

# CHAPTER – ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 General Background

'Livelihood strategies' are the range and combination of activities and choices that household/individual make in order to achieve their livelihood goals or the way of combining and using assets (DFID 2001). This is also a process of adjusting to particular social structure. Livelihood strategies differ from person to person and vary from place to place and by caste/ethnic background in society. It is determined by socio-economic, environmental and physical factors but people always try to reduce the risk factors and adopt the better livelihood strategies. Poor people also migrate to a new location in search of better livelihood opportunities. On the other hand livelihood strategies used to describe the ways in which households and individuals have continued and/or modified their economic and social activities in order to meet their livelihood needs. Livelihood strategies also reflect creative ways of approaching environment and these strategies draw upon understanding and realization by the households of the eminent need (Subedi and Pandey 2002).

Livelihood strategies are the strategies which enable people to secure their means of existence (Boker, 2000/2003: 25). It includes productive activities, investment strategies, reproductive choice and much more. Such activities depend mainly upon the human capital and natural capital. To some extent, they are also shaped by the social norms and values which not are constant. All people view their way of living from sustainable perspective. The livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shock and maintain or enhance its capabilities and asset both now and in the future (DFID, 2002: 1.1) These strategies operate both in household and individual levels either through continuities or through modification of economics and social activates in order to meet the basic need for the existence. Most of the people reside in the rural areas as well as urban areas of Tarai and midland valley. The majority of the Nepalese people in the rural areas are still engaged in subsistence types of agriculture, but their agricultural production is not sufficient even for their own consumption. At times, they are forced to migrate to the nearest urban centers to find alternative way to sustain their livelihoods. Once they enter urban area they look for opportunities to engage in different economic activities. Most often they end-up engaging in informal sector that uses open urban resources

such as streets, roadside and open areas. One of such activities has to do with ice cream vending on the streets.

Seasonal business as informal activities are increasingly practiced in urban area of Nepal. These seasonal businesses can be further categorized into different groups. Peddlers hawkers, roadside shopkeepers street vendors (exact figures are still unknown) specially lower and middle class marginalized groups, urban residents of slums and squatters are engaged in this type of activities particularly in Kathmandu valley. This picture can be reproduced for most of the cities and towns of Nepal.

Change is universal and continuous phenomenon found all the societies at all the time. Earning livelihood through ice-cream vending on the street of urban Kathmandu is change. People have adjusted their ways of earning for livelihood to the changing environmental condition. The environmental condition change over a time people in the same space can notice differences in the pattern of adaptation from group to another in the same way the adoption pattern of the same ethnic group differ from one place to another due to change in physical environment (Subedi and Pandey 2002).

The rural communities close to the cities face even more complexity because they are in transition between urban and rural. The development interventions create diversification in occupation, specialization in agriculture and intensification in economic activities. As a result, the main occupation base broadens and people get access to the mainstream of activities (DFID 1998). This study attempts to look at the groups (ice-cream vendor) in the context of their resources and environment in an area that has experienced rapid socio-cultural and economic change over the time. Livelihood strategies among ice-cream vending is one of those strategies of urban migrants that includes range and combination of activities and choice that are undertaken to achieve the livelihood goals or the way of combining and using assets.

## **01.2 Brief Introduction to the Ice-cream Vendors (ICVs) of KTM Valley**

Except for few modern commercial and residential areas of KMC, the sidewalks are occupied by barbers, cobblers, vegetable vendors, fruit vendors ice-cream vendors, readymade cloth vendors, retail vendors (*khudra/ Nanglo Pasale*) tea vendors likewise *chanachatpate*, *panipuri*, *makai*, *chana-badam* vendors, newspapers hawkers and snack food vendors. Bicycle peddlers, rickshaw pullers and cart puller auto rickshaw drivers, jostle to make their way along the streets through the maze of

Cars, Vans, Buses, Scooters, and Motorcycles *Safa Tampo* Microbus etc. On the street corners, even in some residential areas, there are many small kiosks or stalls that sell goods of every conceivable kind. The existence and development of such shops are from time immemorial. Even in Lichhivi period, there were such shops (Dhungel 1982: 3 quoted in Shakya et al. 1982: 2)

There are various types of street occupations that can be seen in Kathmandu. The ice-cream vending is one of the important activities in the streets of Kathmandu. A sizeable number sustain their livelihood by selling ice-cream. In Kathmandu. They push the cart within short and easy walking distance from their residence and provide services to the customer at various places. In recent year, the increasing number of mobile population and pedestrian traffic in Kathmandu has boosted up the absolute number of SICVs day by day. SICVs wait for their customers by keeping the ice-cream cart even on basket on Open Street. Although ice-creams are very perishable items SICVs do not have any permanent space or roof for vending purposes. Normally SICVs perform their activities with out paying any rent or wee amount for their selling space. However, some of them have to pay some amount of money per week which could range from Rs. 10 to 20 for wastage management *Tole Sudhar Committee* which is authorized by ward office. The Government of Nepal has not paid attention towards managing street occupations, particularly street Ice-cream vending, which is also a major occupation in recent year in Kathmandu. Similarly SICVs role for minimizing unemployment problems and boosting up the economics of the urban morphology is positive. Although Ice-cream vending activities are increasing, with the incensement of immigrants in Kathmandu valley. There are no rules and regulations relating to SICVs. Thus, this should be managed before reaching an alarming situation. Here again, people have adjusted their way of earning livelihood to the changing environment since historical time and their livelihood strategies to adopt the changing environment condition differ over space and by social groups.

In the same way, the ice-cream vendors who have their own occupation in the society have become marginalized due to the effect of global change. There is no certainty for them when they would be displaced. So it has become a researchable issue. This study aims to find out the livelihood sustainability of Ice-cream vendors in present context and particularly, Kathmandu valley (within ring road) is chosen as a study area.

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

Ice-cream vendor (SICVs) is one of the occupational groups. The study on SICVs and their livelihood in the changing urban scenario and their occupational vulnerability and sustainability are the burning issues of the modern urban morphology. Very few studies have been found on the street vendor's livelihoods. Therefore, it is necessary to study the concept of the livelihood strategies of street vendors (SICVs) within the urban morphology. Nepal is one of the least urbanized countries in the world. More than 86 percent of the people are living in rural areas where as only about 14 percent live in urban areas (CBS, 2001). Subsistence agriculture system is the dominant occupation of Nepalese society. Lack of proper utilization and lack of market access most of the rural peoples have low food production, which are not sufficient even for their own home consumption. Therefore, they have been forced to move to near by urban centers for alternative source of income to sustain their livelihood.

1. Who are the ice-cream vendors and what sort of socio-economic status do they have?
2. What are the livelihood strategies after becoming ICV or migrated from the place of origin to KTM .
3. What is their perception on ice-cream vending and their changing livelihood option?
4. Is their occupation sustainable, and are they satisfied with this occupation?

### **1.4 Objective of the Study**

The general objective of this study is to examine the way of earning livelihood of Ice-cream vendors on the footpath, (Open Street) the city area specially within the ring road Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju area. The way and means of earning the livelihood is an important aspect. The specific objectives of this study are as follow:

- i) To assess the livelihood strategies and status of the ICVs in urban area (within the study area) after becoming street occupants.
- ii) To analyze the socio-economic characteristics of the ICVS within the study area.
- iii) To examine the occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors.

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Street vending or open space user is becoming an unavoidable phenomenon of the Kathmandu valley which should be managed or developed in an organized manner. The present study: *"livelihood strategy and occupational vulnerability of street Ice-cream vendors of Kathmandu valley case studies of Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju area"* explores the livelihood strategies of those people who are sustaining their livelihood by using urban open space/resources their changing livelihood strategies in a rapidly changing urban morphology and their exposure to risks and their vulnerability context.

This study will be of tremendous value to the concerned scholar agencies dealing with urban street ice-cream vendors in Kathmandu valley within the ring road particularly. As we know, in recent time's urbanizations is becoming the main source of employment for the migrants or disadvantaged groups of the nation by helping to sustain their livelihood. This study on the particle aspects relating to ICVs will add valuable information to that already collected data. The study will provide knowledge based on government authorities, specially the Kathmandu city (within the ring road) in formulating their plans and policies for the management of street occupations (ice-cream vendors) in urban area and Kathmandu valley in particular.

This study will also be helpful to future researchers conducting studies on the livelihood status and the vulnerability context of Urban street vendors in the country. Because the topic of this study deals with the livelihood strategies and vulnerability of ice-cream vendors, that will help as an important reference for the researchers in coming day. However Government, NGOs and INGOs may consult the findings where the can target their programme/project to the related urban activities.

Vending activity is one of the major economic trading activities of the people having low income. Therefore, knowledge of vending activities will be useful information for government authorities to assess the employment situations and the occupational structure of the city as a whole.

## **1.6 Limitation of the Study**

There are numbers of cities in Nepal where street vendors activities are found but the present study covers only a few locations within the Kathmandu valley or this study is restricted within the ring road of Kathmandu valley because of time, cost and interested subject matter as concern as the study topics, which may not be

representative to all situations and in all spatial context. In Kathmandu valley, within the *ring road* different types of street vendors are found in different locations but this study covers the major locations of Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju areas as purpose for the field research. Similarly, for the selection of street vendors, there are different types of street vendors, those selling snacks, stationeries, grains, vegetables, clothes, shoes etc. in Kathmandu valley. But this study has concentrated only on Ice-cream vendors for the study purpose.

There might be different types of status of ICVs fixed or mobile but the present study has considered all ICVs single as a unit for analysis. This study has considered those ICVs who don't have their own space and have not registered in Government records. To study the livelihood strategy and vulnerability of other street vendors is out of scope of this study.

## **1.7 Organization of the Study**

The present study is organized into eight chapters. The first chapter introduces the background and research problems of street ice-cream vendors in urban area. It includes the objectives of the study, brief introduction to street ice-cream vendors, significance limitation and organization of the study.

The second chapter discusses concepts in order to broader research ideas through the review of related literature. This chapter focuses on the theoretical aspects of related livelihood approach and discusses the previous studies concerning livelihood security, characteristics and other relevant literature on street occupation.

The third chapter deals with research methodology and methods including the rationale for the selection of the study area, research design, source of data collection (primary and secondary data) sampling procedures, data collection tools and techniques, data analysis and presentation with field experience.

The fourth chapter is concern with the general background of the Kathmandu Valley. Topography and climate, brief history of population concentration in Kathmandu Valley, and livelihood approach to migration and poverty with location map of study area.

The fifth chapter deals with socio-economic condition of ice-cream vendors. This chapter includes socio-economic background, educational status, migration status, ethnic composition, family size; migration causes income and expenditure,

duration of involvement in ice-cream vending, working hour, age and sex structure and previous occupation.

The six chapter analyzes the livelihood strategy and Assets of the ice-cream vendors. Within it, livelihood strategy, livelihood assets (various types of capital, i.e. social, natural, human, financial and physical) and additional skill of ICVs along with more headings and livelihood outcomes are included.

Chapter seven concerns with occupational vulnerability and encompasses the problems, seasonality (different seasons), social perception towards this occupation, and vulnerability, assets and vulnerability, awareness and sustainability, satisfaction from occupation and opinion to their occupation.

Finally the last chapter (chapter eight) deals with the findings of street ice-cream vending, presents under the headings summary, conclusion and recommendation.

## **CHAPTER – TWO**

### **REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

Review of the literature relating to the research study provides broad idea to expand the research analytical capabilities and to address the research issue systematically. Moreover reviewing relevant literature is integral part of all research including academic and professional; without which completion of research is almost impossible. It enables research to find out research question needed to define the ultimate statement of the problem. Moreover it facilitates to determine the actual topics the theoretical base and cognizant of the problem from experience of previous researchers (Subedi, 2004), for the convenience of the research the following relevant studies were reviewed;

#### **2.1 Theoretical Review**

A theoretical review provides idea for research studies to relate to theories that have been developed by different scholars. This section contains the theoretical review of different aspects of livelihoods and its relevance to the present study.

##### **2.1.1 Sustainable Livelihood Approach: As a New Concept**

The sustainable livelihood (SL) concept is an emerging concept in the content of Nepal. Variations within communities, household and at the individual level of their livelihood strategies are not common in Nepal. Some studies have been conducted regarding livelihood strategies but most of the studies have been conducted within certain cast/ ethnic groups or certain communities and their changing livelihood strategies in the present development trend. There are few studies at the individual level. The present studies try to explore the livelihood strategies as well as the vulnerability of the Ice-cream vendors (ICV a marginal group) who have migrated to Kathmandu the capital city of Nepal with the love of a prosperous life. The concept of sustainable livelihood is an attempt to go beyond the conventional definition and approach to poverty eradication. The modern concept of sustainable livelihood (SL) is outside the conventional definition or approach to poverty reduction. The traditional or previous definition were found to be narrow because they focused only the contain aspects of manifestation of poverty such as low income, or did not consider other vital aspect of poverty such as vulnerability social inclusion etc. It is now recognized that



move attention must be paid to the various factors and process which are either constraints enhance poor people ability to make a living economically, ecologically and socially sustainable matter. The SL concept gives more coherent and integrated approach to poverty eradication. In this way, this approach has to be understood basically as a tool to understand poverty in responding to poor peoples view and their understanding of poverty (Krantz, 2001).

Although Brundtland commission an Environment and development was first international forum that had given the legitimacy on the concept of sustainable livelihood, Robert chamber and Gordon were first giving the composite definition of SL. The S.L. further gained legitimization in 1992 by United Nations conference on Environment and development. The conference expanded the concept especially in the context of Agenda 21 and advocating for the achievement sustainable livelihood as a broad goal for poverty eradication (Krantz, 2001)

#### **2.1.1.1 Definition and Concept of Sustainable Livelihood (SL)**

It is above mentioned that Robert chamber and Garden Conway were the first in providing the definition of livelihood. In 1992, they proposed the following composite definition of sustainable livelihood: *A livelihood comprises the capabilities and asset (Store, resource claims and access) and activities required for means of living: a livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stress and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the next generation, and which can contribute net benefits to other livelihood at local and global levels and in short a long term (Krantz, 2001)*

The sustainable livelihood approach compromises two elements: the sustainable guiding principles and the sustainable livelihood framework (ways, 2003). And there guiding principles are important for the sustainable livelihood approach to development as fallows;

1. Puts the people at the center of development (People-centered).
2. Adopts a holistic view including multiple actors and working across sectors, geographical areas and social groups.
3. Seeks to understand the dynamic nature of livelihood and the influences up on them.
4. Tries to build on the people strength and opportunities rather than focusing on their problems and needs.

5. Emphasis the importance of macro-micro links and seeks to understand them.
6. Points out the importance of sustainability to poverty reduction.

More recently Institute of development studies (IDS) and department for International development (DFID) have been putting operation the SL concept and approach. For the IDS an scones proposed the modified definition of SL. *A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it copes with recover from stress and shocks maintains and enhances its capabilities and assets, while not undermining the natural resources base.* This new definition does not include requirements that for a livelihood to be considered to be sustainable as it has not talked about the benefit to other livelihood. With some minor change this is also definition adopted by DFID. DFID defines SL as: *A livelihood compress the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and is future while not undermining the natural resources base.* All the analysis of this research will be based on modify adopted concept of sustainable livelihood by DFID (Krantz, 2001).

Three insight of poverty is underpinned with this approach. The first is that realization of no direct relationship between economic growth and poverty reduction rather depends on the capabilities of poor to take advantage of expanding economic growth. Secondly there is realization of that poverty- as conceived by boor themselves is not just of low income but also includes other dimension such as bad health, illiteracy lack of health service, vulnerability and feeling of powerlessness in general finally it is recognized that poor them selves often know their situation and need to be involved in the design of policy and project (Krantz, 2001).

There is no unified approach in applying SL. Concept. Depending upon the agencies it can be used as analytical framework (tool) for programme planning or as programme itself. However there are basic features common to most approaches. The first is that the focus in on the livelihood. The second is the approach that rejects the rigid standard procedure of conventional approach taking as entry point of a specific sector, such as agriculture, water or health. And finally, the SL. Approach places great emphasis on involving people both in the identification and implementation of activities where is appropriate. In many respect SL. Approach is similar with old

IRDP (Krantz, 2001 and DFID 2002:2) to sum up the core concept of SL. Approach are objective, principle and analytical framework. Enhancing the sustainability of people's livelihood, with a particular focus on the livelihoods of poor men, women and households is the objectives of SL. While principle focus on-people centered approach, holistic concept, dynamic nature strength building, micro and macro building, How ever the core of SL. Approach is the analytical framework. This focuses attention on the assets that poor men and women use and the strategies that they employ to make a living rather than focusing on their needs, in the vein of previous development approaches such as 'basic need' (Sida 2002)

### **Sustainable Livelihood Objectives**

The sustainable livelihoods approach is broad and encompassing. The main aim is to increase the sustainability of poor people's livelihoods through promoting.

- Improved access to high-quality education, information, technologies and training and better nutrition and health.
- More secure access to and better management of natural resources.
- Better access to basic and facilitating infrastructure. More secure access to financial resources and
- A policy and institutional environment that support multiple livelihood strategies and promotes equitable access to competitive markets for all (DFID: 2002: 12).

#### **2.1.1.2 Sustainable Livelihoods Framework**

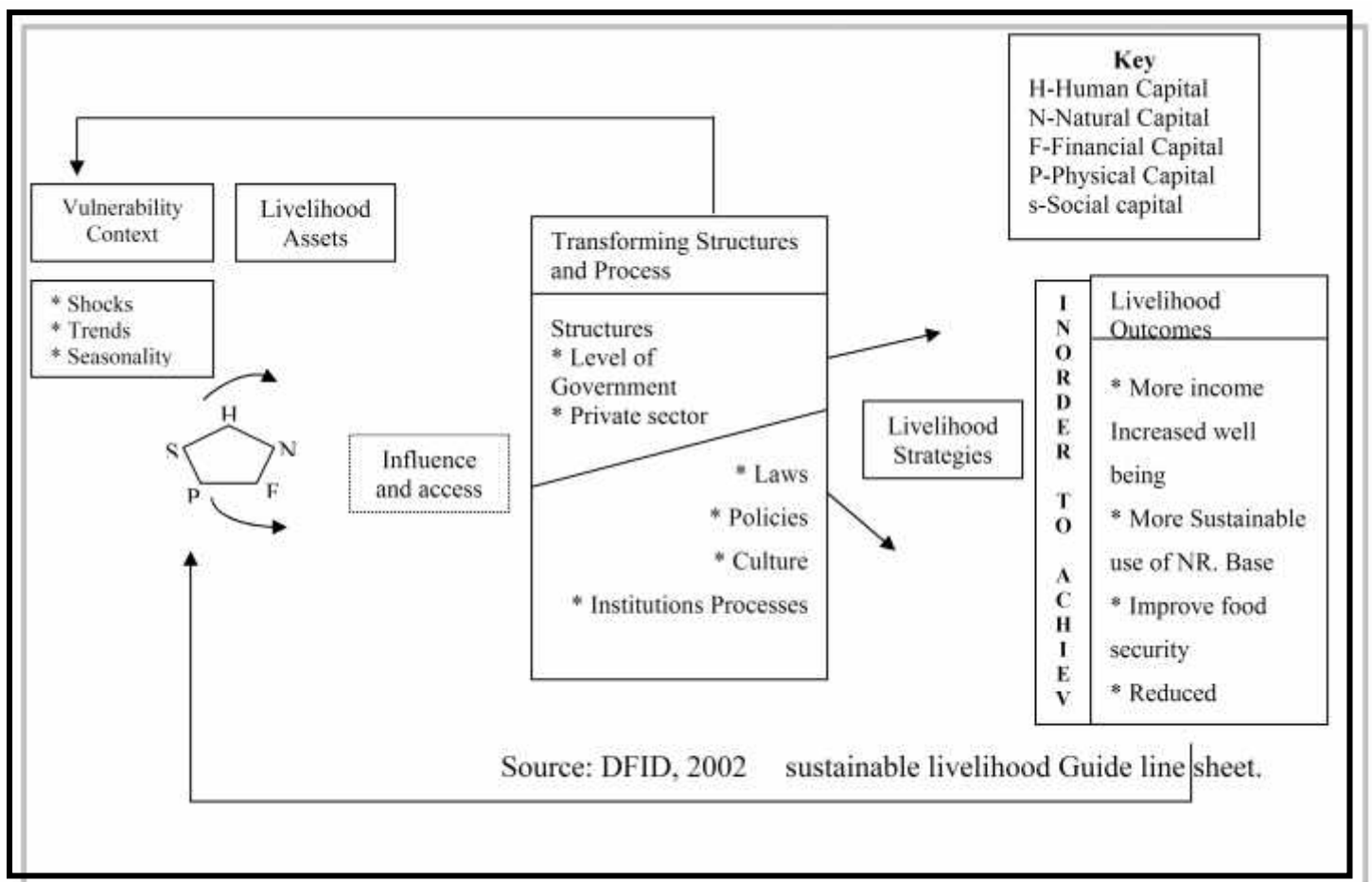
The SL framework is a way of looking at how an individual, a household or a village community behaves under specific condition or tools to improve our understanding of livelihoods particularly the livelihood of the poor. The livelihood frameworks developed by Dina convey for DFID shows main factors affecting livelihood of people and how they are linked to each other. In the frame work different component (Vulnerability context, capital assets, transforming structure and process, livelihood strategies and livelihood outcomes) are depicted showing their inter relationship and interaction. So these of the SL approach should be viewed as a complex process after than linear one. Focus should be given on the feed back exerting from the interaction, though the form of the framework is not intended to suggest the starting point of all livelihood analysis is vulnerability context, however it

helps the concerned to identify an appropriate entry point for livelihood analysis. As with this flexibility of the starting point, we can focus on any part of framework not giving equal importance to all. But it is important to keep wider picture in mind (DFID 2002: 2.1)

In particular the framework provides the checklist of important issue and sketches and the way these link to each other draw attention to cave influence and process, and emphasize the multiple interaction between the various factors which affects the livelihoods. This framework does not try to present a model of reality. Livelihood is shaped by a multitude of different force and factors that are them selves constantly shifting. It also tries to emphasize in feed back. Important feed back in the framework is likely between:

- Transforming structure and process and vulnerability context.
- Livelihood outcomes and livelihood assets (DFID; 2002 : 2.1)

**Figure: 2.1**  
**Sustainable Livelihood Framework**



### 2.1.1.3 Vulnerability Context

The vulnerability context defines the specific framework condition which determent the opportunities of an individual or community. The vulnerability context affects the life of communities but communities themselves cannot influence the vulnerability context. The vulnerability context consists of long term trends (climate, national politics and economic condition) and short term sudden shocks. (sudden price fluctuations, violence and fighting) CATAD 2001 and IFSP.

The vulnerability frames the external environment in which people exit. Peoples livelihood and the wider availability of assets are fundamentally affected by such context (**trends, shocks and seasonality**) over which they have limited or no control. Trends (i.e. demographic trends, resource trends, trend in governance) shock (i.e. human, livestock or crops health shock, natural hazard like flood or earthquake, economic shock, conflicts in the form of national and international war) and seasonality (i.e. seasonality prices product or employment opportunities) are such external factor which affect livelihood of the people through vulnerability context. But these should be viewed as an in complete list (DFID 2002: 2.2).

All these factors effect the people's livelihood by influencing capital assets and option, people have to pursue beneficial livelihood outcome. Shock trend and seasonality should not always be considered negative they can move towards favorable direction too. For example economic indicators can move in favorable directions diseases can be eradicated and new technologies may be very valuable to poor people (DFID 2002: 2.2).

Moreover the term vulnerability context draws attention on the fact that many of these external factors directly or indirectly increase the hardship to the poorest people of developing countries. The inherent fragility of poor livelihood makes them unable to cope with stresses whether predictable or not. It also makes them less able to manipulate or influence their environment to reduce those stresses; as a result they become increasingly vulnerable. Moreover, if trends move in the right direction, the poorest are of term unable to benefit because they lack assets and strong institutions working in their favor. At the same time shocks can destroy assets directly (in the use of flood, storms, civil conflict etc.). It can forced the people to abandon their home areas and dispose of assets (such as land) prematurely as part of coping strategies. Trends may be less disastrous and they are more predictable but they have a

particularly important influence on rates of return (economic or other) to choose livelihood strategies. Seasonal shift in price employment opportunities and food availability are one of the greatest and most enduring sources of hardship for poor people. The effects of trends on people's livelihoods are not always negative trend is governs may be valuable to poor people and new technological improvement may be valuable to poor people. However the use of the term vulnerability context draws attention to the fact on this complexity of influences faced by poor people in the environment.

### **Livelihood Assets**

A first and foremost concerning approach with people seeks to gain an accurate and realistic understanding of people's strength (assets or capital endowment) is crucial to analyze how they endeavor to convert their assets into positive livelihood outcomes. Livelihood assets lie therefore at the centre of livelihood framework. People require range of assets to achieve positive livelihood outcome. Livelihood assets lie therefore at the center of livelihood framework. People require range of assets to achieve positive livelihood outcome. No single capital on its own is sufficient to field better livelihood outcomes that people seek. This is particularly true for poor people whose access to any given category of assets tend to be very limited. As a result they have to seek of nurturing and combining what assets they do have in innovative way to ensure survival (DFID; 2002: 2.3).

The pentagon shows different categories assets and their interrelationship. The shape of the pentagon can be used to show the composition of assets of social group or a community. The center of is therefore seen as zero point, while the outer perimeter represents the full access to the respective assets. On this basis different shaped pentagons can be drawn for different communities or social groups within communities. The five capital represented in SL framework are human, social, natural, physical and financial. Assets are those resources which either an individual or household can make use of. We can define: Human skill, knowledge, good health etc.). Natural capital: land, forest, marine or wild resource, water and air quality. Physical (transport facilities shelter and buildings, water supply and sanitation, and energy, as well as information and communication) facilities, tools and equipments) financial (saving loans, credits etc). Livelihood assets have been described as follow:

**Human Capital** comprises the skill, knowledge and ability to work and good health of the individual. At the household level, human capital is factor of the disposable

labor force and depends on ability and the listed attributes and the age and sex of household members as well as on the household size. Human capital is crucial for gaining access to and making use of other assets. Better education may increase the chance of employment and hence increase income, say financial capital.

**Social Capital** comprises network and connections, the membership of more formalized groups and relationships of trust, reciprocity and exchanges. These kinds of social relationship are interrelated. For example through membership in an association, people may extend their access to or influence over other institutions it is an important assets that affects the other assets and may even compensate for a lack of other types assets. Mutual trust lowers the costs of working together social capital may therefore, be a substitute for financial capital and help to increase it. These norms, system and social parameters and sanction are social capital of human being.

**Natural Capital** includes all natural resources, stocks such as land, forest marine or wild resources water and air quality. It ranges from intangible public goods such as the atmosphere, to divisible assets such as trees or land. National resource stocks are the source from which production flows and they provide service such as protection against erosion or storms or waste assimilation and air quality, erosion protection, and biodiversity, come under the natural capital.

**Physical Capital** means the basic infrastructure and producer goods need to support livelihood” (DFID, 2002, 2.3.4 quoted in ways 2003: 35). Among these are transport facilities, shelter and buildings supplies and sanitation and energy as well as information and communication facilities tools and equipment. Again, not only the mere existence of physical capital but also its quality, its reliability (Continuous energy supply etc) and access to it (price or other condition for use) are decisive factors.

### **Financial Capital**

It includes flow as well as stocks, contributing to consumption and production. The two main resource of financial capital are available stocks and regular inflows of money, such as cash bank deposit asset jeweler and regular inflow of money, labor income, pension and remittances are the example of financial capital.

#### **2.1.1.4 Transforming Structure and Process**

Structure and processes determine the assets of individuals or household to their assets. Structures are formal institutions such as governmental organizations,

formal laws and regulation which are present in a society or are important for social life. Processes on the other hand, are the rules of the game, which are informally applied. Processes can change or determine the access to the assets within the livelihood. The transforming structure and process represents institution organization policies and legislation that shape the livelihood. They are of central importance as they operate all level and effectively determine access between different types of capital and returns to any livelihood strategy.

Structure can be described as the hardware (Private and public organization) that sets and implements policy and legislation delivers services, purchase trade and perform all manner of other function that affect livelihood. Structure exist both on private and public sector at various level. This is most obvious in the case of governmental organizations also operate at different levels from the multinational to the very local; it is not only the local level that is relevant to the livelihoods. Analysis should therefore be sensitive to the roles and responsibilities of the different levels of structure and seek to identity those that are of greatest, importance to livelihoods. (DFID 2002:2.4.1) complementary to structure, processes constitute software determining the way in which structure and individual operation and interact. They includes polices legislation, institution culture and power relation. This structure and process occupies central position in the framework and directly feedback to vulnerability context.

### **Change in Assets Status**

Assets endowments are constantly changing, therefore the form of livelihoods assets pentagons are constantly shifting. A three dimensional framework, with the third dimension representing time, would enable to be visualized. A two dimensional framework does not however it is imperative to incorporate a time dimension into any analysis of assets. Information should be gathered on trends in overall assets availability (e.g. if societies fragment the overall stock of social exclusion are at work those who are already poorly endowed with assets may well be becoming gradually, but notably, more marginalized (DFID 2002: 2.3)



**Figure: 2.2.**  
**Pentagons in different shapes (while changing in assets)**

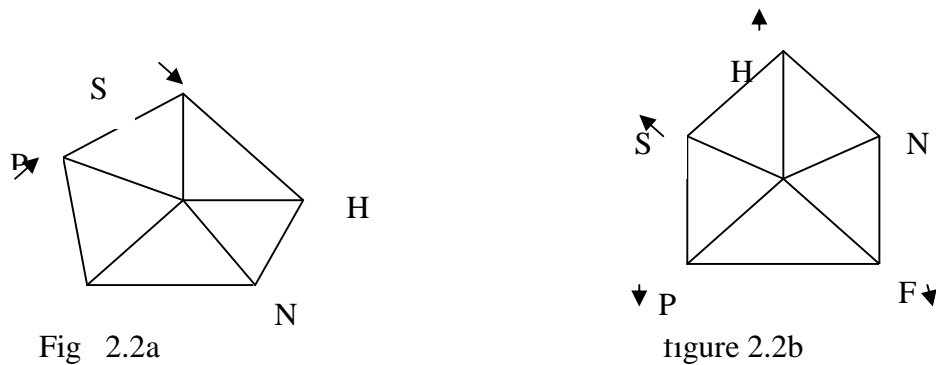


Figure 2.2 shows reasonable but declining, access to physical capital and limited access to natural capital. Social capital is also falling. Perhaps the people whose livelihood assets represent in urban area but do not have the skill or finance to invest in infrastructure maintenance. The decline of social capital also constrains their ability of form shared work group. The pentagon of figure 2.2b shows the situation after support that has extended access to financial capital (perhaps through groups based micro finance schemes that also helps to build social capital). Together, these enable the people to maintain and extend their physical capital Access to natural capital remains unchanged. (DFID, 2002: 2.3)

### **Livelihood Strategy**

The term “livelihood strategies” denotes the range and combination of activities choices that people make /undertake in order to achieve their livelihood goals. It includes productive activities, investment strategies, and reproductive choice. Recent studies have drawn attention to the enormous diversity of livelihood strategies at every level; within geographic areas, sectors, within households and overtime. It is a dynamic process in which people combine activities to meet their various needs at different time. The more choice and flexibility that people have in their livelihood strategies, the greater their ability to with stand or adapt to the shocks and stress of the vulnerability context (DFID, 2002).

The sustainable livelihood approach, by contrast, seek to develop an understanding of the factors that lie behind peoples choice of livelihood strategies and then to re-inforce the positive aspects the positive aspects (factors which promote choice and flexibility) and mitigate the constraints or negative influences. The expansion of choice and value is important because it provides people with opportunities for determination and flexibility to adopt overtime. Different livelihood

activities have different requirements, but the general principle is that those who are amply endowed with assets are more likely to be able to make positive livelihood choices (DFID 2001: 2.5)

### **Livelihood Outcomes**

Livelihood outcomes are the achievement or output of livelihood strategies rather than describing the objectives of people. Which help us to understand people's priorities, why they do? What they do and where the major constraints are lie. It records the actual output of current assets and strategies. At the sometime it allows one to draw conclusion about the motivation behind people's action and choices.

In the framework the term 'outcomes' is used in preference to 'objectives' for two main reasons such as sustainability and achievement orientation. Livelihood outcomes are important because they help us to understand. The output of the current configuration of factors within the livelihood framework is first step to understanding the nature of causality. What motivates people to behave as they do; what their priorities are (as a basis for planning activities); how they are likely to respond to new opportunities; and which performance indicators should be used to assess support activity. The livelihood outcomes are effective categories which may include income, increase well-being, reduce vulnerability. Improved food security and more sustainable use of the natural resource base (DFID 2001: 2.6).

## **2.2 Studies Related to Livelihood Strategies**

Tacoli (1998) has given emphasis on rural urban linkage to serve livelihood of rural and urban people and for natural integrated development. According to him the linkage may not be beneficial in all circumstance but can also increase inequality and vulnerability of that group with least assets. Moreover articles also deals with employment and land ownership shift in peri urban environment with example from sub-Saharan Africa and Philippines.

Balukie and Coppard (1998) have studied changing livelihood strategy of the people of Likhukhola watershed. They have prepared the articles "Environmental change and Livelihood Diversification: where is problem". They are likely to know how farmer in hill of Nepal perceive and adopt environmental change (particularly declining soil fertility) in the context of broad socio-economic change to their livelihood. From the study they have found that anthropogenic accelerated soil erosion is not critical problem though there is local evidence of it. It does not directly

threat to the livelihood of the majority, but is important for poor farmers who have not access to irrigation. They said that livelihood diversification and growth of agricultural income is a major feature of socio-economic change in middle hill of Nepal. They further said that it is necessary to link the finding of erosion of the research with change economic and social circumstances of farmer in order to evaluate any environmental degradation that is identified, It may be worth while shifting the emphasis to helping farm household to develop appropriate livelihood strategies including diversification of income opportunities rather than conforming research in purely physical aspects of environmental change.

Giri (2002) has studied the changing livelihood strategies tharus in selected VDCS of surkhet district. This ethnic community has been involved in number of economic activities as a secondary occupation, besides agriculture. This phenomenon, which we call diversification, is essential to enhance livelihood security of rural people. Here, improvement in educational condition, health condition and the skill of resource the sustainability of the livelihood of Tharu community are findings. However they are not in position to compete with other communities to earn their livelihoods.

Sharma (2004) mentions that patuwar has developed various strategies such as selling red soil and breaking stone to earn livelihood traditionally the exchange their substance with their daily necessity (grain, fruit, salt, oil etc) following the bartered system. But with course of time and continuous interaction with non –indigenous people, They have changed their economic status and livelihood strategies. Now some of them are involving mainly wage laboring and small business. However, most of patuwar are continuing their traditional occupation with full of hardship.

Ellis (1998) has attempted to discuss about rural livelihood diversification, which is wide spread in all location, across farm size, and range of income and wealth. According to her studies show the significant proportion percent rural household income in sub-saran Africa comes from farm source. This figure is even more (80 to 90 percent) in southern Africa. In rural areas of low-income countries diverse portfolio play significant role in family well being off farm wage work in agriculture and non farm activities provide diverse livelihood option to the rural people. Diversification in their economic activities is necessary for them to increase and to sustain livelihood mitigating the effect of seasonality in income and reducing risk in their diverse activities. Preservation of natural resource and balance

development in gender are other positive aspect of it. However the chances of increasing differences between the rich and poor and gender in balance are its possible short coming of rural livelihood diversification are desirable polices which give individual and household more option to improve livelihood security and to raise their own living standard.

Poudel (2003) studied the issue of resource utilization and management of marginalized hill tribe through livelihood perspective, chepang, newly shifted cultivators from the stage of food gather, has unscientific land management system and are attached with various traditional systems of activities. They are living with illiteracy, mass poverty, poor health, etc. despite the various efforts such as infrastructure improvement formal education, awareness campaign, capacity building agro forestry, and agricultural improvement to improve their condition from Gos, NGos and INGos.

Subedi and pandey (2002) carried out a research on the livelihood strategies of the Rai community in Aruan valley. They focused on continuity and change in livelihood strategies of this community along socio-economic and environmental changes, based on their field work on Sitalpati and Makalu, two spatial locations of different altitudinal zones. They found that in both places household had gradually reduced land under *khorias*, used more public resources for self consumption and transformed *bari* (non irrigated slopping terraces). This followed additional inputs in agriculture, adoption of multiple cropping and cropping diversification strategy. On the other hand, strategies such as wage labouring, portering, borrowing, crediting and livestock selling activities were the sequence of livelihood strategies adopted under pressure. They concluded that a specific sequence of change was found in land utilization pattern and conversion of land in to more productive categories. The Communities had also adopted several activities to fulfill their needs because food sufficiency was limited and agriculture was heavily dependent on nature.

(Dahal 2001) wrote a dissertation on the Baramus ethnic group from. Gorkha district. The author concluded that the Baramus continued their own traditional life style. Increasing awareness within Baramus community brought about change in their livelihood strategies. The problems addressed on their livelihood by the author in his study were the collapse of traditional occupations and the inability of agricultural activities to continue compelled the Baramus to find other income earning activities such as wage labouring, pottering,

timber selling, liquor selling, but none of these occupations was found to be a reliable source of livelihood. Because of the recent changes in their socio-economic situation, some of these off-farm economic activities were closing and were only in transition. Although, the development (Bikas) activities were near to them, being a historically marginalized section of society, the Baramus, has benefited less from these activities. Finally Dhakal concluded that development had not paid proper attention to the needs of the Baramus, and had instead led to a process of further impoverishment and deprivation.

Bhattarai (2001), focused on the livelihood strategies of Rickshaw Pulleys (RPs) of Birtamod, Jhapa. 200 Rickshaw pulleys were selected to fulfil his study. His study showed that the income of Rs. ranged from NRs 30,000 to more than 100,000 per annum but the majority earned between NRs 45,000 to 60,000 per annum which classified them urban poor. In addition, 56% of Rps has taken their Rickshaw on rent and more than 50% had a large debt and 1-3 was in bad health. The majority of RPs were poor although they worked hard and long hours, the majority were reported to have a deficiency in their daily dietary needs because more than 90 percent of the households of the low income group face a 27 percent annual dietary deficiency and most of them failed to manage and utilize. Their income properly derives a reasonable daily income. In conclusion, Bhattarai, suggested that themselves had not paid attention to their poor health condition and managed and utilized their income well, as well as local community can play vital role in different local activities. The government can also play a positive role regarding RPs conditions.

Timalsina (2003), did a research on the impact of road linkage, on the rural people's livelihood. The livelihoods of the people, in his study area, especially depended on agriculture. Impact of road, especially on the cash crops farming such as vegetable and other horticulture production which generated the income necessary to sustain the farmers' livelihood, 83% of the households had vegetable production for their major source of income in the study area. Although the impact of the road on livelihoods was both negative and positive, however the negative impacts was limited and expressed by only a few households along the road. Linkage in the study Timalsina found that the level of income had increased and people's exposure to the outside world had also increased. Timalsina further stated that employment opportunities. Communication

facilities and trade and business had increased, means of transportation had improved. School enrolment had increased, diversification in economic activities had increased, in agriculture market and production and increased Positive in the socio-economic life of the households. Finally Timalsina concluded that there was a need to improve rural infrastructure for example, economic infrastructure (including physical infrastructure serving the households e.g. transport and communication), social infrastructure (includes health, education, housing and institutional services), which could help to increase productivity as well as reduce poverty.

Bhandari (2003), undertake a study of international labour migration as livelihood strategy. The author accepted that international labour migration was now accepted as a livelihood strategy and it was highly institutionalized in his study area. Among the labour Migrants most of them were employed in unskilled jobs, small numbers in semiskilled jobs and very few were in skilled jobs. Bhandari started that despite being the main source of earning a livelihood, a large proportion of the households in the study was unable to fulfill the food requirement of their family from their own production. Bhandari found that several changes in the social setting of the VDC were notable. Level of income had said and that had a significant on the economic support needed for the nation as well the study area. He concluded by saying that structures of houses are almost changed among the emigrant's households and changes were also found in land holding pattern. Standard of living and quality of food was also raised. The numbers of domestic animals were reduced significantly but these were a move towards commercialization of stock saving. Unemployment lack of agricultural land and low agricultural production were important factors for emigration associated with origin. Likewise, higher wage rates demonstrations effects and the presence of friends/relatives and the need of no special skill or higher education were other important factors associated with destination.

Bhurtel (2000), emphasized the changing livelihood strategies of the kumal 'tribal' group of Pokhara valley. Obviously, the emergence of modern amenities and rapid development intervention were major cause in the decline of their traditional occupations, making pots by using clay, but the author found some diversification of the present livelihood strategies, towards labour export to Gulf (Gaun to the Gulf), local wage labour, seeling of Raski, growing mushrooms, raising livestock for market, fishing, horticulture, service (Government, Private) and

business (owner/partnership). Additionally, the younger generation of the Kumals had not inherited the skill of making pots. In conclusion, Bhurtel suggested that in order to help the kumals attain a more secure livelihood security, their local, institutions and culture should be taken in to account in any strategies. Sunwar (2002) research emphasized the livelihoods of the rural people of khokana of Lalitpur District. Although, agriculture and agriculture related products were historically used primarily to sustain their livelihoods, due to improved irrigation facilities and the introduction of improved breeds (both animals and plants) there had been on intensification of the cultivation of crops. Hence, khokana villagers were no longer a homogenous group of people, either economically or socio-culturally. Sunuwar further determined that the traditional occupations, oil production, hay carpets production internal and external labour works in urban areas of Lalitpur and other agricultural productions. with which the Khckana villagers were identified, were on the verge of a total collapse. Similarly, the younger generations of the people worked in other urban areas and most of them were able to read or which led them to adopt on urban life Sunuwar argued that this had made them even more vulnerable. On the other without the means or the resources were struggling to make a sustainable livelihood. In conclusion, sunuwar suggested that to uplift their present livelihood to a more sustainable level their traditional level needs should be improved in to the modern economic scenario.

Kharel (2003) studied the changing livelihood strategies of Tharus of Tikuligadh VDC of Rupandehi District. Being a simple, honest, hardworking and uneducated people, the Tharus' livelihood was primarily dependent on culture and agricultural activities. Although, their thinking pattern and socio-economic activities were still traditional, change had been enforced on them due to social as well as economic economic environs. The most noteworthy of the changes in the village was the gradual emergence of modern technologies and chemical fertilizers in cropping that increased the agriculture production and led them to sustain. The impact of global education also affected their society. Kharel suggested that to uplift the people's livelihoods, the concerned authorities, both governmental and non-governmental organizations, should do some planning and implement plan effectively.

Rai (2004) conducted a research study on the impact of potato cultivation on the livelihood strategies of the Sankhu. The researcher recognized that the Sankhu was famous and was a popular village for potato cultivation in the Kathmandu

Valley where potato crops were cultivated, not only for household consumption, but also grown as an income generating cash crop. Therefore, potato farming has been regarded as the main economic source of livelihood of the people in Sankhu village. People of the Sankhu had been growing winter and summer potatoes in between paddy cultivation. So far as the cost of potato production was concerned the cultivation was comparatively cheaper than summer potato cultivation. Winter and summer potatoes had occupied the second largest area of land during their cultivation. Potato production and productivity were high enough to improve household income nutrition and living standards thus improving overall livelihood strategies.

The above mentioned studies were reviewed for the betterment of the analytical capacity of the researcher. All the above studies deal with different dimensions of livelihood of various caste/ethnic groups from various parts of the nation. The studies also showed that livelihood strategies varied with differences in caste/ ethnic community and was changing with recent induced development programmes. However, the above studies did not explore the livelihood and occupational vulnerability of street vendors as such and street Ice-cream vendor particularly.

### **2.3 Studies Related to Street Vendor**

Shakya et al. (1982) undertake research on petty vending shops in Kathmandu. The research indicated that vendors had little access of formal credit because of their illegitimacy. As such they became victims of various interest rates. Therefore, noted that credit was the life blood of any business, financial authorities should device a method for businesses because the vendors' role will become more important as the city expands. Street vendors lack sanitation, cause traffic congestion and look unsightly. The authors further explained that, to overcome these problems, only the occasional threatening by the local administration to take away the business would not bring about a permanent solution. Instead, the concerned authorities should take the initiative to develop regulations, so that both petty Consumers could enjoy the form of business.

Dahal (1998), researched the activities of small entrepreneurs in the cities of Lalitpur sub-Metropolis. Dhahal stated that street hawkers were serving the poor and Middle classes people of the city and its peripheries by selling varieties of goods at relatively cheaper prices than registered shopkeepers. At the same time the hawkers



self employed being were assisting the government in solving the problem of unemployment and alleviating poverty. On the one hand, they were making unnecessary noise and dirt they were also annoying and disturbing the local residents, some of hawkers were also being suffering from problems from pedestrians and customers and local authorities affecting their business activities and by not getting the chance to do their business freely. Finally, the author concluded from the study of the street hawkers, that they were one of the most important members of society and were doing their small scale business in the city in order to earn money for their families or for themselves. Dahal suggested that instead of running them completely, they should be rehabilitated or shifted to some other parts of the city or elsewhere outside the city.

Raymajhi (1999), considered socio-economic condition of newspaper hawkers in study was concerned with child labour cum child newspaper hawkers in Kathmandu. He stated that, in the past, child labour was limited to rural areas only and migration was very rare. With the economic crisis people have started to migrate from urban areas hoping for an improvement in their lives. According to his study most of boys have been newspaper hawker from the age 12 years old and they had been excluded from many of basic necessities of life such as love, affection, Schooling entertainment. The majority of the newspaper hawker boys had never had the opportunity to join a school and most of them had dropped out of their studies at primary school between grades one to five. Raymajhi further expressed the opinion that many newspaper hawker boys in Kathmandu arrived with their guardians, parents & other and friends and all of them had been working on a commission basis with a low and inadequate salary. Raymajhi concluded that poverty was the immediate cause of child workers in Nepal. Societal causes were secondary, the basic causes being political national and international that causes a country to be poor. The author suggested that the government and civil society should educate the public about the illegality of child labour and discourage parents from exploiting their children.

Poudel (1986), researched small petty vendors and their activities in Pokhara. His study analyzed the spatial distribution pattern of foot-path shops, its seasonal variation, and composition of goods sold and the socio-economic status of foot-path vendors. He selected 132 samples from five different locations of the centre and surrounding areas of pokhara. He considered 15 related to the foot-path

shops including vegetable. In his study, vegetable selling occupied the highest position accounting for 19 percent of the total vending shops. Poudel also stated that seasonal variation was found in the grocery shops.

Ranjit (2000), researched on the spatial distribution of vegetable and fruit vendors of Kathmandu Metropolitan City. The author realized that vendors were increasing because of the regular movement of people from the surrounding areas including neighboring India. Unemployment and the low economic standards of the people in their home towns were the main reasons for the people to start their present vending businesses. The author noted that most of the respondents had 100-150 RS income per day and their main expenses were on food and room rent. She further stated that the major problems of the vendors were the insecurity of their place, absence of planned vending areas and the absence of financial support. Other problems relating the environment included lack of facilities such as water supply and drainage and uncertain weather conditions - rains and hot sun. Ranjit concluded that due to the growth of population and the expansion of the city, number of vendors and number of vending areas were increasing in Kathmandu City, and, vending businesses had facilitated the local people for providing perishable goods easily and at low price. Ranjit finally suggested that all the disorganized vending localities should be restricted become more organized.

Basnet (2001), conducted research on cobblers in transition of hatunje village, of Bhaktapur. The cobblers were one of the occupational caste groups in the caste system of known as “Pani Nachalne chhoi chito Halnu parne”, or untouchable caste. Their main occupation was partly making and repairing shoes and partly agriculture, which harmonized their livelihood by the *Adhiya* and *Bali* system. The author stated that the Bali system was successful in establishing the interrelationship and mutual dependence between two different caste groups. The cobbler could get crops annually by serving high caste people. He further stated that due to the rapid population growth of cobblers, their daily income was not sufficient for their family needs. Therefore they are compelled to seek an alternative means of earning a living. The traditional strategies of earning additional income provided to be insufficient in the changing economic environmental circumstance. Basnet concluded that the establishment of several industries, motorable roads, regular motor services, the development of markets has caused the gradual abandonment of their traditional occupation of leather work

and they were become needed in industries, private or governmental services sectors, wages laboring, working in the construction sector or going to India and Gulf countries.

Although all the above mentioned studies deal with livelihood and way to sustain the livelihood of different types of street vendor, there were no study on occupational vulnerability or vulnerability context or exposure to the risk or vulnerability of livelihood strategies of street vendor as such and street vegetable vendor in particular in rapidly changing urban morphology in considering theoretical aspects of livelihood strategy. Therefore, this study differs from above researches. It will primarily focus on livelihood strategy and occupational vulnerability of the street Ice-cream vendors on the basis of scientific theories of urban and rural livelihood strategies of the people in Kathmandu valley.

#### **2.4. Household Livelihood Security (HLS) in Urban Settlements**

CARE International has defined Household Livelihood Security (HLS) as "adequate and sustainable access to income and other resources to enable households to meet basic needs and to build up assets to withstand and recover from shocks and stresses".

CARE International has further defined Households, Basic Needs, Resources and Access as follows,

- Households refer to those 'sharing the same pot'. They may be members of the same family or unrelated individuals sharing a common activity, e.g. street children or migrant workers.
- Basic needs are those required to 'secure the physical development of the individual'. Basic needs include food, health water, shelter, education and participation in community life.
- Resources include food, water, shelter, education, health services and social cultural life i.e. what is required to meet basic needs.
- Access is the process by which households secure resources to meet their needs. Most access to resources in urban areas is through, e.g. buying water.

### 2.4.1 Characteristics of HLS

CARE international has given some essential characteristics of Household Livelihood security in Urban Areas as follows;

**-Being with people.** The starting point for HLS is vulnerable households. HLS seeks to understand needs and how they meet in order to improve livelihoods. In identifying the household as the unit of interaction, HLS recognized equally the role of children, women and Men in society.

**-Holistic.** HLS presents a way of mapping out the factors that affects livelihoods. It does not predetermine any particular needs, resources of assets, but priorities are determined by households through participatory analysis. links disasters with development Implicit in MS is how households use assets to migrate and prepare for the effects of shocks (disasters) and stresses.'

**-Points to micro and macro interventions.** HLS points, to a range of possible interventions to improve livelihoods, from policy level advocacy (recognizing the political dimensions of many urban interventions) to household level assistance in assets management.

### 2.4.2 Key Components of HLS

CARE International has defined three main key components of HLS which applies the same HLS understanding to both rural and urban contexts. The *critical* differences are described through the same elements (e.g. access, controls, assets and context)

1. The context, i.e. the environment in which households exist. Context includes the availability of resources, the political and environments, and the threat of disaster

Households which implement livelihood strategies, key to the livelihood understanding is that households undertake a range of activities which lead to the building up of assets. Assets may be financial, physical, human, social and natural.

Outcomes from strategies, good livelihood strategies lead to more secure household. These following better health, nutrition, water, shelter, education etc.



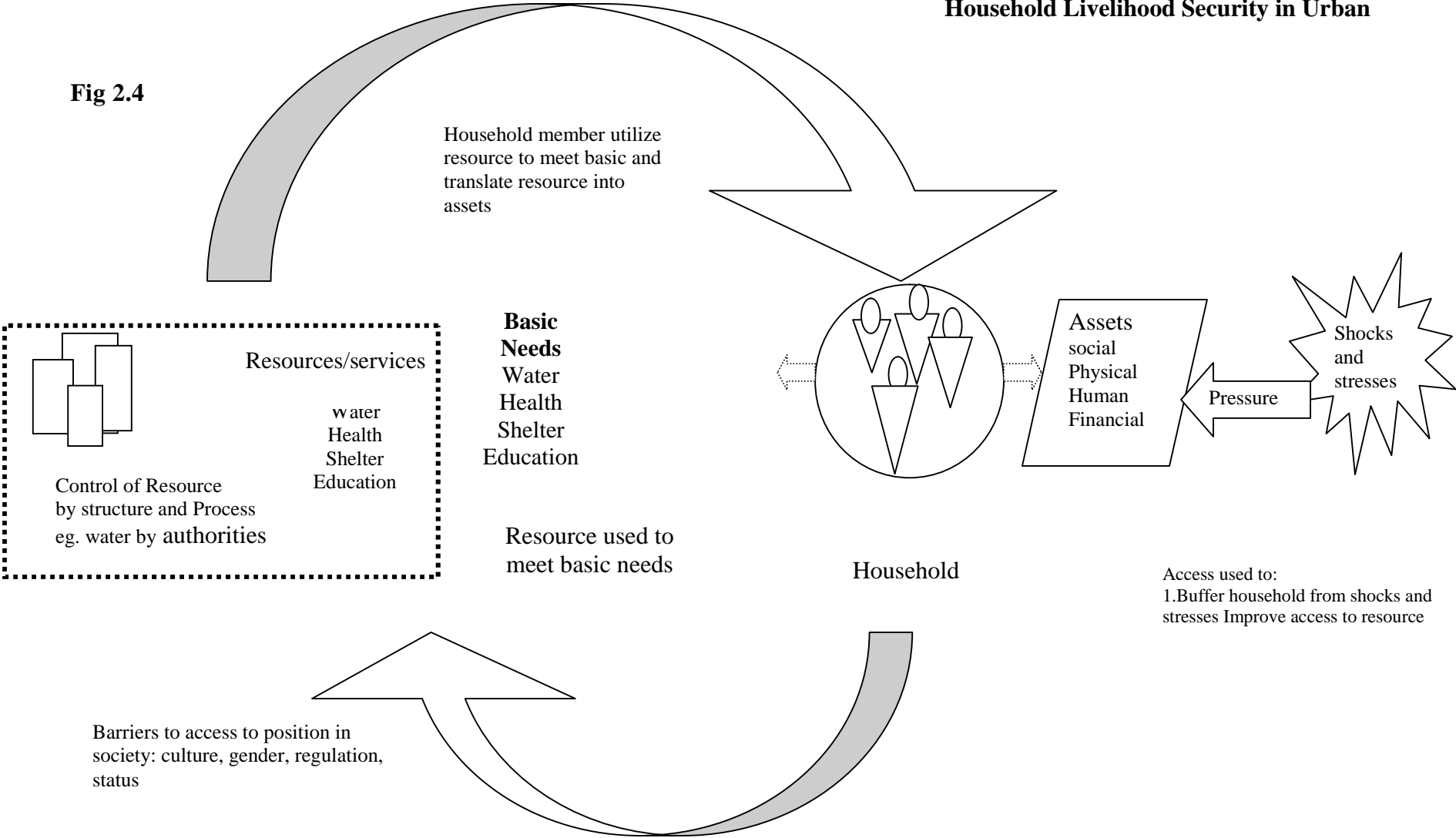
years ago (quoted in David Sanderson 1999:2)

The life of a modern city is very complicated. The citizens have intricate patterns of common and conflicting interests and tastes and beliefs, and individually and collectively they have very unequal capacities to get what they want for themselves or from one another. From that tangle of powers and purposes comes a social life so complicated and partly unpredictable that any understanding of it has to be incomplete (Stretton: 1978, sanderson: 1999).

The following diagram see" to illustrate how households strive for livelihood security: It indicates how households access resources and what gets in their way; how resources are used to build up assets; and how these assets 'buffer' households against disasters and Outcomes are described in terms of building assets and the meeting of basic need. The context comprises controls of resources by different interest groups and the or' shocks and stresses on households. Strategies include accessing resources mainly through income earning activities.

**Household Livelihood Security in Urban**

**Fig 2.4**



Source: David Sanderson (1999), Household, Livelihood Security in Urban, <http://www.careinternational.org.uk>

Access to resource through productive/exchange activities shelling labour, goods.....

The sequences followed by the diagram, beginning at the households, as follows:

1. Household members have basic needs, Water. Shelter, education etc.
2. To meet these needs, household members access resources or service e.g. water, food shelter, healthcare, electricity. Most access is gained through payment. Payment is secured by undertaking productive activities, e.g. selling labour to gain income to pay for needed resources.
3. There are barriers to accessing resources/services which for the poor usually prevent or reduce the quantity of resources accessible. Two of the barriers (of which there may be many) are:
  - Position in society, e.g. culture, gender, religion, status, being poor
  - Control of resources by *structure* e.g. government, private sector employers, and *Progresses*, e.g. laws, regulation. Regulations may discriminate in particular against the poor
4. Depending on the degree of success of overcoming barriers, resources/services secured by household members are used;
  - To meet immediate basic needs
  - To build up assets (social, physical, financial and human) over time
5. Assets are used:
  - To buffer households against stresses and shocks, e.g. sickness, fires, sudden unemployment
  - To increase the ability to improve access to resources, e.g. improved education (human assets) may lead to better paid jobs.



## **CHAPTER – THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This section encompasses the whole procedures that were employed to acquire relevant information on the livelihood and occupational vulnerability of street ice-cream vendors of Kathmandu valley: case studies of Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju area. This is geographical research therefore; efforts have been made to use geographical techniques to collect in-depth data of the SICVs activities. Several techniques and methods were used for the fulfillment of the above mentioned research objectives.

The term research refers a process of systematic investigation leading to an increase in the sum knowledge (DFID 1988: 131). The research is always based on collection and analysis of data which are processed to create knowledge. A method influences the nature of data, mode of data collection way of presentation of result. While applying certain methods in research one should not be confused with technique. According to subedi (2005) method refers to a systematic approach to data collection and technique refers to the art of asking listing and interpreting.

Both qualitative and quantitative methods are employed in this research in integrated way. The reason behind the selection of integrated research method are the consideration of qualitative and quantitative method are complementary rather than competitive; to grasp the strength of both methods reducing their weakness. However more emphasis has given on qualitative methods. There are several ways to mix methodologies. In the initial phase of quantitative research qualitative methods can provide the information for generating hypothesis and designing instrument, quantitative data can provide useful to design qualitative data by providing back ground information. In this research, the researcher has collected primary and secondary information from different form using different instrument.

This work was followed by informal interview, key informant interview and FGD Considering the methodological aspects, this chapter discuss the rational behind the selection of the study area, research design sampling procedures, nature of the data, methods of data collection and analysis of the data.

### **3.1 Rationale for the Selection of the Study Area**

The study covers some areas of Kathmandu valley. Within the ring road some areas where street ice-cream vendors are concentrated were selected for the study survey. Kathmandu valley, with the only one metropolitan city of the nation the problems of street vendors pollution, child labour, foot path children etc. remain burning issues. Among these street vendors are mainly involved in various informal economic activities. Vendors are regularly subjected to mental and physical pressures by city officials and on the other hand, they are also considered by many local residents and customers to be cheaters. However, their role in the development of the national and urban economy and local residences are still unrealized.

The number of street ICVs is increasing day by day. Due to the last decade's socio-political crises villagers are migrating to the capital city to get a job as well as for their security. Unfortunately lacking jobs, they become involved in different informal economic activities such as street vending. Their occupation is vulnerable because there are no legal provisions and other facilities for their occupational sustainability because they are using open urban resources/space to sustain their livelihoods. They are primarily involved in selling goods to pedestrians and to the lower and middle class residents of the study area. Other reason for the choice of the study area is due to the researcher's attachment to the study area for the last five years. As a result the researcher had prior knowledge of the activities and location in Kathmandu valley within the ring road.

Therefore, the information will be more accurate than that collected from other locations of the valley.

### **3.2 Research Design**

To generate more systematic study of the above mentioned problem and due to attention to the objectives of the present study, various research tools and techniques were applied. The present study is descriptive and analytical in nature. It attempts to describe different socio-political conditions, urban environments, source of income and occupational sustainability and vulnerability issues that play a significant role in the changing livelihood of street ice-cream vendors in a changing Urban Scenario. All the primary as well as secondary information are analyzed by different topics and reported in separate sections. The

main research problems of this are to find out the vulnerability of the way of earning livelihood among street ice-cream vendors in urban area and their perception towards the occupation.

### **3.3 Sources of Data**

This study is based on primary information on or data but secondary information is also used when required, primary information was collected from field survey. In this study both qualitative and quantitative data are utilize, so different types and sources of data are utilized to conduct this study. Primary data were collected though extensive field visit, questionnaire survey, observations key, informant interviews, group discussion with respondents and personal history of some selected person. However secondary data also were collected from article, book and unpublished dissertations and internet, some previous study studies and related literature were consulted to guide this study.

### **3.4 Sampling Procedure**

This study aims to enhance the understanding about the livelihood of street ice-cream vendors at urban environment. For it (Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju area) have been selected for the study, however for comprehensive purpose exhibition road (Bhirkutimandap) Basantapur (Newroad Indra Chowk) area also selected. These two spatial units selected for this study is based on the preliminary information received from the ICVs vendors of Ratna Park and Some key informants.

No formal census regarding street ICVs of Kathmandu has been conducted yet. Therefore the total number of street Ice-cream vendors of the Kathmandu valley is Unknown. Though the numbers of street vendor professionals are increasing order within the KTM valley. From the selected area fact- Accidental (de-facto) sampling method was used to collect primary data and information. They come to their business mainly one to two hours in certain places. Most of the street ICVs business sports are not confined to the single place though meager in number seems to be fixed their places. The sample is collected at the noon and day time only by head count method. The peak sunny climate the ICVs get their customers at afternoon and not at morning and evening. Exceptionally in some place like Basantapur and New road the ICVs found even late in the evening.

The following table could be more representative for overall sampling procedure.

**Table: 1 Overall Sampling Procedure for Research Survey**

S.N.	Location	Data of head counting	Time	Total of ICVs	AVg sample 30%	Total Sampling
1.	Jawalakhel	11,12 Sept. 2007	11:15 day time A.M.	29	8.7	11
2.	Ratnapark	14, Sept. 2007	Day time 12:10 P.M.	47	14.1	17
3.	Balaju area	15 Sept. 2007	1:00 P.M.	37	11.1	14
Total				113	33.9	42

\*SICVs activities did not exit in morning and evening during the field survey

Source: Field survey September, 2007.

Although the head counting of the ICVs was conducted on 11, 12, 14 and 15 September, 2007 (Comprising one day for each location). The collection of information for the research objectives had already begun on 21 August 2007. This occurred other street vendors (not only ICVs) are suspicious about talking their business, so for this research a few days has spent to improve relation with street ICVs before the head counting was conducted. Similarly most of the questionnaires forms were completed without showing it to the respondents because of their suspicion towards paper and pencil. For a few days street ICVs treated the research as a spy or agent from some kind of government office.

### **3.5 Collection of Primary Data**

The finding of this study is primarily based on the information collected from the field survey. This study utilized field observation questionnaire survey in depth interview, focus group discussion to obtain required information. All the primary data is collected by using various techniques and methods during the field survey. Open and closed questionnaire are used to collect the information from individuals from the study area. Besides this other methods such as field observation, rapport building in-depth interview, key informant interview focus group discussion and Field note facing are used to collect the primary data.

### **3.6 Collection of Secondary Data**

Secondary data and information were collected from several published and unpublished documents. To collect the secondary information, related books, reports, journals, newspapers thesis and dissertation were the major sources which were obtained

from government, non-governmental offices and libraries like TUCL, CBS, etc. Beside these the information were obtained from the related expert persons.

### **3.7 Data Collection Tools and Techniques**

Tools and techniques are the heart of data collection of any research. Most of the information of this study is based on primary information and data collected during the field survey in the study area. During the research work, more emphasis was given to collect the accurate information and an effort was made, to get the reality of the people. Both qualitative and quantitative data were collected for fulfilling the objectives of the study using the various techniques such as field observation, rapport building unstructured interview, in-depth interview, key informant interview focus group discussion and field notes taking.

#### **3.7.1 Field Observation**

Observation as a systematic viewing coupled with consideration of the visible phenomena. Observation of people and surrounding is also an integral part. It is a fundamental tool of data collection in social research. From this method the activities of the ICVs in the field (selected area) lifestyle, (daily life) in this occupation have been observed. Moreover direct field observation as a major weapon of geographer in to collect the real information for the study which helps to minimize the possible fallacy in accuracy in information collection. Researcher collects the data by direct observation without permission of respondents. During the period of fieldwork, researcher observes side and location, street ICVs activities, life style family occupation, people's behaviors, economic assets and vulnerability and urban environmental condition.

#### **3.7.2 Rapport Building**

It is first stage to become familiar with people of the study area. The researcher can not take qualitative data without rapport building. It is necessary and difficult part at the beginning stage of data collection. It helped the researcher to get real information from the respondents. At first when the researcher reached at the field and start to talk with them, It was quite difficult for researcher to make them understand the study purpose. They asked me *Tapain kaha bata aaunubhayak ho? kun sang-snastha bata aaunu bahayak ?* (where and which institution are you from) *Tapai la ma sanga ke-ke kura sodhnu hunchha?* (What short

of information do you want?) *Tapain lai bhaneva ke kam?* (Why do we say?) To see the researcher wearing red cap sometime they suspect the researcher as Maoist, because of the political scenario, the Young Communist League (YCL) used to wear the red cap. At the sometime they raise the question, *tapai maobadi bata ho?* (Are you a Maoist?) etc. These types of questions were repeatedly raised before me in every place. They thought me in a different way like a man from NGO, INGO, or Government. But the researcher able to convince them by saying I am not interviewer from any Newspaper, Ngo, INGo, or Government. I am a student and it is my test. If you will provide me the real information, I would do well I am like you and your brother. I will keep it secret that you say". After regularly visiting them, they believe me and were convinced. Later they helped me friendly by giving me the real information about them. However some of them totally reject me to say anything at first. When I convince they agree to say the information.

### **3.7.3 Scheduled Questionnaire**

Scheduled (individual) questionnaire survey is one of the important techniques in research field which helped gather both quantitative and qualitative data and information. The researcher used open and close questionnaire in this study which structured form questionnaire or schedules in funnel shape (general to specific). In this study, it was used to collect base line information socio-economic condition/cast ethnic affiliation, livelihood strategy. Vulnerability of street ICVs in urban area, attitude of respondent towards their occupation among the urban environment and assets in origin place.

### **3.7.4 Unstructured Interview**

It is an idea and informal way of collecting information from information. During the period of fieldwork, several cross-questions have been asked as per need regarding the issue like socio-economic, changing livelihood strategy among the street Ice-cream vendors. Unstructured interviewing focus on personal perceptions and personal histories (Dunn 2003: cited in May 2003). Unstructured interviewing can provide greater knowledge than other types and given its qualitative nature unstructured interview can be defined as:

"The unstructured interview has been variously described as naturalistic, autobiographical, in-depth, narrative or non-descriptive. Whatever the label used, the informal interview is muddled on the conversation and like the conversation is a social event.

As a social event, it has its own set of international rules which may be more or less explicit more or less recognized by the participants to its general social character, learning process. As the level of this process participants there are several ways in which the interview constitutes can discover, on lover or general in term of the strategies, which are appropriate for eliciting responses". (Holland and Ramazahough 1994; Quoted in Timalsina 2003).

### **3.7.5 In-depth Interview**

After interviewing 36 street Ice-cream vendors I found that much information were repeated. Then I felt that only with questionnaire I would not be able to fulfill the objectives of this study. I wanted to know their vulnerability and livelihood (strategies) assets which make their livelihood better. Many researches have taken the in-depth interview for more qualitative information of respondent at micro level. The in-depth interview helped the researcher to grasp the view of people's perspectives, their meaning and their entire life events. It was found that respondents were not easily ready to express their reality but after I convinced them, they expressed their view on livelihood strategies daily activities, occupation, income, expenditure, saving problems etc. Which are noted on field note. For this I went freely (without questionnaire) towards the working site of street ice-cream vendors and talked about their way of living. While talking interview with respondents for in-depth interview I was able to record the information with my hiding new order. The in-depth interview was conducted on individual with peoples living in the study area (comprising 3 people in each 3 place).

### **3.7.6 Key Informant Interview**

Key informant interview is one of the major method of data collection as well as a checklist of data which takes a research on a qualitative path. Six people from inside or outside the study area were selected as key informants to inform their past and present livelihood strategy, behavior working condition, school going children and facilities. The key informants for this interview were selected on the basis of their age and sex activities and economic condition key informants were selected while the individual's survey was being conducted on the basis of researcher's familiarity.

### **3.7.7 Focus Group Discussion**

A focus group in the use of group interaction to produce data and insights that would be less accessible without the interaction found in the group (Morgan 1988 cited is Subedi 2005). It is an effective tool. The identification of research problem and possible solution. The focus group discussion method is a finally in expensive and effective way to get the real information from a small group of people. It can be defined as a research technique that collect data though group interaction on a topic determined by the researcher (Margan 2001; cited in Banskota 2005). The main purpose of FGD was to obtain more detailed information about the present and past livelihood activities, social relation, working types problems changeability, attitude towards, their occupation. FGD was held in terms of taking information about income and expenditure and occupational satisfaction and de satisfaction of the SICVs. It was held in the working place where the participants belonging to different age groups were gathered. I had taken two focus group discussion in the gathering 12 and 9 people in Jawalakhel and Balaju area respectively, which is more difficult to conducts, people are busy in their business in different periods.

### **3.7.8 Field Note**

Field notes were recorded during the field survey. It was most unsystematic way of recording the information. Field note can be defined as in gradients of study which helps to form better final product (Baker 1994; Quoted in Timalisina 2003).

### **3.7.9 Case Study**

Case study is a rather complex types, in which a person, group, part, plan community, process or policy is considered as a unit while undertaking the study of all of its dimension (Achrya, 2001). It is a reliable method of data collection for driving sufficient information. A case study is a research strategy which focuses on a single or generation, institution, event decision, policy or group. (Baker 1999 P, 321) A case study is not the study of an individual. Instead it is the study of all the dimension of the individual or the event. In this kind of study the title of the study is supposed to be the individual unit. Then all the aspects affiliated to this unit are investigated. The present study has undertaken the study of a occupational group street ice-cream vendors, their livelihood strategy and occupational vulnerability occupying open space (street) in urban area Jawalakhel, Ratna park and Balaju



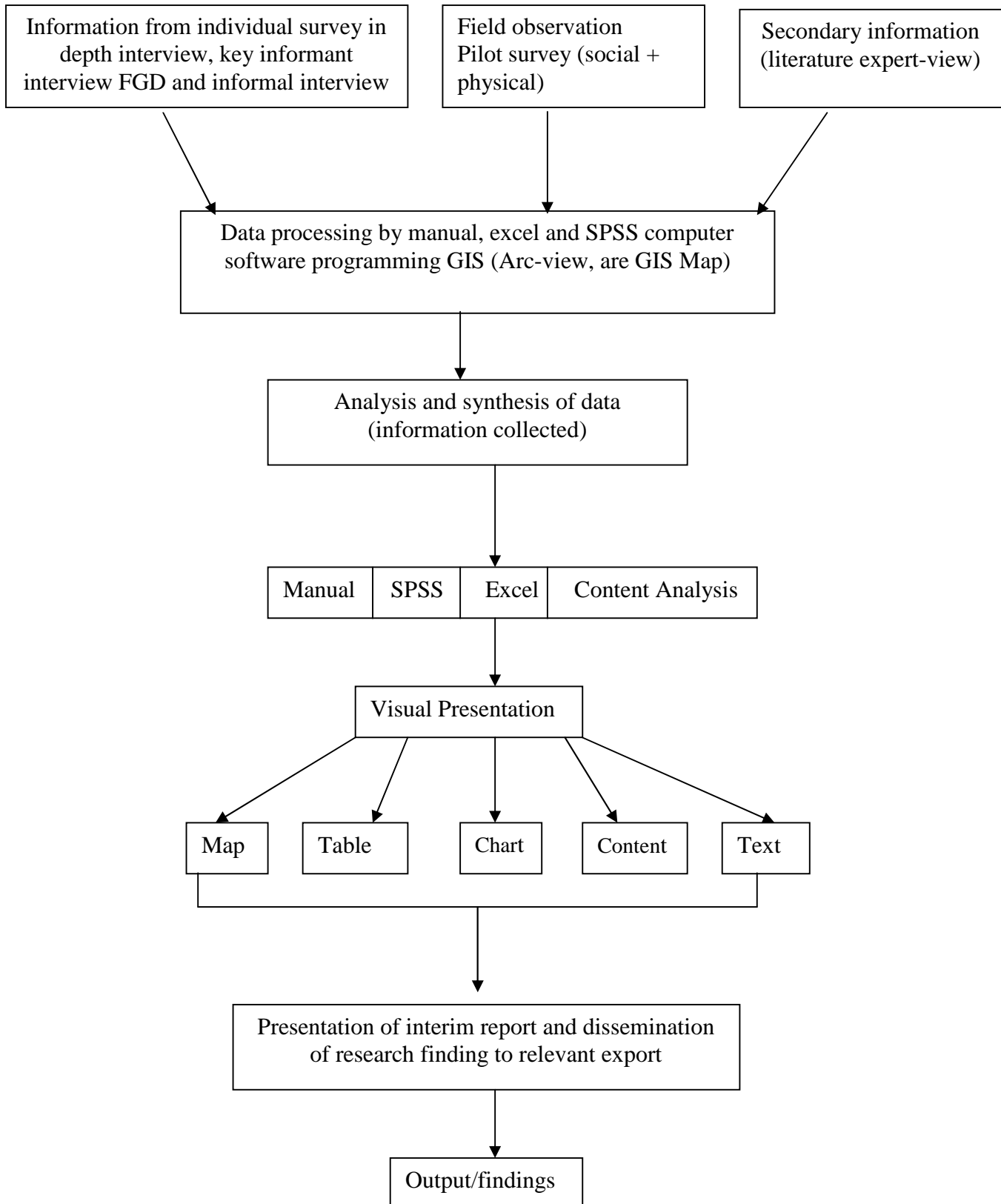
area of KTM valley within the ring road. The information essential for the study has been collective from the street ICVs on the spot (study area).

### **3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation**

Although this study applies quantitative and qualitative methods descriptive approach has been widely used for result interpretation, the information gathered from diverse saves and methods are subsequently edited, processed and analyzed. All the collected information's primary as well as secondary are edited and analyzed in appropriate way with suitable tools and techniques. The quantitative data mainly from questionnaire were manually tabulated and prepared a master table, and data were processed by using the statically package Ms-excel and other computer programme like Ms- word and GIs tools are used for the data analysis, various tables, charts, figures, diagrams and maps were created by using computer software programmes and cartographic techniques. In order to draw maps a GIS software are view was used. During the field work more information is coded and is explained simultaneously in different part of this thesis to describe the findings. The method of qualitative data analysis presented in diagrams as following.

**Fig.: 3.1**

**Schematic Frameworks of Data Analysis**



### 3.9 Field Difficulties: Research Experience

It is difficult to achieve objectivity in any research; though it is a social research social phenomena are seldom simple. They are too complex for comprehension, and too vast to provide precise verifiable knowledge. A physical scientist is confined to the four walls of a laboratory, and he can conduct controlled experimentation. On the other hand the laboratory, of social scientist is as vast as the entire society and it is not amenable for controllers' experimentation. The task of research, if it moves move around, people and society and is based on primary data, is not easy task the difficulties in the field provide new experiences and thought to researcher. The information about the respondents personal things, especially income expenditure, land holding, production, profession consumption household assets are even more difficult in such a conflict arising situation.

I have begun my field work from Jawalakhel. I have done so because I had some acquaintance in this area since 1 month before beginning this Research work. I feel easier in rapport building with street ICVs of this area. Beside I have also saved my time of the field as I have already collected the general information from the street ICVs of Jawalkhel. Though field work is an important technique to collect the primary data and information but it is difficult task in any research work. While conducting field study a number of problems and constraints were encountered, especially during compilation of information. However the rapport building in Ratna park area was difficult for me. When I reached with street ICVs and start to talk them about my purpose, they looked at me suspiciously and appeared an willing to talk with me. I told my purpose to some street ICVs they frequently asked me as. *“Tapain kun sanstha ko Tarpha Bata aaunubhayako? (which institution are you from ?) ke tapain Ngarpalika ko manchhe ho ? (Are you the person of municipality ?) my field work was to not at noon and for the protection of heat I wore a red hat subsequently, some of the street ICVs doubted upona me as if I were a cadre of Young Communist League YCL ( ie. according to the prevalent political scenario of Nepal). They interrogated me many questions, for example- *Tapai Jo Bhaia pani Kasaila hami lai kehi gardaina (Who ever you are no body could do us any thing).**

But I was able to connivance them by saying that I was not a interviewer from an GO, NGO and INGO, I also told them that I was the student and it is my test. If they provide me

the real information I would do well. I persuaded them to give information by saying that I was like their son and brother. I would keep it secret what they said. They were ready to help me only after I visited them several times and tried to convince that I was a student. I was with a video camera to record the information and photos in the field and they suspected me as a Journalist. Their question was: *Tapain Kun Patrikako MENCHHA HO ?* (In which News paper are you from? ) when I told my purpose and I was able to convince them.

Unfavorable weather conditions were a few of the obstacles on the way to collection of data collecting the information. A few people spent nearly two hour for filling questionnaire they also said their personal history. Some of the street ICVs hesitated and were not ready to give me the information. Some of the ICVs talked to me about political scenario of Nepal.

Despite these problem, I enjoyed my overall field work. Though at the beginning it was tedious and frustrating to me. But later I become familiar with people, place and methods and made a relation with them. Later they help me a lot by giving the information in interesting way. It benefited for me a lot as it help me to know about the real situation of the people. They also shared me frankly their private matters also. So I gained a lot of lessons which will help me to conduct further research. I understood some reality about how to enter in a social occupational group as a outsider researcher. What sort of steep and caution should be taken in to the consideration and many more practically and these all experience help me to go a lead in the field of researcher in the future.

## **CHAPTER - FOUR**

### **THE STUDY AREA**

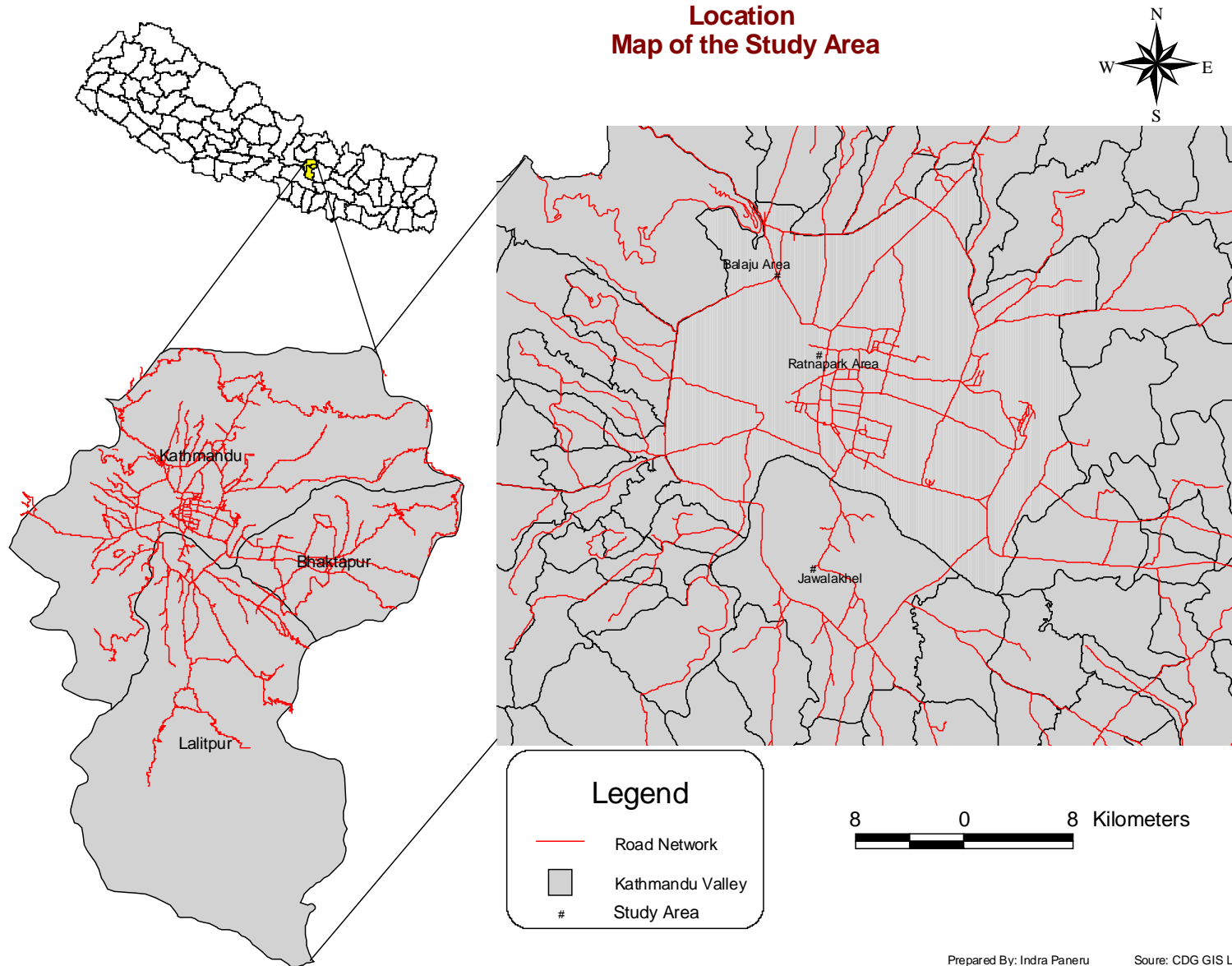
#### **4.1 General Background of the Kathmandu Valley**

The Kathmandu valley is roughly in (bowl) shaped and covers upper Bagmati rivers basin and the valley floor is above 1350m from mean sea level. Geographically, it is located between 28<sup>0</sup>32' N to 28<sup>0</sup>49'0" N latitude and 85<sup>0</sup>11' E to 85<sup>0</sup>31'38" E longitude. The valley floor extends for 25 kilometers from east to west and 19 kilometers from north to south within area of 640 square kilometers. It is an oval shaped valley which is surrounded and protected by hills and mountains on all sides.

The valley comprises three administrative districts namely Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur. However, it does not cover the entire area of three districts. In Kathmandu district, out of 57 VDCs (village development committees) Nanglebhare VDC falls outside the valley. Similarly in Lalitpur out of a total 41 VDCs 16 (sixteen) lie outside the valley. However, all the sixteen VDCs of Bhaktapur district are within the boundary of Kathmandu valley, Kathmandu valley therefore includes 97 VDCs, Kathmandu district consists of one metropolitan (KMC) one municipality and Lalitpur has one and Bhaktapur has Bhaktapur and Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, (CBS 2001) Kathmandu is the only one metropolitan city of our country and lies in Kathmandu valley.

Map 4.1

**Location  
Map of the Study Area**



Prepared By: Indra Paneru

Source: CDG GIS Lab, T. U. Kirtip

## 4.2 Brief History of Population Concentration in Kathmandu Valley

Now a day, the population concentration in urban areas of Kathmandu valley is rapid. The proportion of urban population in the valley districts has remained 47, 41, 40.32 and 47.43 percent during 1961, 1971, 1981 census respectively. The census of 1991 records more urban than rural population in the valley. Within last forty years since 1954 the population of Kathmandu valley has increased by almost three times, this increase is more pronounced in the urban population (Subedi, 1996). In 2001 about 66 percent of the Kathmandu district population was urban (CBS, 2001). This proved that the concentration of population in the urban areas is growing in last decades. The valley population is diverse in the caste and ethnic composition, since, it has the capital city of the country, people from all over the country have migrated here through it has the diverse population composition, the valley is mostly populated by so their dominance in this area is high even now.

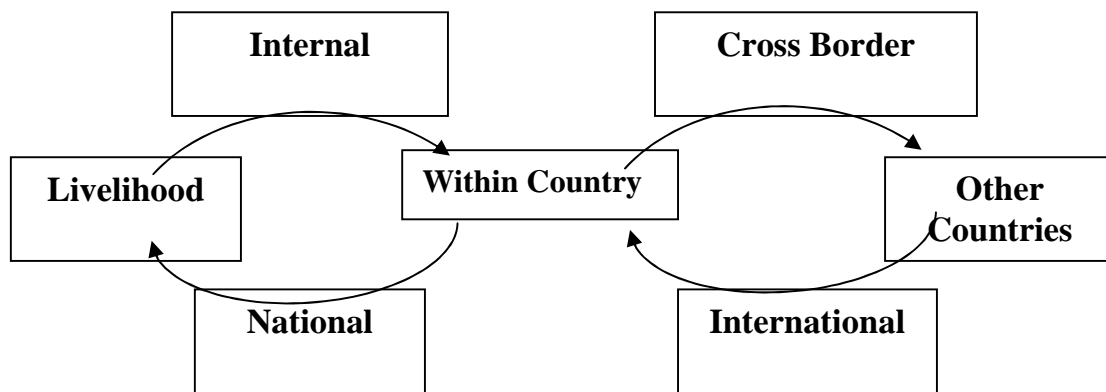
In the past too Kahtmandu was civilized and well developed city of Nepal. A sizeable population concentration probably evolved in the valley during the Lchchhavi period (300-800Ad). However, historical records show that the three principal locates of the valley Kathmandu patan and Bhadgaon acquired a relatively higher concentration of population by the twelfth and thirteenth centuries only each of these three localities were capitals of independent principalities until 1769 (Subedi, 1996).

The *Newar* were the main habitants of the valley. Among scholars there seems to be consensus that the *Newar* can be traced back to the ancient Kiranta, who inhabited the valley two millennia ago. Not much is known about the kiranta. The kirantas were followed by the lichhavis who founded dynasty and left the earlist sources of history so far. Discovered is scriptions from the fifth century AD. There is also an agreement that the *Newars* and the valley have been repeatedly by other people from the surrounding hills and from the Gangatic plains, the invaders were attracted to the valley by its rich alluvial soils, its urban riches and the chance for spoils. Some of the invaders founded new dynasties; most prominent of these were the malla dynasties, which are through to have come in the 12<sup>th</sup> century from Tirhuti in Bihar. These early immigrants tended to become Newarized they assumed cultural patterns from the *Newars* and adopted their language, making it their own. After some generations such immigrants or invaders would be more or less indistinguishable from the original inhabitants ([http://www.geoicities. Com/newa Nepal\) com/](http://www.geoicities.com/newa/Nepal.com/) November 2007).

### 4.3 Livelihood Approach to Migration and Poverty

The livelihood approach is originated in rural content. It is adequately used in the study of urban poverty in recent years in many African and Asian countries. Here is given a brief discussion about how a livelihood plate from provide for new policy thinking about national and international migration. It makes the correlation between population mobility and livelihood and it also affirms the crucial role that migration can play in diminishing vulnerability and reducing poverty in low income countries.

**Figure 4.1**  
**Connecting Livelihood to Migration and Poverty**



Source: Ellis 2003

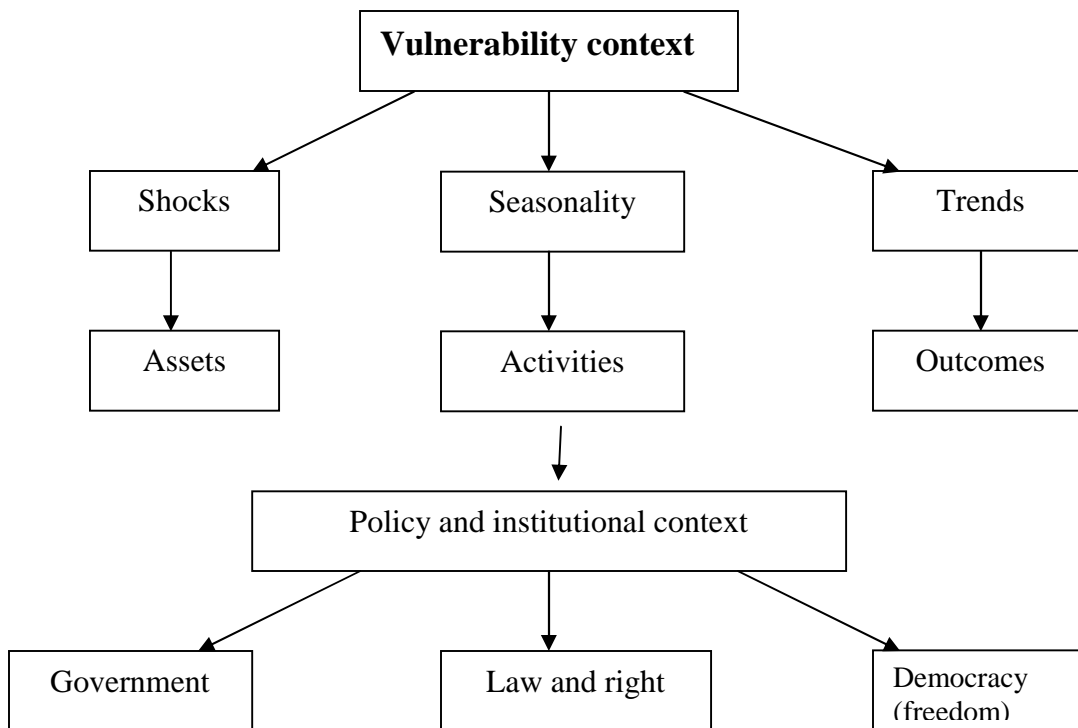
International migration within low income countries cross border ones between low income countries (South to South migration) or international ones from low income to high income countries south to north migration.

However, migration is a social process, not just a matter of economic decision making, migration patterns are often observed to correspond more closely to historical and cultural criteria than to short term economic calculation.

The term 'livelihood' attempts to capture not just what people do in order to make a living but the resources that provide them with the capabilities to build a satisfactory living. The risk factor that they must consider in managing their resources is that the institutional and policy content that either help or hinder them in their pursuit of an available or improving living. The basic livelihood approach in framework is:



**Fig.: 4.2**  
**Basic Livelihood Frame Work**  
**Connecting Vulnerability with Shocks Seasonality and Bends**



Source: Ellis 2003

In livelihood approach, resources are referred to as "assets" or capital and are categorized between five or more different assets types owned or accessed by family members. They include:

- i) Human capital (skill, education, health)
- ii) Physical capital (produced investment goods)
- iii) Financial capital (money, savings, loan access)
- iv) Natural capital (land water, forest) and
- v) Social capital (social network and association)

The things people do in pursuit of a viable living are referred to in the livelihood framework as "livelihood activities." Migration is one of the such category of activity. The risk factors that surround making a living are summarized as "vulnerability content: and the structure associated government authority laws and rights, democracy are summarized as the "palices and the institutional content" peoples livelihood off arts conducted within these

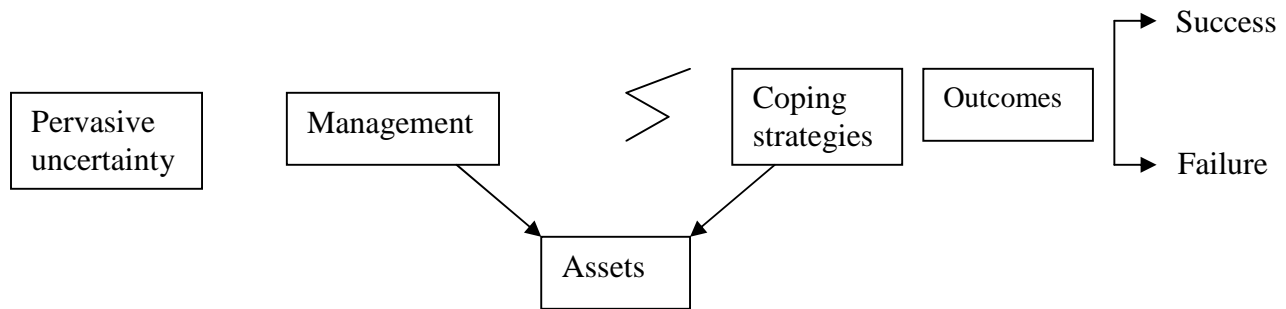
contents result in outcomes higher or lower material welfare, reduced or raised vulnerability to food, insecurity improving or degrading environmental resources and so on.

The livelihood approach set out to be people centered and holistic and to provide an integrated view of how people make a living within involving social institutional, political, economic and environmental context. Poor household and low income countries conduct their livelihood in a risky environment for urban household. The risk are related to high level job insecurity specially in informal sector activities for rural house hold the risk are mainly related to the climatic shocks (food, chough). All the household whether rural or urban are prone to personal shocks of chronic diseases, accidents and deaths, risks are reduced by diversifying livelihood and migration is a man but not the only means of doing this.

Vulnerability can usefully be consulted as a risk sequence making it clear how it connect to the livelihood approach as well as when migration first into the picture. This also acts as bridge to poverty reduction aspects of migration. In frame work:

**Fig.: 4.3**

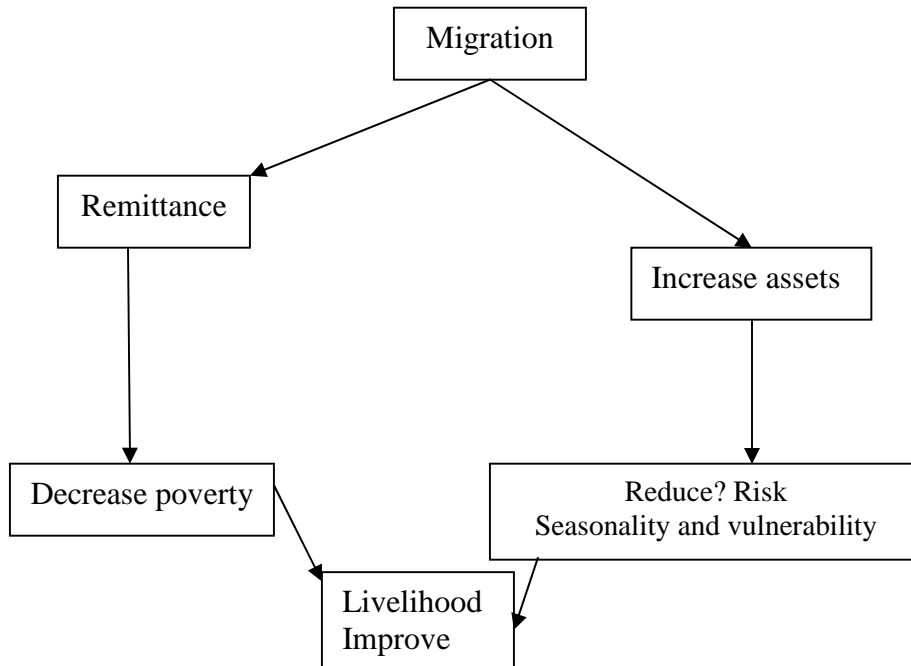
**Vulnerability as a Risk Sequence**



Source: Ellis 2003

The following framework also helps to show that the migration and remittance can help to reduced vulnerability and poverty for people trying to put together adequate and improving livelihood with respect to assets in rural areas in particulars.

**Fig: 4.4**  
**Migration as a Reducing Vulnerability**



Source: Ellis 2003

Thus migration is an integral part of the livelihood of the poor and the developing (low income) countries. A more accurate understanding of the roles of migrations can be achieved by taking livelihood approach with its emphasis on assets activities and outcomes within vulnerability and institutional content. Migration is seen to contribute positively to the achievement of secured livelihood and to the expansion of the scope of poor people to construct their own pathways out of poverty. It does this by ameliorating seasonality and risk reducing vulnerability, enabling investment in a range of livelihood, assets providing the poor with more of a chance to gown a first purchase on rituals spiral out of poverty. However, it potentials to contribute is all these ways is very considerably curtailed by the policy environment total typically sounds it and it is to this that we now turn.

## CHAPTER - FIVE

### SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF ICE-CREAM VENDORS

#### 5.1 Socio-economic Background

Nepal is a land of multi-cast ethnic, multi linguistic and multi cultural country. Obviously, Kathmandu is city of an attraction for all ages and communities where they perform different types of socio-economic activities. The difference in communities is reflected in the variety of the activities performed by different communities of the city. Sidewalk and pavements are increasingly used for carrying out business in Kathmandu city. The street Ice-cream vending is one of the activities where a number of individuals are engaged in. These ice-cream vendors are earning their livelihood by selling Ice-cream in pulling cart in the valley.

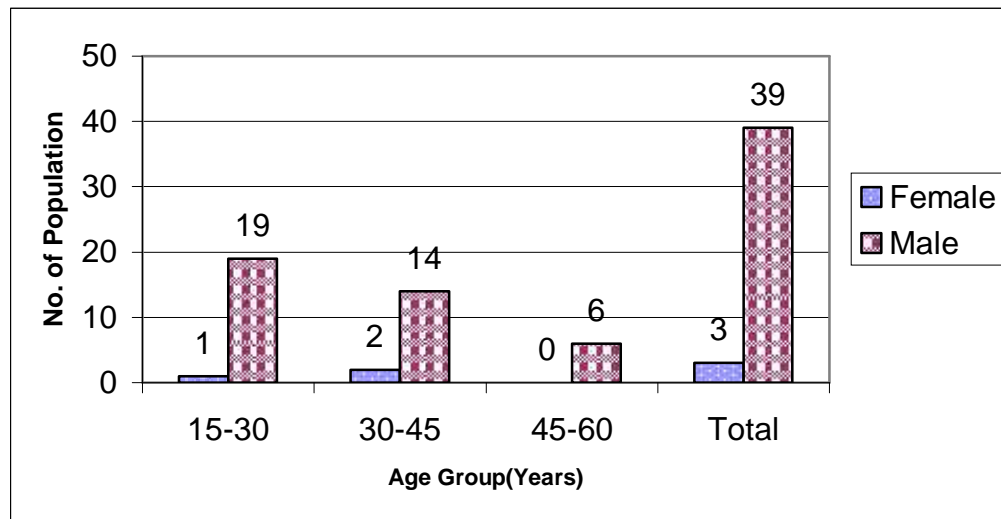
**Table: 5.1**  
**Age and sex structure of street ICVs.**

Age categories	Female	Male	Total	percentage
15-30 years	1	19	20	48
30-45 years	2	14	16	38
45-60 years	-	6	6	14
Total	3	39	42	100
Percentage	7	93	100	

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007

**Fig. 5.1**

**Age and sex structure of street ICVs.**



The average age of ice cream vendors in Kathmandu city was 32.5 years. Largest proportion belongs to 15-30 years age group and followed by 30-45 years age group. This activity is extremely male dominant. Of the total surveyed ICVs only 7 percent was female. The number of street Ice-cream vendors is decreasing with increasing the age of people. The table 5.1 also shows that the large number of ice-cream vendors is male whereas only 3 (meager in number) are female. The economically active population of the age 15-59 years for both sexes is involved in this occupation where the female involvement is due to their family occupation.

## **5.2 Educational Status**

Although education is considered the manufacture for the development of the country due to poor economy and background and origin most of the street ice-cream vendors are not been able to get education opportunities. Moreover education play a vital role in the betterment of livelihood and occupation. Various levels of educational status of respondents were observed which are shown in the table 5.2.

**Table 5.2**  
**Educational Status of Respondents**

Respondents	Respondents Sex		Total	Percentage
	Male	Female		
Educational status				
Illiterate	14	2	16	38
*Literate but no Schooling	8	-	8	19
Primary	5	1	4	10
Lower Secondary	6	-	6	14
Secondary	4	-	4	10
S.L.C.	3	-	3	7
Intermediate	1	-	1	2
Total	39	3	42	100

S.L.C. – School Living Certificate

\*The ice-cream vendors who have informal education are able to write their own name.

Source: Field survey sep. 2007

Table 5.2 shows the educational status of the ice-cream vendors, more people are illiterate but a large number of people (38%) are still illiterate. Educational status of street ICVs seems poor. Only one vendors has got the proficiency certificate level education. Three vendors have acquire S.L.C. level education. Similarly it is followed by lower secondary education (4 vendors). However those vendors who have no any academic qualification they can also write their own name and can read the magazine little.

### **5.3 Caste/Ethnic Composition**

Caste ethnic composition in Nepal make up a complicated web of social structure and make numerous classes and sub classes which are linked or forcibly isolated from social and cultural rules. Various caste/ethnic group were observed within the survey period is shown numerically in table 5.3.

**Table 5.3**  
**Caste/Ethnic Affiliation**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnic	Number	Percentage
1.	Tamang	7	17
2.	Shah/Yadav	5	12
3.	Newar	6	14
4.	Brahmin	6	14
5.	Kshetri	3	7
6.	Lama(Sherpa)	4	10
7.	Magar	2	5
8.	Thakuri	3	7
9.	Dalit (Damai/Sarki)	5	12
10.	Gurung	1	2
Total		42	100

Source: Field survey sep. 2007

**Fig. 5.2**  
**Caste/Ethnic Composition**

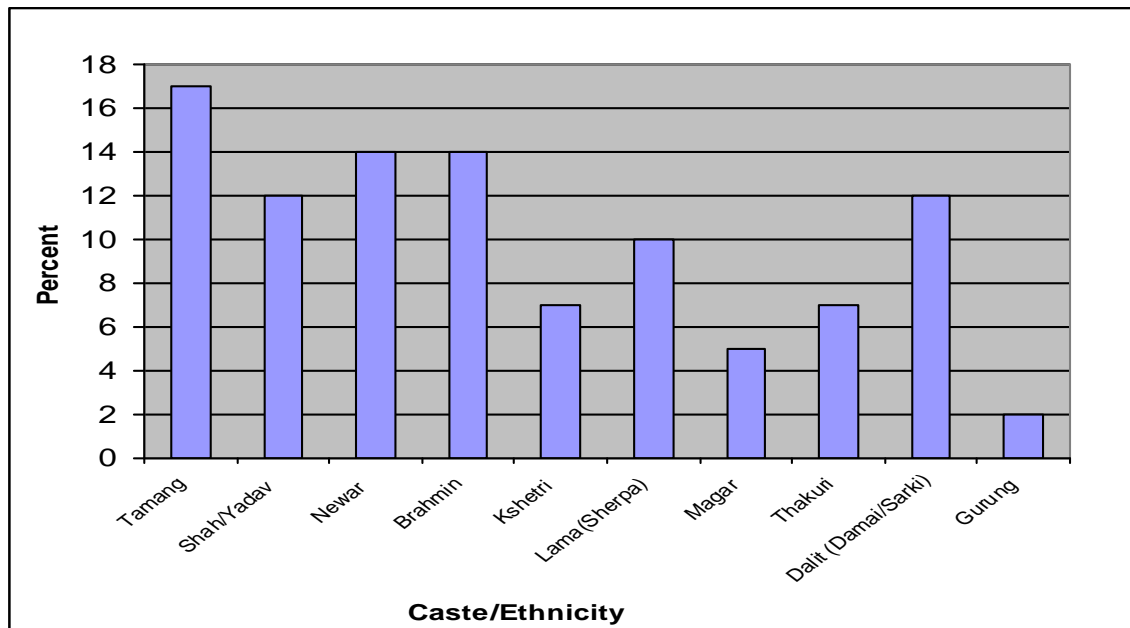


Table 5.3 and figure 5.2 show that 17 percent of the respondents are from the Tamang community. Similarly, Newar caste comprises 14 percent of the total respondents which is

equal to the percentage of Brahmin castes. Other communities such as Lama, Magar, Thakuri, Shah, Gurung were also observed as shown in the table. Although so-called under caste (Dalit, damai, kami, Sarki) represent the 12 percent of the total respondents.

#### 5.4 Migrants and Non-migrants

Migration of people is the phenomenon referring the flow of people to and from the places. It is an important factor that has brought about the change in social composition and occupation patterns of the population in the city. Any change in the volume and flow of migration will change in size, growth and other characteristics of the population both in origin and destination areas. The Kathmandu city had almost 42 percent internal migrants from both rural and urban areas of other districts of which 44% were foreign born. If intra-district migration were to be considered this city had more than 50 percent in migrants in 2001. Of the total valley in-migrants Kathmandu city alone received 78.6 percent of the total rural migrants and 64.8 percent of the urban migrants from other districts. Except Bhaktapur, other cities of the Kathmandu valley such as Lalitpur (32%) Madhyapur (27.6%) and Kirtipur (23.2%) have been receiving increasing proportion of in-migrants during the last decades (K.C. 2003: 145).

In this study, majority respondents were migrants to the city, and neighboring India to KTM valley. Table 5.4 represents the respondent's migration status.

**Table 5.4**  
**Migration status by locations**

Vending location	Migration status		Total
	Non-Migrant	Migrant	
Jawalakhel	4	7	11
Ratnapark area	3	14	17
Balaju area	1	13	14
Total Number	8	34	42
Percent	19	81	100

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007



**Fig. 5.3**  
**Migration status by locations**

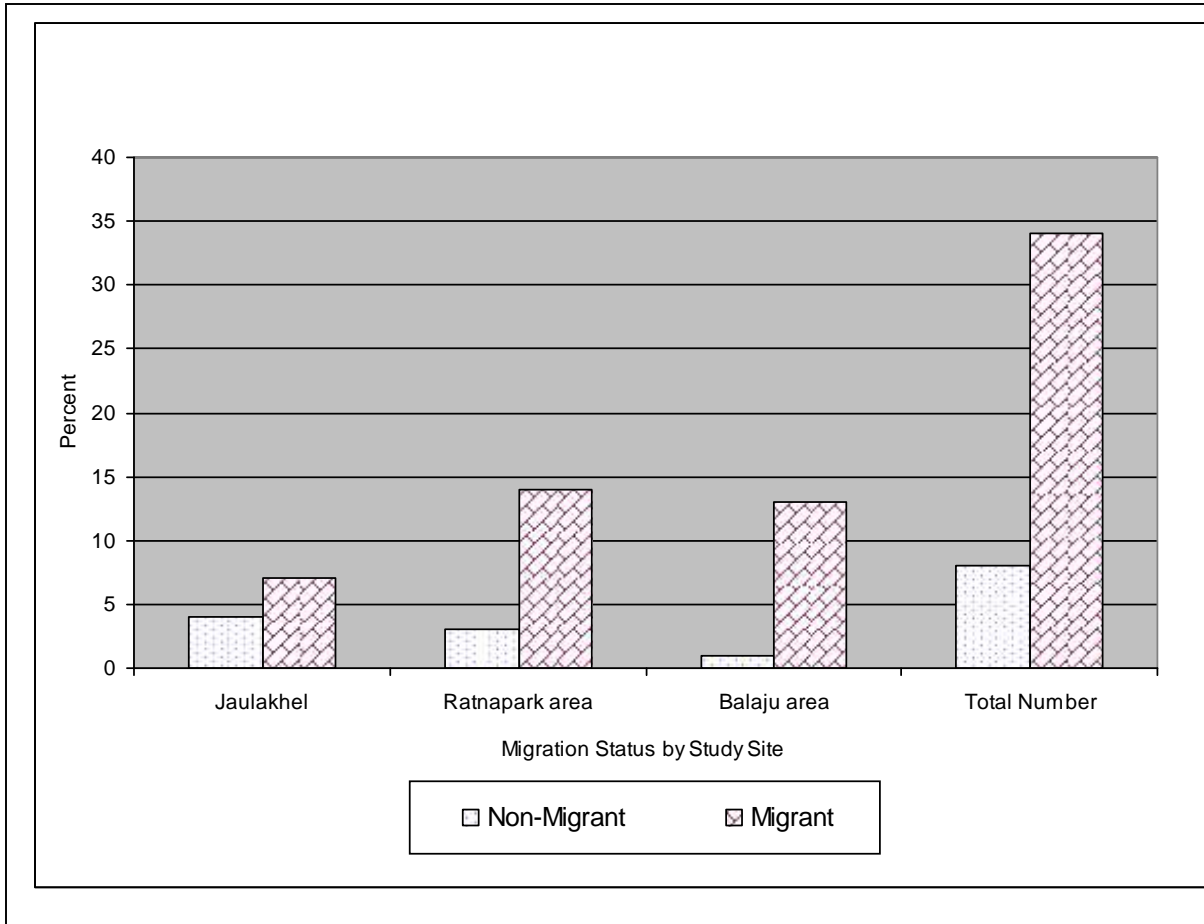


Table 5.4 reflects that migrant vendors are more than non-migrants that the migrants consist 81 percents out of total respondents whereas the non-migrants are 19 percents. It means that the Ice cream vending occupation is migrant dominant.

Kathmandu city is becoming a 'city' of attraction day by day. The influx of population from various districts and from India to the city is increasing. Although most of the respondents said that they had migrated because of poverty and less cultivable land. Some of them indirectly indicated that it was also because of recent Maoist and Government political conflict. The respondents' place of origin according to their districts and state is shown in table 5.5 And also say that people have come in to Kathmandu in such vending occupation are from various geographical regions of country due to poor economic condition and other difficulties (landslide, Maoist, landless) in their origin place.

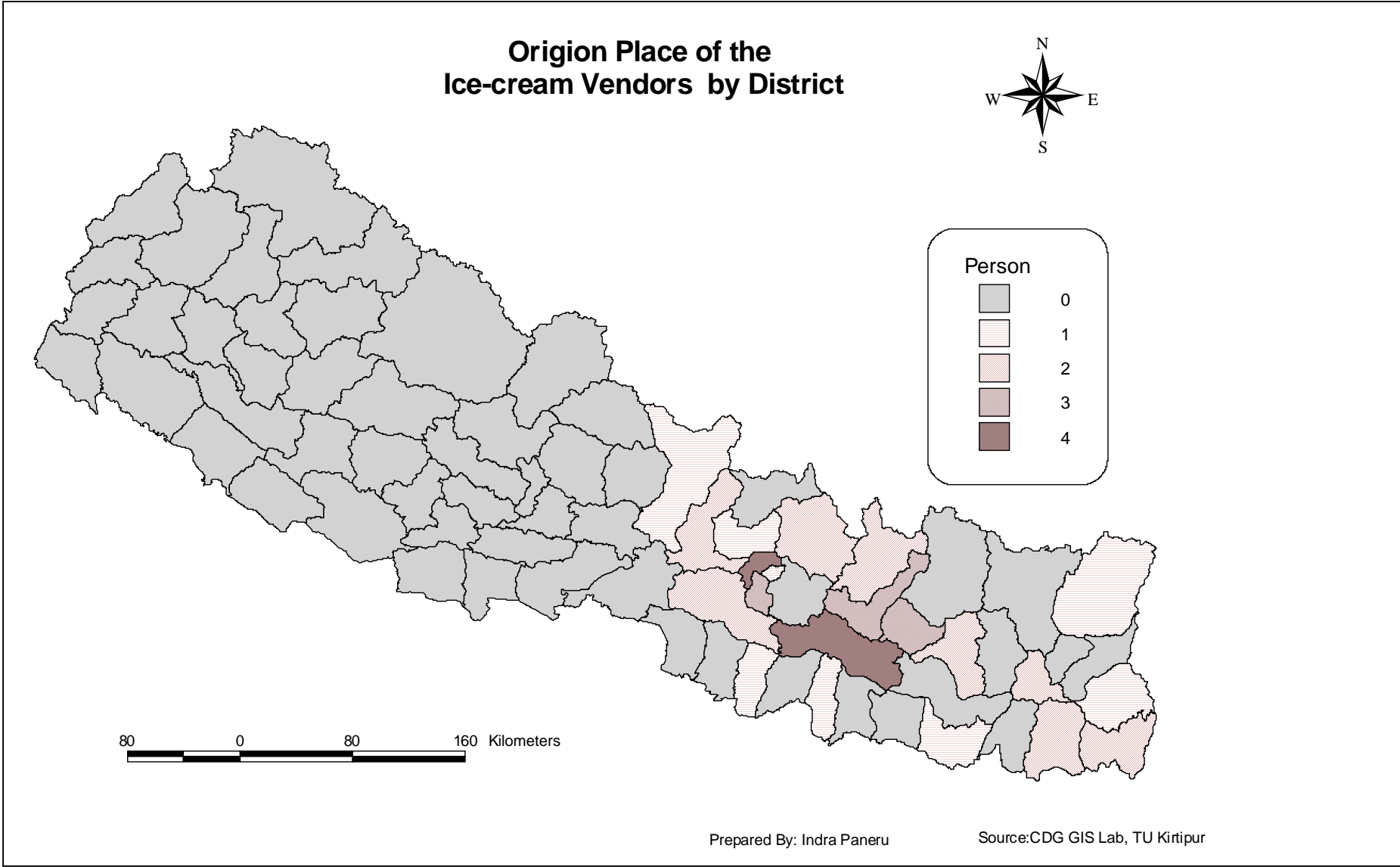
**Table 5.5**  
**Place of origin of ICVs**

Place of origin	Number	Percent
<b>Non-Migrant</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>
Kathmandu	4	10
Bhaktapur	1	2
Lalitpur	3	7
<b>Migrants</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>81</b>
Dolakha	2	5
Ilam	1	2
Jhapa	2	5
Ramechhap	3	7
Taplejung	1	2
Rauthat	1	2
Sindhuli	4	10
Mahottari	1	2
Sindhupalchowk	2	5
Nuwakot	1	2
Dhading	2	5
Okhaldhunga	3	4
Khotang	2	5
Makwanpur	2	5
Gorkha	1	2
Morang (Biratnagar)	2	5
Dhankuta	2	5
Saptari	1	2
Bihar (India)	1	2
Total	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007

From the table 5.5 it shows that only 2 percent respondents were recognized as Indian in this study. Respondent migration from Sindhuli is high compared to other district. Though from the Kathmandu, also equal to this district similarly people from Ramechhap, Lalitpur and Okhaldhunga is relatively high with compare to other districts. Most of the respondents are migrants from hill region, with less numbers from terai Region, mountain region and India Because of nearer political location for economic activities and easy access to transportation to Kathmandu , people are migrates in the valley. But in this study, this assumption exceeds and is from the various parts of the country. The origin place of the ice-cream vendors is given in map 5.1.

Map 5.1



### 5.4.1 Causes of Migration

As already mentioned, out of the total 42 respondents 34, (81) were migrants and only 8, (19) respondents were non-migrants. Therefore the researcher tried to find out the cause of migration to Kathmandu for sustaining their livelihood as street ice-cream vendors, because this also reflects the social and economic structure of the family of respondents in place origin. The causes of migration are shown in table 5.6, excluding the non-migrants.

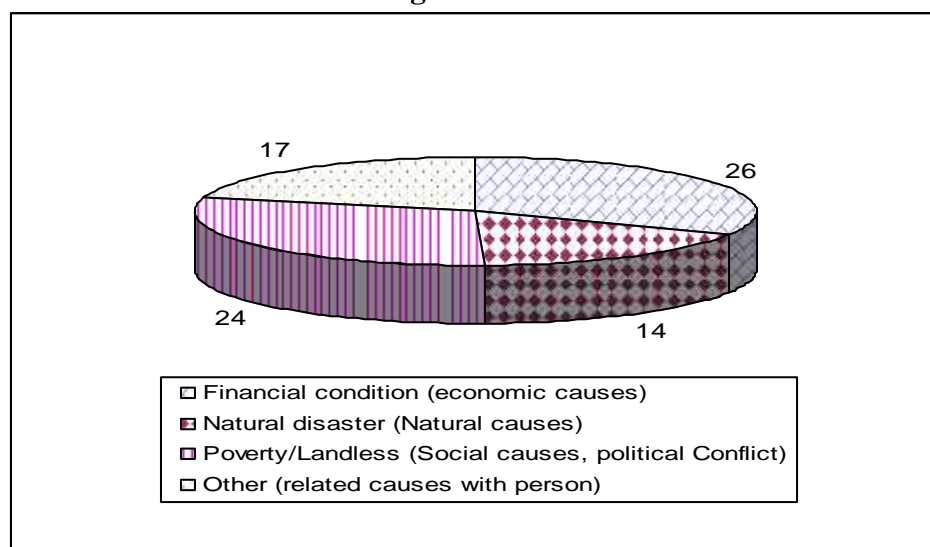
**Table 5.6**  
**Cause of Migration of street ICVs.**

Cause of Migration	Number	Percent
Financial condition (economic causes)	11	26
Natural disaster (Natural causes)	6	14
Poverty/Landless (Social causes, political Conflict)	10	24
Other* (related causes with person)	7	17
Total	34	100

\*Other causes of migration encompass divorce, death of husband/wife, family disturbance, separation, study, conflict due political instability etc.

Source: Field survey Sep. 2007

**Fig5.4**  
**Cause of Migration of Street ICVs**



The table 5.6 shows that, of the total respondents 11 (26) percent migrated because of economic causes. 23.80 percent migrated because of poverty, 16 percent of

the respondents are migrated due to the natural disaster (natural cause). 17 percent due to their own causes to migrate (related cause with individual) Marriage as a cause of migration was a common phenomenon in the study of urban migration. Marriage changes a woman's livelihood and is one of the cause for migration as presented in case 1.

### **Case of Maya Karki**

*Maya Karki 32 years, lady does not want to give much information first but late she gave more about that ice-cream vending occupation. She was born in Ramechhap when she was a child. It was very difficult for her family to solve the hand to mouth problem. They totally depended on her father's income. So she did not get education. Later on when she reached at the age of 14 she married an aged man (around 35) from Sindhupalchowk. She did not know about her husband before. She was deceived by saying that her husband is a rich person. But she found him as a drunkard.*

*Later on due to poor family environment and economy she is unable to live with husband. She came to Kathmandu with her sister who fostered her to leave her drunkard. She married to another person in Kathmandu. After few days, she had two children. Her husband works in a wooden mill. At the same time her husband fell in serious illness. They need much amount of money for his treatment. He is still ill so that he couldn't work properly. At the same time, she came in contact with a street ice-cream vendor he provided her a cart from an ice-cream company. She further said that, before this she involved in other street occupation i.e. badam and chana selling. Then she became an ice-cream vendor. Now she is able to pay the rent for a room and to buy some medicine for her husband. She is quite happy with her income from this occupation but unable to school her children.*

## **5.5 Previous Occupation**

All the respondents considered street Ice-cream vending as an occupation and sustaining their livelihood, but before street ice cream vending as a livelihood strategy many of respondents have different types of livelihood strategies which are tabulated in the following table

**Table 5.7**  
**Previous Occupation**

occupation before becoming the SICV	Selling location			Total	%
	Jawalakhel	Ratnapark	Balaju		
Agriculture	3	5	3	11	26
Wage labour	2	3	2	7	17
Painting	1	-	1	2	5
Student	-	2	1	3	7
Almond/stabury/horsegram	-	1	-	1	2
Cloth selling	2	2	1	6	14
Hotel	1	-	-	1	2
Pulling Riksha (Riding)	1	-	-	1	2
Vegetable selling	-	2	-	2	5
Fruit selling	1	1	1	3	7
Sikarmi	-	-	3	3	7
Others	-	1	-	2	5
Total	11	17	14	42	100

Source: Field survey sep. 2007

Table 5.7 shows the previous occupation of the ICVs, 26 percent of the respondents are from the agriculture sector and 14.28 percent includes cloth vending occupation and other are from wage labor, painting, vegetable selling and fruit selling, hotel, sikarmi and others. That also proof that this occupation is in least investment and easy to handle.

### **5.6 Family Size of the Street ICVs**

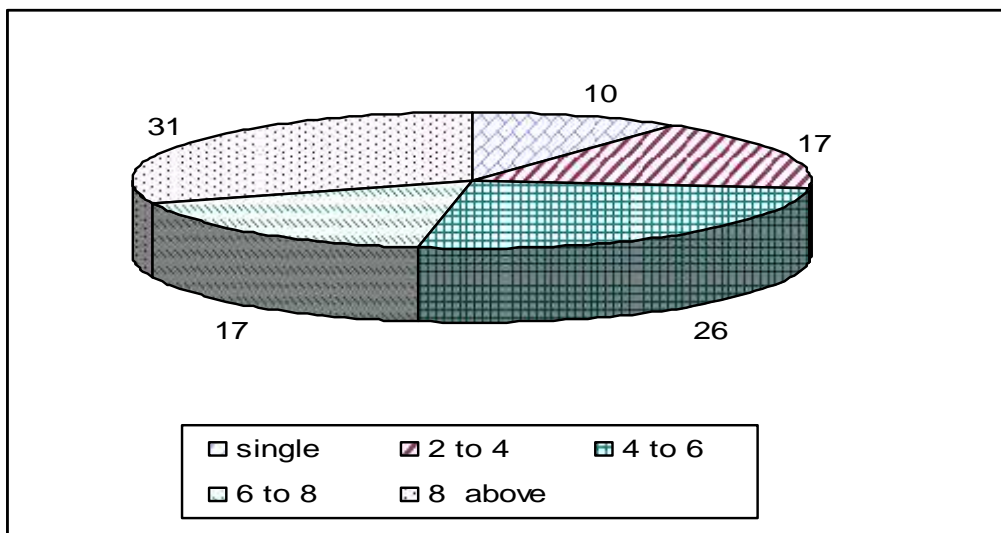
The family size of street ice-cream vendors is shown in the table 5.8. Most of the ice-cream vendors who are migrants from outside the valley live here only with their wife and children. But also seems responsible for their parents and brothers street ICVs who are local, are responsible for only their family (wife and children)

**Table 5.8**  
**Family size of the street ICVs**

Family size	Number (frequency)	Percent
single	4	10
2 to 4	7	17
4 to 6	11	26
6 to 8	7	17
8 above	13	31
Total	42	100

Source: Field survey sep. 2007

**Fig. 5.5**  
**Family Size of the Street ICVs**



From the table 5.8 we know that average family size of ice-cream vendor is more than 8 members which is greater than national average family size. It concluded that from the study the ICVs migrants mainly due to the family condition related with economic status.

### 5.7 Monthly Income

Income is the most important component for livelihood analysis because it helps them to make living standard and in the time of economic shocks. Naturally street businesses are low investment business from where the vendors earn less than other business. In urban area the livelihood of people is differ from rural. Laboring (any

kinds of work to generate income) is the main way for people to earn money in urban string. Street ice-cream vendors are generally unskilled and under educated. So, they can not find any reliable paid for work, So, they must earn from ice-cream vending in street to sustain his/her family livelihood. To analyze the monthly income of the street ice-cream vendors the role of their family members in generating income was also associated. Few of the respondents other family members are working in similar occupation as street occupants. Such as ready made cloth vender and fruit vendor. Few of them are as helper, wage labor etc. Most of the respondents other family members working in the agricultural sector in origin place so, here while describing monthly income of street ICVs the role of other family members is not considered in this style. The following table shows the monthly income of the street ice-cream vendors.

**Table 5.9**  
**Total monthly income of respondents**

Total income (in Rs.)	Selling location			Total	Percent
	Jawalakhel	Ratnapark Area	Balaju Area		
<4000	2	4	3	9	22
5000-7000	4	8	7	19	45
8000-10000	3	4	4	11	26
>10000	2	1	0	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field survey sep. 2007



**Fig. 5.6**  
**Total Monthly Income of Respondents**

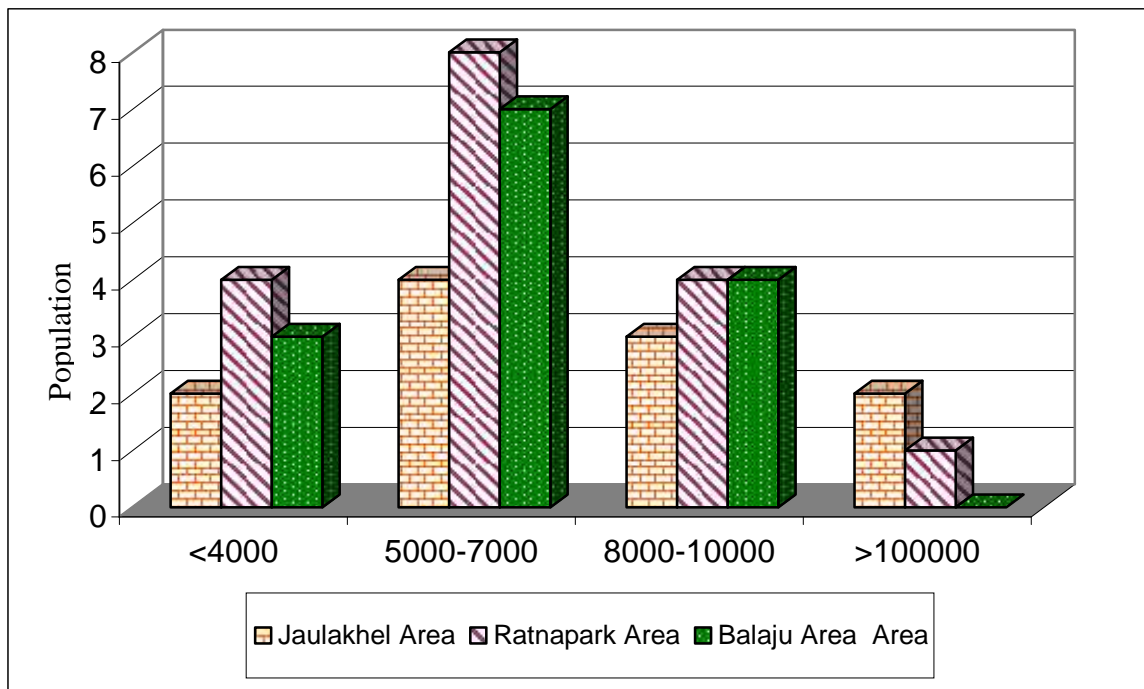


Table 5.9 above shows that most of the respondent (45) percent have Rs 5000-7000 monthly income and 26 percent respondents have monthly income of Rs 8000-10000. The numbers of respondents (3) who earn more than Rs 10000 occupy 7 percent out of 100 percent. 21 percent of the respondents have the monthly income of less than Rs 4000. Their monthly income varies place to place which is given in the table 5.8 above. The nature of place is determinant factor for the vendor's monthly income, because all places have not equal potentiality for the street occupant like ice-cream vendors.

### **Box 2**

#### **Case of Pasang Sherpa**

*A 24 years young man, namely Pasang Sherpa from Taplejung district Samu VDC, seems polite and want to say quite happy. When the researcher started to talk with him. When he left his house to his old parents. Maoist pressure is main cause for him. When he came in Kathmandu he experienced many difficulties and different types of work such as wage labour and helper security guard (watchman) but finally he came to the street to sell the ice-cream (after 8 months). Seven years ago, for 5 years he earned money to send his family. He seems positive about his street occupation because he said that, we doesn't need to pay any tax and rent for that, we can earn easily how much time we can invest. And he was very happy with his present livelihood compared to his previous one. He is earning more than 9000 per months. He said again that I can earn good money in summer season by working few hour in a day. And it is very suitable for people like us. He further stated that he was fully satisfied till now from the ice-cream selling occupation and also to save few money by this occupation.*

## 5.8 Monthly Expenditure

Most of the respondent spends their income for shelter, food, clothing, schooling for their children and some of them also visit the hospital for health checkup. Although it was tried to collect information on the expenditure on different items, satisfactory data could not be obtained. Therefore the overall average monetary expenditure for street ice-cream vendors has been tabulated below;

**Table 5.10**

**Total Monthly Expenditure of Respondents**

Total expenditure in Rs	Selling location			Total	Percent
	Jawalakhel	Ratnapark Area	Balaju Area		
<3000	3	6	5	14	33
3000-6000	5	8	6	19	45
6000-9000	2	2	3	7	17
>9000	1	1	-	2	5
Total	11	17	14	42	100

Source: Field survey sep. 2007

**Fig. 5.7**

**Total Monthly Expenditure of Respondents**

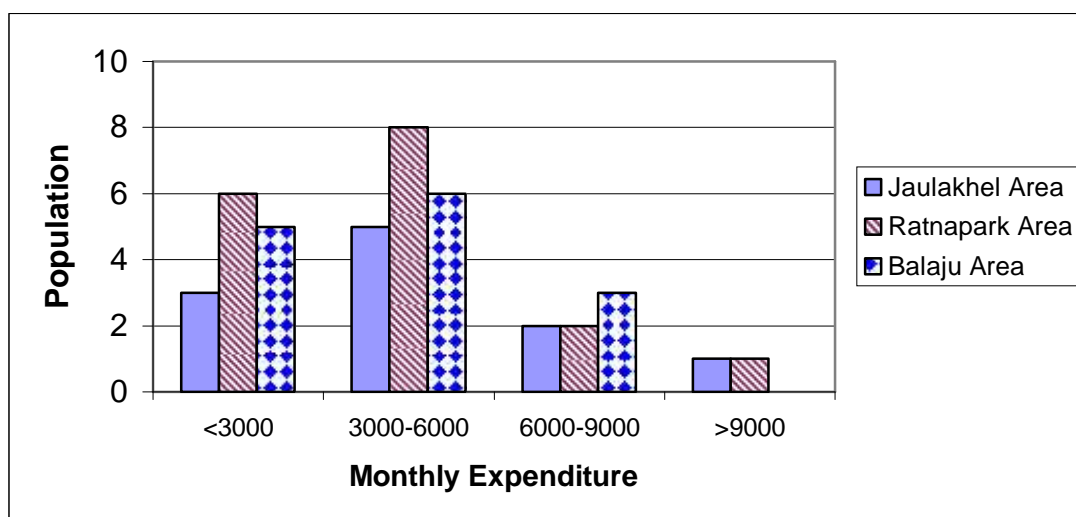


Table above 5.10 also conclude that, out of 42 Respondents the expenditure of the street ICVs is not equal and it also denotes that it very according place to place and behavior of the respondents. Some time their monthly expenditure determine by some incidents (accident, festival, marriage special occasions etc). Other hand

evidently most of the respondent sent their children to school and they are also very aware about their health and nutrition.

The above table shows that 33.33 percent of respondent's families are spending below 3000 rupees per month for their family. 45.25 percent spend 3000 to 6000 of per month for their families. 16.65 percent spend 6000-9000 and 4.76 percent of respondents, spend more than 9000 rupees for sustaining their livelihood in Kathmandu. Normally, the respondents who are with their family in Kathmandu they have been high expenditure which is find out during field survey. Some of them who sent their children to private school have also high rate of expenditure with comparison to other Ice-cream vendors spend their income for food, cloth school fee for their children and health. Beside these rent for the room, debt, payment tobacco and liquor and other things they used to spend from their income.

## 5.9 Duration of Involvement

The street ice-cream vendors begin their vending occupation from an urban area since different time of period. The table 5.11 shows the numbers of years that the street ice-cream vendors have been involved in street vending.

**Table: 5.11**  
**Year of Involvement in Ice-cream Vending**

No. of year involvement in street ice cream vending	Selling location			Total	Percent
	Jawalakhel	Ratnapark	Balaju		
<1	-	5	6	11	26
2-5	5	7	4	16	38
6-10	3	3	3	9	22
11-15	2	2	1	5	12
>15	1	-	-	1	2
Total	11	17	14	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007

38 percent of the respondents have been involved in street ice-cream vending for 2-5, 26 percent have been involved for less than a year and 22 percent of respondents involved as street ice-cream vendors for 6-10 years and 12 percent involved in this occupation for 11-15 years, only 2 percent involved more than 15 years. It was not found that ice-cream occupation is not their traditional occupation among the 42 ice-cream vendors.

### 5.9.1 Working Hours of Street ICVs

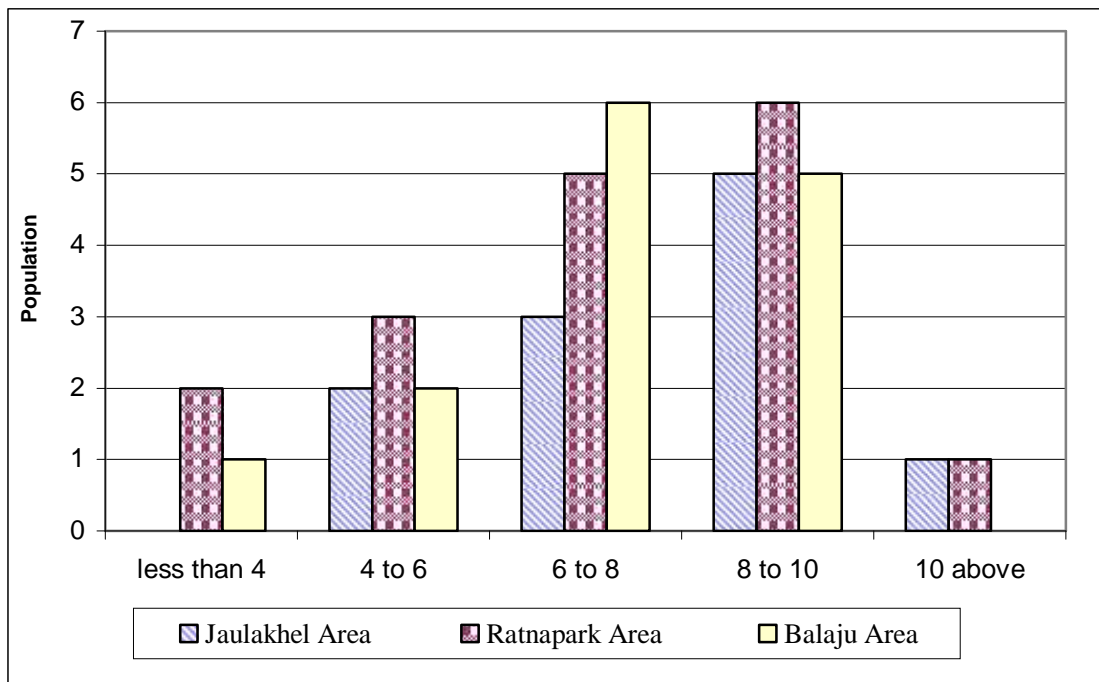
All the respondents were vending in day time although street vending activities are banned during the day time. Vendors are subjected to problems created by the city authorities but they (vendors) are searching for customers in different streets of the Kathmandu city. The following table (5.9) shows the working hours of the ICVs.

**Table 5.12**  
**Working Hours of the Ice-cream Vendors**

Working hour	Peak hour (AM to PM)	Selling location			Total	Perc ent
		Jawalakhel	Ratnapark	Balaju		
less than 4	10-3	-	2	1	3	6
4 to 6	12-3	2	3	2	7	16
6 to 8	11-5	3	5	6	14	35
8 to 10	11-4	5	6	5	16	38
10 above	10-5	1	1	-	2	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007

**Fig. 5.8**  
**Working Hours of the Ice-cream Vendors**



From table 5.8 different have been observed with ice-cream vendors who sell in Jawalakhel spend more time than other places. The column of peak hour in table 5.12 also generalized that almost of the vendors are selling the ice-cream in day time. The waking hours also vary place to place this is given above table. 35 percent vendors work 6-8 hour in a day. And 38 percent give the time 8-10 hour in a day. Normally, in summer season, they spend more time in a day. The vendors whose room is in away from vending place and go to regular in same place some of them have fixed customers so, they can sell their ice-cream comparatively quicker than other ice-cream vendors 16 percent ICVs worked 4 to 6 hour in a day 5 percent worked more than 10 hour and 6 percent respondent work less than 4 hour every day. In the day time they used to sell the ice-cream in the street with very hot and sunny weather that they faced in selling time. A case study was conducted with a vendor who carried ice-cream in cart every day which is presented in the box 3.

**Case of Astabhai Maharjan**

*Everyday Aastabhai Maharjan 30 goes to sell ice-cream in Jawalakhel chowk at 10:15 am. He has three children they prepare lunch for his family. Normally he buys ice-cream worth 1200-1500 rupees. Every day except Monday 9:00 am he gets ready to go bring this duty for the hole day. There is no certainty to sell all the ice-cream is a day. Although holiday its favorable day for his business. Mainly young couple and children are his customer in zoo gate. Sometime he also finished his ice-cream cart, he brings another carts with the help of his friend. He said that he regular gives more than 8 hour in a day but his regular income varies from 150-300 rupees every day. At the end of the day normally he returns back his home at 7:00 o'clock PM in the evening though it very in seasonally.*

From this study we can conclude that mostly active age group (population 15-59) people are involved in ice-cream vending. Most of the youth people are performing this occupation positively. Similarly, more male vendors are in involved in this work than female vendors. Most of the ICVs are migrants. The vendors who have high family size than national average but low educational status. The economic characteristics of ICVs is different to each others because nature of vending places, season as well as nature of personal behaviors. On the basis of this study, the income level of ICVs seems moderate however they are considered as urban poor due to lack of knowledge proper utilization of their income. Income and expenditure of ICVs are seems positively correlated. Almost of them seems satisfied comparatively from this profession than the previous one.

## **CHAPTER - SIX**

### **LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY AND ASSETS OF THE ICE CREAM VENDORS**

#### **6.1 Livelihood Strategy**

Livelihood strategies are continuous process where people try to adopt evolving threats and opportunities, changing livelihood objectives and also as their own capabilities after during their lifetime. Study of livelihood strategies tends to focus on income sources. However this aspect of Sustainable Livelihood frame work goes well beyond income and it is important not to neglect other considerations. On the other way livelihood strategies are the range and combination of activities and choices that people make/undertake in order to achieve their livelihood goals or the way of combining and using assets (DFID 2001).

Livelihood strategies as the term is used is to describe the way of earning livelihood of people it is a process of adjusting to particular social structure. Livelihood strategies may differ from person to person in the some caste/ethnic group of the same society. It is determined by socio economic, environmental and physical factors but people always try to reduce the risk factors and adopt the better livelihood strategies. Due to poverty, people also migrate to a new location in search of better livelihood opportunities. Livelihood strategies is used to describe the way in which household and individuals have continued and /or modified their economic and social activities in order to meet their livelihood needs. Livelihood strategies reflect creative ways of approaching environment and these strategies draw upon understanding and realization by the households of the eminent need (Subedi and Pandey, 2002). The foremost important factor for changing livelihood of people is the development interventions like physical, infrastructure (Timalsina, 2003). Nepalese Hill people earn their livelihood by the combination of different strategies such as agriculture, animal husbandry, home industry, trade and seasonal out migration for work (Bishop, 1990).

Livelihood strategies with more assets tend to have a grater range of options and an ability to switch between multiple strategies to secure their livelihood. Main focus of this chapter is to discuss about livelihood assets used by street ice-cream vendors under the various sub-headings.

## 6.2 Livelihood Assets

Livelihood Assets are the core elements for people to make a living. People require a range of assets to achieve positive livelihood outcomes. Sustainable livelihood approaches place a heavy stress on the assets of poor man women and household but other previous development approaches lacks it. They focused only on their needs of deficiencies (Sida, 2002:24). The household assets, sustainable livelihood approach appears as backbone as one derives adaptive and coping strategies from them. Though there are numerous assets, sustainable livelihood approach identifies five core assets namely; human, social, natural, physical and financial upon which livelihood is built. If we use this approach it is possible to map at a particular livelihood system over the course of time, the assets that are used and how these advances or hinder adaptive strategies.

Street ice-cream vendors are earning their living in urban areas through the interrelated livelihood assets. Portfolios of their livelihood assets are not equal for all but they are carrying out the same activities in the same places. Their livelihood assets differ from each other and from place to place. Those people who are from outside the valley do not have equal access to different assets in working place than those from within the valley. There is difference between Jawalakhel and Balaju in terms of access to livelihood assets. Such diversity of assets among them results in the variation of daily earning and lost also for livelihood outcomes.

In practice not all assets are owned by or fully in the control of households which are attempting to use them in their livelihood strategies. In fact some like common property resources cannot by definition, be owned by individuals or even households and others, such as social capital can not be owned, but imply a negotiated relationship. Similarly, services supplied through targeted state programmes are officially accessible to the poor, but in practice institutional and practical barriers may limit the access of the poor to the benefits of such programmes. These assets further do not remain constant. With the pace of time and influence of several processes shapes them differently. These assets which are generic in nature are not the same. Each institution has given different name according to their objective (Achrya, 2005).



**Table 6.1**  
**Sustainable Livelihood Models**

Chambers	UNDP	DFID/OXFAM	CARE	Moser
Tangible (stores resources)	Human	Human	Human	Labour
Intangible	Social	Social	Social	Economic and Social infrastructure
Claim for material	Natural	Natural	Economic	
Practical Support	Physical	Physical		
Opportunity to	Financial (Economic)	Economic		Housing household relation
Access resources	Political			Social capital

Source: Farrington et.al, 2002

In the following section livelihood assets of street ice-cream vendors are discussed on the basis of DFID framework.

## **6.2.1 Human Capitals**

Human capital represents the skill, knowledge ability to labor and good health that together enable people to purpose different livelihood strategies and achieve their livelihood objectives (DFID 200:2:3:1). The importance of this cannot be exaggerated which directly contribute to achieve better livelihood out come on the one hand and, on the other stimulate other assets to strengthen them. People who possess good health, better skill and required knowledge, might have better access on employment and earning for deriving better livelihood outcomes. Many people therefore, regard the ill health or lack of education as core diminution of poverty (DFID, 2002: 2:3:1). Therefore, human capital is highly dependent on adequate nutrition, health care safe environmental conditions and education. However, in this study, within human capital educational status and skill and training have been found which is given with brief description in following sub-headings.

### **6.2.1.1 Literacy and Education**

It is the most important factor to enrich human capital which provides knowledge about different sectors to make a living, so it is also necessary to discuss

about the educational status of the street ice-cream vendors. Table 6.2 shows the literacy and educational attainment of ICVs.

**Table 6.2**  
**Literacy and educational attainment**

Educational status	No. of Respondents	Percent
Illiterate	16	38
Literate only	8	19
Primary	4	9.6
Lower secondary Level	6	14.3
Secondary/S.L.C.	7	16.7
Intermediate Level	1	2.4
Total	42	100

\* The ice-cream vendors having literate only are able to write their own name.

\* S.L.C. school living certificate.

Source: Field Survey Sep, 2007

From the table 6.2 human capitals of street ice-cream vendors is very poor. Among them, 38 percent are illiterate. Only one (2 percent) meager proportion of respondent was enrolled in intermediate level. While 7(16.7 percent) respondent found involving in secondary and S.L.C. level education. Most of the respondent (38) are illiterate. Less than 20 percent are literate only who had informal education. They are able to sign their name. Most of them have low education status and poor economic condition. During the field work, it was found that poor economic condition was the main cause of being illiterate for young groups. But for older ones economic as well as social norms and values were considered as the main factor.

### **6.2.1.2 Skill and Training**

During the field work it was found that all of them were engaged in the same kind of work but they don't have equal human capital. Some of them are more skillful to make ice-cream (*kulfi barof*) themselves and skillful to sell it others of them have additional skill such as driving, knitting carpet (*galaicha*) some respondents who have skill to printing and repairing home also found in ice-cream vending occupation. The additional skills help them to generate income which make them livelihood easier.

**Table 6.3**  
**Skill and Training**

Additional skills	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Making ice-cream ( <i>kulfi/buraf</i> )	4	10
Driving/Helper	3	7
Knitting carpet	5	11.9
Mason/carpenter/painter	2	5.1
Hotel management(Training)	3	7
No additional skill	25	60
Total	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sept, 2007

Table 6.3 shows that the street ice-cream vendors do not depend only one ice-cream vending. Some of them have also additional skills. More than fifty or nearly 60 percent respondents depend upon single skill ie. street ice-cream vending as a way of earning livelihood. On the other hand, about forty percent has additional skills. Respondent who have skill to painter/carpenter and mason are not worthy and carpet netting also unsatisfied so they are involving in ice-cream vending occupation.

Among these skills, they utilize making ice-cream (*Burof/kulfi*) in the same profession. Some respondents are also vending *Kulfi* making it themselves. Such additional skills are also the main income-generating source to make living. There a difference in the level of earning among these having additional skills and those who do not.

According to respondents expressions it conclude that due to the additional skill, all the ice-cream vendors do not have equal income. Sometimes, their additional skills also help them to reduce the economic vulnerability caused by the seasonality.

### **6.2.2 Natural Capital**

Natural capitals refers to environmental assets such as land, common property resource (with communal management and traditional system determining access and types of use) or free (open access) natural resources such as water forests or grazing land (Sida, 2002:28), Natural capital is very important to those who divided all or part of their livelihoods from resource based activities (farming, fishing, gathering in forests, mineral extraction, etc. (DFID 2002:2:3:1). These assets are generally less used in the livelihood strategies of the urban poor, as they tend to be less available specially in large urban centers. (sida 2002: 28)

Natural capital is the term use for the natural resource stock from which resource flow and services (e.g. nutrient cycling, erosion protection) useful for livelihoods are derived within the sustainable livelihood framework, the relationship between natural capital is very important to those who derive all or part of their livelihoods from resource based activities, However, it is important goes away beyond this none of us would survive without the help of the key environmental service and food production from natural capital (DFID: 2002: 2 :3:3). Though, their access to natural resource of street ice-cream in permanent resident bears significant role. Only the accessible urban resources for them within working place (vending area) are discussed in this study.

By the nature of work, ice-cream vendors are using the urban natural resource i.e. footpath (open space), Road, nodal points of the city area, park side and recreational area of the city. By sitting in such places they are providing service for public. In return they earn economic source. On the other hand by the nature, all the places do not have equal portfolio for then to generate more income. Magnitude and level of social interaction in any place are the attracting factor for them to use it.

The expanding urban growth has negative role on access of the land for the poor (especially open space user street vendors). Generally, the flow of pedestrians in any place determines the income generating capacity. The place where flow is very high produces more work and results more income. Similarly, places where flow is very low produce few work and results low income. All the street ice-cream vendors compete with each other in order to use port folios locations. Due to the lack of social capital all of than do not have equal access to those locations and they are compelled to spread all around of city. Natural capital of the street ice-cream vendors in the study area is discussed in following sub headings.

### **6.2.2.1 Place Specific Characteristics**

The income activities of the street ice-cream vendors also are determined by the nature of place and it is differ from place to place. The three major locations of the study area do not have equal potentialities to generate more income for the street cobblers. These three locations are different from each other in terms of magnitude and level of social interaction which is shown in the table below.

**Table 6.4**  
**Ranking of Place in terms of Income**

Place	Ranking*
Jawalakhel area	I
Ratnapark Area	II
Balaju area	III

Source: Field Survey Sept 2007

\* Ranking of place is based on the (income generating capacity) average daily earning of respondents in these places.

Table 6.4 shows that these places do not have equal potentiality to generate income. Among three locations, Jawalakhel has high potentiality to generate income because most of the people who visit the zoo they are with their children couple and friends are purchasing for the ice-cream. These people who comes there for the recreational purpose also spent for ice-cream school and couple are the main customer for the ice-cream vendors. Except moday in every week they earn at least 600-900 rupees per day. According to respondents it varies from season to seasons and day to day. During the field work it was found that Jawalakhel have long history of ice-cream vending than the other places, there have been found that few of vendors are adapting this occupation since is years ago. Being another core location Ratnapark area has low potentialities than Jawalakhel because this place is the interaction point of peoples with different status. However, the exhibition road (Bhivktimandap) nearby the Ratnapark being the recreational area has also potentiality to generate income. Balaju area lies on the third rank due to the interaction point of people as an intermediate point (rural urban linkage point) not ending point. But in the above mentioned two locations, people interact as ending points.

**Picture 6. 1**



Street ice-cream vendors providing service to the customers

### **6.2.3 Social Capital**

It is difficult to determine about what exactly meant by the term 'social capital' however a key assets for both the urban and rural poor people is social capital. Social capital refers to networks of mutual support that exist within and between household, extended family and communities which people can mobilize to access. For example loans, children, food opportunities (sida, 2002:30). Social capital an increasingly used term, but also one which is difficult to define, especially in a commonly agreed manner and even more, difficult to identify and assess. In the sustainable livelihood frame work, social capital is intended in the widest sense as 'social resources' (such as networks, membership of formal groups trust and reciprocity, etc) up on which people draw in pursuit of their livelihood objective DFID 2002: 2.3.1).

Of all the five livelihood building blocks social capital is the most intimately connected to transforming structure and process. In fact, it can be useful to think of social capital as a product of those structures and processes though this over-

simplifies the relationship. Structure and processes might themselves be products of social capital the relationship goes two way and can be self vein forcing for example: when people are already linked through the common norms and sanction they may be more likely to form new organizations to pursue their interests; and strong civil society groups help people to shape policies and ensure that their interests are reflected in legislation (DFID, 2002:2.3.1).

Social capital, like other types of capital can also be valued as a good in itself. It can make a particularly important contribution to people's sense of well-being (through identity, honor and belonging) social capital can be used in negative as well as positive (DFID 2002:2.3.2). In the case of the street ice-cream vendors livelihood strategies adopted by them are also shaped by the status of their social capital. So, here is given brief discussion about the ice-cream vendor.

In the study area, there were not found any formal social organizations of street ice-cream vendors but they are tied on a strong informal social network and use it as important tools to sustain their occupation within their working places. Such type social networks are important for the migrated vendors than the local. In the study area in all places, they have their own territory of working place. They are in scattered and dispersed form although they are not permanent or fixed in one place. For new ice-cream vendors, they require social relationship (neighbors, friend and relative etc) with them. There is not any restriction to the next territory but it is determined by company (where they ice-cream makes) and living places. During the field work, it was found that all the vendors are enrolling on this occupation through any kind of social linkage (e.g. friend, relative and neighbor). This is concluded that social linkage and relationship within own occupational community are important factors for them to sustain their living through ice-cream vending occupation on the open street of the Kathmandu valley.

#### **6.2.4 Physical Capital (Assets)**

Physical capital encompasses the basic infrastructure and producer goods needed to support livelihoods or includes assets such as housing tools and equipment that people own, rent or use and public infrastructures that they have access to (Sida, 2002:28). Affordable transport, secure shelter and buildings, adequate water supply and sanitation clean affordable energy and access to information (communications)

public infrastructure associated with physical assets. Lack of these assets could be considered as core dimension of poverty without adequate access to services such as : water and energy human health deteriorates and long periods are spent in non-productive activities such as collection of water and firewood. The opportunity costs associated with poor infrastructure can preclude education, access to health services and income generation. For example without transport infrastructure, essential fertilizer cannot be distributed effectively, agriculture fields remain low and it is then difficult and expensive to transport limited produce to the market. The increased cost (in terms of all types of capital) of production and transport means that producers operate at a comparative disadvantage in the market, insufficient or inappropriate producer goods also constrain people's productive capacity and therefore, the human capital is at their disposal. More time and efforts are spent on meeting basic needs, production and going access to the market (DFID, 2001:2.3.1).

In this study, livelihood strategy of street ice-cream vendors is viewed in the urban context, so, some assets such as income enhancing assets, shelter and facility in temporary resident and also assets at place of origin are discussed. Their living in temporary resident is also shaped by their physical property in permanent resident. So, it is also discussed in this section.

#### **6.2.4.1 Income generating Assets**

In the case of street ice-cream vendors, they do not have any (heavy/expensive) machinery instrument also they do not have more instrument ad hock of ice-cream vendors different types of ice-cream cores, screw and attractive pushing ice-cream cart and variety of ice-cream (*kulfi Buraq*) are considering as the income generating assets, these type of assets seem very simple but have significant role to generate monetary value, while performing their business.



**Picture 6. 2**



Street ice-cream vendors with ice-cream cart

#### **6.2.4.2 Living Arrangement and Available Facility**

The living types and quality (living strategy) of shelter in which they are living is also a major component of physical assets. The facility in living places determines the livelihood standard of ice-cream vendors. In the table 6.5, shelter and facility used by the street ice-cream vendors in temporary and permanent is given.

**Table 6.5****Living arrangement and facility according to residence**

Living arrangement	Residence		Number		
	Temporary	Permanent	Facility	frequency	percentage
Own house	-	6	All	6	100
Rental house	36	-	Piped water	21	58
			Sanitation	24	67
			Electricity	34	94
Total	36	6			
percent	85.71	14.28			

Source: Field Survey Sept, 2007

\* Percent is calculated on the basis of temporary residence (36)

Types and quality of shelter in which they are living is also major component of physical assets. In the table 6.5 above only 6 (14) respondents found has own house. Most of the respondents 36 (88) have been commuting from temporary residence are living in rental home. So, it is necessary to discuss about the available facilities in the temporary residence which is also given in table 6.5 and it shows that among three facilities electricity is accessible for 94 percent of respondents and about 67 percent respondents have access to good sanitation. The situation of piped water is poor only 58.33 percent of respondents have access to this facility. Due to the living on rental home, they do not have communication facility.

**6.2.4.3 Assets at Place of Origin**

To discuss about the physical assets, information related to their various types of assets at their place of origin was also collected to analyze their previous livelihood (before becoming street occupants in Kathmandu valley) which is important to predict future livelihood even if they leave or stop working as street occupation in some unfavorable situation. It is also necessary to discuss about their physical property of origin (permanent residence) place. Farm land animal husbandry and house type in permanent residence are going discussed in this section. Because in Kathmandu valley has not yet any legal provision or rule to manipulate or regulate street occupants in a

organized way, their occupation seem vulnerable. Either they must return to their place of origin or to change their occupation. It is also consider as "livelihood security" it there are any unforeseen situations that arise. So, their assets at place to origin are very important in a analysis of a livelihood and occupational vulnerability of street occupants in general and street ICVs in particular the following table shows the previous assets of respondents of the place of origin;

**Table 6.6**  
**Assets at Place of Origin**

Assets	Unit	Particulars	Frequency	percentage
<b>House type</b>	Frequency	cemented	8	19
		Wooden	10	24
		Muddy (wood+stone+mudd)	17	40
		Thatched	7	17
		Total	42	100
<b>Land</b>	Land holding size in Ropani	below 1 Ropani	9	21.5
		1-3 Ropani	16	38
		3-6 Ropani	8	19
		above 6 Ropani	9	21.5
		Total	42	100
<b>Animal</b>	Number	Animal type	frequency	Total number
		Cow	5	9
		Ox	9	19
		Buffalo	5	11
		Sheep/goat	11	34
		Poultry(hens, duck etc)	12	39
		Nothing	7	
		Total	49	112
<b>Other assets</b>	number	Teashop	2	
		Tea+kirana shop	1	
		Vegetable shop	1	
		Total	4	

\*Assets are combined in frequency by different type of animal husbandry.  
Source: Field Survey Sept. 2007

Table 6.6 is divided into four different categories; house type, animal, land and other assets, the first portion of the table describes the respondents house types at the place of origin. It also considered the status in society. Among the total respondents 40 percent have muddy house. 24 percent have wooden house. 19 percent respondents have cemented house 17 percent of respondents have thatched types of house at their place of origin.

The second portion of the table indicated the land holding capacity of respondents at their place of origin. Among the total respondents 38 percent have 1-3 ropani. 21.5 percent have only land for home but no land for their economic use. Another 21.5 percent of the respondents have more than 6 ropani of land and remaining 19 percent have 3-6 ropani land.

The frequency about animal husbandry indicates that 5 house hold have 7 cow and 9 house hold have 19 oxen, 5 house hold 11 buffalos and 11 household have 34 ship goat and 12 household have 39 poultry (hen, cock, duck, pig). Finally, 4 household have other assets such as tea shop tea+ kirana shop and vegetable shop at their place of origin.

### **6.2.5 Financial Capital**

Financial capital denotes the financial resource that people use to achieve their livelihood objectives. The definition used here is not economically robust, in that it includes flow as well as stocks and it can contribute to consumption as well as production. However it has been adopted to try to capture an important livelihood building block namely the availability of cash or equivalent that enables people to adopt different livelihood strategies (DFID, 1998; Sida, 2002).

Income from the labor wages is often one of the most important assets for the urban poor. Lack of skill and absence of social network hinders them (Street occupants) from the opportunity. Moreover, income among street ice cream vendors varies greatly according to efficiency of human capital. Other hand it was observed that low income or low economic status people are engaging in this profession. Naturally, they can not invest big amounts of money for their business. Most of the respondents are either from marginalized communities or groups of economically weak people, low class urban poor or urban squatter who are involved in this kind of profession. Few of the respondents invest less than 1500 rupees (who made *Buraf/culfi* themselves) to sustain their livelihood and they were happy about their business because they did not need to invest much to commerce the business and also they did not need to pay any government tax for their vending business. The following case study is representative on the respondents.

#### Case Of sonam lama

Sonam Lama 28 years young man. From sindhuli, seem very energetic and happy when the researcher talk with him. When he lost his police job in 2057 B.S. due to the Maoist conflict. He left his house to his wife with 9 month body. He said Maoist tortured his wife time and time and gave ultimate to leave the security/force job, otherwise they demand for huge amount of money, but he is unable. Ultimately he left the job. At first, he joined security guard in private home in low amount; finally he came to the street to sell the ice-cream for 5 years. Now he used to send monthly 3000-4000 in summer season. And his wife begins a tea shop in sindhuli where other members of his family are now earning positively.

He was very positive about his street occupation because he said "we don't need any investment and pay any tax and rent for that we can easily, And he was also very happy with his present livelihood compared to his previous one. He had no any regretting to his past job. He again said I can earn good money by working few hour in a day (Researcher myself found that he had the social link with security in Jawalakhel so he using the premise of Gate of zoo. In Jawalakhel). Lastly he said that recently he was in thought of changing occupation bcz he felt himself this occupations is not so prestigious. He has a colour television, gas, sound system and cupboard. He is planning to stay with his wife including a little baby in kathmandu there one after.

temporary residence. So, their saving determined by daily earning food and lodging in individual level and after house holds level. Here financial capitals of street ice-cream vendors are discussed in terms of daily earning daily expenditure and monthly saving.

#### 6.2.5.1 Daily Earning

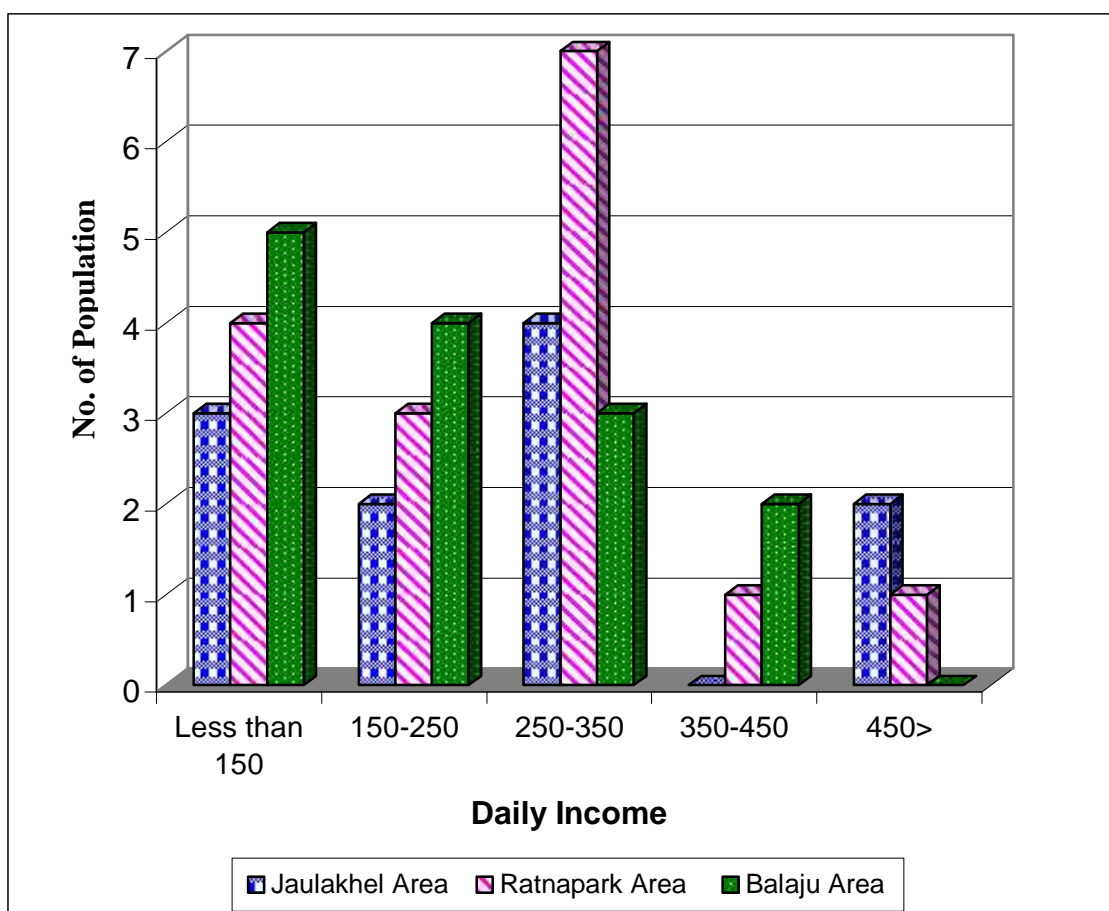
Naturally street businesses are low investment business from where the vendors earn less than other business. It is also true that urban livelihoods are different from rural livelihood (chapter II Review of literature 2.2 urban livelihood security P). The unskilled and under educated ice-cream vendors can't find any reliable paid work, so, they must earn from ice-cream vending in the street to sustain their and family livelihood. All the street ice cream vendors do not have equal daily earnings because all individuals do not have equal access to human, social, natural and physical capital, Their income per day ranges from 100-500 rupees location variation were also observed in these studies. Which are reported in table 6.7

**Table 6.7**  
**Average per Day Income of Respondent**

Per day income	Selling Locations				
	In Rs.	Jawalakhel	Ratapark	Balaju Area	Total
Less than 150	3	4	5	12	29
150-250	2	3	4	9	21
250-350	4	7	3	15	36
350-450	-	1	2	3	7
450>	2	1	-	3	7
Total	11	17	14	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sep. 2007

**Fig. 6.1**  
**Average per Day Income of Respondent**



From all the location 29 percent of respondents earn less than 150 rupees per day 21 percent earn 150-250 rupees. 36 earn 250-350 rupees, 7 earn 350-450 rupees and only 3 respondents also 7 percent earn more than 450 rupees every day.

Their daily earning is not constant at all time. There is fluctuation daily and in different location and seasons. There are lots of factors which cause fluctuation in daily income (detail in chapter seven vulnerability context) sometime their daily income very low (not sufficient to daily food) and sometime their daily earning becomes high.

### 6.2.5.2 Daily Expenditure

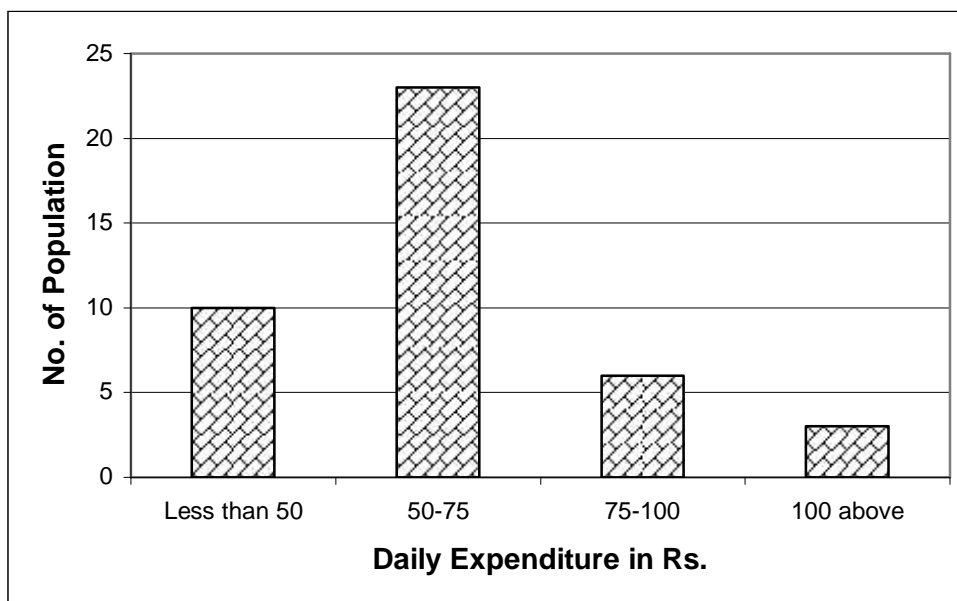
Generally in urban area people need to by every thing to sustain their livelihood. Laboring (any kind of work to generate income) is the main way for people to earn money in urban settings. For the unskilled and undereducated person there is difficult to find reliable paid work. In other hand daily expenditure is another important factor of financial capital. To increase daily income is difficult than to minimize daily expenditure on daily fooding and monthly rent of room. All the human being does not have same behaviors and desires. Having un equal daily income and unequal desire and behaviors, all the street ice cream vendors do not have same daily expenditure. Daily expenditure of the street ice-cream vendors within the study area is shown in table 6.8 below.

**Table 6.8**  
**Daily Expenditure of Street ICVs.**

Daily expenditure	No of respondents	Percentage
Less than 50	10	24
50-75	23	55
75-100	6	14
100 above	3	7
Total	42	100

**Fig. 6.2**

**Daily Expenditure of Street ICVs.**



Above table 6.8 also concludes that all the vendors do not have equal daily expenditure large proportion of street ICVs have daily expenditure between 50-75 and small proportion of street ICVs have daily expenditure below Rs. 50. Sometime their daily expenditure is also determined by daily income. If they are able to earn more than that of a normal day, there emerges a tendency to increase expenditure is heavy dinner.

### **6.3 Livelihood Outcomes**

Livelihood outcome are achievement or output of livelihood strategy such as more income, increased well being reduced vulnerability improved food security and more sustainability.

Here the term livelihood outcome represents the achievement of the street ice-cream vendors after adopting the street occupant (adapting new livelihood strategy). From this study it has felt, there in no equal achievement in the entire respondent nor is it same in different three place. In terms of place, Jawalakhel and Ratnapark (where is busy market and flow of pedestrian and customer is high) earns more than other places. On the other hand, in individual level the respondents who have additional skill (driver, helper, mason carpenter etc) have also the high income with compare to single occupation (ice-cream vending). But there is no drastic significant change (achievement) in such respondents. The limited income due to lake of skill and more



seasonal nature of their work has been made their life more vulnerable (in terms of occupation) than ever. These vendors who sells the ice-cream hole day and who works in other profession earns more. Their standard of living is much higher than others. They ranted in modern concrete building with modern house hold (assets) facility. Some of they send their children in private school also.

More over among these respondents (ICVs) income diversification is the important livelihood out come of the study area. After joining this occupation most of the ICVs have achieved some notable livelihood out comes Livelihood outcomes achieved by them are not only in the form of economic value (monthly saving) but also for social value which also bears equal meaning as economic value. Those out comes of economic value may be easily seen if it is invested to increase other livelihood assets. Main sector of investment by most of the respondents are diverse and complex which are summarized below;

**Table 6.9**  
**Livelihood Outcomes**

Sector of investment	Forms of livelihood outcomes
Basis needs	Fooding, clothing ,repairing house (positive change)
Health and education	Investment for treatment (in the time of illness) enroll their children into school
Custom and religion	Invest in some special occasions (marriage, birth, worship) invest in feast and festival
Luxurious goods	Change in rented room-invest to buy ornament and new cloth-investment buy T.V, sound system etc.
For well being	Construction of new house (in origin place and new place)

*Source: Field Survey Sept. 2007.*

In such way we can say that ice-cream vendors are improving their living standard through this occupation. Though we can also say that they will not be compelled to continue this job they can be engaged in different area them selves. It will further help to understand the condition of the street ice-cream vendors-with relating to the livelihood out comes and sustainability, while in almost cases livelihood outcomes can be thought of as the inverse of poverty.

The most important livelihood outcomes achievement by ice-cream vendors of the adopting this occupation is that they are able to survive in temporary residence of the urban area by fulfilling the Basis needs. Another important livelihood outcomes achieved by them are in the form of economic value. All the respondents are able to save some amount. Such saving vary from individual to individual and are also determined by their responsibility toward household. Those who do not have to support the total expenditure of household do not want to limit their daily expenditure. Most of the respondents have both economic and social relationship with house hold. From this perspective, livelihood out comes achieved on this level bear significant meanings. The saving on individual levels also shapes outcome on household level also. Saving in individual level is the main economic source and it appears in different forms in households levels. Most of the respondents invest their savings on household level but due to the poor economic condition, their tiny economic support is not enough to fulfill infinite basic necessities of household. There are some sectors in which their economic support becomes more meaningful. All the street ice-cream vendors do not have their well economic background determines the sector in which they have to invest their savings. The respondents, who do not have their own farmland, have to give more priority to fooding than other sector. There religion tradition and customs are also important factors to determine the sectors of expenditure.

## CHAPTER - SEVEN

### VULNERABILITY CONTEXT

The term Vulnerability has become more familiar in national and international context especially in developing country at present. The vulnerability context represents the external environment in which people live. Trend, shocks and seasonality are external factors over which people have no or limit control. Trend comprise for instance resource stock, population density, technology, politics, economics. Shocks comprise among other things destruction of access, economic shock and conflict. The seasonality may include price, production and employment opportunity.(DFID,2002).

Peoples livelihood and the wider availability of assets are fundamentally affected by vulnerability context, over which they have limit or no control. Though, all 'Ice cream vendors' are able to earn some income however, this occupation is seasonal on the other hand there occupation is not secure as well as they are not feeling socially prestigious. The vulnerability that Ice cream vendors faced can be described following subheadings.

#### **7.1 Occupational Vulnerability**

The population growth and unemployment problem juxtapose to each other. Consequently, people are compelled to perform direct task. Likewise, livelihood of street ice cream vendors in Kathmandu valley is directly or indirectly linked with their environmental, housing, health and socio-economic conditions. All the vendors do not have equal efficiency and ability which directly impact on their daily earnings. When they have more income they save money. This chapter deals the vulnerability context that represents the situation of ICVs. The factors that disorder their livelihood options in income kathmandu valley. The vulnerability context frames the external environments in which people exist. Though all the street ice-cream vendors are able to earn some income, they do not have their own places to run their business. For this, they have to depend upon open space of the city area. All the street ice-cream vendors are concentrated in places where the flow of pedestrians and vehicle density is high. As a result their working place is not environmentally sound which in turn affect the health condition of ICVs. There are many factors which cause fluctuations in their regular income. Due to the different causes, the occupation, through which they are earning their living, is not secure and sustainable. The occupational vulnerability of

the street ice-cream vendors is high. Therefore living in urban settings become very difficult for them. Vulnerability context of all respondents is not the same because all of them do not have equal access to livelihood assets and also differ from individual to individual and from place to place. The vulnerability is not a unique phenomenon. It is the combination of different factors that creates obstacles in the pursuit of livelihood and activities.

The occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendor in this chapter is discussed under the different subheadings. In fast growing cities like Kathmandu vending (and hawkers) no more remains an unnoticed activity. These activities are also major sources of conflict between city managers and planners on one hand and large number of vendors and hawkers on the other. The problem of street ice-cream vendors is definitely one which cries for a solution for the simple reason that it values human beings and their basic needs. Although the problem appears unsolvable and intractable, it is not beyond limited and temporary solutions, at least in parts of the city.

We need to understand the ground situation as it prevails today. These include varying perceptions of the vendors, police and municipal authorities their legal and professional obligations, the human and socio-economic considerations, in order to discover a common part from and strategy. It would help to sort out the problem of the vendors and the different agencies in the large public interest. There is a definite need to identify each and every vendor whatever their mode of operation, in the Kathmandu valley and to give them some kind of identity through verification.

In this context, to explore the real functioning of vending in a city like Kathmandu may help us understand the context within which the activity occurs and the conflict arises for the vending space.

### **7.1.1 Lack of Space as a Source of Vulnerability.**

The street occupants being an unregistered and mobile profession, the urban street ice-cream vendors (ICVs) are considered as problem creators for the metro police. On the one hand, they are not well educated and skilled which create problems for them in finding a job and on the other hand there are no legal provisions, allocated space for vending a positive understanding from public agencies. Thus the Ice-cream vendors are facing so many problems while performing their business in the street.

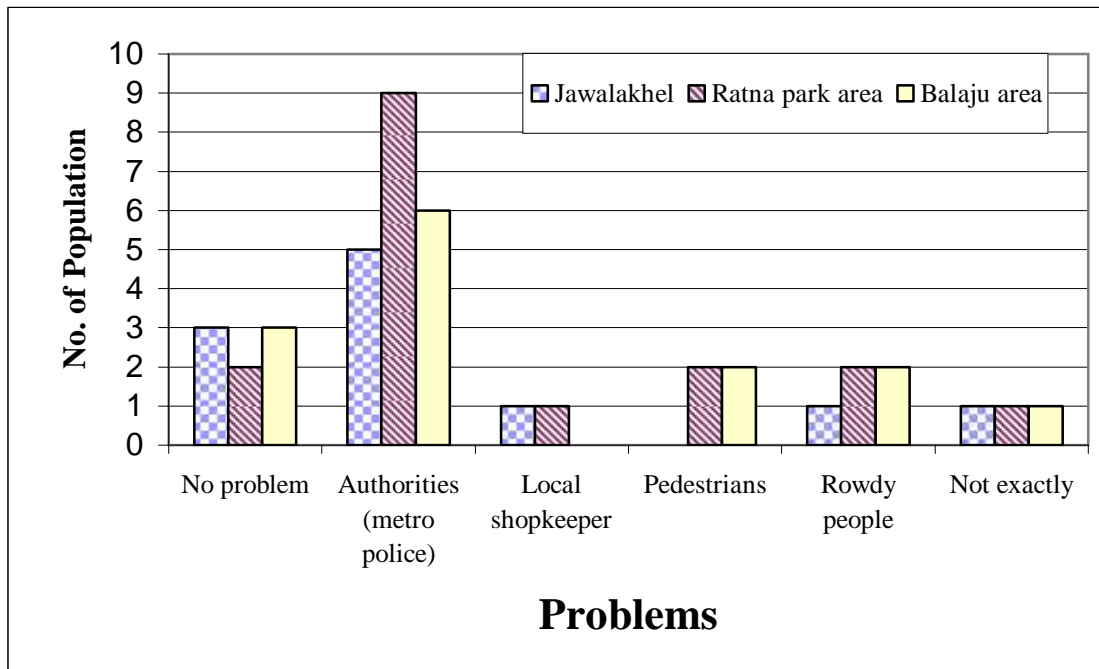
To determine the real problems, the researcher asked question about the responsibility for the sources of problems of street ICVs. Although, research has been derived from the various feeling from responsible persons such as respondents, Pedestrians, local shopkeepers and customer (while cattering the ice-cream) etc. The numeric information was collected only from the street ICVs. Table 7.1 shows the responsibility factors for the source of problem to street ICVs while performing their business.

**Table 7.1**  
**Source of Problem**

Problem Sources	Sailing Location			Total	Percent
	Jawalakhel	Ratna park area	Balaju area		
Authorities (metro police)	5	9	6	20	47
Local shopkeeper	1	1	0	2	5
Pedestrians	0	2	2	4	10
Rowdy people	1	2	2	5	12
Not exactly	1	1	1	3	7
No problem	3	2	3	8	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey Sept, 2007.

**Fig.7.1**  
**Source of Problem**



Above result reveals that 47 percent of the respondents feel that they were facing problems while vending the ice-cream in the street. According to their response most of them in all locations considered that they had problems. Alternatively 19 percent of Ice-cream vendors felt that they were not facing any problems with their business and 7 percent of vendors were not sure whether they had a problem or not. The researcher felt that those respondents who were newly established and those who were suspicious toward the researcher replied as not exactly to the question about whether they were facing a problem or not.

**Box 5**

**Case of Raju Lama**

Raju lama (Ratnapark) had started ice-cream vending since 8 years in the beginning there were no problems but after he had faced many problems from the authorities. They force him many times to quit the vending place, through away his selling materials many times, he had been arrested 4/5 time by the metropolitan police and they had threatened him many times. He further said the 'I am not satisfied with the authorities because the frequently disturb us'. He has three children who are studying and he had to earn for them too, he was earning 150-200 rupees every day. He thought that it was not sufficient for sustaining their livelihood in urban area. Finally he suggested that only being driven away from the foot path and throwing away the selling materials and rushed down the cart are not good solution for the problem. Therefore, either the government should provide them a job or manage a fixed space for vending without any disturbance.

Most of the respondents believed that the authorities were the main cause of source of problems but local shopkeeper and pedestrians are also contributing to boost up their problem, As well as the Rowdy people also the problems for the ice-cream vendors according to respondents. However, it is depend upon the vendor and the vending location.

## 7.2 Seasonality

Seasonality is the core of vulnerability context. Through seasonality obstacles are created in pursuit of livelihood. In this study, seasonality is used to indicate the situation in which daily activities and income of street ice-cream vendors fluctuate. In some seasons, they are able to earn more then their expectation and in other season it is just opposite. Mainly three seasons emerge based on the business transaction of ICVs: Winter, summer and festival season. In addition, there are special days of the week and extra-ordinary days ( strike, *banda* and *hadtal* etc) where ICVs earn more than usual. Different types of seasonal factors are responsible for it. Table 7.2 shows the seasonality through which their daily income keeps on fluctuating throughout the year.

**Table 7.2**  
**Seasonality and Economic Impact on Ice-cream Vending**

Season	Human response	work efficiency	impact
Winter season(cold season)	Customer do not prefer ice-cream in this seasons Occasional sale	Decrease in sale Low	Decreasing in daily income
Summer season	due to the seasons customer (people) prefer to ice cream items.	Increase the frequency of work.	increase the daily earning
Festival Season (Dashain and Tihar)	flow of peoples pedestrian increase	High transition High	High income Positive

<b>Fluctuation in income based on the Extra ordinary day</b>			
Site specific special days *	The valley (city area) increase the pedestrian activities	Increase the work frequency.	Increase the daily earning
Holidays	Increase the flow of pedestrians near the residential area and holiday spending places (park/zoo, open place)	Increase the frequency of work.	Increase the daily earning
Extra ordinary day (Banda/chakka jam hadtal etc.)	the flow of pedestrian increase in the open street.	Increase the frequency of works to ICVs.	Increase the daily income
Regular days	Increase the flow of pedestrians near residential area and holiday opening place	Increase the frequency of work.	Decrease the daily earning

\* Site specific festival days especially in Kathmandu

Source: In-depth interview (field work) Sept., 2007

Table 7.2 shows that the vulnerability context of seasonality is not always negative for the street ice-cream vendors. Sometime due to the seasonal change (weather) they are able to increase their earnings and some other the income abruptly decreases. So their daily earning amount is not constant throughout the year. In their daily earning and availability of work, their perception towards the occupation as crops depends upon monsoon and flood in rainy season. The elements which cause the seasonality for their earnings are categorized as the following ways.

### **7.2.1 Summer and Winter Season**

The valley comprises it self variation in climate due to its topography. Seasonal variation due to the environmental change is more complex then other elements of seasonality. Environment directly affects the street ice-cream vendors and their activities. For the street Ice-cream vendors economic vulnerability becomes very high in the winter in comparison to the summer. However, in summer also the



physical vulnerability to perform this business is also high . Field work of this study was done in the summer. So, researcher had got opportunities to observe and understand the physical vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors caused by the intensive rainfall.

#### Box 6

##### **A Case of Weather of Hot Sunny Day and Uncertain Rainfall**

*On 18 August, 2007, I went to Balaju with my friend to interview the respondents. It was very hot and sunny day. At about 2:30 o'clock, it started to rain .On the entire footpath businessmen were collecting their goods and went towards the safe place. But, all the street ice-cream vendors started to protect their ice-cream cart and themselves with an umbrella and plastics which is another very important to save the ice, inside the cart from rain water. Generally it seems opposite of our thinking that the ice gets melted by the rain and it is frozen in cold. Because of damaging the ice-cream item they do so. After some time only Ice-cream vendors and 'Soda Pani' vendors were there till on the footpath. Till this time, we observed the rainfall and its effect upon footpath businessmen. The rain was becoming so intensive that our single umbrella could not protect us. Being an urban area there was not a resting placing to protect the pedestrian from the rain. We went toward a tea shop but that was already houseful by the people. So we stood at the back of the tea shop. After sometime we saw a man coming near us with a cart of ice-cream. He was totally wet due to the heavy rain and he entered in the hotel. Later, we knew that he was one of our respondents with whom would interviewed in the course of our interview,ha had informed us that he used to take meal in the hotel and also used to drink at times while he was in heavy duty.*

Except from the enrollment change, culture also causes fluctuation in their daily earnings. Before 'Dashain', and 'Tihar' and occasional feast and festival of Kathmandu Valley, they are able to earn more. At that time, flow of the pedestrian becomes high and results to increase work. Nearby Dashin and Tihar most of the street ice-cream vendors go home to celebrate festival. At that time due to decrease of competitor, availability of works increases for the remaining street Ice-cream vendors. They are able to earn more than in other normal day. At the same time in Kathmandu valley there was so many exhibition, concert, *mela*, and *uttsab* etc. are conducted where they earn more than their exception per day.

#### Uttsab/Festival and Increased Income

Ratnaman Maharjan, 28 Residents of Khokana, Lalitpur has been continuing this Ice-cream vending occupation since last 7 years. He usually stays at Bhirkutimandap while the "*Dashin Tiharand Kathmandu Utsab*" begin in this place. He explains that in such times there would he earns more. He had an experience of daily income Rs. 2500 to 3000 in the time of festival and *Utsab- Mela* in this place. He further stressed that he was fully satisfied from this occupation. He sends his child to private School which was not possible without this work. So, he is not thinking of other occupations at this time.

### 7.3 Social Perception towards Occupation

Social phenomena are more complex than physical phenomenon. The society is much complex in its behavior. During the field work two types of street ice-cream vendors were observed: one types; migrated from outside the valley and another is local or non-migrants. The social vulnerability between these groups with respect to place of residence and place of work differed. Their mobility with respect to work is quite high. The street ice-cream vendors who were migrants do not hesitate to go to any places with in the city for their business. But local prefer to run their business from their place of residence. But this situation seems only few vendors. The valley is dominated by the '*Newar*' community and perception of them toward the ICVs as '*Parbata kha*' (A man from the hilly region) and other footpath businessman use to say them '*thela*' (a cart puller). Beside such divisions, there are lots of social factors in urban area which also increase the vulnerability of their business. Sometimes rowdy people force them to provide ice-cream, free of cost. Sometimes druggists also torture them by asking for money. This suggests that social factors are also responsible to reinforce the occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors. Directly or indirectly the livelihood of the street ice-cream vendors in Kathmandu valley is shaped by social vulnerability.

#### 7.3.1 Societies and Vulnerability

Society, itself a complex phenomenon where the different types of activities roams around the society. On the other hand the valley has diverse cast and ethnic groups. People from all over the country have migrated here. The valley is mostly

populated by *Newar* so *Newari* society is dominance in the valley. '*Newars*' are the main habitants of the valley. However while the ice-cream vendors run their business on the street they interact/deal with different types of customers who are from the different societies and behave differently.

Social vulnerability is one of the most important factors to shape sustainable livelihood of the street ice-cream vendors. There are different view points of society toward this occupation. In the present situation, the street ice-cream vendors have low status. Being involved in such a low status occupation they feel social inferior. Their economic status is not equal and varies from individual to individual. In this study social vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors is discussed further in following points 'social perception towards occupation.'

### **7.3.2 Political Situation and Vulnerability**

Political situation of country is another factor which increases the occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors. Similar to seasonality the political instability also affects the daily earning of these groups. The political activities such as '*Nepal Bandha*' and '*Chakkajam*' are common phenomenon in Nepali. None of the ICVs were positive about these '*Bandha*'. However, this disturbs increase their daily earnings more than normal day. They are the people who live like day in -day out (*Dindinai kamaune ra dindinai khane*). Because of *chakajam* their daily activities badly affected. Effect of *Baanda* and *chakajam* is not equal for all locations. According to respondents exceptionally high income a day has no meaning at all. (*Eak din aaune bhel ko ke ass hunchha*). By '*Benda* and *Chakajam*' they can't run their occupation properly. The public and boarding school children are their main customers, with *Banda* schools are closed and it was indirect effect on ICVs business. Their daily earning fluctuates. Thus, political situation also in creates the occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors and affects directly or indirectly in the way of living.

### **7.4 Livelihood Assets and Vulnerability**

Livelihood assets also affect the vulnerability context of the street ice-cream vendors. All of them do not have equal access to livelihood assets. The asset situation varies from individual to individual and from place to place. Therefore, the vulnerability context created by access to different assets is not equal.

### **7.4.1 Human Capital and Vulnerability**

All the street ice-cream vendors do not have equal strength and skill for their work. This directly influences the daily earning. Those who are strong to pull the cart to long distance and those who are able to provide good quality plus and variety of ice-cream for their customer are able to earn more. In this way they reduce economic vulnerability. But the situation can be opposite to the rest. Thus, variation among street ice-cream vendor in terms of human capital are also responsible for the occupational vulnerability.

### **7.4.2 Social Capital and Vulnerability**

The street Ice-cream vendors have their own territory to run their business within city. Due to the lack of own ability and social links all of them are not able to would not able to occupy suitable location in the city. Many of them have to create their own work territory not used by others person It shows that their own business group is also complex. This lack of social capital affects their business transaction and thereby their income.

### **7.4.3 Natural and physical Capital and Vulnerability**

All the street ICVs do not have equal access to natural assets. There are some high income generating places but most of them are controlled by limited fellow ice-cream vendors. These fellow businessmen are able to earn more. But there are place specific business transition and rest all location are suitable. The risk of places and abusers varies from place to place. Thus, access to natural assets also creates the occupational vulnerability of the street ice-cream vendors.

Access to physical assets of the street ICVs in working place do not play important role to increase vulnerability context because most of them have been using equal physical assets. Access to physical assets such as the basic infrastructure, transport facilities, shelter and buildings sanitation and energy as well as communication facilities etc. has indirect effect on the ICVs business. Living in small unhygienic room has health impact which reduces their work efficiency and ultimately their income their income.

### **7.4.4 Financial Capital and Vulnerability**

Vulnerability caused by financial capital is the combination of vulnerability caused by other assets. All the street ice-cream vendors do not have equal income. It

results into unequal monthly savings. Among them those who have additional skills can increase their monthly savings. Similarly, those who have ability to establish the good social links and increase access to natural assets have better chance of success. Those whose financial capital is robust are able to reduce vulnerability and are able to save some amount so that they mitigate the vulnerability.

With all these it is clear that vulnerability caused by livelihood assets among street ice-cream vendors is complex and interrelated to each other. Vulnerability caused by lack of one types of asset also increase occupational.

### 7.5 Awareness towards the Problem

Being a street occupant they suffer from many problems. On the one hand there are no legal provision to protect them and they have no fixed location for vending purpose. On the other hand, these street occupants have to survive on the street by selling ice-cream. The problems related to the street ice-cream vendors are not ignorable but they could be managed. To manage the problems either the government should launch certain programs directed towards street ice-cream vendors or street ice-cream themselves should be aware of their problems and of how to manage them. Table 6.3 shows the number of street ICVs who are aware or un-aware of the problems being faced by all of them.

**Table 7.3**  
**Awareness Towards Their Problems**

Awareness towards their problem	Number (frequency)	Percentage
Aware	29	69
Unaware	13	31
Total	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sept., 2007

An impressive 69 percent of total respondents were aware of their problems. but the balance of 30.95 percent was unaware. This result would indicate that the respondents are looking for some kind of solution for their problems.

## 7.6 Occupational Sustainability

Occupational sustainability is more important for any persons for his/her livelihood. For a person existing situation his/her occupation should be sustainable to maintain his/her overall status. Although street ICVs have many problems while carrying out their business most of them think that their occupation is sustainable if the proper requirements are fulfilled. They can manage it despite lack of specific location for vending. They think they can change the place instead of the quitting the occupation. The information related to satisfaction and dissatisfaction would also help to understand their feelings toward occupational sustainability. Table 7.4 shows the occupational satisfaction situation of the street ice-cream vendors by location.

**Table 7.4**  
**Occupation Satisfaction of ICVs**

Location/ site	Occupational satisfaction		
	Not satisfied	Satisfied	Total
Jawalakhel	1	10	11
Ratnapark	5	12	17
Balaju	3	11	14
Total	9	33	42
Percentage	21	79	100

Source: Field Survey Sept, 2007

Nearby 79 percent respondents felt they are satisfied with their present occupation whereas 21 percent are not satisfied. Despite many problems they are satisfied with their occupation. The street ICVs were asked about what makes them satisfied with their profession. The reasons of satisfaction of street ice-cream vendors are shown in table 7.5.

**Table 7.5**  
**Reasons of Satisfaction**

Reasons of Satisfaction	Number	Percent
Need low investment	14	33.5
Easy way to income/easy access to money	8	19
Feeling of freedom	3	7
Easy to handle the business	6	14
Others	2	5
Not satisfied	9	21.5
Total	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sept. 2007.

33.5 percent of respondents felt they were satisfied because their occupation needs no high investment 19 percent were satisfied because of easy way to earn or easy access to money, 7 percent were satisfied because of the feeling of freedom. That 14 percent felt they were satisfied because their occupation is easy to handle. Only 21.5 percent of respondents were not satisfied because they thought they were not earning enough for their needs and it is also very difficult to earn sufficient income through selling ice-cream.

5 percent were satisfied because of other causes such as, they were able to sustain their family livelihood, they were not dependent, and some of them were satisfied because they thought they were '*eating with doing*'.

### **7.7 Respondents Opinion to Manage their Occupation**

Any occupation could be more sustainable if it was run in an organized way. Likewise livelihoods of street ICVs could be more simple and sustainable if they had their own organization or they were members of some organizations. However most of the street ice-cream vendors were not member of any organization and also they did not have their own organization.

Since they do not have organization of their own they have to sort out their occupation problems by themselves on an individual basis. Any solution for problems should try to be search from the concerned stakeholders. So, in this context, they were also asked about their on ways to manage the problems of their occupation. Table 7.6 shows the opinion about managing their occupation at the local level.

**Table 7.6**  
**Respondent's Opinion about Managing their Occupation**

Respondents opinion Description	Locations				
	Jawalakhel	Ratnapark	Balaju	Total	Percentage
Allocate fixed location	-	2	1	3	7
Allow them to sell without any disturbance from authorities and others	7	11	8	26	63
Develop organized market/policy	1	2	1	4	9
From an organization	1	1	3	5	12
Need no intervention	2	1	1	4	9
Total	11	17	14	42	100

Source: Field Survey Sept., 2007

Some of the respondents (7%) felt that the concern authorities should allocate fixed location for their business. An overwhelming majority i.e. 63 percent want to run their business without disturbance from anyone. This situation also show that this occupation is not properly manage in urban area. They would like the government to control problem creators such as drug abusers, rowdy people, and corrupt officials. The police (metropolitan) were noted as the main problem creators by street ICVs . According to them if they can get rid off metro- police, their lives would be much easier.

About 12 percent were of the opinion that formation of an organization would be helpful while about 9 percent felt that an organized market could be the way forward. Nevertheless about 9 percent were happy and suggested that there was no need of any *intervention*

### **7.8 Feeling Freedom**

Nearly all the respondents were feeling more freedom than in their previous livelihood occupation at place of origin and even the previous occupation in urban area. Because of the rapid development and modernization of urban area, it is a different kind of challenges and many of them were ready to face it. They acquired many skills and knowledge about their business which made them free. Since most of the ice-cream vendors were far away from their family and relatives. Therefore they did not feel any family pressure in their activities. This way they could decide themselves about their lives. Most of the respondents feel freedom towards their



family, society and their present livelihood and occupation. Compared as their individual income at their place of origin their present was better and thus they were positive than before. But, for how long they could remain positive is a big question to consider.

## CHAPTER - EIGHT

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### 8.1 SUMMARY

The present study on 'livelihood strategy and occupational vulnerability of street ice-cream vendors of Kathmandu valley, Case study of Jawalakhel, Ratnapark area and Balaju area' explores the livelihood strategy of these people who are sustaining their life through using urban open resources or urban open space and their changing livelihood strategies is rapidly changing with urban morphology and to explore their exposure to the risk and their vulnerability context. This study, based on primary information where a total 42 respondents were selected from comprising a total 11, 17 and 14 from Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju Area respectively. After head counting of the street ICVs (noon-sunny day time) from all the locations more than 30% of the street ICVs were selected as respondents for this study. Semi systematic and Accidental sampling was used to collect primary information. The livelihood strategy of street ice-cream vendors in the study area (Kathmandu valley) is in transition most of them are migrated from outside the valley and are from the agricultural sector (primary source of earning livelihood). However, all the human beings do not have the same way of living. It changes according to space and time. In society, due to the social value and norms, their achievement also varies in terms of social and economic value. Among these the occupational group (ice-cream vendors) having low economic status and doing vending ice-cream in urban area occupying the open space (open street). In Kathmandu valley, the street ice-cream vendors have come from different parts of geographical boundaries. 81 percent of them have come from outside of the valley. High proportion of the street ice-cream vendors ranges within 15-30 age group. The female occupants are meager in number. All of them do not have the same house hold size but exceeds the national household's size. Most of them are rented. The number of illiterate ICVs is higher than literate ones. Some of them have additional skills. Social linkage is very important for them to be involved in this occupation.

Poverty, socio-political evil and natural disasters are the promoting cause in their home towns to undertake the present vending business in Kathmandu valley. Most of the respondents have agriculture as their profession before starting the street

ice-cream vending and other were wage labor service and students as their previous occupation or way of sustaining livelihoods. Nearly, all of the respondents felt some kinds of economic change in their life after becoming street ICVs in Kathmandu valley.

Most of them have radio, television and gas stove and they are now capable to sending their children to school (some of them being sent in private school) They have felt changes (livelihood change) as their income improved, improvement in school enrolment of children, feeling of freedom and more entertainment accessible. However, after adapting this occupation, they are not able to achieve drastic achievement but able to earn better livelihood than previous one. Nearly 79 percent of respondents felt problems while performing their business in the street of Kathmandu city and remaining felt confused and threaded cheating or theft, disturbance, force to quit the place, thrown away selling materials and harassment are the major problems of street ICVs and according to them authorities are major source of their problems which is fallowed by rowdy people and pedestrians. On the other hand, 69 percent of the respondents were aware of their problems and they need for a sustainable solution to their problems. Most of the respondents thought that their occupation was sustainable but their vending place was not sustainable, it was vulnerable.

Nearly, 79 percent of respondents were satisfied with their profession because of being easy to handle, less investment needed to start, easy and feeling of freedom, and being an easy way to earn through selling ice-cream vending. Very few respondents were dissatisfied with their occupation because of difficulties to earn through selling ice-cream in the street in the day time. Nearly, almost all of them said that they had a positive relation with their neighbors and society although some of them had neutral type of relation.

Most of them sold their ice-cream in the noon time. Similarly, their selling hours varied between them. Their monthly income and expenditure patterns ranges between 4000-10000 and 3000-9000 respectively. It also varies individual to individual and place to place. There are some external factors (metropolitan, law, political situation, and social perception etc) and internal factors (lack of additional skills, lack of social links etc) which make their occupation vulnerable.

Most of the respondents through their vending place were not sustainable. It was vulnerable which leads towards the vulnerable of this occupation. Moreover, the ice-cream vending occupation itself as seasonal, no legal provision in Kathmandu

valley is yet working and the street ice-cream vendors themselves may left this occupation at any time if the another opportunities came a head of them. On the other hand, the vendors who are satisfied to their income are not satisfied with their profession. They are not feeling prestigious for vending occupation.

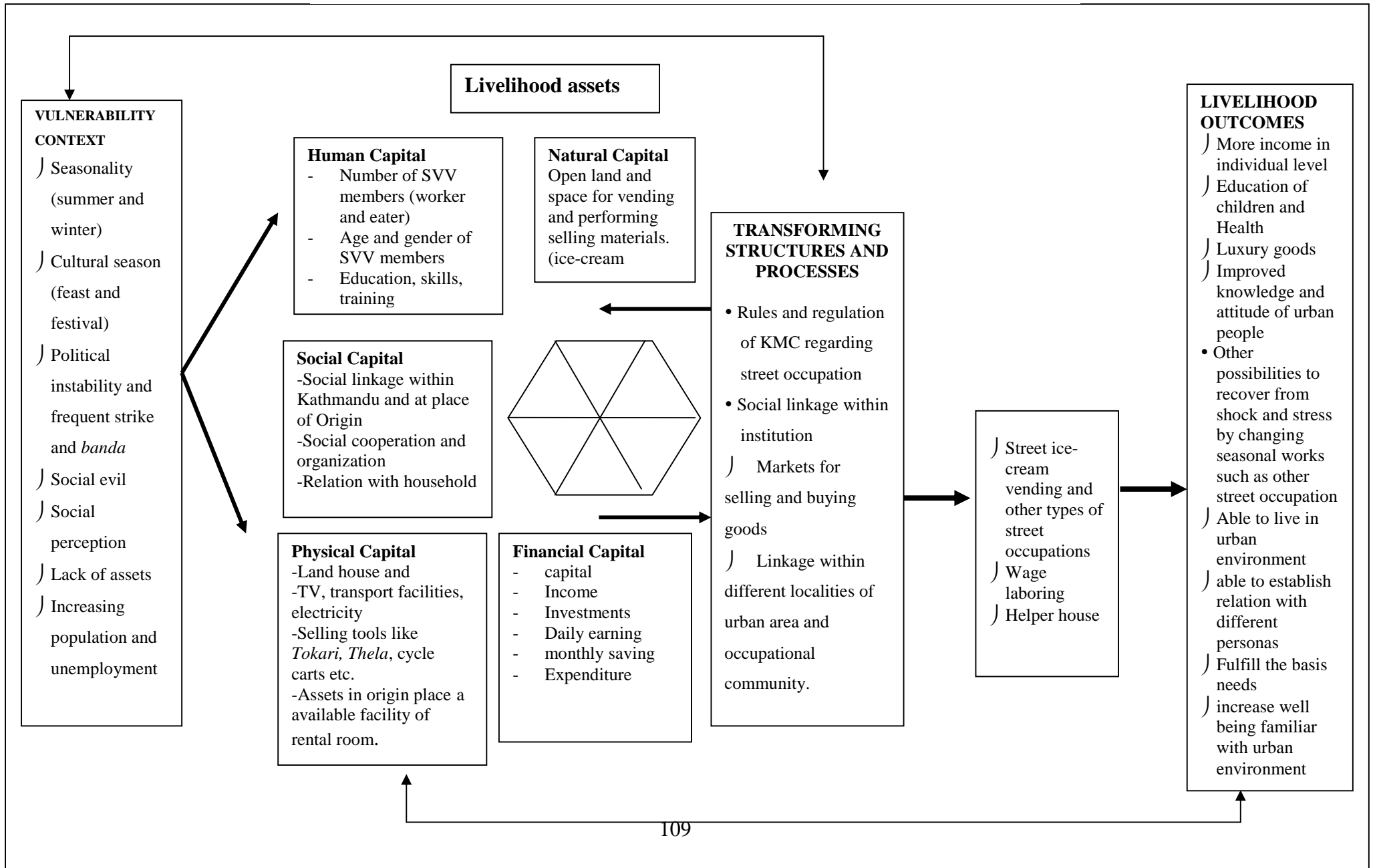
Street ICVs suggested that their profession would be sustainable of the related institution/organization are developed in an organized way such as developing organized way such as developing organized markets, no disturbance while performing their business and allowing them to do business an every where as they like.

Though there is no formal organization but they are tied up in a strong relationship with working place. All places of city areas do not have equal potentiality in terms of daily income. That varies individual to individual and place to place. There is wide fluctuation of their daily income through out the year. In summer, their daily income would rapidly increase and in winter low income yielding season. Some feast and festivals also affect their daily income.

Sometimes, ICVs are considered as problem creators in busy traffic foot path and street. Both negative and positive impact have been found providing the service, contributing to alleviating urban poverty and unemployment are considered as positive impact of street ICVs in urban areas. Selling unhygienic ice-cream in street is negative impact.

The overall summary of this study has been plotted in rural livelihood framework which was developed by Diana Carney in 1998. Although it was designed for rural livelihood strategies, in many cases it is applicable even to urban livelihood strategies.

**Fig. 8.1**  
**Livelihood Strategies of Street Ice-cream Vendors in Livelihood Framework**



## 8.2 Conclusion

All in all, urbanization is core area for any economic activities to the people. Economically weak, poor educated, disadvantaged and poor and squatters but economically active population (15-59) are involved in this profession. On the basis of age wise involvement, this study concludes that street ice-cream vending in urban area is a newly emerged livelihood strategies for the young generation.

Over the last (1.5, half.) decades, the ice-cream vendors have come to Kathmandu from different parts of the country as well as outside the country and they were introduced as street ice-cream vendors with time passing. The total number of street ICVs are increasing day by day and the population movement from the various parts of the nation including Kathmandu valley are also increasing which could cause obvious problems in the future. So, a suitable solution regarding the problems of street ICVs in particular and street occupants in general are needed. Instantly, in the situation of lack of employment, the number of educated and skilled population is also compelled to commence as street occupants.

All the place of urban areas do not have equal potentiality of daily income for street ICVs. Such potentialities of daily income depend upon the flow of magnitude and the nature of place. The access to these places heavily depends upon their place of origin. There require some social linkage for all use such profitable place. Most of the respondents who migrated do not intended to return to their place of origin they will stay in valley even in the difficult condition. Some of non-migrants respondents could not give up their profession.

To pursuit better livelihood, they involve in different movements which depends upon their place of origin. They achieve economic and social value form daily movement and such value reaches home place through daily, weekly and monthly movement. Such movements are shaped by boundary of working place a residential place (permanent and temporary). That is determined by their relationship with home place.

After adopting this occupation, they have achieved some economic value and are able to live in urban areas. This occupation is not secure and sustainable. The role of street ice-cream vendors in providing service to the middle and lower class people in the Kathmandu city and their role for boosting urban economy is reparable.

It is also true that street ICVs are sustaining their livelihood in Kathmandu valley by ignoring the authorities and they are coping with the shocks and seasonality by selling ice-cream in convenient location with convenient prices. By nature of space used by them, modern and global change this occupation seems more vulnerable. Seasonality, space and institution, social value and norms, political situation, personal/individual perception lack of livelihood assets are the most responsible factor to shape their occupational vulnerability. Effects of such factor differ from individual to individual and place to place in study area. Variation of access to livelihood assets among them is also responsible to shape the vulnerability.

### **8.3 Recommendation**

Sizable number of the street ice-cream vendors have been earning livelihood by using open space of urban areas. This occupation adopted by them is not secure and sustainable. As a result, for this study some important recommendation to related institutions professions and can be made further researcher is described:

- ) Occupation like street occupation can not be avoided totally but should be managed by organized markets or providing some open space of urban area in a systematic way.
- ) Formal organization of the street ice-cream vendors should be established in the working place so that all individual could use the working place without any hindrance.
- ) There requires an awareness programme for them to eradicate their self-humiliation created due to the involvement in such street occupants i.e. ice cream vending.
- ) Saving and credit institution should pay attention towards such occupational group so that they could manage their way of living day in day out system in the time of economic shocks caused by seasonality and political situation.
- ) Responsible institution like in metropolitan should provide some fix place in urban a pen space for such marginal occupational group.
- ) In the urban area the total numbers of street occupants are still unknown. The government has not considered street occupants as port of the city development and their rule and impact that might be helpful tot eh development of urban areas as well as the development of urban planning. So

the government should lunch some programmes to find out the total number of street occupants, their category their role in improving urban economy and their role is minimizing employment problems and alleviating poverty as well.

) From this study, it is recommended to the further researcher that the study about the unhygienic ice-cream service and health vulnerability of the customers in the urban area can be studied better with a large scale in the valley from many spots.



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## Appendix-1

### LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY AND OCCUPATIONAL VULNERABILITY OF URBAN POOR

*(A case study of Ice-cream vender in Kathmandu Valley)*

#### Questionnaire

#### A. General Information

1. Name of Respondents: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ VDC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ward: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Language(M. Tongue) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Origine place .....

#### 2: Individual Information

Individual ID	Relation to HH	Sex	Age	Marital status	Occupation	Education

1. Have you always been resident of the place?  
     a. a: yes                      b: No
2. If No, where is your place of origin?  
     a. Dist:                      VDC/Municipality              Ward/Village
3. When did you come here? Year.....
4. Why did you choose this place?
5. Do you have still your property at place of origin?  
     A: Yes                      b: No
6. If yes record the types of property?  
     .....

#### B. Occupational description

- 1) When have you come here in Kathmandu? How long it?  
     year of arrival.....
- 2) What is the cause to come here?  
     .....
- 3) Have you come single or with family?..  
     .....



- .....
22. Are you able to sell this entire ice cream item in one day?  
.....
23. How much do you sell per day?  
.....
24. Are you engaged in other occupation?  
.....
25. Do you have other income source what is then?  
.....
26. Do you have your own Traditional occupation?  
a ) Yes                      b)No
27. If yes What are they? List them.  
a) farming                      b)Selling  
c) Cottage industry              d) Domestic labor              e) Others
28. Are you still following them?  
a) Yes                      b) No
29. If yes, which are of them?
30. If No, you never did it  
a) Yes                      b) No
31. If No, when did you stop?  
.....
32. Did your father do the same?  
.....
33. Are your other family member/relatives/friends also adopting the same occupation?  
.....
34. If No, they don't like follow them?  
.....
35. If yes, why they like to follow them?  
.....
36. According to your knowledge what type of customer are catering the ice-cream?  
a) School student/children b) Young couple    c) Others
37. According to your knowledge which is the pick hour for selling the ice-cream?  
a)              b)              c)              d)
38. What is the main problem for your occupation? Specify the cause.  
a)              d)
39. What may be the solution for this problem?  
a)              b)              c)              d)
40. Are you thinking about the local policy with response to government in your problem?  
.....
41. After this occupation have you buy these things?  
a) Radio              b) Television              c) Gas              d) Stove              e) Bed Palang  
f) Daraj  
f) Sound system (audio, c.d player etc)



## D: Income and Expenditure

1. Would you give annual income form different sources?

Activities	Income R.S			
	Daily	monthly	maximum	Minimum
Recent Occupation				
Crop farming				
Fruit/Flower				
Wage laboring				
Salary/allowance				
Interest, Income				
Occasional income				
Other				
Total				

2. Please would you give your annual (last year) expenditure of this household?

Expenditure Title	Approx. Bought item	Total expenditure
Foods		
Clothes		
Education		
Health		
House rent		
Festival		
Others		
total		

3. Have you been able to make saving from this occupation?

- a)Yes                      b)No

4. If yes, where?

- a) To buy land  
 b)To improve old house  
 c)To buy new house  
 d) To invest I business  
 e) Bank deposit  
 f) Others (specify)

5. How many children do you have?

a)C

6. Where they stay?

.....

7. Have you send your children to school?

- Yes                      No.

8. If yes, a) in private school      b) Government School

9. On which topics do you have more expenses ?

- a) Children's health                      b) Stationary                      c) Dress (cloths)                      d) Tiffin  
 e) Toys (Recreational Materials)

**E. Vulnerability Context (V.C)**

1. Is your food production enough for your whole the year round?  
 a)Whole year      b)>months      c)>3 months

2. How do you manage rest of year?

Source	Own Production	Business and enterprise	Wage/ labors	Sapati (borrowing)	Cash loan	Total months
Months						

3. How do you manage loan for your family?

S.N	Institution	Amount	Reason	When

4 .Do you face any problem at your selling time?  
 .....

5. How much time do you afford to your major occupation?  
 a)Full time      b)Part time      c)Seasonal

6. Is there regular and sufficient income from major occupation?  
 a)Yes      b)No

7. No, please give following information?  
 a) more income period.....  
 b) less income period.....  
 c) Cause of variation.....

8. How do you manage you expenditure at critical time?  
 .....

9. If you have not full time job where you sent rest of time?  
 .....

10. Have you got any less in the last 5 years?  
 a)Yes      b)No

11. If yes, what did you loss?  
 a) Family member      b)properly      c)livestock  
 d)Other specify

12. How much do you pay for rent?  
 .....

13. If you are in rent, have you these facilities?  
 a) Piped water b) Sanitation      c) Electricity      d) Communication (Phone)

14 what type of problem are you facing in vending place?  
 a).....b).....c).....d).....e).....  
 .....

**F. Organization and Social Relation**

1. Have you heard about your organization or institutions?  
 a) Yes      b) No

2) If yes, what are they? List them  
 a.      b.      c.      d.

3. Are you involved in any that kind of organization?

- a) Yes                      b) No
4. If yes which organization /intuitions?  
.....
  5. Have you any membership in these organization/intuitions?  
a) Yes                      b) No
  6. If yes, what is your position?  
.....
  7. Do you know, how many ice-cream factory are there?  
a) Yes                      b) No
  8. If yes, how many?.....
  9. According to your knowledge how the public are perceive such occupation(Ice-cream selling)
  10. What relation do you have to others street vendors?  
.....
  11. Have you any thing to say me?  
.....

**G. Focus group Discussion FGD for Street ICVs**

1. Level of assets
2. Place vulnerability (vending place)
3. Livelihood strategies of street ICV after starting vending occupation
4. Satisfaction and dissatisfaction
5. Way to solve the problem.

**Key informants Interview (KII)**

1. Feeling about being street occupant (ice-cream vendors)
2. Feeling about changing livelihood.
3. Income and expenditure
4. Problem facing from different sources
5. Salving the problem.

**Thank you for your kind co-operation**

## **APPENDIX- II**

### **Checklist for observation**

1. Site of working place (location)
2. Use of resource (open space)
3. Condition of the vending assets (ice-cream cart)
4. Behave of consumers

## **APPENDIX III**

### **Checklist for focus Group discussion and key informant interview**

1. cause of choosing this occupation
2. Infarmation about their residential area
3. Monthly income
4. Monthly expenditure
5. Other work besides ice-cream vending
6. Public and authority's behaviour
7. Their social status (their own penception)
8. Sustainability from this occupation.
9. Information about their institution and organization.