

**THE EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY ON THE
LIVELIHOOD OF LOCAL USERS:
A Study of Thanimai Community
Forest in Bara district**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of
Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University
in Partial Fulfillment of Requirement of the Degree of Master of
Arts in Sociology**

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LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

The dissertation entitled 'THE EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY ON THE LIVELIHOOD OF LOCAL USERS: A Study of Thanimai Community Forest in Bara district' submitted by Mrs. Nirjala Raut has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled ‘The Effects of Community Forestry on the Livelihoods of Local Users’ has been conducted in Bara district with aiming at assessing the effects of community forestry on the local livelihoods. It was confined to the contribution of Community Forest (CF) to the users, its effects on the factors of natural capital, status of social capital and the participation of users in different activities in the study area.

Both primary and secondary data were collected in order to complete this task. The methods used in during data collection were focus group discussion, direct observation, and questionnaire survey. Eighty households were selected from forest users group representing the users of different economic classes. The secondary data were collected from the operational plans of FUGs, office records, and published and unpublished literatures. Data were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) and Ms Excel where frequency distribution was mostly used. Simple tables, bar, pie were used while interpreting the result.

This study has revealed that the forest users of medium economic class have been more contribute from the community forests as compared to that of other economic classes. The community forestry program has improved the social capital, drowned positive effects on the factors of natural capitals and of users and the level of participation has been found good in plantation, conservation, meetings, assemblies and fair in skill development trainings, IGAs and NTFPs management.

Key words: Community Forest, Community Forest Users Group, Livelihood, Participation

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ACRONYMS

BS	Bikram Sambat
CFUC	Community Forest User Committee
CFUG	Community Forest User Groups
DFID	Department for International Development
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal
FUG	Forest User Groups
ha	Hector
HH	Household
HMG	His Majesty Government
ICRAF	An International Center for research for Agro forestry
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IRD	Integrated Rural Development
IRR	Index of Relative Ranking
MPFSP	Master Plan for Forestry Sector
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Product
OFMP	Operational Forest Management Plan
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science Research
VDC	Village Development Committee