

CONTRIBUTION OF COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE FARMING IN WOMEN'S LIVELIHOOD

(A Case Study of Sundarijal VDC, Kathmandu District, Nepal)

A thesis submitted to
Central Department of Rural Development
of **Tribhuvan University**, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
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July, 2017

Declaration

I here declare that the thesis entitles **Contribution of Commercial Vegetable Farming in Women's Livelihood: A Case Study of Sundarijal VDC, Kathmandu District, Nepal** submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of preparing this thesis. The results of this thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

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Recommendation letter

The thesis entitled **Contribution of Commercial Vegetable Farming in Women's Livelihood: A Case Study of Sundarijal VDC, Kathmandu District, Nepal** has been prepared by **Subhadra Thapa** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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Approval Letter

The thesis entitled **Contribution of Commercial Vegetable Farming in Women's Livelihood Kathmandu** submitted by **Subhadra Thapa** in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Master's Degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted in vegetable farming of Sundarijal VDC, Kathmandu district. The general objective of this study is to trace out " commercial vegetable farming and women's livelihood". Similarly, the specific objective of the study is to assess the change in women's livelihood due to commercial vegetable farming.

The majority of the respondents were Brahmins 20%, Chhetri 16%, Tamang 36%, Newar 28%. The main source of livelihood in study area is agriculture. The households head's main occupation was agriculture 56%, foreign employment 20%, farming and extra job 8%, farming business 16% in the study area.

Women have successfully boarded their roles from those of domestic to productive. Men cooperation's were increased in domestic chores after adopting this farming. Men have started to consult their women counterparts before making a decision in household as well as in community level. Quantitative data suggest that women workload has been increased because of commercial vegetable farming. In the other hand qualitative and quantitative data suggest that their workload has been decreased slightly in household chores. Women's role has been diverted from household work to production and communal work in some extent.

Majority of the respondents mentioned that they have saved income earned from vegetable farming and the respondents also mentioned that they have their own ownership in saved money. Majority of the respondent controlled their income their self.

This farming has increased women's access to, and control over resources. It also increased social prestige, decision-making power, organizational activities, and exposure visits. These, in aggregate, have empowered then significantly. Women were found empowered socially, technically and economically through the commercial vegetable farming.

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ACRONYMS

ADB	=	Asian Development Bank
APP	=	Agricultural Perspective Plan
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
CEDAW	=	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CVF	=	Commercial Vegetable Farming
DADO	=	District Agricultural Development Centre
FWLD	=	Forum for Women, Law and Development
FGDs	=	Focus Group Discussion
GAD	=	Gender and Development
GDP	=	Gross Domestic Product
HHs	=	Households
INGO	=	International Non-governmental Organization
IWY	=	International Women Year
JTA	=	Junior Technical Assistant
JT	=	Junior Technician
LI-BIRD	=	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development
LIFDC	=	Low- Income Food Deficient Countries
NARC	=	Nepal Agricultural Research Council
NHDR	=	Nepal Human Development Report
NPC	=	National Planning Commission
SPSS	=	Statistical Package for Social Science
TAF	=	The Asia Foundation
UNDP	=	United Nations Development Program
VDC	=	Village Development Committee
WTO	=	World Trade Organization
WFDD	=	Women Farmer Development Division
WID	=	Women In development