

Unintended Outcomes of Community Forestry Programme in Nepal



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1. Introduction

- ❖ Pioneer of modern form of Community Forestry (since 1978)
- ❖ Forest Area: 5.5 million hectare (39.4%)
- ❖ CF Area = over 1.22 million hectares (22%)
- ❖ Number of CFUGs = ~14,500
- ❖ Population benefited = 35% of the country

2. Objectives

- ❖ Assess the positive impacts of CF programme
- ❖ Analyse and compare the ongoing unexpected activities and unintended outcomes of CF programme

3. Methodology

- ❖ Analysis of news published in Nepal's most popular daily news paper
- ❖ Analysis of published literatures
- ❖ Key informant (forest professional) interviews
- ❖ Semi structured interviews, onsite observation and review of practical experiences

4. Achievements / Intended outcomes

- ❖ Adverting deforestation especially in hilly areas
- ❖ Supporting livelihood activities of rural people
- ❖ Empowering women and disadvantaged groups
- ❖ Creating harmonious relationship between foresters and people
- ❖ Local development activities
- ❖ Exemplary to other community based development activities



Fig.1 Denuded Dadapokher area in 1978 (left) and rehabilitated (right) after CF program (2008). Source: SDC



Fig. 2 Improved grass and organic apiculture in CF

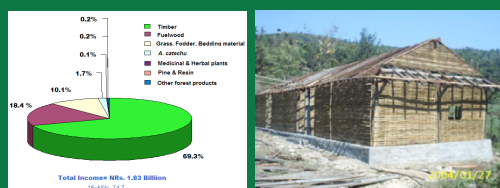


Fig. 3 Means of income generation & building school by CFUG



Fig. 4 Empowerment of poor, disadvantaged & women

5. Unintended outcomes

5.1 Lack of good governance

- ❖ Shift of channelized bribery to community executives
- ❖ Corruption in
 - Public funds
 - Sale of valuable products
- ❖ Intransparency
- ❖ Inequity
- ❖ Political interferences
- ❖ Conflicts (within and outside)

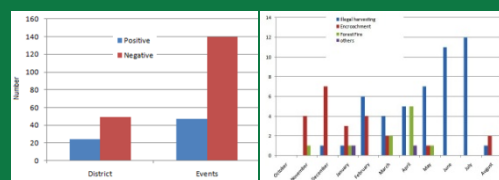


Fig. 5 Positive and negative news covered about CF in Kantipur national newspaper (Oct. 2009-Aug. 2010)



Fig. 6 News about illegal activities in CF on Kantipur Nationall Daily

5.2 Exclusion of indigenous people

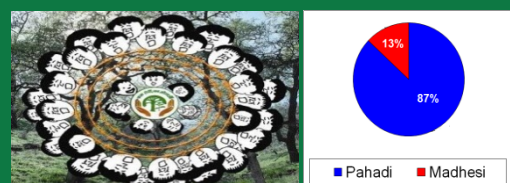


Fig. 7 Distant users are excluded from CFUG, as in Sarlahi

6. Conclusions / Recommendations

- ❖ Contemporary forest rules & regulations needs to be amended immediately to incorporate the use rights of distant users in the community forestry
- ❖ Strong actions should be taken to those involved in illegal activities
- ❖ Indepth pre and post formation supports to the CFUG must be provided by governmental / non governmental organizations

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