

User-participation and Benefit-sharing in Community Forestry Around Sunpur in Dang District, Nepal

By

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Recommendation Letter

This thesis entitled "User-participation and Benefit-sharing in Community Forestry Around Sunpur in Dang District," has been prepared by Laxmi Acharya under my direct supervision. Therefore, I hereby recommended the thesis for its evaluation by the Examination Committee.

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Approval Letter

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "User-participation and Benefit-sharing in Community Forestry Around Sunpur in Dang District, Nepal" has been approved by the Department in the prescribed format of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of Tribhuvan University.

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Abstract

Nepal is very rich in terms of forest resources and biodiversity. A broad range of ecosystems flourishes in relatively small area of land in Nepal. The forest resources have made a significant contribution to economic and social development of the country. Besides, forests are indispensable as a life support system for women and men in the Inner Terai, Hills, and Mountains, where agriculture, livestock and vegetation influence the ecology of the area and the lives of the local population in Nepal. The general objective of the study was to identify and analyze the User-participation and Benefit-sharing in Community Forestry around Sunpur in Dang, Nepal.

The study area is located in the mid-western development region of Nepal. Field survey and review methods were used to collect the data. The household heads were selected through a two-stage sampling method. A Range Post (RP) was selected purposively having at least ten numbers of community forests handed over before 2054 B.S. From the list of households for the selected RP, household heads were then selected randomly.

The study has used both primary and secondary data. FUG members were the source of primary data. FUGs' approved OPs, minutes of the meeting, and progress reports were also used as sources of data. Information related to the FUGs gathered from DFO's official records, DDC, VDCs, published reports, maps and statistics served as sources of secondary data. Information related to the FUGs gathered from DFO's official records, DDC, VDCs, published reports, maps and statistics served as sources of secondary data.

Descriptive statistics such as frequency counts, percentage, averages, and ranges are used to describe the findings of the study. The computer based Excel program is used to analyze the data. Based on the results of the study, conclusions have been drawn and sets of recommendations for planning and further research have been presented.

The conclusion of the study is that CF could not include the wider mass in forming stage and preparation of the OP plan. The participation is good in implementation of rules and regulation for the protection of CF; participation in meeting and decision-making process, but this is only for fulfilling the requirement but not for the development of CF. Poor could not take the advantages from the CF due to the elite biased activities of the CF and CFUC. The fund of the CF is also not mobilized for the welfare of the poor and income generating activities, which is extremely demanded by the users.

Table of Contents

	Page
Recommendation Letter	ii
Approval Letter	iii
Abstract	iv
Acknowledgements	v
List of Tables	ix
List of Figures	xi
Abbreviations	xii
Glossary	xiv
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	3
1.3 Importance of the Study	6
1.4 Objectives of the Study	7
1.5 Limitation of the Study	7
1.6 Organization of the Study	7
2. Literature Review	9
2.1 Historical background of Forest Management in Nepal	9
2.2 The Concept of Social/Community Forestry	11
2.3 Community Forestry in Nepal	14
2.3.1 Historical Perspective	14
2.3.2 Policy and Regulatory Environment of Community Forestry	15
2.3.2.1 CF Related Provision in the Constitution of Nepal	15

2.3.2.2	Master Plan for the Forestry Sector	16
2.3.2.3	Forest Act 1993	17
2.3.2.4	Forest Regulation and other Statutory Provisions	18
2.3.2.5	Five-Year Plans	18
2.3.3	Community forestry development process	19
2.3.3.1	Identification phase	19
2.3.3.2	Forest user group formation phase	20
2.3.3.3	Operational plan preparation phase	20
2.3.3.4	Implementation phase	20
2.3.3.5	Review and revision phase	21
2.4	People's Participation in Forest Resource Management	21
2.5	Potential Benefits of Income Generation through Community Forestry	22
2.6	Rural Development through Community Forestry	23
2.7	Poor and Poverty	25
2.8	Achievements and Challenges of Community Forestry in Nepal	26
3.	Research Methodology	30
3.1	Research Design	30
3.2	The Study Area	30
3.2.1	Location of the Study Area	31
3.2.2	The Community Forestry in Dang District	34
3.2.3	Description of Survey Site	34
3.2.3.1	Land and Population	34
3.2.3.2	Boundary	35
3.2.3.3	Climate	35
3.2.3.4	Forest, Vegetation and Other Resources	35
3.3	Method of Data Collection	33

3.4	Data Analysis	38
4.	Results and Discussion	39
4.1	Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents	39
4.2	Users' Participation in Community Forestry Activities	44
4.3	Distribution of Benefits from CF	62
4.4	Benefit Sharing System	68
4.5	Fund Generation, Management and Mobilization	71
5.	Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations	82
5.1	Summary	82
5.2	Conclusion	88
5.3	Recommendations	89
5.3.1	Recommendations for Program Implementers	89
5.3.2	Recommendations for Forest User Groups	90
5.3.3	Recommendations for Further Research	90
	References	92
	Annexes	98

List of Tables

Page		
Table 1	Age Structure of Respondents	40
Table 2	Distribution of Respondents by Gender	40
Table 3	Ethnic Affiliation	41
Table 4	Civil Status of the Respondents	41
Table 5	Educational Status of the Respondents	42
Table 6	Occupational Status of the Respondents	43
Table 7	Household Size	43
Table 8	Land Holding Status of Respondents	44
Table 9	Participation of Respondents in FUG Formation	46
Table 10	Participation of Respondents in OP Preparation	47
Table 11	Awareness Regarding the Content and Provisions of Constitution	48
Table 12	Awareness Regarding the Rights, Roles and Duties of the Respondents to CF	48
Table 13	Awareness Regarding the Content and Provisions in OPs	49
Table 14	Participation of the Respondents in OP Implementation	51
Table 15	Responses on Operational Plan Amendment	52
Table 16	Consultation during OP Amendment	53
Table 17	Participation of Respondents in CFUG Meeting	54
Table 18	Participation in Decision Making Process	56
Table 19	Decision Makers in General Assemblies	59
Table 20	Voice Heard in Decision Making Process	60
Table 21	Perception of Respondent in Decision Making Process	60

Table 22	Improvement of Forest Condition	63
Table 23	Respondents According to Their Responses about Benefit Sharing	63
Table 24	Responses on Fulfillment of Basic Need of Forest Products from CF	64
Table 25	Respondents According to the Responses on Fair Share of Forest Products	65
Table 26	Access of Respondents to Forest Products	68
Table 27	Benefit Sharing System in CF	68
Table 28	Decision Makers to Distribute the Forest Products	69
Table 29	Responses on Getting More Benefits from CF	70
Table 30	Sources of Income of CFUG Fund	73
Table 31	Decision Makers for Use of FUG Fund	74
Table 32	Place for Depositing the Fund	74
Table 33	Area of Investment of FUG Fund	76
Table 34	Invested Activities for Forest Development	77
Table 35	CF Funded Community Infrastructure Development Items	78
Table 36	Area of Improvement of Community Infrastructure under FUG Support	79
Table 37	Income Generating Activities Supported by FUG	80
Table 38	Provisions to Use the FUG Fund for Welfare of Poor Users	80
Table 39	Comments Regarding the CF Program	105

List of Figures

		Page
Figure 1	Map of Study Area	33
Figure 2	Respondents Participation in Different Activities of CFUG	57
Figure 3	Perception of Respondents in Decision-making Process	61
Figure 4	Fair-share of Forest Products	66
Figure 5	Responses on Getting More Benefit from CF	70
Figure 6	Fund Mobilization	81

Abbreviations

CF	Community Forest
CM	Committee Member
CFUGs	Community Forest User Groups
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CFD	Community Forestry Division
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office
DAGs	Disadvantages Groups
DFO	District Forest Office
DFRS	Department of Forest Research and Survey
DDC	District Development Committee
DoF	Department of Forest
FDP	Forest Development Plan
FUG	Forest User Group
FUC	Forest User's Committee
FUGC	Forest User Group Committee
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization, of the United Nations
GA	General Assembly
GON	Government of Nepal
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
MFSC	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
MPFS	Master Plan for Forestry Sector
NACFP	Nepal Australia Community Forestry Project
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
OP	Operational Plan

PF	Panchayat Forest
PPF	Panchayat Protected Forest
RP	Range Post
VDC	Village Development Committee

Glossary

Amala	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> A medical plant found in forest.
Ambikeswari Mandir	A temple in the name of goddess Ambikeshwari in Ghorahi.
Baanko	<i>Arisaema tortuosum</i> (wall.) Schott. A wild vegetable plant.
Ban mara	A weed in the forests (<i>Lantana Spp.</i>)
Barhakune Daha	A lake which has twelve corner situated in Ghorahi, Dang.
Barro	<i>Terminalia belarica</i> A medical plant.
Bhote Daha	A lake in the name of typical ethnic group
Bote	Boat sailor
Brahmin/Chhetri	Caste or ethnic groups
Chamero Gupha	A cave in the name of bat.
Charinge Daha	A lake in the name of a kind of fish
Chautaro	Platform under a tree or at crossroads
Chiuri	<i>Bassia butyrassia</i> A forest tree.
Chutro	<i>Berberis aristita</i> A forest busy plant
Cole	Traditional oil mill
Dalchini	Bark of <i>Cinamomum tamala</i> used for spices
Damai	Tailor/ Occupational caste group
Devikot Mandir	A temple in the name of goddess's house
Dhik	Sloping land between two terraces
Gol	Charcoal
Gorakshya Nath Mandir,	A temple in the name of swami Gorakshya Nath
Haris / Juwa / Halo	Agricultural implements used as plowing.
Harro	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> A medical forest tree.
Jadibuti	Medicinal plants and herbs
Jakhera Tal	A lake in the name of a kind of bird
Kami	Blacksmith, an occupational caste
Kanji house	A place where stray cattle and buffaloes are trapped
Khair	<i>Acacia catechu</i> , A forest tree.

Khar	Thatch grass
Kulo	A channel / Irrigation channel
Kurilo	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> used as vegetable.
Lahara	Creeper
Magar	A typical ethnic group of Nepal
Majhi	Fish catcher from the lake pond or river
Niuro	<i>Dryopteris cochleata</i> used as vegetable
Pairabi	The education for the adult which helps to make literate the users as well as in the protection and management of the CF
Patawa (Bhorla)	A forest product which is used to make rope
Purji	Coupon for the entrance in the CF to collect forest products
Raute.	A typical ethnic group of Nepal, settling inside the jungle
Sai Baba Mandir	A temple in the name of Sai Baba
Sarki	Cobbler/ Occupational caste group
Sharpagandha	A medicinal plant (<i>Raulfia serpentina</i>)
Shiva Mandir	A temple in the name of God Shiva
Shivalaya Mandir	A temple in the name of house of God Shiva
Siddha Ratna baba Mandir	A temple in the name of swami Siddha Ratna
Sissoo	A timber tree. <i>Dalbergia sisoo</i>
Sunar	Goldsmith/ Occupational caste group
Swargadwari Mandir	A temple in the name of the door of heaven
Tejpat	Leaf of <i>Cinnamomum tamala</i> used for spices
Tharu	A typical ethnic group of Nepal
Timoor	A medicinal plant <i>Zanthoxylum armatum</i>
Tinju	A kind of fruit of forest