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“Filling gaps and removing traps  
for sustainable resource management”

## GESI and Governance Mainstreaming in Community Forestry Regime

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### Abstract

Community forestry in Nepal has been recognised as a successful conservation model that engages community and creates their ownership towards the conservation interventions. Department of Forests reports that nearly 35 percent of the population of Nepal is involved in community forestry management programme through 22,266 Community Forestry User Groups. Ensure the women leadership & Governance community forestry has the guideline. As a partner of Hariyo Ban Program, Federation of community forestry users Nepal (FECOFUN) has conducted base line survey to analyse the status of women leadership and governance in its 20 working district. And the result of base line survey had shown that only 14% women are in decision making position while in matter of contribution more than 70% women are involved. Similarly in governance and livelihood Majority of the CFUGs are observed not to have performed PG assessment; wellbeing ranking and PHPA.

Hence Hariyo Ban project support these initiative by organising women in informal forum named Community Learning and Action Canter (CLAC) a collaborative approach, try to seek solution together which mobilised to carry changes on forest women rights, CFUG governance, conservation of NRMs and CLAC proved effective to women leadership promotion which is noted from 10 field consultation and In 479 CLACs 50 sample CLAC had effectively managed local resources through Cooperatives they mobilised their fund by agro forestry and gaining income from non timber product. The project progress presents women leadership promotion which is noted from 10 field consultation sample in field survey increased by 42% in vital position in various institutions. It is also proved crucial to raise the voice of gender based violence in Natural resource management .As 63% women heard Gender based violence through CLAC. At conclusion the programme was evaluated to be able to bring positive changes in the cross cutting issues of the project and adopted its learning in second phase - livelihoods, gender and social inclusion.

**Keywords:** Collaborative approach, community forestry, gender, governance, social inclusion, women leadership empowerment