SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SIA) PRACTICE IN NEPAL: A CASE STUDY OF DEVIGHAT CASCADE HYDROPOWER PROJECT IN NUWAKOT DISTRICT, NEPAL

A Thesis

Submitted to the Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University,

Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal, in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

in

ECONOMICS

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Practice In Nepal: A Case Study of Devighat Cascade Hydropower Project in Nuwakot District, Nepal has been prepared by Mrs. Sirjana Devkota under my supervision and guidance. I forward it with recommendation for evaluation by the Thesis Committee as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS in ECONOMICS.

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APPROVAL LETTER

We certify that the thesis entitled **Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Practice in Nepal: A Case Study of Devighat Cascade Hydropower Project in Nuwakot District,** Nepal submitted by Mrs. Sirjana Devkota to the Central Department of Economics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS in ECONOMICS.

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The present study Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Practice in Nepal: A Case Study

of Devighat Cascade Hydropower Project in Nuwakot District, Nepal is completed for

the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CBS - Central Bureau of Statistics

CITES - Congress of International trade of Endangered

species

DCHP - Devighat Cascade Hydroelectric Project

DFO - District Forest Office

DOED - Department of Electricity Development

EIA - Environmental Impact Assessment

EL - Elevation

EMP - Environmental Management Plan

EPA - Environmental Protection Act

EPR - Environmental Protection Regulation

GoN - Government of Nepal

ha - Hectares

HH - household

IEE - Initial Environmental Examination

IUCN - International Union Conservation Nature

km - Kilometer

m - Meter

MFSC - Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation

MOL - Minimum Operating Level

MOPE - Ministry of Population and Environment

MOWR - Ministry of Water resources

MW - Megawatt

NARC - National Agriculture Research Center

NGO - Non Governmental Organization

NRDB - National Red Data Book

PAF - Project Affected Family

TL - Transmission Line

TOR - Terms of Reference

VDC - Village Development Committee