

# **Socio-Economic Impact Of Community Forestry**

**(A Case Study of Balkumari Community Forestry  
of Ugratara VDC, Kavre)**

**A Thesis  
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements  
for the Award of the Degree of Master of Arts  
in Rural Development (RD 510)**

**Prakash Sapkota**  
*Exam Roll No: 3914*  
Central Department of Rural Development  
Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences  
Tribhuvan University  
Kathmandu, Nepal

**August, 2009**

## RECOMMENDATION

It is with great pleasure that I recommend, for approval, the dissertation entitled "**Socio-Economic Impact of Community Forestry (A Case Study of Balkumari Community Forestry of Ugratara VDC, Kavre)**" is completed by Mr. Prakash Sapkota under my supervision in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. I, therefore forward it with recommendation for approval.

.....

Mr. Umesh Acharya

Lecturer

Central Department of Rural Development

Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

## APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “**Socio-Economic Impact of Community Forestry (A Case Study of Balkumari Community Forestry in Ugratara VDC, Kavre)**” written and submitted by Prakash Sapkota has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfillment of the academic requirements towards the completion of Master of Arts in Rural Development.

## THESIS COMMITTEE

---

External Examiner

---

Thesis Supervisor  
Mr. Umesh Acharya  
Lecturer  
Central Dept. of Rural Development  
Tribhuvan University  
*Kirtipur, Kathmandu*

---

Head  
Central Department of  
Rural Development

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This is the study for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development. For the purpose of this study, I had to consult with concerned offices and officials. I would like to express my heartily thanks to those all who provided me the required information as well as other necessary arrangements and help for this study without which this thesis could not be appeared in this style.

I am deeply indebted to my thesis guide, Mr. Umesh Acharya, Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathamandu for the supervision, guidance and encouragement during the preparation of the thesis successfully. His guidance during my thesis has been instrumental in preparing this thesis, without his proper guidance and supervision; this thesis would not have been in the present form.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka, Head of Central Department of Rural Development, for his encouragement.

I would like to express my due appreciation to Mrs. Kanchhi Khadka, FUGC chairman of Balkumari Ban, Mr. Jayram Khadka (FUGC Advisor), Mr. Bishnu Prasad Sapkota (VDC Secretary) for their valuable co-operation during the field work and data collection period. Similarly, I want to express my sincere thanks to all respondents of interview which was under taken during the field study period.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all my colleagues for their valueable support and encouragement. I want to express May heartiest gratitude to my better half Niruta Sapkota for her help and suitable environment.

***Prakash Sapkota***

*Central Department of Rural Development*

TU Kirtipur, Kathmandu,

August, 2009

## **ABSTRACT**

*This is a micro level of study. It is a case study of CFUG, Balkumari forest of Ugratara VDC, Kavre. This study has attempted to highlight the socio-economic impact evaluation aspect of community forest in Ugratara.*

*The general objectives of this study were to discover socio-economic impact as well as benefit of community forest. Both primary and secondary information were used in study.*

*The sample of households was selected randomly. Data were collected from household survey, interview and observation. The main tool of subsistence was agriculture of the selected respondents. Households kept large number of livestock such as buffalo, cow, goat, pigs etc. Among them Balkumari CFUG was established in 2058 B.S. which covers ward No.1 & 6 of Ugratara VDC. Among the user respondent, high majority of users were Brahmin & Chhetries. There were also other caste groups like Newar, Tamang, Gurung, etc. Users were using forest product on equal basis. Collecting fund from every household (users) was a significant aspect. One Jungle guard was selected from the users group. Income of the forest is found to mobilize in infrastructure development of the concerned area. The positive impact was found like incensement on livestock, cash crops and vegetables production, increment on water resources and natural beauty are other advantages of this area. The most important thing to highlight about Balkumari Community Forestry Users Group committee is that it is executed & managed totally by the women. All 13 members of the management committee are women and they are successfully executing the activities which have been the source of inspiration for the women of other societies too.*

*Users were identified on the basis of traditional use of forest. Most of the user respondents are found that they are only partially dependent upon forest products. FUGC is working as a main body of the forest. It is giving equal opportunity to women. Women participant in both FUGC and FFS looks significant. Positive impact has been seen in income generating activities through agriculture and animal husbandry. Apart from this, positive impact has been seen in education, participation, rural tourism and awareness enlistment.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page.....	ii
Recommendation.....	iii
Approval Certificate.....	iv
Acknowledgements.....	v
Abstract.....	vi
Abbreviation.....	vii
Table of Contents.....	viii
List of Tables.....	xi

### Chapter I

INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1. Background of the study.....	1
1.2. Statement of the Problem.....	3
1.3. Objective of the Study .....	4
1.4. Limitation of the Study .....	4

### Chapter II

LITERATURE REVIEW .....	6
2.1. Conceptual Literature Review.....	6
2.2. Related Literature Review .....	15
2.3. History and Evolution of Community Forestry .....	16
2.4. Sustainability of Community Forestry in Nepal .....	23
2.4.1. Economic/Financial Sustainability.....	25
2.4.2. Environmental Sustainability .....	29
2.4.3. Social and Political Sustainability .....	25

### Chapter III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....	33
3.1. Research Design .....	33
3.2. Selection of the Study Area .....	33
3.3. Sources of Data .....	33
3.3.1. Primary Data Collection .....	34
3.3.2. Secondary Data Collection .....	34
3.3.3. Sample Size .....	34
3.4. Tools and Techniques of Data Collection .....	35

3.4.1. The Household Survey (Questionnaire) .....	35
3.4.2. Interview .....	35
3.4.3. Observation .....	35
3.4.4. Selection of Key Information .....	36
3.4.5. Field Dairy .....	37

## Chapter IV

DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA .....	38
4.1. Geographical Setting .....	38
4.2. Climate .....	38
4.3. Vegetation .....	38
4.4. Socio-economic Condition.....	39
4.4.1. Population .....	39
4.4.2. Occupation .....	40
4.4.3. Educational Status.....	41
4.4.4. Literacy .....	42
4.4.5. Ethnic Group .....	43
4.4.6. Live Stocks .....	44
4.4.7. Transport and Communication .....	44
4.4.8. Marketing .....	45
4.4.9. Community Forestry in Ugratara Area .....	46
4.4.10. Balkumari Ban.....	46

## Chapter V

IMPACT EVALUATION OF BALKUMARI COMMUNITY FORESTRY .....	48
5.1. Income.....	48
5.1.1. Agriculture .....	48
5.1.2. Animal Husbandary.....	51
5.2. Education and Transportation.....	52
5.3. Use of fuel wood and alterative sources of Energy .....	54
5.4. Women Participation .....	55
5.5. Rural Tourism .....	56
5.6. Awareness .....	57
5.7. Occupation .....	57
5.8. Management System of FUGC.....	58
5.9. Composition of FUG .....	59
5.10. Population .....	60
5.11. Economic Activities of FUGC .....	60
5.12. Yearly Income of FUGC .....	61
5.13. Construction Work .....	62
5.14. Problems .....	62

## Chapter VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	64
6.1. Summary of the Findings .....	64
6.2. Conclusion .....	65
6.2. Recommendations .....	66
References .....	68
Appendix	
Questionnaires.....	70
Maps.....	73



## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table 1.1</b>	<b>2</b>
Community Forestry National Profile	
<b>Table 4.1</b>	<b>40</b>
Ward Wise Population Distribution	
<b>Table 4.2</b>	<b>41</b>
Occupational Distribution of Population	
<b>Table 4.3</b>	<b>42</b>
Condition of the Schools	
<b>Table 4.4</b>	<b>42</b>
Status of Literacy	
<b>Table 4.5</b>	<b>43</b>
Ward Wise Literacy and Illiteracy	
<b>Table 4.6</b>	<b>43</b>
Ethnic Group	
<b>Table 4.7</b>	<b>44</b>
Condition of the Live Stocks	
<b>Table 4.8</b>	<b>45</b>
Road and Transport as per Ward	
<b>Table 4.9</b>	<b>46</b>
No of the CF in Ugratara VDC	
<b>Table 5.1</b>	<b>49</b>
Daily production of Vegetables in winter (In aggregate)	
<b>Table 5.2</b>	<b>49</b>
Daily production of vegetables in summer (Aggreate)	
<b>Table 5.3</b>	<b>50</b>
List of the Major Crops After and Before the CF	
<b>Table 5.4</b>	<b>51</b>
Types and Number of Livestock reared in the study area	
<b>Table 5.5</b>	<b>52</b>
Literacy Status of Households	
<b>Table 5.6</b>	<b>53</b>

Enrollment in primary class before Community Forestry	
<i>Table 5.7</i>	<b>53</b>
Enrollment in primary class after community Forestry	
<i>Table 5.8</i>	<b>54</b>
Energy Consumption	
<i>Table 5.9</i>	<b>55</b>
Condition of Women Participation	
<i>Table 5.10</i>	<b>56</b>
Tourism Visited in Balkumari CF	
<i>Table 5.11</i>	<b>57</b>
State of Family Size among Respondents	
<i>Table 5.12</i>	<b>58</b>
The Condition of Occupation	
<i>Table 5.13</i>	<b>59</b>
Composition of FUG	
<i>Table 5.14</i>	<b>60</b>
Population of FUG	
<i>Table 5.15</i>	<b>61</b>
Penalty System Conducted by FUG	
<i>Table 5.16</i>	<b>61</b>
Income of FUGC	
Pie chart (Ward Wise Occupation)	<b>41</b>
Bar Graph (Literacy Status in %)	<b>52</b>

## ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

CBS	: Central Bureau of Statistics
CDRD	: Central Department of Rural Development
CF	: Community Forest
CFDO	: Community forestry Division Office
CFUG	: Community Forest Users Group
CFUGC	: Community Forestry Users Group Committee
DFO	: District Forest Office
DOF	: Department Of Forest
FECOFUN	: Federation of Comunity Forestry Users, Nepal
FFS	: Farmers Forest School
FUGC	: Forest Users Group Committee
HH	: House Holds
MAP	: Medicinal and Aromatic Plant
NAFP	: Nepal Australian Forestry Project
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
No.	: Number
NTFP	: Non-Timber Forest Plant
VDC	: Village Development Committee