

SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY FOREST

**(A Case Study of Dumsi Vir Community Forest User Group Palungtar Municipality-10,
Gorkha District)**

**A Thesis
Submitted to the Central Department of Economics,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
in partial fulfillment of the Requirement
for the Degree of
MASTER OF ARTS
in
ECONOMICS**

**By
MUNA TIWARI
Roll No: 435/067
T.U. Regd. No: 9-2-29-1916-2006**

**Central Department of Economics
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur,
Kathmandu, Nepal
April 2019**

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The Thesis entitled “**Socio-Economic Benefits of Community Forestry: A Study of Dumsi Vir Community Forest User Group Palungtar Municipality-10, Gorkha District**” has been prepared Mrs. Muna Tiwari under my supervision in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics.

I forward it with recommendation for approval.

.....

Mr. Naveen Adhikari

Lecturer

(Thesis Supervisor)

APPROVAL LETTER

The Thesis entitled “**Socio-Economic Benefits of Community Forestry: A Study of Dumsi Vir Community Forest User Group Palungtar Municipality-10, Gorkha District**’ has been prepared Mrs. Muna Tiwari under my supervision in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics.

Research Committee

Prof. Dr. Kusum Shakya

.....

Head of Department

Dr. Yogesh Ranjit

.....

(Associate Professor)

External Examiner

Mr. Naveen Adhikari

.....

(Lecturer)

Thesis Supervisor

Date: April, 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study on “**SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY FOREST: A Case Study of Dumsi-Vir Community Forest User Group, Palungtar Municipality in Gorkha District**” has been completed in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of arts in economics. I am extremely grateful and express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Naveen Adhakari, Lecturer, Central Department of Economics, for his guidance, encouragement and optimum contribution in the smooth conduct of this study. I am immensely indebted to the Head of the Department, Prof. Dr. Kusum Shakya for encouragement and kind help in the course of the preparation of this thesis.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to my Husband Mr. Arjun Luitel for providing me a valuable suggestion and computer service. Heartily thanks go to my father Mr. Yubraj Tiwari and my mother Mrs. Krishna Kumari Tiwari for their financial support, constant suggestion, and peace environment in preparation of this research. I will also thank Father in Law Mr. Lekhanath Luitel and Mother in Law Mrs. Bhima Luitel for their financial support, constant suggestion, encourage of this research.

Muna Tiwari

April, 2019

ABSTRACT

Nepal's community forestry has become an example of progressive legislation and policies in the decentralization of forest management. It has attracted international attention because in Nepal, decentralization is linked with emerging issues sustainable forest management, forest governance, policy advocacy, equity, gender, poverty and the role of civil society in community forestry.

The general objective of this study is to identify the economic and environmental activities through development of community forest. The specific objective is the socio- economic benefits of Dumsi Vir community forest on socio-economic and environmental life of local community in Gorkha District

Altogether there are 240 member households under study area community forest a fair sample of 60 households (FUGs) were selected by using random sampling of probability sampling method. Out of the Random Sampling Method, lottery method was used for sampling procedure.

The FUG has been playing role for the development of local human resource and also enhance the rural livelihood. It has also empowered people towards team building, group dynamism as well as self- motivation in community development. The direct and indirect benefits from the community forestry have played the greater role in the social life of the people in the study area.

The main economic activates of FUG in this forest are particularly agricultural, livestock farming and other home based industries. Iron based, furniture and bamboo based industries are making based to this forest for raw materials which are indicator of economy and are also acquired for additional income from forest. Another aspect of this research is the environment of forest. The bio-diversity is conservation very effective through various activities.

TABLES OF CONTENTS

Recommendation Letter	ii
Approval letter	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	ix
List of Figures	x
Abbreviation/ Acronyms	xi
CHAPTER- I: INTRODUCTION	1-5
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problems	2
1.3 Objectives of the Study	3
1.4 Limitation of the Study	4
1.5 Significance of the Study	4
1.6 Organization of the Study	4
CHAPTER- II: LITERATURE REVIEW	6-23
2.1 Theoretical Concept	6
2.2 Review of International Studies	11
2.3 Review of National Studies	14
2.4 Research Gap	22
CHAPTER- III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	24-23
3.1 Study area	24
3.2 Population and Sample Size	24
3.3 Nature and Sources of Data	24
3.4 Data Collection Techniques	25
3.5 Questionnaire	25

3.5	Tools and Method of Data Analysis	25
-----	-----------------------------------	----

CHAPTER-IV: SOCIO -ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS **26-35**

4.1	Respondents by Sex	26
4.2	Marital Status	26
4.3	Ethnic Composition	27
4.4	Educational Status	28
4.5	Economic Activities of DVCFUG	28
4.6	Using Pattern of Community Forest	30
4.7	Time Matter	30
4.8	Types of Livestock Farming	30
4.9	Types of Crops	31
4.10	Relation between Farming and Forest	31
4.11	Bio-diversity of Dumsi Vir Community Forest	33
4.12	Affecting Factors and Constraints in Bio-diversity Conservation	35
4.13	Cultural Relation with Forest	35

**CHAPTER – V: SOCIO- ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF
FOREST USER GROUP** **36-47**

5.1	Income of Respondents	36
5.2	Social Benefits	38
5.2.1	Economic Changes Brings by Community	40
5.3	Income Generating Activated through Community Forestry	41
5.3.1	Forest Based Enterprises	41
5.3.2	Revolving Fund to the Income Generating Activities	42
5.4	Social Benefits	42
5.4.1	Strengthening Organization	43
5.4.2	Employment Generation and Poverty Reduction	43
5.4.3	Co-operation among People	43

5.5	Economic Benefits	43
5.5.1	Availability of Forest Products	44
5.5.2	Sustainable Collection	44
5.5.3	Multiplier Effect	44
5.6	Forest Product Collection and Distribution	44
5.6.1	Fuel Wood	44
5.6.2	Timber and Poles	45
5.6.3	Free Fodder	45
5.6.4	Forest Protection	45
5.7	Problems of Community Forest Development	45
5.8	Effectiveness of CFUG	46

CHAPTER- VI: SUMMARY, CONCLUSSION AND

RECOMMENDATIONS

48-47

6.1	Summary	48
6.2	Conclusion	49
6.3	Recommendations	50

REFERENCES

APPENDIX

LIST OF TABLES

Table Number	Title	Page Number
4.1:	Distributions of Respondents by Sex	26
4. 2:	Demographic profile with Caste	27
4.3:	Respondents by Education	27
4. 4:	Fodder Need Per day of Forest User Group	31
4. 5:	Firewood Consumption of Forest User Group in last Year	32
4.6:	Forest Product Resources Based Industries	32
4.7:	Consumption of Additional Source of Forest User Group	33
4.8:	Process of Participation in Bio-diversity Conservation	34
4.9:	Types of Plants in Forest	34
4.10:	Socio-Cultural Relation of FUG	35
5.1:	Respondents by Annual Income	36
5.2:	Respondents by expenditure	37
5.3:	Respondents by Saving	37
5. 4:	Positive Change in Income	41
5.5:	Positive Change in Animal Husbandry pattern	41
5. 6:	Forest Based Enterprises	42
5. 7:	Revolving Fund Disbursements	42
5.8:	Dumsi-Vir CFUG's Organization	43
5.9:	Perception of the Users	46

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure Number	Title	Page Number
4.1:	Respondents by Marital status	27
4. 2:	Percentage Distribution of Occupational	29

ABBREVIATION/ ACRONYMS

CF	- Community Forest
CFDD	- Community Forest Development Division
CFUG	- Community Forest User Group
DDC	- District Development Committee
DFO	- District Forest Office
DVCFUG	- Dumsi-Vir Community Forest User Group
FA	- Forest Act
FAO	- Food and Agriculture Organization
FPR	- Forest Protection Rules
FUG	- Forest User Group
GoN	- Government of Nepal
MOFSC	- Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
MOPE	- Ministry of Population and Environment
MPFS	- Master Plan for the Forestry Sector
MPFS	- Master Plan of Forest Sector
NA	- Nationalization Act
NPC	- National Planning Commission
No.	- Number
NTFP	- Non Timber Forest Product
PFR	- Private Forest Rules
UG	- User Group
WB	- World Bank