

**Poverty Alleviation Through Social Mobilization**  
**(A Case Study of the Development Programme Godamchaur VDC of**  
**Lalitpur)**

**A Thesis**  
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## **RECOMMENDATION LETTER**

Swostika Tiwari has completed this thesis entitled **‘Poverty Alleviation Through Social Mobilization (A Case Study of the Village Development Programme Godamchaur VDC, Lalitpur)’**, under my supervision and guidance. I recommend this thesis to the Examination Committee for its final acceptance.

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## **APPROVAL SHEET**

This thesis entitled **“Poverty Alleviation Through Social Mobilization (A Case Study of the Village Development Programme Godamchaur VDC, Lalitpur)’** written by Swostika Tiwari under the supervision of Khem Bhattarai accepted for the partial fulfillment for the requirement for the Master's degree of Arts in Rural Development.

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Poverty in Nepal is deep and complex. Low economic growth, lack of improvements in Human Development, inequality and social exclusion has been major components of Nepalese poverty. Another striking fact is that income Poverty. Another striking fact is that income poverty in Nepal has mostly affected rural areas despite some achievements in national economic growth since few decades. The growth has always bypassed the rural poor. Poverty has also been an underlying theme of Nepalese Development efforts since long before. After the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) it has become sole development objective.*

*It is approval that successful poverty alleviation calls for empowerment of people, good governance and peoples participation especially through decision making level. Social mobilization aims in bringing about broader involvement of people in decision-making and to empower the rural communities socially and economically.*

*Godamchaur is also a village of Nepal, which is suffering from various forms of poverty. In this village many GOs and NGOs are conducting different types of programs with the aim of poverty alleviation. Among them four programs are working with the approach of Social Mobilization. Two of the programs are government related organization and the remaining two are related with NGOs.*

*This study is an attempt to review different aspects of these programs regarding their aim. The study, was mainly targeted to find out the strengths weaknesses and shortcomings of the programs and Men to suggest recommendations aimed improving the implementation and impacts of the, program.*

*The research has been mainly designed with explorative and descriptive approach. Key informants from various sources were consulted and interviewed. In depth study of available and related literature was done and a representative sample size of 65 was selected using simple stratified random sampling techniques from members of various Community Organizations formed by the programs. Both primary as well as secondary sources of information were used for the analysis.*

*The first chapter of this dissertation deals with conceptual background of Social Mobilization and poverty in Nepal along with the objectives, limitations and rationale of the study. The second chapter has reviewed various literatures related with this issue. The third chapter is on the methodology used for this research. The fourth chapter has given some of the key features and history of social mobilization in brief as an approach of poverty alleviation in Nepal. The fifth chapter introduces the study area. The sixth chapter encompasses the findings and analysis done in the research. The findings have been presented in understandable form as far as possible. Various constraints regarding the implementation of the social mobilization in the study area has been analyzed in the chapter. The seventh chapter concludes these research findings and provides some recommendations regarding implementation of the program along with some suggestions for further researches.*

*Social mobilization has generated optimism that poor communities can be activated to manage their own development problems to a significant level if given: a proper mechanism of authority to them. This has again confirmed that people can be imitate but not irrational. Organization of groups at the settlement level has taken the practice of social mobilization to a deeper level, which could be a supportive factor in ensuring sustainability of the program. Social mobilization in many cases has been successful in uniting people of different background and also in building level of confidence in women and dalits of the village.*

*Despite the achievements, there is a need more concern on issues of education, health and building of social infrastructure. More opportunities of training, should be provided to the people. Level of coordination between different social mobilizing agencies need to be improved and a proper system of monitoring and evaluation has become important in calculating the cost-effectiveness of the programs. In order to reduce the risk of discontinuation of the program, priority should be on use of local resources not mere dependency on external grants. Concurrently, the role of social mobilizer should be cadre-based not the staff recruited from concerning agencies.*

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aarjan : Sanskriti word to denote *Get hold of or achieve or obtain* Something.

Baari: Agricultural land generally adjacent to the house or Settlement.

Brahaman : Sacred caste as said by Hindu religion, Aryan by origin.

Chhettri : Special and leading caste as said by Hindu religion.

Dallt : A so called Untouchable caste group found in Hindu societies.

Jagriti : Sanskriti word to express upliftment process.

Janajiti: Members of ethnic groups.

Khar : A type of long grass used to that roof of some houses in Nepal.

Khet: Agricultural land generally with irrigation facilities.

Mahila : Nepalese term to denote women.

Newar : A Nepalese caste with Tibeto-Aryan origin.

Ropani : A unit in measuring area of land in Nepal. (1 Ropani =5476 Square feet).

Ward : A unit in political division of a Village Development Committee.

## ABBREVIATIONS

CBO	:	Community Based Organization
CEAPRED	:	Center For Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research Extension and Development
CO	:	Community Organization
DDC	:	District Development Committee
FEDO	:	Feminist Dalit Organization
HDI	:	Human Development Index
GOs	:	Government Organizations
HHs	:	House Holds
HMG/N	:	His Majesty's Government of Nepal
ICS	:	Improved Cooking Stove
LGP	:	Local Governance Program
NGOs	:	Non-Government Organizations
NPC	:	National Planning Commissions
PCRW	:	Production Credit for Rural Women
PDDP	:	Participatory District Development Program
SAPAP	:	South Asia Poverty Alleviation Programme
SFDP	:	Small Farmer Development Programme
SMAAs	:	Social Mobilizing Agencies
UN	:	United Nations
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Fund
VDC	:	Village Development Committee