INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY USER GROUPS

A CASE STUDY OF RAMITE COMMUNITY FOREST USER GROUPS OF NAMADI VDC, RAMECHHAP DISTRICT

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Awards of the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development

SUBMITTED BY
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Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal
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TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT ग्रामीण विकास केन्द्रीय विभाग

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Ref. No. :	Office of the Head of Department Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled "Income Generating Activities of Community Forestry User groups: A Case Study of Ramite Community Forestry User Groups in Namadi VDC, Ramechhap District" has been prepared and written by Shanti Pd. Paudel under my supervision. This is his independent work. So, I recommend it for final approval.

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ग्रामीण विकास केन्द्रीय विभाग

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This is to certify that the thesis entitled "Income Generating Activities of Community Forestry User groups: A Case Study of Ramite Community Forestry User Groups in Namadi VDC, Ramechhap District" submitted by Mr. Shanti Pd. Paudel has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Master of Arts in Rural Development.

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This study, "Income Generating Activities of Community Forestry Users Groups: A Case Study of Ramite Community Forest User Groups in Namadi VDC, Ramechhap District" is completed for the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development.

I am highly obliged to Associate Professor Dr. Chandra Lal Shrestha who supervised this thesis throughout the period of preparation.

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2010 Shanti Prasad Paudel

ABSTRACT

Community forestry is a small scale, village level forestry practice where decisions and actions are often made on a collective basis, and where the rural population participate in forest conservation planning, establishment, management and harvesting of forest crops and receive a small proportion of the socio-economic and ecological benefits from the forest.

Community forestry was introduced in Nepal in 1978. The community forestry approach has been highly successful in the protection of the forest in the hills of Nepal. The local user groups are responsible for the control, protection, and management of the forest.

This research is done on the current issue of income generation activities. Forest as local resources are main resources and also source of livelihood of flora, fauna and human beings. This study focuses on income generation of Ramite CFUGs of Ramechhap district. The main objective of this study is to investigate on Income Generating Activities. However, other specific objectives are;

- To analyze the socio-economic status of the forest users group.
- To asses the income generating activities of forest user groups.

This study has adopted both the descriptive and exploratory research designs. Out of 310 households only 13 percent (40 HHs) had been selected by purposive sampling. On the process of data collection both primary and secondary sources has been used.

The above study shows that the resources of CF had changed the socio-economic status of the local communities as well as the level of

participation had been increased rapidly. But for the further work it is recommended to adopt better trainings, skills, awareness.

The study was carried out in Namadi VDC of Ramechhap district. The methodology of the study included both the qualitative and quantitative method. Data was collected through in household questionnaire with 40 households different ethnic group sampled through sample random sampling method. The major findings of the study were,

- The forest users comprise of 8 ethnic groups dominated Chhetri 37.5%, Sunuwar 17.5%, Gharti 7.5%, Kami 12.5%, Brahmin 2.5%.
- Service and agriculture is the major economic activities for majority of forest users households.
- Average family size of lower castes as Damai, Kami, Sarki have large number (5.4) and other castes have smaller family size comparatively and total average family size is 4.725 in sample HHs.
- Educational status of sampled households literate 78.61 and illiterate only 21.39 but woman are illiterate in majority.
- The main vision of this CFUGs to reduce poverty by improving live, livelihood, agriculture and income generating program through forestry.
- The forest conduction is found good on the CFUGs, plants are growing day by day and the greenery of forest gives an attractive scene from which people can take a kind of pleasure.

- Environment is changing woman participation is satisfactory on decision and implementation of CFUGs every work.
- Strong co-operation and co-ordination among the users fund mobilization for IGAS is a model works paying interest at the rate of different types of IGAS.
- In Ramite CFUG the fuel wood has been provided equally to the users on the bass of family size.
- The CFP is sustainable and is very significant to meet the needs of the villagers so quite effective in the feeling of people.
- Labour of the people is going non-profit activities and use to agriculture as a mass production and create market and find out for grate income.
- The production system must be change to
 - One production one village.
 - One quality one area
 - One skilled one introduction
 - One grant one bank
 - One labour one confidence
 - One market one quantity.

then change life style of the village people and reduce the poverty at the country.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Reco	ommendation Letter	i			
App	roval Letter	ii			
Acknowledgement Abstract Table of Contents List of tables		iii iv vii ix			
			List	of Figures	X
			Abb	reviation and Acronyms	xi
			CHA	APTER-I: INTRODUCTION	1-6
1.1	Background of the Study	1			
1.2	Statement of the Problem	1			
1.3	Objectives of the Study	3			
1.4	Importance of the Study	4			
1.5	Limitations of the Study	4			
1.6	Organization of the Study	5			
CHA	APTER-II: REVIEW OF LITERATURE	7-22			
CHA	APTER-III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	23-25			
3.1	Research Design	23			
3.2	Sample and Sampling Procedure	23			
3.3	Sources of Data Collection	24			
3.4	Data Collection Tools and Technique	24			
	3.4.1 Questionnaire Survey	24			
	3.4.2 Key Informant Interview	24			
	3.4.3 Field Observation	24			
	3.4.4 Focus Group Discussion	25			

3.5	Data Processing	25			
3.6	Data Analysis				
СНА	PTER - IV: INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY AREA 2	6-36			
4.1	Country Background	26			
4.2	Glimpse of Ramechhap District	26			
	4.2.1 Geographical Condition	28			
	4.2.2 Major Ethnic Composition in Ramechhap District	28			
	4.2.3 Socio-economic Situation	28			
	4.2.4 Land Use	29			
	4.2.5 Climate and Soil	29			
	4.2.6 Community Forestry in Ramechhap	30			
	4.2.7 Religions Composition of Ramechhap District	31			
4.3	Village Profile	31			
4.4	Description of the Selected CFUGs	36			
СНА	PTER-V: SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF				
	THE STUDY AREA 3	7-50			
5.1	Total Number of Households and Sample	37			
5.2	Ethnic Composition of Sampled HHs	37			
5.3	Family Sizes of Ethnic Groups	39			
5.4	Sex Composition of Sampled HHs	39			
5.5	Educational Status of Sample Household According to Sex	42			
5.6	Occupational composition of sampled Households	44			
5.7	Distribution of Livestock Holding in the Sampled Households	45			
5.8	Feeding Pattern of Livestock in Sampled HHs	46			
5.9	Distribution of Land Holding in Sampled Households	46			
5.10	Crops Production of Sample Households	47			
5 11	Well-being Ranking of Sampled Household	49			

CHA	APTER - VI: INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES	
	OF CFUGS	51-57
6.1	Introduction	51
6.2	Income Generating Activities of Ramite CFUG	51
	6.2.1 Amliso (Broom Grass) Farming	51
	6.2.2 Turmeric Farming	52
	6.2.3 Other Sources of Income for CFUG	53
6.3	Sources of Income for Sampled Households	55
6.4	Annual Income of the Sampled Household	57
CHA	APTER-VII: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND	
	RECOMENDATONS	58-61
8.1	Summary	58
8.2	Conclusion	59
8.3	Recommendations	60
BIB	LIOGRAPHY	
QUE	ESTIONNAIRE	

LIST OF TABLES

Table No. 2.1	:	Different Capitals and Their Fields of Research	
		and Nature of Policy	16
Table No. 4.1	:	Land Holding Pattern in Ramechhap District	30
Table No. 4.2	:	Religious Composition of Ramechhap District	31
Table No. 4.3	:	Household having Agricultural Land, Livestock	
		and Poultry for Namadi VDC	33
Table No. 4.4	:	Total Number of Population According to Caste Groups	34
Table No. 4.5	:	Population 6 Year of Age and Over by Literacy State	us
		and Sex for VDC	35
Table No. 5.1	:	Ethnic Composition of Sampled HHs	38
Table No. 5.2	:	The Family Size of Ethnic Groups in Sample HHs	39
Table No. 5.3	:	Sex Composition of Sampled Households	40
Table No. 5.4	:	Educational Status of Sampled Households	43
Table No. 5.5	:	Occupational Composition of Sample Households	44
Table No. 5.6	:	Distribution Livestock Holding of Sample Households	46
Table No. 5.7	:	Distribution of landholding pattern in Sample	
		Households	47
Table No. 5.8	:	Distribution of Crops Production in Sampled	
		Households	48
Table No. 5.9	:	Well-being Ranking of Sampled Households	49
Table No. 6.1	:	Average Annual Income of Samples HHs in Ramite	
		CFUG.	57

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No. 1	:	District Map of Ramechhap (Land use map)	27
Figure No. 2	:	Land Use Pattern in Ramechhap District	29
Figure No. 3	:	VDC Map	32
Figure No. 4	:	Population 6 Year of Age and Over by Literacy	
		Status and Sex for VDC	35
Figure No. 5	:	Ethnic Composition of Sampled HHs	38
Figure No. 6	:	Educational status of sampled Households	43
Figure No. 7	:	Occupational Composition of Sample Households	45
Figure No. 8	:	Distribution of Land Holding Pattern	47
Figure No. 9	:	Distribution of Crops Production in Sampled	
		Households	48
Figure No. 10	:	Well-being Ranking of Sampled Households	50

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BS – Bikram Sambat

CBS – Central Bureau of Statistics

CF – Community Forestry

CFP – Community Forest Programme

CFUGs – Community Forest User Groups

DDC – District Development Committee

DFID – Department for International Development

DFO – District Forest Office

etc – Etcetera

FECOFUN – Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal

FY – Fiscal Year

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

ha – Hectare (1000 Square Meters)

HHs – Households

HMG/N – His Majesty's Government of Nepal

i.e. – That is

IGAS – Income Generating Activities

INGOS – International Non-Government Organizations

K.M. – Kilometer

LFP – Livelihoods and Forestry Programme

MOF – Ministry of Finance

MPFS – Master Plan for the Forestry Sector

NGOs – Non Government Organization

No. – Number

NPC – National Planning Commission

NRs – NepaliRupees

NTFPs – Non-Timber Forest Products

NUKCFP – Nepal UK Community Forestry Project

PAF – Poverty Alleviation Fund

PRA – Participatory Rural Appraisal

RP – Range Post

Rs – Rupees

Sq. – Square

UGC – User Group Committee

UNDP – United Nations Development Program

VDCs – Village Development Committees

WDR – World Development Report