed of social relationship. 'We feeling' is the major point to keep social relationship. For the betterment of society and family there must be mutual understanding between the member and there should be strong feeling of we feeling. The table below shows the help received by the respondent women from their family member.

Figure 5.1
Help Received by the Respondent Women from Family Member



Source: Field survey, 2014

77.46% of respondents reported that they receive help from other family member and 22.54% of respondent reported that they don't receive help from other family member.

5.4 Milk Collection System

The milk collection system plays a vital role in the development of milk production activities. If the milk collection center are near and price of milk is good enough, the farmers will be inspired to sell milk. Milk is collected and marketed by milk cooperatives. There are five milk collection centre in the study area. Those collection centre collects milk and send it to the Nagdanda milk production cooperative pvt. ltd. They are using van to carry the collected milk to the Nagdanda. In Nagdanda there is factory of milk processing and it is transported to the local market i.e. west part of Pokhara valley.

5.5 Role of Dairy Cooperative

A cooperative is generally viewed as social and economic organization that can fulfill both social and economic objectives of its members and that has its members interests truthly at heart.

Similarly milk production cooperative in the study area is running by its farmer member. This cooperative is providing various services to its members. The main role of this organization found in the study area is collection of milk, providing loan and giving subsidy to the farmers in improved grass seed.

Most of the farmers/members expect various improvement of dairy cooperative they are expecting easy loan facilities, technical knowledge about milking cattle, improved fodders seed and others.

CHAPTER SIX

WOMEN'S ACCESS TO INCOME GENERATION

Facilitate and increase women's access to information and education including in the area of science, technology and economics thus enhancing their knowledge, skills and opportunities for participation in environmental decisions. (Platform for action & the Beijing Declaration, cited in FWLD & TAF, 2003).

This chapter examines the women's access and control over income generation including expenditure for women, family relatives attitudes towards women farmers and benefits beside financial. This chapter also presents specific information on income and expenditure for sampled household.

Before establishment of dairy cooperative people used to rear animal as the traditional occupation and for consuming milk and milk product and in summary they rear animals but the rearing of animal was unproductive. Respondents feel that the establishment of dairy cooperative is helping for making their lives easier. In general dairy cooperative has helped women's in their raising status in society through their social and economic empowerment.

When inquired was made about the use of income generated from animal husbandry, majority of respondent said that they spend it on household expenses, animals fodder and education of child. This implies that women have successfully broadened their role from the domestic to productive.

While talking about the insurance of animals, most of the member were well known about the facilities provided by dairy to insure the animals. That shows they were quite conscious about insurance and with the help of dairy cooperative majority of them had done the animal insurance.

6.1 Income from the Dairy Cooperative

Economic status is an important and determining component of social change and development. Positive change in economy, health education and women's position status are often regarded as the hall marks of social development of a country. So the

study aimed to explore the women's access to income generated by animal husbandry. Table below present a data of sample households about milk selling.

Table 6.1

Total Amount of Milk Sold to Co-operative by Respondent Women

Ward	Amount of milk selling (ltr.)
1	125
2	16
3	65
4	25
5	73
6	-
7	60
8	24
9	50

Source: Field survey, 2014

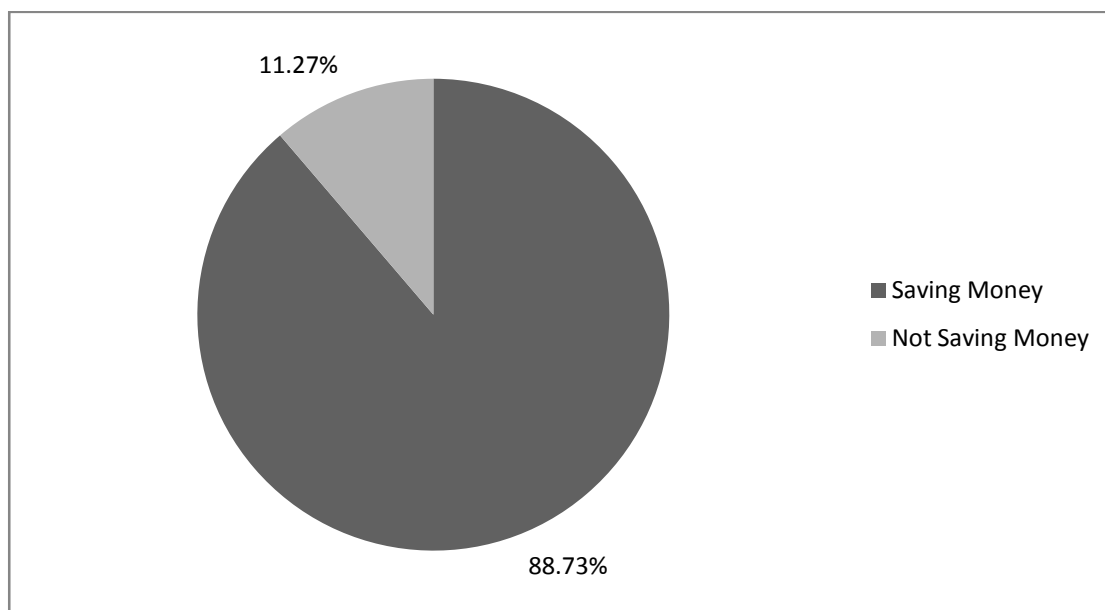
Ward-wise Report

Table 6.1 shows 379.5 liter of milk is sold to dairy cooperative which is 69.06% of total population. The average price per liter in dairy is 45. The average milk selling per person is 5.35 liter and the average income from dairy cooperative per day is 240. In the study area if a women goes to work in other's home as wage paid labour than they receive Rs. 300 So, the dairy should launch different awareness programme for increasing the milk production.

6.2 Saving Pattern

Majority of the respondents 88.73% i.e. 63 member mentioned that they have saved small amount of income earned from animal husbandry. They have saved the money in saving and credit group and dairy itself. But 11.27% i.e. 8 members mentioned that they haven't saved the money in any saving group and dairy. During the time of survey only 1.41% respondent reported that they have saved money in bank.

Figure 6.1
Saving Pattern of Household



Source: Field survey, 2014

This data shows that women are more conscious in saving the money.

6.3 Control Over Saved Money

Majority of respondents reported that they have fully controlled over the saved money and 30.99% reported that they are using the saved money to some extent. Table 6.2 shows that level of control over earned money from co-operative.

Table 6.2
Control Over Saved Money

Level of control	No. of household	Percent
Full control	49	69.01
To some extent	22	30.99
Fully dependent	-	-
Total	71	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

This data shows that women are liberated to spend money earned from dairy co-operative.

6.4 Family Member and Relatives Attitudes Towards Animal Husbandry

Majority (95.77%) of respondent claims that their family member and relatives have positive attitude towards animal husbandry. Their family members and relatives also encourage them. But 2.82% of respondents have reported the attitudes of family member and relatives is neutral. 1.41% of respondents have reported the attitude of family member and relatives is negative because she is living alone in the age of 70 and doing the animal husbandry in the old age not caring the health.

Table 6.3
Family Members/Relatives Attitude toward Animal Husbandry

Comments	No. of household	Percentage
Very positive	68	95.77
Neutral	2	2.82
Negative	1	1.41

Source: Field survey, 2014

This data shows that the family member have positive attitude towards the respondent women for their involvement in animal husbandry.

CHAPTER SEVEN

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Achieving the goal of equal participation of women and men in decision-making will provide a balance that more accurately reflects the composition of society and is needed in order to strengthen democracy and provide its proper functioning.

Women should be empowered by enhancing their skill, knowledge and access to information technology (Platform for action & the Beijing Declaration, cited in FWLD & TAF, 2003).

One of the main specific objective of this study is to assess the role of dairy cooperative for women empowerment. Thus, this chapter deals with the components of the women empowerment. This chapter also discusses about the problems faced by women farmers in animal husbandry, mainly in dairy product.

The centrality of the nation of empowerment is located in the dynamics of the legitimate sharing distribution and re-distribution of power. In sociological sense of Max Weber power is one's capacity to have control over others and as such when this capacity to control is legitimized it becomes authority (Roy, 2001).

In Nepal, decision making has traditionally been regarded as men's domain. A wrong perception about the lack of decision-making power of women is a deep rooted in tradition. In the community as well as the state where men government officials maintain control over decision-making (FWLD & TAF, 2003). This has been happening not only in national level but also in local level and households level. Earlier literatures shows that regarding agricultural and household's decision, mainly men control over it. Therefore the participation of women in power and decision making is very low. Increasing women's participation in all sectors is still a challenge.

The social status of women and their ability to negotiate for better options at village and household levels depend on the terms on which they have access to resources such as land credit, new skill and information and channels of decision making in their own right.

7.1 Decision Making

In Nepal although labour and land allocation are grounded in cultural construction of rights and responsibilities, income distribution is largely governed by patriarchal ideologies favoring men prerogatives. But this occupation provides an opportunity to generate income for rural women. This eventually helps them in terms of capacity building and decision making at both household and community levels.

Table 7.1
Level of Decision Making of Respondent

Level	No. of household	Percentage
Highly increased	14	19.72
Moderately increased	55	77.46
As usual	2	2.82

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 7.1 shows the information on decision making of female after being the member of dairy cooperative 19.72% of respondents agree that their decision making capacity has been highly increased after being the member of dairy cooperative. Majority of the respondents 77.46% agree that their decision making power has increased moderately. Only 2.82% of the respondents have mentioned that their decision making power has not been increased. Therefore, we can conclude that the women decision making power has been increased after being the member of dairy cooperative.

7.2 Capacity Building

Skill and capacity in farming and marketing have been developed after being the member of dairy cooperative. Skill and capacity will be increased when people will receive opportunity of training, visit, idea sharing programme, reading, listening and many other. The most important thing is self confidence also.

Table 7.2
Level of Capacity Building of Respondent

Level	No. of respondent	Percentage
Highly	6	8.45
Moderately	60	84.5
As usual	5	7.50

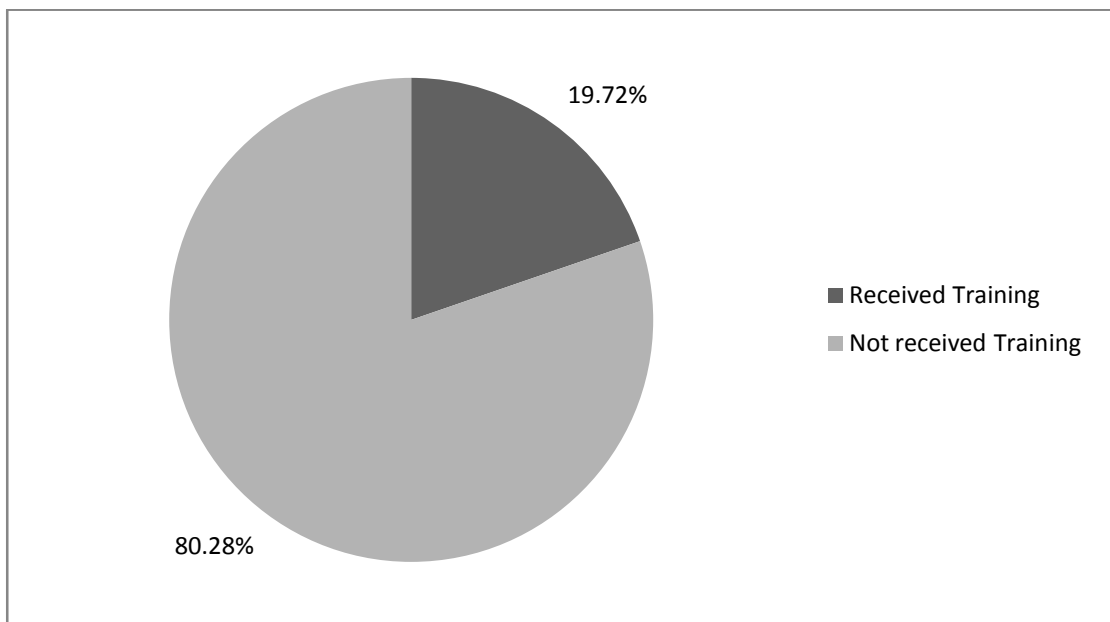
Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 7.2 shows that the respondents agree (attitude) with the statement that after being the member of cooperative, there have been some changes in their skill and capacity. Majority of respondents 84.50% agree that the skill and capacity has been increased moderately. Likewise, 8.45% of respondents report that their skill and capacity has been highly increased. Only 7.50% respondents report that there is no change in their skill and capacity it is in as usual condition.

7.3 Training Received

Due to different types of training they received/gain more knowledge which helps them to enhance their capacities and skill.

Figure 7.1
Training Received by Female Member



Source: Field survey, 2014

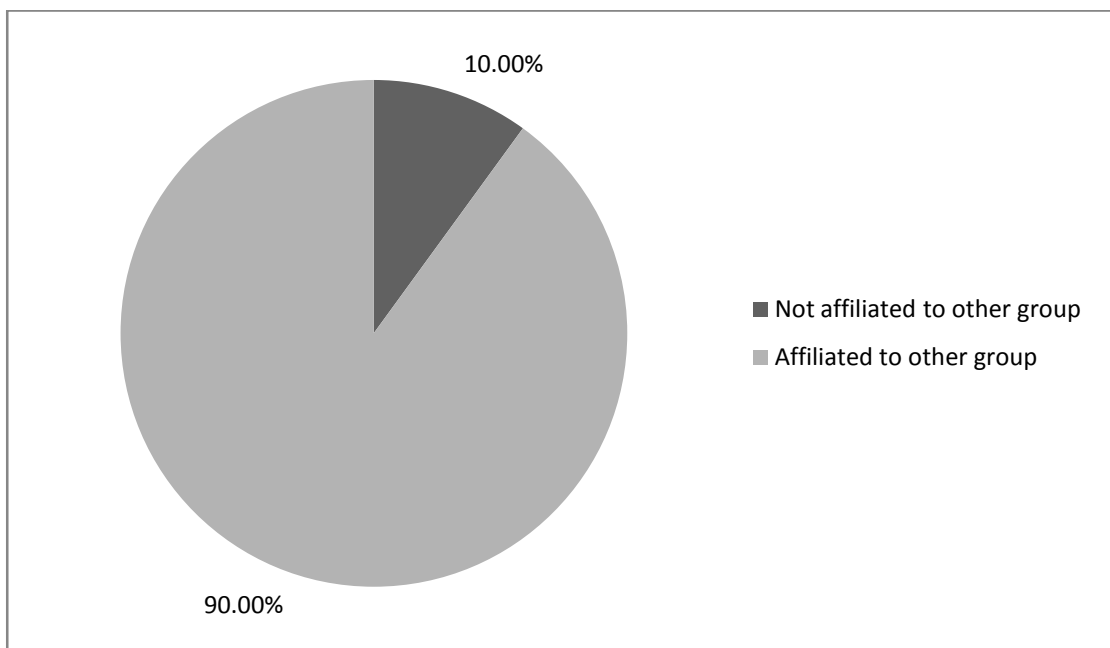
According to the above mentioned pie chart, it is found that 19.72% i.e. 14 members have received training provided by dairy cooperative. On the other hand, 80.28% i.e. 57 member are not participated in any training organized by dairy cooperative. This data indicates that training opportunity is not satisfactory in the study area. Therefore, training opportunity should be increased in near future.

7.4 Member of Other Social Group

The respondents (member of Nagdanda Dairy Cooperative) have strong realization about the need of organization, which leads them to organize themselves and work in group. They have strong feeling that the group approach increases capacity, income generation and entrepreneurship development.

Figure 7.2

Member at Other Social Group



Source: Field survey, 2014

Change is universal law. Today's world is the result of change. Change is seen in each and every sector in today's world. We can see different types of organization being established in rural areas. Such as farmer's organization, cooperatives, credit unions and many other. These organizations are supposed to function as an effective forum for the rural community and as channels of communication where decision-making

takes place on matters important to the village. However, three factors influence the ability of rural people to join those organization (a) availability of time (b) cultural system and (c) political hierarchies that control access to and participation in the institutional framework of the village community.

All those factors tend to restrict women's participation more than men in those organizations (Hyzer, 1987). But in study site, majority of the respondents member of dairy cooperative, 66 members have been engaged in other organization except dairy cooperative. On the other hand, 5 household of the respondents have not been engaged in other social organizations.

Table 7.3
Types of Groups/Organization Affiliated

Groups	No. of Household	Percentage
Saving	64	90.14
Mother	65	91.55
Other	11	15.49

Source: Field survey, 2014

Percentage based on responses of 71 cases.

Table 7.3 presents the information about the types of organization/group affiliated by respondents. Vast majority of the women farmers 99.55% cases have been affiliated to the mother group. Likewise, the women farmers (90.14%) have been engaged in saving and credit group. Few of them i.e. 15.49% have been engaged in other groups like: drinking water use group, forest user group, school management committee, etc.

7.5 Women in Village Activities

Men have started to consult their women counterparts before making a decision in household as well as community level. In the present context of Nepal where elected body and local government is collapsed, mother group in study area carryout most of the village level decision. In this connection, the table below shows that women's participation in village institutions groups and institutional role after adopting the membership of cooperative.

Women participation in village institutions/group and institutional role after adopting the membership of cooperative.

Table 7.4
Women's Participation in Village Activities

Level of participation	No. of respondents	Percentage
Highly increased	4	5.63
Moderately increased	58	81.69
As usual	9	12.68

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 7.4 present, level of the women participation in village institutions groups and institutional role after adopting the membership of cooperative 5.63% of the respondents agree with the statement that women participation in village institutions group has been highly increased after adopting the membership of dairy cooperative. Likewise, 81.69% of total respondents agree with that participation has been increased moderately. Similarly, 12.68% reported that participation has been in as usual condition.

During the field study, we found that the community members have strong realization about the fact that they need to organize themselves and work in a group. They realized that those farmers who do not belong to any group and therefore have less opportunity to build social network and participate in any programmes such as credit facilities, technical skill training etc.

7.6 Major Problem Faced by Women Farmers in Animal Husbandry

The study revealed problems of women farmers viz. lack of technical knowledge, lack of skill lack of improved grass seed, lack of training, lack of pasture land, lack of straw, lack of veterinary service, lack of new technology, lack of technical support of dairy cooperative.

Among many problems enlisted above the major problems reported by the respondents are shown in table 7.5.

Table 7.5

Major Problem Faced by Women Farmers in Animal Husbandry

Problems	No. of household	Percentage
Improved grass	71	100
Veterinary service	13	18.30
Lack of straw	58	81.69
Loan facilities	-	-
Market facilities	-	-
Pasture land	71	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

The table 7.5 shows that in the study area there is lack of improved grass and pasture land. 100% of respondents reported the above fact. Which harms the animal husbandry. The main fodder of animal is grass and there is lack of grass according to the above data. Likewise, 81.69% reported that there is the problem of lack of straw that they receive from the land which is not enough. Similarly, 18.30% of total respondents reported that there is lack of veterinary service. In the questionnaire there were other option; loan facilities and market of milk. The respondents did not think or reported that there is no any problem of loan facilities and market of milk.

7.7 Women in Politics

Despite the growing acceptance of the importance of the full participation of women in decision making bodies at all levels, a gap between De Jure and De Facto equality. Persists there is a lack of appropriable representation of women in political and public life in almost all countries in the world. This fact is rather alarming in Nepal where the participation of women in political and public life is very minimal. Traditionally assigned gender roles limit women choices in education and careers and compel them to assume the burden of household responsibilities. The negative attitude towards women's involvement in the public activities on one hand and the double burden of work in and outside the house on the other has negated active participation of Nepali women in public and political fields (FWLD, 2003). But in study area, the table below shows the women's participation in village level politics is increased.

Table 7.6
Women's Participation in Political Activities

Level of participation	No. of respondents	Percentage
Highly increased	3	4.23
Moderately increased	49	69.01
As usual	19	26.79

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 7.6 presents the participation of the women in politics. Majority of respondent 69.01% reported that their participation in political activities after adopting the membership of dairy cooperative had increased moderately. Likewise, 4.23% of total respondents reported that their participation in political activities has been highly increased after being the member of cooperative. 26.79% respondents reported that their participation is as usual in political activities after and before being the member of dairy cooperative.

7.8 Domestic Violence

Violence against women and girls in an epidemic that kill, tortures and maims physically, psychologically, sexually, economically. Violence against women and girls takes places in several forms. It includes domestic violence, rape, trafficking forced prostitution, violence in armed conflict, women infanticide and other traditional harmful practices (FWLD & TAF, 2003).

Table 7.7
Domestic Violence Against Women

Level of violence	No. of household	Percentage
Highly increased	-	-
Moderately increased	-	-
As usual	71	100

Source: Field survey, 2014

Table 7.7 shows that the level of domestic violence is as usual condition while doing field study. The respondent reported that they are not feeling any kind of domestic violence. This shows there is no relation between domestic violence and dairy farming.

CHAPTER EIGHT

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The co-operation program of the corporate department of Nepal government has boost up the bottom up decision making approach instead of top down approach. The research problems were feeling of women on co-operation program, level of their participation and effectiveness of the program to reduce the poverty through women empowerment. From the analysis and discussion of above information the summary, conclusions and recommendation/suggestions are presented as follows.

8.1 Summary

This study attempts to explain the women's empowerment through dairy cooperative a case study of Nagdanda milk production cooperative Pvt. Ltd. of Dhikurpokhari, Kaski. This cooperative has 5 collection centers in different places of Dhikurpokhari VDC. The collected milk is finally collected in Nagdanda and the milk is packed there and it is distributed to the west part of Pokhara valley. In the study, 71 sample was taken. Who were the female shareholder of dairy cooperative. To analyse this study the primary sources of data were collected into account which is collected by researcher himself with the help of structured questionnaire. The output of the study has shown that there is a need of better facilities for the farmers to promote milk product in the study area.

The main findings summarizes of this study are as follows:

-) In the field survey total sample population of female is 187 which is greater than male i.e. 184.
-) According to the field survey, 5.39% remains in the age of 0.5 years 18.05% population remains in the age group of 6.15 years. Likewise, 47.70 percent of total population remains in the age group of 16-40 years. Similarly, 22.91% of total population remains in the age group of 41.60 years 5.15% of population lies in the age group of 61-79 years and 0.8% of total population lies in 80+ years.
-) The average household size of the study area is 5.22% whereas the national average household size is

-) Out of 71 female member of dairy cooperative 21 member i.e. 29.58% are illiterate. Likewise, 46 member i.e. 64.79% are literate and 4 member i.e. 5.63% have passed the SLC exam.
-) Out of 71 female members of dairy cooperative 24 members i.e. 33.80% are widow.
-) In the study area, 35.58% of the total population are student. Likewise, 35.30% of the total population is engaged in agriculture followed by abroad job (12.40%), services (5.94%), infant 4.85%, business 3.50% and old and disable 2.42%.
-) Ethnically 83.10% are Brahman, 9.85% are Chhetri, 4.23% are Dalit, 1.41% are Janajati i.e. Gurung and 1.41 is other i.e. Giri.
-) In the study area, the total number of livestock kept by sample farmers were 270 animals. The animal kept for milk production is 161. Among them, 40.98% are improved cows, 45.95% are local buffaloes and 13.04% are improved buffaloes. The number of improved livestock are greater in number which produces more milk than local livestock.
-) Only 17.35% of total member of dairy cooperative are female.
-) Total milk production of the sample households is 549.5 liter per day out of which 170 liter i.e. 30.94% is consumed for domestic purposes and remaining 379.5 liter i.e. 69.06% liter is sold for income generation is dairy cooperative.
-) The average price of milk per liter is Rs. 45 and the average milk selling per household is 5.35 liter and average income per household per day from milk is Rs. 240. But the farmers are not satisfied by the income of the milk because of the low price of milk.
-) Out of total respondent 11.27% reported that the price is reliable and 88.73% think that price is not reliable.
-) The earning from dairy cooperative is spent in diversified areas such as cattle feeding, home expenses, education etc.
-) All of the respondents agreed that the major problem for animal husbandry are lack of improve grass and pasture land. Likewise, 81.69% reported lack of straw as the problem and 18.30% reported that veterinary management is the problem and no one reported or agreed that market and loan facilities as the problem.

-) Majority 54.93% of shareholders don't received any types of help from dairy cooperative but 45.07% reported that they are receiving the help from dairy cooperative.
-) The major help of dairy cooperative is the establishment of collection center in nearby area, seeds of hybrid grass, Rs. 10 discount of animal fodder.

8.2 Conclusion

Looking the result of the study women's empowerment through dairy cooperative a case study of Nagdanda Milk Production Cooperative in Dhikurpokhari, VDC of Kaski district. Based on the successful experience from field study the researcher has found that dairy farming is integral component of livestock farming. The researcher has found the people of this area are motivated to do commercial dairy farming if they get good opportunities. But with the development of dairy cooperative participation of poor and marginal farmers is not in high rate.

The cooperative plays vital role for the improvement of the socio-economic condition of the people. Firstly fostering (encouraging) we feeling among rural farmers, secondly providing marketing facilities to rural milk producers. And thirdly providing saving and credit facilities to the rural farmers. Dairy cooperative have made the farmers to unite themselves in groups and they have feeling of togetherness. This sector has significant impact on the quality of life. Number of people has changed their patterns of life as well as their mode of living. This has been measured during study by analyzing their social-economic status and their awareness level. Through the study the researcher has found that dairy farming has a lot of problems in this sectors like low price of milk, subsistence level of farming, lack of improve grass and many other. Those problems hinders in development of the sector but these problems have solution. Problems lies in every sector but can solve through the involvement of government and private sector.

8.3 Recommendation

Dairy cooperative plays an important role to uplift the standard of the rural farmers. Various dairy cooperative have empowered women also. In conclusion we can say that the cooperative are playing vital role in empowerment of women still there are a lot of problems in dairy cooperative and they need for improvement. Sustainable and

commercialization of dairy cooperative are necessary to reinforce its role for the empowerment of women. Recommendation for its improvement are as follows:

-) Subsistence versus commercialization: The average rearing of animal is 2.5 per household. Cooperative should encourage the farmers (members) by providing different facilities to farm more milk producing animals. It is subsistence level farming it must transfer to the commercial scale.
-) Cooperative should encourage farmers to keep improved animals whose productivity is higher than that of local ones. Cooperatives should provide improved breed of animals on subsidy prices.
-) Training/exposure visit should be given to farmers for quality production of milk, animal health and diseases and shed management. Farmers should be aware of animals health regular checkups of the animals also.
-) Farmers should be made aware of giving good quality based food/fodder to their cattle's because milk production from cattle's depends upon the feed they get.
-) Cooperative should use new technology to test milk. It should adopt new technologies for dairy and marketing.
-) Cooperative should take initiatives to motivate Dalit/Janajati, women and marginalized people for dairy farming.
-) Inclusive representation of women should be made in the organizational structure of co-operative.
-) Women committee should be formed in co-operative.
-) Cooperative should have balanced gender and other ethnic groups in the executive committee.
-) Members should be encouraged to participate more actively in discussion and deliberations in annual general meetings and monthly meetings.
-) There is a not good facility of veterinary services. The cooperative should provide veterinary services to encourage farmers towards the dairy production.
-) Subsidy should be given to the widow women because their child are students their land possession is also low and they are taking animal husbandry as the main source of livelihood.

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ANNEX A

Questionnaire for Household Survey

General Introduction

Name of the member: Year of Entry:

Religion: Ethnicity/Caste:

.....

Total Family No. :

Address: Ward No. : Village:

.....

Description of Family

S.N.	Sex	Age	Education	Occupation	Marital status	Remarks

1. Education of the member:
2. Land holding size of member (In Ropani)
 - a. Less than 5 Ropani
 - b. 10-15 Ropani
 - c. 5-10 Ropani
 - d. More than 15 Ropani
3. Animals categories: please give following information of your livestock

Name	No.	Milkable or not
Local buffalo		
Improved buffalo		

Local cow		
Improved cow		
Goat		
Others		

4. How much time you spend for your cattle per day?
 - a. 3 hrs.
 - b. 5 hrs.
 - c. 8 hrs.
 - d. more than 8 hrs.
5. How much milk you produce per day?
.....
6. How much milk do you consume out of your production?
.....
7. How much milk you sale per day?
.....
8. How much price you get from per liter?
.....
9. Do you get reliable price of your milk?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
10. Does your husband/ other member helps in household chores?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
11. Who does what in animal husbandry?

S.N.	Agricultural activities	Personal involvement			
		Woman	Male	Both	Pays labour
1.	Animal farming				
2.	Animal caring				
3.	Milking				
4.	Buying & selling				
5.	Managing water for animal				
6.	Veterinary management				
7.	Manure collection				
8.	Grass cutting				
9.	Marketing				

12. What are the major problems of animal husbandry?

- a. Improved grass facilities
- b. Veterinary facilities
- c. Lack of straw
- d. Market of milk
- e. Loan
- f. Pasture land

13. Who receive the money from co-operative?

- a. Yourself
- b. Other family member

14. Do you get any support from milk co-operative?

- a. Yes
- b. No

15. If yes, what sort of support?

.....

16. Does co-operative provided animal insurance facilities?

- a. Yes
- b. No

17. If yes, did you have to pay for it?

- a. Yes
- b. No

18. Do you feel that there is any role of co-operative to enhance socio-economic status of women?

- a. Yes
- b. No

19. Are you free to spend your income earned from Dairy co-operative?

- a. Fully independent
- b. To some extent
- c. Fully dependent

20. Do you save the money of Animal Husbandry?

- a. Yes
- b. No

21. If yes, where do you save?

.....

22. How do you feel about your decision making power after & before being the member of co-operative?

- a. Highly increased
- b. Moderately
- c. As usual

23. Have you participated in any training?

- a. Yes
- b. No [skip to 25]

24. If yes, how many trainings have you participated in?

- a. One
- b. Two
- c. Three
- d. More than three

25. Beside the member of co-operative are you a member in any social group?

ANNEX B

Checklist to collect Information from Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Society Ltd., Dhikurpokhari, Kaski

Questions	Answer
What are the major problems of dairy farming?	
Being the head of family, are there any problems in decision making process?	
Being the Dalit family what are the obstacles which are faced in dairy farming?	
Being a Dalit are you facing any problems of social discrimination?	
Do you have access to income?	
What are the facilities given by the co-operative to the farmer?	
What are the major achievements of the co-operative for the socio-economic change of the farmer?	
Did co-operative helps to enhance decision making process?	
What should be done to the women by co-operative to raise empowerment of women?	

ANNEX C

Checklist to collect Information from Nagdanda Milk Production Co-operative Society Ltd., Dhikurpokhari, Kaski

Questions	Answer
Date of establishment of co-operative	
Date of registered of the institution as co-operative	
Number of shareholder of co-operative	
Average daily collection of milk	
Number of staffs in co-operative	
Paying duration of farmers	
Saving schemes	
Debit and credit system of co-operative	
Progress report of co-operative	
Future plan of the co-operative	
Problem that co-operative faces during collection and marketing of milk and from the farmer	
Objective of co-operative	
Organizational structure of NMPCL	

