

# **WOMEN'S STATUS ON DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN COMMUNITY FORESTRY**

**(A Case Study of Dharampani VDC of Pyuthan District)**

**A Thesis  
Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the  
Requirements  
for the Award of the Degree of Masters of Arts  
in Rural Development**

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## RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled “**WOMEN'S STATUS ON DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN COMMUNITY FORESTRY**” (A case study of Dharampani VDC of Pyuthan District) has been prepared by **Mr. Min Kumar Magar** under my supervision in partial fulfillment of requirements for Master Degree of Arts in Rural Development. I hereby recommend this thesis to the evaluation committee for approval.

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Supervisor

Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka

Head of Department of Rural Development

## APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “***WOMEN’S STATUS ON DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN COMMUNITY FORESTRY***” (A case study of Dharampani VDC of Pyuthan District) written and submitted by **Mr. Min Kumar Magar** has been examined. It has been declared successful for fulfilment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Masters of Arts in Rural Development.

### THESIS COMMITTEE

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External Examiner

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Date: 26 September, 2008

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## ABSTRACT

*Other the past years Forest is the most essential natural resources of rural livelihood, especially rural people are attached to forest from the birth to death. In addition, for the proper protection of the forest it should handover the nearest group of people which is generally known as community forest.*

*The empowerment of women and their involvement on decision making process is very important and also it has been the burning issue in the present context. Women representation in the CF executive committee is the urgent necessary to protect the CF and they must involve in decision making process. Women are the main stakeholders of forest and thy do not have wide access on decision making. So, an active participation is one of the important indicators for finding out the women's status which effect on decision making. This may be one of the key elements of women empowerment and development.*

*The study is carried out in community forest of Dharampani VDC of Pyuthan district which is situated in the mid-western region of Nepal. Field study, observation and questionnaire, focus group discussion, interaction, meetings were conducted to know about the women status on decision making process.*

*Community forestry has developed at platform for leadership development of many rural women, which supports to increase women participation in the decision making process. It does not mean only women should be prioritizes and male should be less emphasis. Both joint decision making process support to achieve the good practices of decision making and empowerment of men and women equally. If so, women status on decision making process will be strong and development also will be sustainable rural development of each sector including community forest.*

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## ABBREVIATION

CFUG	Community Forestry User Group
CFUC	Community Forestry User Committee
CF	Community Forestry
HH	House Holds
VDC	Village Development
DDC	District Development Committee
DFID	Depart for International Development
DFO	District Forest Office
RP	Range Post
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
LFP	Livelihoods and Forestry Programme
EFEA/FPP	Environment and Forestry Enterprises Activities      Forestry Partnership Project
CFOP	Community Forest Operational Plan
FP	Forest Product
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Product
APPSP	Agriculture Perspective Plan Support Programme
MEDP	Micro Enterprises Development Programme
RAP	Rural Access Programme
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry User Group Nepal
CBR	Child Birth Rate
HDI	Human Development Index
NFE	Non Formal Education
Ha	Hectare