

**Japan International Cooperation Agency**

**HMG/JICA Community Development & Forest/ Watershed Conservation Project  
HMG/JOCV Greenery Promotion Cooperation Project**

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Workshop on Gender Sensitivity in  
Community Participation  
Pokhara  
20-25 June 1996

Case Study No. 19

Language : English

**Case Study  
on  
Women's Group Activities in Thulipokhari**

Prepared by: Ms. Basanti K. Pariyar

Site Office: Thulipokhari

District: Parbat

**Presentation  
of  
Womens Group Activities  
in Workshop on Gender Sensitivity in Community Participation**

**I. Profile of the Ward:**

Ward No. 6 - Puwa  
Number of House Hold (H.H.): 81  
Population : 400  
a) Male - 200  
b) Female - 200

Literate

**Education Level**

a)	University	Male	1%
		Female	-
b)	College	Male	2.5%
		Female	0.5%
c)	S.L.C. Pass	Male	30%
		Female	10%

Illiterate 56%

Ethnic groups:

- 1) Shoe maker - 12 H.H.
- 2) Tailor - 17 H.H.
- 3) Kunwar - 6 H.H.
- 4) Brahmin - 46 H.H.

**Economic Situation**

Most of the Brahmin possess more land than other castes, so they can feed their family through out the year by their own agricultural products. The number of educated people are also more and they are engaged in different services. Whereas O/C (the tailor, shoe makers & Kunwar) have comparatively less land, and the grain produced by their own farm is not sufficient even to feed for 6 months .

Most of the male of Occupational Caste (O.C.) work as porter, labour, carpenter, mason etc. Similarly women earn money working in different agricultural activities like planting of rice & millet, weeding in other's farm etc.

- The wages of male & female are different, woman earns Rs. 25-30 during a day while males earn 90-120 per day.
- Even though the occupational caste make more effort but the economic condition is not satisfactory due to following reasons:
  - Have many children
  - Unhealthy due to lack of conscious (sanitation)
  - Imbalance of expenses (spend more in alcohol & gambling)
  - Lack of sufficient land

### Land Authority

In Most of the cases land ownership belong to male. Women will get land ownership upon the demise of her husband only. The land ownership will go into the name of the eldest son. Daughters do not have the authority of land ownership, she will get land if she remains a spinster up to the age of 35 years and the ownership of land will be canceled automatically, if she gets married after 35 years.

## II. Main Activities of the Ward

Ward No. 6

No. of requested sub-projects which has been followed up by M/P team.

### a) Infrastructure Development-6

#### 1) Irrigation (Pond maintenance)

Puwa Pandhera - 6, Puwa

#### Beneficiaries

B	19
C	-
G	-
M	-
N	-
O.C.	-
Female	55
Male	65
	---
Total	120
W.H.H.	6

### b) Income Generation Activities-1

#### 1) Goat Raising

#### Beneficiaries

B	19
C	-
G	-
M	-
N	-
O.C.	-
Female	55
Male	65
	---
Total	120
W.H.H.	5

Ward No. 6, Puwa.

2) Irrigation

Saunepani

Ward No. 6, Puwa

B	19
C	-
G	-
M	-
N	-
O.C.	-
Female	55
Male	65
	—
Total	120
W.H.H.	5

3) Drinking Water Maintenance

Thulipokhari Ward No. 6 - Puwa danda.

(The source is in ward No. 7 of public forest)

Beneficiaries - Brahmin 19 H.H.

All the above 4 sub-projects were demanded by the same caste of Brahmin from same tole. Even though, there are other castes like Kunwar, shoe-maker & tailors. So far, no requests have been received from them.

Name of the beneficiaries who demanded the above 4 sub-projects are as follows:

1. K.L..A
2. C.A.
3. H.N.A.
4. R.R.A.
5. L.N.A.
6. Ms. D.A.
7. Ms. J.A.
8. H.N./B.D.A.
9. D.R.A
10. N.P.A.
11. K.R.A.
12. Ms. K.A.
13. G.A
14. D.R.A
15. D.P.A
16. B.A.
17. Ms. S.A.
18. S.P.A.

4. Drinking Water  
Ward No. 6  
Bihichour - Tallo Shima  
Beneficiaries

Brahmin - 12 H.H. F - 34, M - 28, W.H.H. - 2  
O.C. - 1 H.H. F - 3, M - 2, W.H.H. - 1

5. Drinking Water  
Swara Dadkheta  
Bihichour - 6

Beneficiaries

B - 2 H.H. F - 8, M - 5  
Kuwar - 1 H.H. F - 4, M - 5  
O.C. - 6 H.H. F - 17, M - 18

6. School Maintenance  
Thulipokhari - 6  
Pachunge

Beneficiaries

B - 60 H.H.	Total - 380 (inc. female & male)
C - 6 H.H.	Total - 40 (inc. female & male)
O.C. - 32 H.H.	Total - 200 (inc. female & male)

W.H.H. - 20

Machhapuchhre Mothers Group Committee Formation

At first, M/P team informed the mass about the roles, responsibility and importance of the users group and executive committee. The name of the executive committee, formed by the group meeting are as follows:

<u>S. No.</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Name</u>
1.	Chairman	Mrs. T.K.S.
2.	Vice-chairman	Mrs. K.A.
3.	Secretary	Mrs. S.A.
4.	Joint-secretary	Mrs. K.A.
5.	Treasurer	Mrs. M.A.
6.	Members	(Mrs. B.K.P., Mrs. T.N., Mrs. S.N., Mrs. M.S., Mrs. Y.S. Mrs. S.B., Mrs. Y.K.A., Mrs. D.N., Mrs. D.A., and Mrs. M.A.)

### Minute Form of Meeting

Meeting No.	Date	Discussed issue in group	Decided issues	Name of present members	Signature

(Note: The form has been copied from micro credit.)

The mothers welfare group has decided to carry out different activities like - cleaning of drinking water supply system of the ward and digging toilet pit within a month, when the M/P team made a follow-up one month later 40% pits had been already dug.

When the mothers group was visited personally and in group they expressed their expectation from the project like - Madal (playing instrument), minute book and pen etc.

- The mother group selected the advisory committee during the formation of the committee. The group depends on male to solve even the small problems, instead of getting enhanced these group are losing the capacity of decision making.

#### Some Misunderstanding Among the Group:

- The group formed consists of three caste i.e. tailor, shoe-maker & Brahmin, and they do not have the equality of their responsibility .
- There are 40% of O.C., but only 4 were in the executive committee, so the planned & conducted programme has not reflected the need of O.C.
- The O.C. are unknown about group's fund, whereas the O.C. women play significant role while collecting donation by dancing, singing etc.

### III. Gender Sensitivity Efforts and Insights:

#### Machhapuchhre Mother's Group Activities (Ward No. 6, Puwa, Pachunge, Bihichaur)

When the mothers group were formed in Thulipokhari ward No. 1, 2 & 4, both the male & female of ward No. 6, requested the M/P team to form the mothers group. The role of Mr. J. B.N. (Pachunge) & Mrs. K.A. was appreciated in this matter and the formation of mother group was important for implementing the project activities.

In contrary, women spend most of their time in domestic/ farm works and the activities of social works are negligible. Most of the women hesitate to take part in meeting & discussion. So, the M/P team encouraged them by telling them, different women support activities like income generation programmes can be carried out by the project.

In this regard, with the active role of Mrs. K.A., women came from each house & formed a mothers group consisting of 15 members on Feb. 28, 1996. In that meeting, the M/P team briefed about the projects programs, highlighted the role of women in the community development, an introduction of mother's group and the method of collecting fund. In total 60 women including 15 O.C. were present, and 3 males of O.C. were also presented as observers.

#### **IV. Major Problems and Obstacle Encountered:**

- Inequality in responsibility as there are three castes.
- Dancing, singing & donation collection works being done by O.C., the other castes do not like to do such kind of activities because they are afraid of loosing their prestige (traditional belief).
- The O.C. do not know about the fund due to the lack of education & consciousness.
- Major posts have been occupied by other caste of the same tole.
  
- The major causes for the above facts are as follows:
  - \* Feeling of lower & upper caste among the women group.
  - \* Caste discrimination.
  - \* Due to lack of education, O.C. do not know the record of fund.
  - \* Lack of freedom from male.
  - \* Unable to come to meeting in time, some times the meeting has to be canceled, the main reasons of delay is due to their engagement in their domestic works like (grass cutting, cooking, farm work, cow shed work, sanitation etc.).

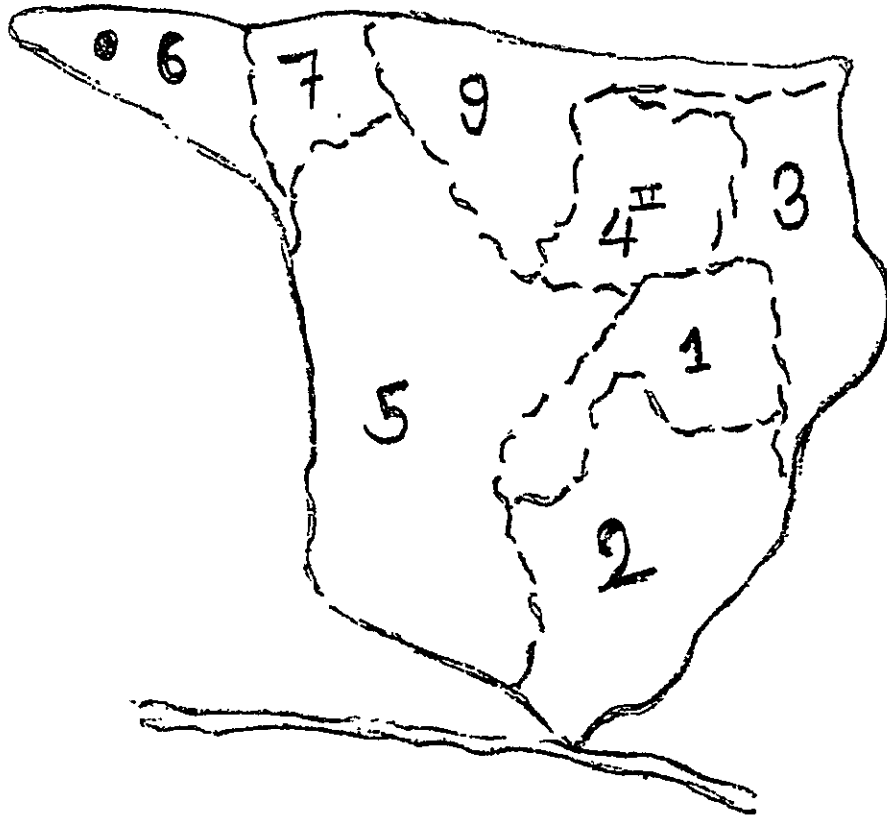
#### **V. Recommendation for Strengthening Gender Sensitivity for the Empowerment of People and Sustainable Development:**

- In mixed group of women specially KDS are more dominated by other castes, so it is recommended to form separate mothers group for O.C. & other caste.
  
- The women of rural communities are illiterate, unhealthy & do not have knowledge about community development, so, it is recommended that training should be conducted to increase their awareness.






- The group will be able to solve the problems & obstacles, when they discuss with each other, which will increase the ability of women, so it is recommended to enhance capacity building by encouraging them to get involved in groups, meetings, etc.
- When the women reach in the above mentioned conditions, women can talk with men freely, ultimately the women will be able to compete with male in social development activities, so it is recommended that male should share the contribution in domestic works & allow females to take part in social works.
- The theme of the project is to assist the disadvantaged groups but most of the problems submitted are by the advanced castes, so it is recommended to conduct different programs, concentrating only on the under-privileged groups by mobilizing local resources.
- Women are not authorized to possess any piece of land since long time & they are exploited mentally by male, and consequently they become helpless. So, it is recommended that women must have authority to possess land equally as her brothers.
- Several women groups are trying to work in rural areas. But the groups do not have resources & have no knowledge about community development activities, thus the groups are being passive & useless. So, it is recommended to conduct several useful community activities which can boost them up and uplift their status.



# THULIPOKHARI VDC, PARBAT



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- 1) VDC Boarder: 
- 2) Ward Boarder: 
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- 4) Site Office: 
- 5) Ward No. 6: 

## M/P Team

Basanti Pariyar  
Thulipokhari Site Office  
Parbat

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Workshop on Gender Sensitivity in  
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Case Study No. 20

Language : English

Case Study  
on  
Gulley Control in Tribeni

Prepared by: Mr. Naoki Takeda

Site Office: Tribeni

District: Parbat

## I. Introduction

The Boke Khola Gully Control Sub-Project has been started in January 1996 as an Inter-Community Level Sub-Project (ICLSP) for the whole Tribeni VDC for fiscal year 1995/96. The M/P team, the Users' Group Committee and villagers have tried to solve the problems raised from time to time. The Sub-Project was due to finish at the end of March 1996, however, due to these problems it has been started again in mid-April 1996 in the new fiscal year 1996/97. The main purpose of this paper is to examine the various problems raised during the project implementation and consider their causes with gender perspectives.

## II. Profile of Tribeni VDC

The Tribeni VDC is located in the southern part of Parbat. The altitude is between 670 and 1600 meters. The total population is 2,500, with 380 households. Majority of the people are Magar and Brahmin. The Tribeni VDC was separated from Beuribas VDC at the time of democratization five years ago. The nearest roadhead is Walling, about 25 kilometers away and four hours and half away on foot.

The Ward No. 1,2,3 and 4 belong to the Bamdi-Khola watershed area and Ward No. 5,6,7,8 and 9 belong to Boke-Khola watershed area. There is a small bazaar called Tribeni at the bottom of the Bamdi-Khola watershed area, where is the main point for information exchange for people. There is also Arushun bazaar in Ward No. 9 at the bottom of the Boke-Khola watershed area, where are two hotels, VDC office, an agricultural bank, photo shop, watch shop and retail shop. The Site Office is located between two hotels. There is a high school up to class 10 with 700 students where students also come from other VDCs in the middle point of the Boke-Khola.

## III. Summary of the Subproject

Although the Boke Khola Gully Control Sub-Project was originally ranked at the fifth in the priority of the Tribeni VDC at the meeting of Southern Parbat which included 50 Wards of 8 VDCs, the meeting selected in the end as the first priority since the length of the work is only about one kilo meters and it was necessary to have the work in order to proceed with other activities.

The original cost estimation was about Rs. 1,400,000 in total for the gully control of the river from the upper to the down stream. However, due to the budgetary constraints, the work was divided into two phases. The first phase was to build five checkdams at the upper stream with Rs.260,000 in fiscal year 1995/96 and the second phase was to do the river bank treatment from the mid to lower stream in fiscal year 1996/97.

The work has started on 19 January 1996, however, the locations of the checkdams were changed after the stone collection had been completed by 120 persons provided from five Wards. The new decision was that five checkdams would not be made at the upper stream, but two

checkdams of three-meters high and 14 meters-long gabion boxes would be made at the mid-stream near the high school, instead.

#### IV. Gender Sensitivity

The Sub-Project was selected as the community work of the VDC for 1995/96 at the Parbat Southern Area meeting, consisting of 20 Wards of 8 VDC. However, no women participated in the meeting. Some women participated in the meeting held in Tribeni VDC, however, have never spoken out different opinions from men's. There may not be gender difference in the process of the gully control works. Many of women had come in between the busy house work, so they gradually disappeared as the meeting got long. When the selection of the UGC members was done, only a small number of women were there and the names of women who had not been there were even included in the UGC members.

Upon the consultation with the villagers, it is difficult to force women to participate in the UGC, however, at least one woman need to be selected from each Ward. The selection process was repeated several times, and 15 members, 7 females and 8 males, were finally selected as the members of the UGC. The Vice-chairperson of the VDC was selected as the chairperson.

The members were forced to be selected, therefore, only 4 out of 8 males and only 1 out of 7 females have been active so far. It is difficult to proceed with VDC work if the people have to be forced.

For example, there are two women members in Ward No. 6, there were some women who didn't know anything about the Boke Khola gully control subproject. It was due to the limited access to information among women. One of them was the wife of the Ward No. 6 Chairperson. On the contrary, the committee member of the Ward No.9, two women and two men, have been actively involved. They have experienced the flood damage to their houses during the last year's rainy season.

Those who were forced to be the committee members have been very passive and felt a lot of burden. Especially, it is impossible for women to attend the irregularly held meetings. In addition, there are many women who don't know anything about what have been decided at the committee meetings, and who do not have any opportunity to convey their views. Under such circumstances, it only increases a great burden on women to ask them to provide their labour for collecting the stones.

#### V. Major Problems and Obstacles Encountered

There were several problems occurred during the first phase of the sub-Projects and the solutions had been made as follows:

##### 1) Transportation of the wire from Walling to Tribeni

Problem: It was quite a large amount of gabion wires, i.e., 3.5 tons in total, to be carried from the roadhead to the gully control site. Therefore, it was impossible for the villagers to carry by

themselves, instead, the porters were employed. However, it turned out to be difficult to trace exactly how many kilograms of wires were transported every day, thus could not pay the daily wages. They were carried by the donkeys, but it was difficult to evenly load the wire on right and left side of the donkeys.

**Solution:** As a result of the discussion made between the UGC and M/P team, one of the UG members stayed in Walling for one week and loaded the wires on the donkeys after dividing them into small pieces. The M/P team set up the store house and the accommodation facility where the site assistant can stay as necessary. An additional assistant was employed for that purpose as well. A scale to measure the wires will be put at the Walling office.

**Result:** The whole wires of 3.5 tons was carried to Tribeni between 23 and 29 April 1996.

## 2) Handling of the stones collected:

**Problem:** It has been planned to build five checkdams in order to stop the avalanche of earth and rocks in the original plan. Upon the agreement made at the Recommendation Committee and Approval Committee, 120 villagers of 5 Wards have collected the stones since 19 January 1996. However, Mr. S, JICA short-term expert, has visited the site at the end of January 1996 and suggested that the location of the five checkdams would not be appropriate and the plan should be changed.

**Solution:** Since it was a mistake made by the Project, the M/P team immediately paid the contingency of Rs. 5,000 to the Users' Group Committee and asked them to move the stones to the mid stream area near the Stream Bank Stabilization (SBS). The UGC selected the members to do this work.

**Result:** All the stones were moved to the new location in mid May 1996.

## 3) The plan has been changed every time the engineer-in-charge had been changed.

**Problem:** The villagers as well as the local overseas and the M/P team were confused very much, since six engineers and experts have come to the site in turn and every time the gully control plan has been changed as follows;

11 November: Mr. G., DSCO, Kaski, and Mr. K., JICA, made the first cost estimation.

12 January: Mr. G., Engineer, attended the Recommendation Committee.

28 January: Mr. S and Mr. K. suggested the change of the location of five checkdams and to make two checkdams and Stream Bank Stabilization (SBS) at the mid stream.

20 May: Mr. M., Engineer, Department of Water Supply, and Mr. K., JICA, suggested not to dig the base rocks of the new location of the checkdams.

22 May: Mr. G., TOLI, and Mr. K., JICA, suggested to dig the base rocks.

26 May: The Overseas, DSCO, Parbat, pointed that the location of the first checkdam was not proper.

**Solution:** The M/P team searched for an experienced local overseas, but could not find one. Finally, Mr. B, Kusuma Office, was requested to station at Tribeni and look after the site every

day.

Result: Mr. B has been responsible with working at the site and well received by the villagers. However, the UGC and villagers became too dependent on him. He has been struggling hard by himself. A local overseas may have to be searched or local capacity building may have to be done.

#### 4) Loss of the local skilled personnel

Problem: The wire knitting technology has been transferred to the villagers for the sustainability of the project. Three skilled personnel have been sent from Pokhara to Tribeni to make the wire, and at the same time gave the training to four villagers on knitting the wire. However, those who have learned stopped learning due to the following reasons:

- Mr. A wanted to go to India to earn money and left the village before the work has started.
- Mr. B has gone to do the road construction work with his friends after getting paid for the five-days work.
- Mr. C had a pain in his hand and stopped working for only one day.

Solution: There has been only one person, Mr. K, who is still learning the wire making since February up to now. As soon as he masters the skill, he will be able to be a leader of the river bank treatment.

Result: Only fifty percent of the wire has been knitted between 7 and 31 May 1996. However, Mr. K will complete the whole work by the end of June 1996.

#### 5) Lack of personnel for the skilled personnel for putting the stones for the gabion boxes

Problem: Since a school building for class 11 and 12 has been made at the down stream of Boke-Khola, most of the skilled personnel in the villager have been engaged in the work. One skilled person of Ward No. 9 started the work for the Sub-Project, however, stopped working only after one day due the low wages paid. Three more persons of Ward No. 5 also came to work, but stopped working after one week for the same reason.

Solution: Since the school building work will be completed by the second week of June 1996, the M/P team is thinking about asking the skilled personnel of Word No.8 to do the work.

#### 6) Difference in views about participation

Problem: Those who live at the Boke-Khola watershed area and own the private land at the down stream think that everyone in the VDC should participate in making the checkdams for protecting the school located at the mid stream. However, those who don't have private land think that only the Arushun Bazaar residence and the land owners of the concerned areas in the mid stream should participate. This difference in views made the UGC members relatively passive about participation.

Solution: The M/P team requested to coordinate the different views among the Wards, stressing that the checkdam is for protecting the school and should be participated by the whole VDC.

Result: The villagers have started collecting stones since 17 May 1996, and up to 31 May 1996

,about 200 villagers participated in the work.

#### 7) Lack of planning for planting trees

**Problem:** It is the priority for the villagers along the Boke Khola to set up the gabion boxes in front of their private land. Only after that has been completed, they can start thinking about plantation of trees. It is difficult to transport the seedlings from Pokhara to Tribeni, and there is not nurseries which can make the seedlings available near-by. A new nursery of 9 ha for community forests has been established in Ward No.8 in Tribeni this year, but the seedlings of Sisso did not grow and 200 seedlings of Salla.

**Solution:** The M/P team will try to use the bamboo and Sisal which grow near-by and Nepier which is easy to transport in negotiation with the Users' Group Committees for the ICLSP of 1995. However, a new nursery should be made in Tribeni if a large amount of plantation should be done.

#### VI. Recommendations

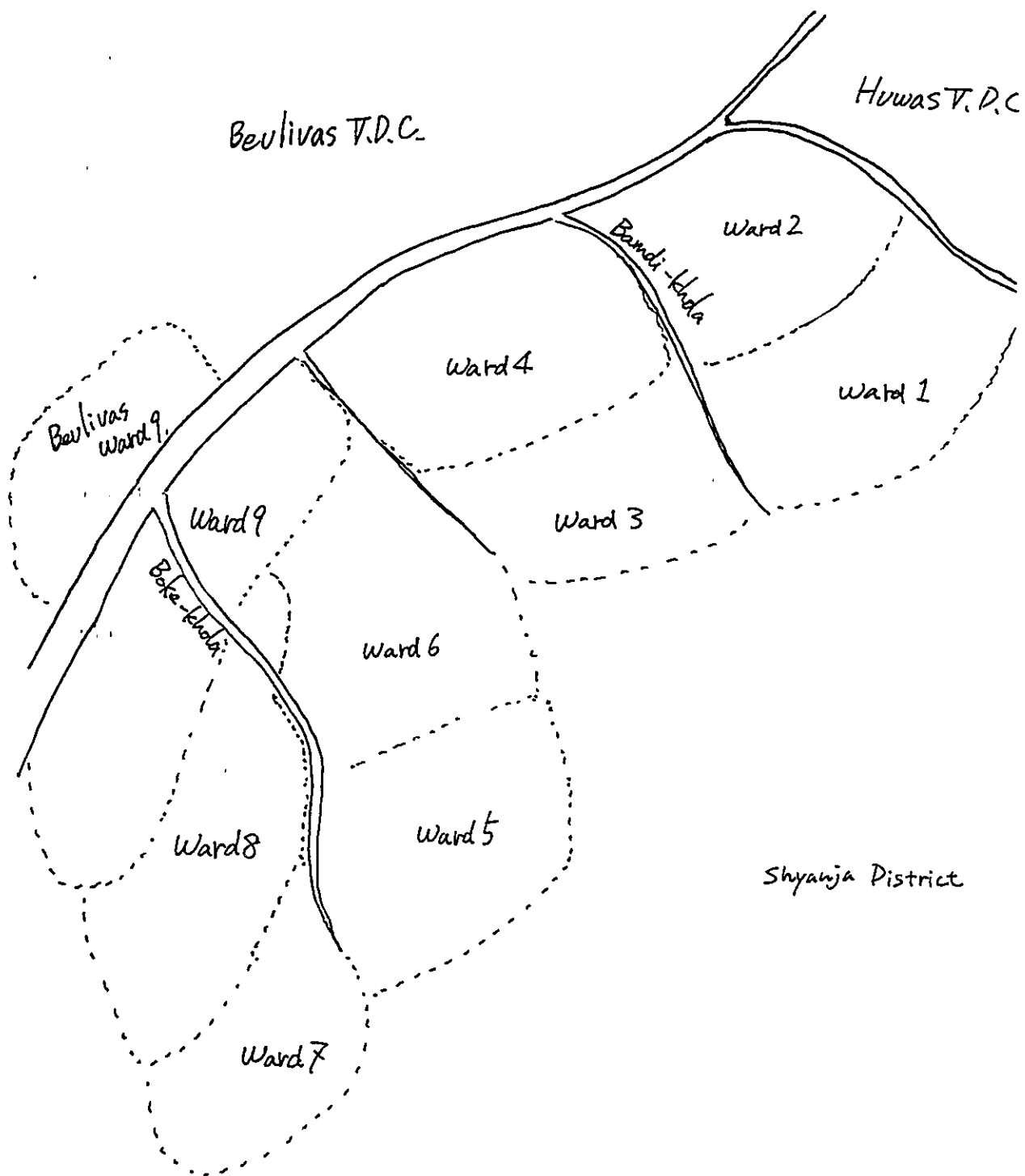
The ICLSP of 1995 has started again at the end of April 1996. In order to connect this work with the ICLSP of 1996 on the river bank treatment at the downstream of Boke Khola, the following actions will be necessary:

- 1) To train the skilled labour on gabion wire making within Tribeni,
- 2) To train a local manager who can constantly watch the progress of the work,
- 3) To change the Users' Group Committee members attitude and views so that they can manage by themselves the maintenance of the work after the completion, and
- 4) To establish a new nursery.

In order to proceed with other sub-projects at the community level, the following points must be noted:

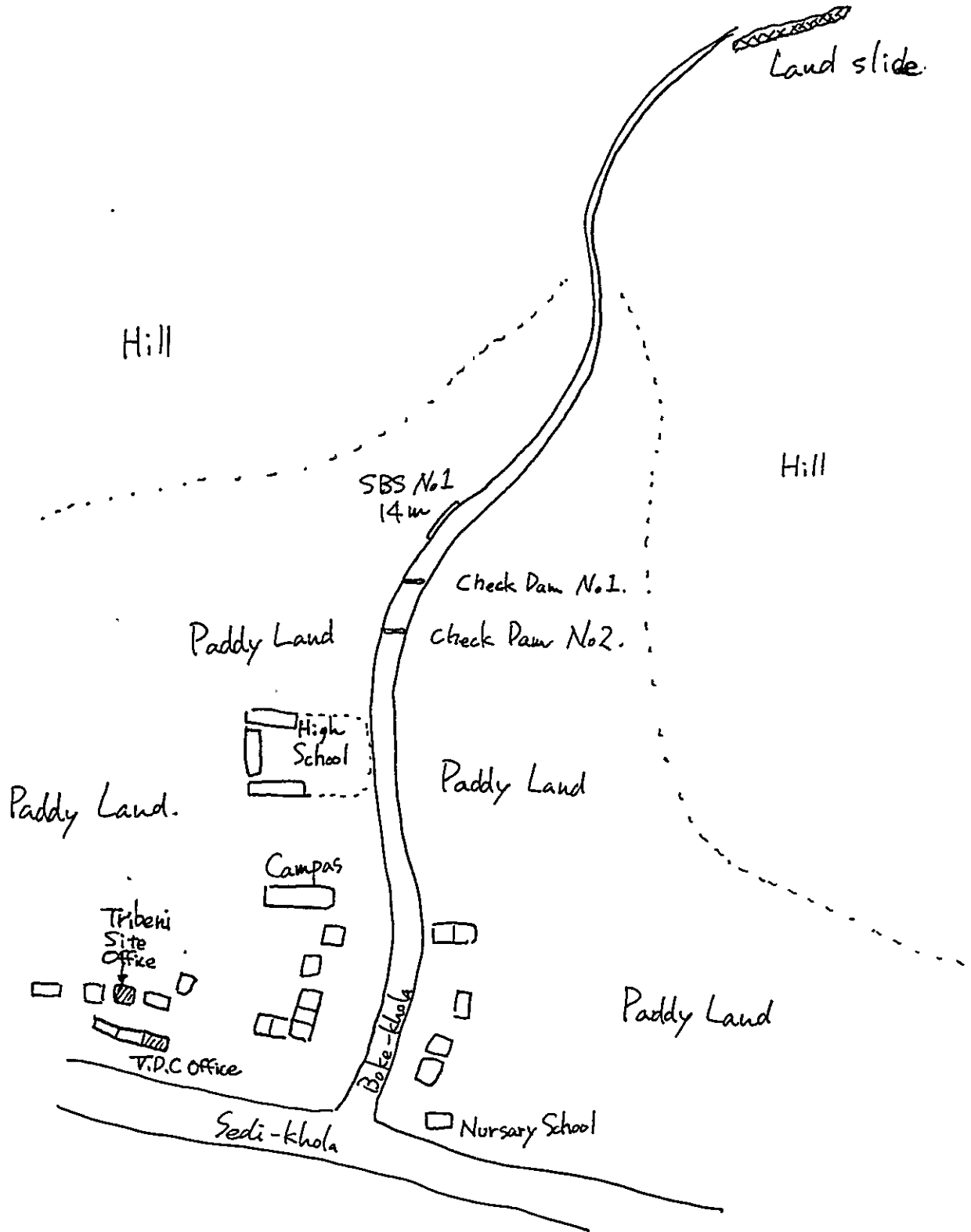
- 1) To form a Users' Group Committee only after all the information is disseminated to women, the occupational castes and those who usually do not receive any information,
- 2) To make the beneficiaries and the UGC members know about their responsibilities, and
- 3) To have enough consultation meetings among the M/P team, technicians and UGC members at the planning, designing and cost estimation stages, and reflect well the views of the UGC. If there are existing women's groups in the concerned areas, ask their uniformed views at first.

Annex 1. The map of Tribeni VDC.





Annex 2. The map of Boke Khola Watershed Area.



Photographs and other information of the Subproject:



### Annex 3. Face Sheet on Subproject (1)

Date: 9JUNE1996 No.: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Title of Subproject: Boke-khola Gully Control Subproject	
2. Location: Boke-khola	Ward No: 6.8.9. VDC: Tribeni
3. Total Cost: Rs. 262.661 ( 100 %)	6. Approved Date: 18JAN1996
4. HMG/JICA: Rs. 194.367 ( 74 %)	7. Starting Date: 19JAN1996
5. User Group: Rs. 68.293 ( 26 %)	9. Completion Date:
10. Total No. of Benefitted Households: 163	(Occupational Castes: 4 )
11. Total No. of User Group Committee Members: 15	( Female: 7 Male: 8 )
12. Total No. of User Group Members: 663	(F: 320 M: 343 ) ( OC: 25 )
<p>13. Summary of the Subproject: (Objectives, Main Activities, Methodology, Problems and Obstacles encountered, Monitoring, Maintenance, Sustainability, etc.)</p> <p>Objectives: To protect a highschool , paddy lands and Arhun bazaar from flood.</p> <p>Main Activities: To build two checkdams and 14meters-long Stream Bank Stabilization (SBS) at the mid stream near high school as fiscal year 1995/96 ICLSP. Remaining SBS at the lower stream will be built as fiscal year 1996/97 ICLSP.</p> <p>Methodology: All the villager in the Tribeni V.D.C. collect the stones for the gabion boxes  Transportation cost from Walling to Tribeni is paid by project.  The gabion knetting technology is transfered to the villager.  The stone filling in the gabion boxes is done by the skilled personnel</p> <p>Problems and Obstacles encountered: Transportation of the wire from Walling to Tribeni.  Handling of the stones collected at the upper stream area.  The plan has been changed every time the engineer-in-charge had been changed.  Difference in views about participation among the villagers.</p> <p>Sustainability: Technology can be transfered to the villagers. And they will know the measurment of gully control. But the beneficiaries must know their responsibility.</p>	
14. Community Participation: Those who don't have private land in the Boke-khola watershed area have negative attitude.	
15. Gender Consideration: It is difficult for woman to participate in Users' Group Committee. Women are not included in decision-making process.	
16. Environmental Consideration: There are a lot of small landslide at the upper hill in the Boke-khola watershed area. However there isn't a plan of plantation.	

ANNEX:4 No.of Household of Ethnic Group

Ward	No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5	No.6	No.7	No.8	No.9
Ethnic Group									
Magar	26	36	11	19		20	24	33	7
Brahmin	22	1	17	25	42	20	15		29
Newar									15
Kami	5						6		
Damai		4							
Thakurri				1	3				
Musulim									4
Gharti							2		
Gurung		1							
Chettri	1								
	54	42	28	45	45	40	47	33	55

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Language : English

Case Study  
on  
Gulley Control in Tribeni

Prepared by: Ms. Shanta Devi Upadhaya

Site Office: Tribeni

District: Parbat

**Presentation  
of  
Gully Control Sub-Project  
in Workshop on Gender Sensitivity in Community Participation**

**I. Profile of the Tribeni VDC.**

Ward No.	Population			No of house hold	Ethnic Composition		Literacy Rate (%)	Established Womens Group
	M.	F.	Total					
1	173	187	360	56	B -22 M-26	C- 1 OC- 7	86	Ward No.1&2 jointly
2	172	180	352	42	B- 1 G-1	M-36 OC- 4	90	Group
3	92	99	191	28	B-17	M-11	52	
4	150	175	325	45	B-25	M-19	87	Yes
5	135	115	250	45	B-32	Thakuri- 3	80	
6	165	155		40	B-20	M-20	81	
7	191	188	379	47	B-15 M-24	Gharti - 2 OC- 6	85	
8	139	152	291	33	M-33		84	
9	152	137	281	52	M- 7 B-29	Muslim- 1 N-15	80	Yes

Note: B-Brahmin, C-Chhetri, M-Magar, N-Newar, OC-Occupational Caste, HH.-Household

**Economic Situation**

As there is insufficient cultivating land and no other alternative occupation, there is less chance of feeding the family all the year round. Most of the Magar caste are supported by their foreign employment & pension to some extent, while others have very low economic condition.

**Boke-Khola Inter Community Level Sub-Project:**

**II. Main Activities:**

1. Title of Sup-project: Boke-khola Gully Control
2. Location:  
VDC: Tribeni Ward No. 6, 8 and 9
3. Total Cost: Rs. 262,661.16
4. borne by:
  - a) The Project Rs. 194,367.48 (74%)
  - b) The User's Group: Rs. 68,293.68 (26%)
5. Approved Date: 18 Jan, 1996
6. Started Date: 19 Jan, 1996
7. Completion Date: 30 March, 1996
8. Total No. of Benefited House Hold: 163 (Scheduled Casts: 5)
9. Total No. of User Committee Members
  - a) Female: 7
  - b) Male: 8
10. Total No. of Users Group Member: :
  - a) Female: 320
  - b) Male: 343
  - SC: 24
11. Summary of the Boke-khola Gully Control Sub-project:

**Objectives:**

- \* To protect the school area (Building as well as play ground).
- \* To protect the cultivated land and source of irrigation and drinking water system.
- \* To protect the side settlement as well as Arthung Bazar.
- \* To promote greenery at both sides of the river as well as catchment area of Boke-khola.

**Main Activities:**

1. Two check-dams constructed
2. Two SBS Work
  - a) 14 M Length
  - b) 26 M Length

### Methodology:

- Even though the gully was a VDC level problem, the contribution have been made by Ward Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9,
- The mules have transported most of the G.I. wire, it was the responsibility of users committee, but the cost was borne by the Project,
- Three persons have dropped out form the wire knitting training, while one (O/C) has been involved from the beginning,
- Gabion filling should have been done by both skilled & unskilled labours, but as the users group were unable to provide participation, the stones have been filled by the skilled labours only.

### Problems and Obstacles Encountered:

- \* Could not select real users group and committee members, therefore, they were not active.
- \* Due to the change of construction site, villagers were confused.
- \* Users group were inactive so, the progress of work slowed down.

Community Participation: As the villagers were engaged with other VDC level activities (campus building construction, Sedi Khola suspension bridge construction etc.) community participation was less in the implementation of Boke-khola gully control.

Ward wise participatory system also is very good. Only ward No. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 women's group participated in the implementation of Boke-khola gully control.

Gender Consideration: Male users group were not willing to involve women in problem identifying, decision making and meeting time, but wanted to involve them in implementation phase, this created some problems at the time of implementation.

Environmental Consideration: The gully has damaged both sides of cultivating land and school ground. The catchment area of Boke-khola (gully) also looks barren. So, plantation and natural conservation are essential to improve the environment of that area.

### **III. Gender Sensitivity**

#### Activities of the Sub-project and Reasons of Delaying the Work:

The VDC prioritized the Bokekhol gully control as a ICLSP as it was a big problem of the VDC and there existed the possibility of damaging the school buildings, cultivating lands & habitats of Arthung bazar. Upon the request of people of Tribeni VDC, feasibility and detail survey had been carried out.

At the time of surveying, the experiences and views of concerning people should have been taken, which was not done, so when the location site of the sub-project changed for the second time more effort and time was needed to convince them. This event created



confusion within the people and their support became weaker for the project. The project had to bear the transportation cost of the previously collected stones in the new location.

Wire Transportation: The users committee solved the problem of wire transportation as there were means of transportation.

The users committee was formed consisting of representative from all the wards of Tribeni VDC, but as the presence of members were not enough, it failed to make decision several times. Few (2/3) women played an active role regarding their responsibility. As the gully control sub-project was a common problem of the entire VDC, an effort was made to get their contribution in the form of peoples participation.

Efforts Undertaken to Incorporate Gender Sensitivity: Usually male try to avoid female at the time of identifying problem & decision making, but intend to involve them in implementation, so, the following points should be considered to involve both the male & female:

- Conduct joint and separate gathering or meeting of male and female,
- Involve women in group meetings to promote their capacity for decision making, and
- Try to change the traditional ways of thinking of male over women and provide them an opportunity to work freely.

#### **IV. Major Problems and Obstacles Encountered:**

##### Reasons of Delaying Works:

- Even though the Bokekholra gully is the major problem of the VDC, the peoples participation was found very less,
- Lack of positive attitude towards the project due to frequent change of several rules and policies,
- Encountered various problems while implementing the sub-project due to geographical, social, technical and traditional reasons like:
  - Construction site 18 miles far from road head,
  - Hesitated to carry out simple work due to traditional concept,
  - Found difficulty to fetch G.I. wire by porter and mule in the absence of other alternatives,
  - Change of survey, ignoring the view of users group,
  - Confusion created within the M/P team, supervisor and users group due to different technical advises by the technicians for the same work,.
  - Lack of peoples participation due to different construction work running in the VDC.

For example:

- \* 10+2 building construction.
- \* Primary education project building construction.
- \* Construction of Sedikhola suspension bridge.

- User's group and users committee unable to work according to the joint work plan.
- Unable to implement the sub-project in the free time of the users group.

Thus the implementation work was being delayed due to the above listed reasons.

What have been the major problems and obstacles encountered in your efforts in incorporation the gender sensitivity?

Problems :-

- Womens participation was very less in the gathering and meetings,
- Women could not play an active role in joint gathering or meetings,
- The behavior of male (including VDC authorities) toward those female, who participated actively in various activities were negative as follows:-
  - It is not necessary to involve women in social works because of their engagement in domestic chores.
  - The work will be delayed, if women are in the users committee.

Reasons for Problem Encountered

- The male do not expect women to play an active role in social activities due to the traditional ways.
- Most of the women are unknown of their own ability, at the same time there is no favorable environment to expose their capacity in the community.
- It was difficult to mobilize peoples participation due to lack of intervention of other developmental agencies & low economic conditions.

Efforts Undertaken to Solve the Problems

- Tried to understand the feelings of women on social development works, organizing different meeting and gathering separately and jointly,
- Impart knowledge to the womens group so that the capacity and ability will be promoted, the traditional concept of male about female will change.

Reasons of Success/Failure

- The educated users who were involved in the group were interested to work, whereas uneducated users who are not in the groups are less aware of social welfare and have traditional thinking.

## **V. Recommendation for Strengthening Gender Sensitivity for the Empowerment of People and Sustainable Development**

- \* Male have the key role to develop the ability of female, creating favorable environment like, allowing them to participate in social activities etc., so it is recommended to trap different male motivated program for active participation of women in social development activities.
- \* Due to lack of education, people encountered different problems regarding the decision making process, identification of problems & are less aware of social development works. Considering these facts, it is recommended to conduct several women literacy classes in rural areas to boost up their ability.
- \* Several technical & psychological problems were encountered due to negligence of the user's group by the technicians, so it is recommended to incorporate the experiences of users group at different stages of program implementations.
- \* The timing of surveying, estimation and implementation etc. are found haphazard, so it is recommended that the schedule of implementation of work should be materialized based upon the engagement of the users group.
- \* The technical advises of different technicians are not uniform, which created confusion in the M/P team, users group and supervisor, so it is recommended that the supervisor should be trained and efficient to deal with different advises of the technicians.

**Annex 22.**

**Papers prepared  
by District Soil Conservation  
Office (DSCO) Technicians  
in Kaski and Parbat**

**( in English)**

**Report  
on  
Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity  
and Environmental Conservation**

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Chapakot Site

**Introduction**

This paper presents a summary of all the sub-projects implemented in Chapakot. It presents the status of community participation in Chapakot, in general, and tries to make clear the relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation particularly.

There are some other Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies working for the community development and income generation activities. People are not yet familiar with the community participatory approach. So, the implementation of the sub-projects by community participatory approach has become a challenge.

So far, peoples participation has been provided as per our estimation in the community level sub-projects (CLSP). But in the case of inter-community level sub-project (ICLSP), users committee tried to minimize people participation by involving people from other agencies. This clarifies that the ratio of participation in respect to Gender Sensitivity should be analyzed for each CLSP and ICLSP in the planning phase.

**Gender Analysis in Implemented Sub-Projects**

In Chapakot all women are not passive and dominated. Their activities depend on the caste hierarchy and the characteristics of the implemented sub-projects. In Gurung community women are as active as men, the reason may be that as men go overseas to work, women become the head of the house. While the women of other castes are comparatively passive in comparison to men. The higher caste women are more active than the women of occupational caste..

It was seen that the involvement of women depended on the characteristics and the nature of the implemented sub-projects. For example in the case of Soil Conservation Structures like, Trial Improvement, Drinking Water Scheme and Income Generating Activities women were more active than men while in the case of Irrigation Canal Maintenance and Suspension Bridge Construction women are not active in comparison to men.

The following table shows the comparative involvement of men and women in each sub-projects with respect to caste hierarchy.

Table 1

	Sub-Project	Men	Women	Total	Beneficiaries Majority of Caste
1	Pandhero Khola Landslide Control	3	4	7	Gurung, Bhujel
2	Harpan Khola to Mungre Chautaro Trial	7	5	12	Gurung, Brahmin, OC and Others
3	Improvement Arubote Drinking Water Scheme	7	4	11	Majority of OC and Brahmin
4	Bhote Kulo Irrigation Canal Maintenance	5	4	9	Brahmin, OC
5	Srijana and Lalupate Goat Raising Groups (2 Groups)	-	9+9	18	Majority of OC and Others
6	Katre Suspension Bridge Construction	12	1	13	Brahmin, Gurung and Others

In the case of Pandhero Khola Landslide Control Sub-Project in ward No:1, there was equal participation of both men and women in the implementation phase because of the two major causes. i.e. The community has the majority of Gurung and the conservation structures were the measures of conservation of soil and forests, which promoted greenery and made easier for women to fetch fuelwood, fodder and grass.

Peoples participation in Trial Improvement (Harpan Khola to Mungre Chautaro) was satisfactory. The participation of both men and women was more or less equal. It has some major parameters for getting satisfactory participation in this sub-project as follows:

- 1) It was a Gurung community,
- 2) Traditionally they believed that the trial improvement is the activity of womens group, and
- 3) This foot trial would make easier for women to supply manure in the farm and to bring crops and goods from the farm and market.

Arubote Drinking Water Supply Sub-project is not only successful but it is an ideal sub-project. The community has the majority of occupational caste and have very poor economical condition. The peoples participation was contributed almost by women only except skilled labour. Women even carried out works like, excavation of pipe line and reservoir tank, breaking and transportation of stone, transportation of cement, pipe and sand and making mortar. Women were highly

motivated to work in this sub-project because it was their need assessment and they would be directly benefited.

Bhote Kulo Irrigation Canal Maintenance is not a satisfactory sub-project but its work is going on. Both men and women are not interested to participate in this sub-project. Women are not interested because they do not hold the ownership of the land and the maintenance of the irrigation canal is assumed as men's responsibility. The other reason is that the community has the majority of Brahmin and rest are occupational castes. In Brahmin community women always work as subordinate of men, so, women could not play an active role in the meeting and in the implementation of this sub-project. Women has to get permission from their husband before doing anything in Brahmin community which is an unfortunate reality. It stands in their way as an obstacle and discourages them. This social reason is the main cause of delaying sub-project and inequality of Gender Sensitivity.

Income Generating Activities is specially focused on women of occupational caste. This sub-project has been going on with the participatory approach for a long period, starting with three goats individually at the first stage. The baby goat will be distributed to other remaining members as per their guidelines. Women are interested in this sub-project because they are the direct beneficiaries.

Katre Suspension Bridge Construction is a large scaled inter-community level sub-project (ICLSP) which is going on now. It has been difficult to find out the accurate beneficiaries for this sub-project. Though this is the need assessment of Chapakot VDC, the participation is not satisfactory. There is only one women in the users committee who does not have an active role in the decision making. Women are working as unskilled labour only while men are working as skilled and unskilled labour on daily wage basis. In the beginning the peoples participation was quite satisfactory but now a days it has become very less.

These above mentioned facts shows that the womens participation depends on the majority of caste in the community and the characteristics of the implemented sub-projects. So the ratio of peoples participation in respect to Gender Sensitivity should be analyzed in each sub-project in the planning phase.

### **Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation**

Women are responsible for both household and agricultural activities, most of their time is spent on working in the agricultural field, collecting forest products, taking care of Livestock and fetching water, while in rural area, on one can be found as a service-holder also.

In the case of agricultural activities, there are gender based labour contribution. Irrigation Canal Maintenance Sub-project helps to minimize gender bias in agricultural field. Women contribute more labour than men in dry terraces, like crop sawing, clod breaking, weeding, harvesting, manure supply and food processing. Not only that, women work in both places (field and home). It shows that womens contribution is higher than men in dry terraces.

The rate of soil loss in dry terrace is more than in wet terrace because of the slope without bound. Womens participation is nearly equal to men in wet terraces. Men work as labour for land preparation, irrigation canal construction and maintenance, while women work as labour for crop sawing, weeding, manure supply and crop harvesting. In the case of wet terraces, the soil loss is negligible due to the improved and leveled terraces with bound. This result clarifies that, the balanced labour contribution helps to conserve soil erosion. So, the Conservation of Soil is directly proportional to the Gender Sensitivity.

Women are basically responsible for the collection of fuelwood, fodder and grass. Conservation of forests with landslide control measures makes it easier for to women to fetch fuelwood, fodder and grass. Availability of sufficient fodder and grass in and around reduces the collecting time and helps women to keep animals. Women can use their saved-time for taking care of the children, attend literacy classes and other trainings. Keeping animal helps them to make organic manure for more productivity and they will be able to increase their income. This way forest/watershed conservation sub-project helps to maintain children's good health, increase women's income sources, get more production and improve the quality of women's life.

Women collect water, carry it and store it in the traditional way. Women use their skill to select the source of water. Inefficient use of water sources create soil erosion. The implementation of drinking water scheme sub-project makes women aware of the selection of water source and its efficient use. Drinking water supply system improves good sanitation and hygienic condition of the village. This sub-project helps women to save water carrying time and the saved-time can be used for awareness building activities. In this way this sub-project helps to minimize soil erosion, to maintain good environment and hygienic condition.

From this study we can understand the Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation.

### **Recommendations**

As explained above women's role depends on the characteristics of implemented sub-projects. So, the ratio of womens participation in respect to Gender Sensitivity should be analyzed in each sub-project's planning phase.

For analysis, the point to be considered are as follows:

- Whether women participation will be high or low ?
- Are women interested to implement this sub-project ?
- What will be the women's role in this type of sub-project ?
- How much benefit women can get from this sub-project ?
- What is women's need now ?



When we get positive answers from the above mentioned questions we can finalize the sub-project. But we should think about the balanced role of women and try to introduce new programmes, involving more women.

To increase women's involvement in the sub-project the following training and team work will be helpful.

- Conservation education in users' group level.
- Skill development training about proper use of water source in users' group level.
- Training about technical knowledge for maintenance of these implemented structures in users' group level.
- Knowledge about proper use of forest product.
- Balanced role and ratio of men and women in users committee.
- Knowledge about the importance of implemented sub-project in users' group level.

**A Case Study**  
**on**  
**Present Situation of the Community and**  
**Lesson Learned from Implemented Sub-Projects**

Mr. Umesh Kasaju  
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and  
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DSCO, Kaski, Kristi Site Office

**Introduction**

In the context of Deurali and Kristi Nachne Chour VDCs. It has about 10,000 population with different castes, culture and socio-economic status and so on. However, one common interest can be seen within all the villagers that is development. According to the villager's knowledge, development is the construction or implementation of any sub-projects that would improve their daily life, like drinking water supply system, road, bridges etc. At the same time, most of the educated as well as the uneducated people know about the maintenance of those systems. But, unfortunately, most of the sub-projects did not have any system of maintenance through users' and Government offices as they do not have sufficient man power and fund to do so. Therefore, within the project area also, there are many mal-functioning drinking water supply systems, irrigation canals, trails etc. The real meaning of the sustained development has not been well understood by the people.

Sustainability it self is a challenging task. It is directly or indirectly related to various factors. If one neglect anyone the life span of the whole system may be reduced. Thus, one should make every effort in every aspect to make any system sustainable. Those aspects may be social, economical, technical, cultural, or natural.

Now, every body admits that sustainability is the heart of the development. Any system without it has no meaning. Since, physical development has certain life, it's life span can be increased with proper maintenance. But most of the people are not aware of development concept due to many reasons. One important cause among them is the lack of gender sensitivity which has been playing negative role in community development. In these two VDCs, men did not show any interest to be involved in community development works. In most of the sub-projects women have been playing a vital role in the implementation phase. If women are not empowered there exists a possibility that all the development systems may collapse soon. Therefore any development related projects must play key role to empower women. This will be reflected in all the social aspects of the villagers.

**Gender Inequality from Technician's Eye :**

In the case of Deurali VDC. HMG/JICA/JOCV Community Development and forest watershed Conservation (CDFWCP) and Greenery Promotion Cooperation Project (GPCP) has assisted to implement 11 community level, infrastructure development and forest watershed conservation sub-projects and its cost details are:

Deurali VDC:

Table - 1

Project No.	Total Cost	Total P.Cost	People's participation
11	643323.00	233408.00	409915.00

Kristi VDC:

There were 7 community level, infrastructure development and forest watershed conservation related sub-projects. Whose cost details are:

Table - 2

Project No.	Total cost	Total P.Cost	People's Participation
7	800037	364658	435379

In community level sub-projects most of the unskilled related workshops to be done by women. In average womens participation for the unskilled labour in Deurali was more than 80 percent. As per the data of the table-1 women have completed the works equivalent to Rs. 327932 whereas men have completed Rs. 81931.00. This data proves that women have been involved four times more than men during the implementation period.

In case of the Kristi over 80% women were involved in the implementation of the sub-projects. It shows women's participation was estimated equivalent to Rs. 348303.00

Secondly, These data show weak point of peoples participation philosophy. The project's cost is about 57% less than the cost of peoples participation in case of Deurali VDC whereas 55 % less in the case of Kristi VDC. However, this year Kristi has completed only six sub projects . Peoples contribution is not different form the Project cost.

So It seems clear that women participated one to four times more than men in the real implementation period . In this context, peoples participation approach also assists to make women economically less empowered indirectly because Project has been paying for skilled labour and the money paid goes to men's pocket. Thus projects policy is also playing an invisible role to create gap between men and women.

Deurali: Population of the 11 sub-projects are:

Table - 3

Total Population	Male	Female
2067	1035	1022

Kristi VDC: Population of the 7 sub-projects are:

Table - 4

Total Population	Male	Female
748	359	389

The above mentioned data show the more or less balanced population in the community. However, in the implementation period there was unbalanced participation raises a question of participation and gender balance policy.

Deurali: Participants of the users committee are:

Table - 5

Total Members	Male	Female
80	44	36

Kristi: Participants of users committee are:

Table - 6

Total members	Male	Female
36 from 5 sub-projects	18	18

The above mentioned data show the balanced participation of male and female in management committee. However, female members was not able to increase the male participation in the implementation period. This result also revealed the situation and decision making capacity of the female members of the management committee. Project should make some efforts to make women capable because most of the women members do not understand their roles, responsibilities and authority for community development.

**Realized Major Problems :**

1. Leadership capacity
2. Technical knowledge
3. Knowledge about gender equality
4. Roles, responsibilities and authority of women group
5. Poor economical condition
6. More household workload to the women etc.

### **Possible Means of Solution :**

- Legally organize and register women's group like, Ama Samuha and make clear about their roles, responsibilities and authority .
- Implement more Income generation and other community level projects via those groups .
- During of implementation of any sub-projects, Project should have a programme to provide possible technical knowledge to the women .
- Provide leadership development & gender sensitivity related knowledge through informal training to women.

After the completion of some sub-projects, prestige may be given to some women within community/village and women can participate in another village level projects irrespective of kindness or mercy of the men and definitely they carefully facilitate another women to uplift the knowledge of gender sensitivity. Because these type of ideas should be generated from villagers which will smoothly run toward women development and this process itself has high chance to be sustainable.

### **Realized Necessary Trainings for Japanese Volunteers, Nepali Volunteers and DSCO Counterpart Personnel .**

#### **1. Trainer's Training:**

By this training, we will gain the knowledge about adult's learning principle, which is different from our present systems.

#### **2. PRA Training:**

This training will help to get more information about village community and that will give support to plan suitable programmes .

#### **3. Community Forestry Related Training :**

This training will provide legal and technical knowledge about forest management, which can be effective for the utilization of natural resources for community development as our project area covers a big area of the forest. But those forests are not managed, so the people are unable to get the forest products which have high value in the market . Therefore this training may be effective for the mobilization and utilization of natural resources for community development and improvement of the forest .

#### **4. Income Generation Related Training:**

Project should make arrangements for income generation related trainings, so that at least one person from each site will be specialized in one field and transfer it to others sites.

### **5. Leadership Development Training:**

This training will give knowledge to us how to facilitate people to become a leader and be able to select people with such characteristics.

### **6. Low Cost Design Method:**

This training will support to optimize project budget for the activities.

### **CONCLUSION :**

In this regard the Project should play vital role to make effective coordination among all the related sub-project's people to increase their working efficiency, because this fiscal year, Deurali VDC. has completed 11 sub-projects and spent only Rs.233408.00, while Rs. 566592.00 is in balance excluding income generation related budget.

Similarly, in Kristi 6 sub-projects had been implemented and spent only Rs. 264222.00 and Rs. 535778.00 is in balance excluding income generation related budget. So this data informs that working efficiency has to be increased by double or triple for the coming fiscal year. So it is really a serious matter, as the Project has limited time and budget.

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**Report on  
Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity  
and  
Environmental Conservation.**

K. P. Acharya  
DSCO Kaski  
Mauja Site office

**Introduction**

I am going to present a paper on all the sub-projects of Mauja which are implemented on community participatory approach. There are no other organization /agency in Mauja with community participatory approach . The people prefer to work in their own farm or work which helps them to generate money directly. When HMG/JICA/JOCV Community Development and Forest / Watershed Conservation Project was introduced , they are participated in development activities in gender basis to some extent. So it is my pleasure to present paper on Structural Relationship Between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation.

**Gender Analysis:**

In Mauja, Gurung ethnic group has the majority. Women are not dominated by men , as women are considered as house headed . The other casts are Brahmin, Gharte and lower casts like Kami, Damai ,Sarki. In other caste women are dominated by man they have to permission to their husband or father to participate in other activities. Women are responsible for taking care of children, sick members , providing survival needs ,fetching water, collecting fueled, washing utensils etc. Since women are overloaded with household and agricultural work, it makes them very difficult to participate in conservation and development activities, still they are participating in conservation and development activities to some extent.

Participation of women depends upon characteristic of the sub project .They are more interested in water supply and trail improvement sub project because they have to spend more time for collecting fuel, manure, fodder and fetching water from long distance. If trail is improved, carrying manure ,fodder, firewood or farm production will be easier, and if drinking water can be found in short distance their time will be saved and can utilize this saved time for income generation and other activities.

Women are participating in different activities. Given table shows about the representatives of men and women in the users committee.

S. N.	Name of the Sub-Project	No. of Users	Men	Women
1	Drinking water supply, Ward No.5	9	6	3
2	Water source protection, Ward No 3 and 5	9	8	1
3	School building maintenance ward No 7	11	7	4
4	Trail improvement ward No. 6, 5, 3 and 1	9	6	3
5	Trail improvement ward No.1,4,9 and 7	11	11	-
6	Trail improvement ward No.9	15	9	6
7	Trail improvement ward No.8	11	8	3
8	Trail improvement ward No.7	9	5	4

In case of Drinking Water Supply Sub-project Mauja W/N 5, men & women both participated in construction work and materials and equipments transportation. Only men were involved in decision making and at the time of survey. In the construction period, men participated in stone breaking, as skilled labour and unskilled labour for mortar making. Women participated for aggregate making. However, both men and women participated in pipe line excavation, stone collection and transportation, materials and equipments transportation. It was a challenging work for them because there are only nine household and they had to construct one intake tank, one public tap post and with six hundred meter pipe line work.. They participated to complete the sub-project because there was not any tapstand around the village.

In the case of Water Source Protection sub-Project in Mauja, ward No. 3 and 5, only reservoir tank was renovated and this sub-project is going on.. Aggregate breaking and sand transportation work was executed by both men and women. Only men were involved in materials transportation and as skill labour and unskilled labour for mortar making. Participation of men and women was more or less equal.

In the case of School Building Maintenance Sub-project, Mauja, ward No.7, stone quarrying, mortar making and skill labour's works were done by only men, while stone transportation, aggregate breaking were done by both men and women. Participation of men and women was more or less equal.

Inter community level sub-project, Trail improvement, (Lamakhet to Bishauna) is used by all the people of Mauja VDC. Women were also interested in the construction of this trail because they



believe that trail improvement is the activity of Gurung people. They have to carry manure, fodder, fuelwood and daily survival needs through this trail and the trail joins the neighboring VDC. During construction, men participated in stone breaking, earth work excavation and dry stone related works. Both men and women participated for the transportation of stones.

Trail improvement sub-project of ward No. 9 (Imdupakha and Porko gaun) is the oldest trail of this village. As it was in a very bad condition, it was very difficult to walk, especially for women while fetching water and carrying farm/forest productions. Therefore both men and women participated for its construction. Stone breaking, dry stone work and earth work were done by men while stone collection and transportation were done by both men and women.

Peoples participation in trail improvement sub-project, Mauja, ward No. 8, was more satisfying. In this sub-project, men and women of all household were involved in the construction work because their children were using this trail to go to school daily. This trail is also the sub trail to go to Arba especially in rainy season due to dangerous form of Gairiswanra landslide.

Trail improvement sub-project of ward No. 7 lies in Danda gaun where most of the people are Gurung and as trail improvement work is considered traditional activity among Gurung, both men and women participated in this sub-project.

### **Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation**

Water supply sub-project is directly related with the environmental conservation. Since source water is directed to tap, soil erosion caused by source water will become less and the waste water helps to irrigate land for kitchen gardening which increases the productivity of land. If water source is protected, soil erosion will be definitely reduced which will help in the growth of vegetation and support to keep yield of water source constant.

Storm water is one of the agent of soil erosion. When it passes through steep trail, soil loss increases due to high velocity of water. When the trail is improved, storm water passes from the side drain or steps of trail, the velocity reduces and quantity of soil erosion will also decrease. These gender based activities are related to environmental conservation which clears the structural relationship between gender sensitivity and environmental conservation.

### **Recommendations :**

1. Awareness raising training should be provided to people.
2. Skill development training should be provided to women which helps to participate women as skill labour.
3. Appropriate training should be provided to women to enhance their decision making and management skills.
4. Further gender related training should be provided to field staffs which can be used directly in working field.
5. Training on initial environmental examination should be provided to the technical persons for sustainability of the sub-projects and environmental conservation/management.

**Report  
on  
Structural Relationship between Gender Sensitivity and  
Environmental Conservation**

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**Introduction**

Puranchaur VDC is situated in Kaski District, 18 Km North of Pokhara Project Office and can be reached in 45 minutes drive and 40 minutes walking. It is an adjoining village to Pokhara, so the life style of the people is neither distinctly urban nor rural. This VDC is a home for 3972 people, 1995 males and 1966 females.

There are one high school and five primary schools. There is a health post, where people come for minor treatment. Some development projects have been already completed in the VDC. An irrigation project of Rs. 60,000,000, financed by the World Bank is in the verge of completion.. Some programs, such as health sanitation, drinking water, adult literacy, toilet construction etc. are being implemented with the aid of Nepal Redcross Society in 1-5 Wards.

**Gender Analysis and Background of Life Expectation**

The major occupation of the people is agriculture in addition to, animal farming, horticulture, vegetable gardening. High caste people possessing land are involved in agriculture. However, a few persons are in government service, teaching and foreign services. Occupational caste or people of low income earn their living by daily wages labour in Pokhara and Lamachour, like collecting/breaking stones on the river bank, selling fuelwood and vegetable. My own survey shows that inhabitants of this VDC are selling about 60-70 bundles of fuelwood daily, 25-30 baskets (doko) vegetables and 500-550 standard dressed stones in Pokhara. People say that they spend the earned money on school fee for their children and social customs.

Most of the people are involved in such works where they are paid on daily wage ranging from 150-300 Rs. Therefore they are more interested in such type of works rather than long term ones. Womens group are involved in such activities rather than men, who do not care about feeding the family. In some households some males even drink alcohol and gamble with the money earn by female members. The polygamous system still appears to be in practice even among the youth in the VDC.

With the coordination between HMG and JICA/JOCV, the conservation of Forest Watershed Management and Greenery promotion will be eventually obtained through community development, by involving the community and peoples participation in the VDC.

The following sub-projects have been implemented in the VDC at present.

S.N	Name of Project	W.N	Total Cost Rs.	Project Cost Rs.	People Participation
1	Irrigation Canal	6	91217.00	48491.00	42726.00
2	Foot Trail Maintenance	6	87831.00	39506.00	48325.00
3	RCC Trail Bridge	6	63855.00	37476.00	26379.00
4	Water Tank Maintenance	6	41917.00	27390.00	14527.00
5	Trail Improvement	7	27015.00	12615.00	14400.00
6	Toilet Construction 1	7	10667.00	2484.00	8183.00
7	Toilet Construction 2	7	201630.00	40759.00	160871.00
8	Toilet Construction 1	8	10668.00	3484.00	7184.00
9	Toilet Construction 2	8	183869.00	47715.00	136154.00
10	Toilet Construction 1	9	64007.00	14907.00	49100.00
11	Toilet Construction2	9	149030.00	30126.00	118904.00
	<b>Total:</b>		<b>931706.00</b>	<b>304953.0</b>	<b>626753.00</b>

Total Sub- Project Cost:-931706.00

HMG/JICA contribution:-304953.00 (32.7%)

Peoples Participation:- 626753.00 (67.3%)

Different sub-project experienced different level of participation and attitudes of the users .

1. Peoples participation was very encouraging in Drinking Water Supply and Irrigation Sub - Project. Beneficiary groups were involved in formulation, operational procedure, attending meeting, managing and fund collection for sustainability of the project. They expressed their concern about the durability and management of the project during the period of construction because they were the direct beneficiaries groups. In such project, women's participation was also satisfactory but they did not agree to utilize their fund for such project.

2. Concerning foot trail and RCC bridge peoples participation was not satisfactory as expected. Lack of active participation raised concern about its durability. Womens participation was also not very satisfying.

3. The users showed less interest towards the community plantation while more interest towards the private plantation. Women were enthusiastic about planting tree seedling.

4. People were more interested in projects that generated personnel income. In toilet construction also the same attitude was observed. For the works that benefited them individually, they expressed concern about the durability, sustainability, quality etc. For instance, while constructing toilet Users

were quite concerned about the quality of cement and its durability. Women were less involved in masonry and cement works as they are considered semi skilled /unskilled in such works.

In the year 1995/96, in the whole VDC, 11 community level sub projects will be implemented. The total cost of Project is Rs.931706.00 of which Rs. 304952.00 was provided by the Project for skill labour and materials. Peoples participation amount is Rs. 626758.00 . Thus, of the total cost of the Project, peoples participation cost is 67.3% and Project contribution is 32.7 % .

The eleven sub- projects were about to be completed without much difficulties, and this was possible due to peoples participation. Unequal participation of men and women was observed during the meeting and implementation.

During the implementation of sub-projects, it has been seen that sub-projects that are directly related to women such as planting fodder, fuelwood, drinking water, fertilizer and seeds can not be made sustainable without the equal and active participation of male and female.

### **Problems and Obstacles Encountered**

1. More engagement of women in household works,
2. The presence of women member in Users' Committee meeting was found to be unsatisfactory even though there were more number of women in the Management Committee because of the attitude that males are the decision making body,
3. No helping hand from the males. Women are mostly busy in their house work such as cooking, fetching water, caring children, collecting fuelwood, washing utensils, cleaning as well as working in the farm.
4. Some social causes .
5. Lack of moral education.
6. Domination from upper caste and male.
7. Poverty.
8. Less skilled labour within the village.
9. Belief of the villagers in daily cash profit.
10. Dependent to each other.

- We can conclude that any development activities carried out with peoples participation both men and women will be successful,
- People show less interest in Projects that benefit them in the long run,
- People are more interested and participate effectively in Projects that benefit them individually.
- Hence, development work should be carried out as per the need and interest of the people.

Therefore, Users can be made capable and manageable only with active peoples participation.

Since the local people, Users Committee, (male, female) can not identify their responsibility, role for gaining and using the natural resources and management, the role of M/P team, DSCO counter part activities will be dynamic, effective and beneficial. So, the following points are recommended for gender sensitivity and sustainable development:

## **Recommendation**

- Give priority to extension work,
- The private sector also needs to be encourage into the programme,
- Involve women in groups to promote capacity of decision making,
- Try to change the traditional ideology of male over female and provide an opportunity for working freely,
- Schedule of implementation work should be materialized based upon the engagement of the Users' group,
- Formation and mobilization of mother group is essential for community development and forest/watershed conservation activities,
- Study tour for target group,
- Project should be selected according to local man power,
- Basic care and maintenance training,
- Skill labor training specially for women and lower cast,
- Equal wages for men and women,
- Local skill development training,
- Encourage alternative sources of rural energy,
- School conservation education,
- Community forest management training ,
- Encourage for women group work,
- Film documentary shows,
- Basic and functional literacy and moral education,
- All planning and implementation staff from management to field level should be gender sensitized, and
- Continuous supervision and technical advice from technician..

Considering and applying the above points in development planning, equal participation and sustainable development can be expected.

For implementing the project activities, there should exist a single team consisting of the M/P team and the HMG counterpart staff. It is necessary to have coordination between the staff, in lack of which the project activities may not be accomplished. The working team should be complete in the sense of resource and facilities. Besides this the following training and tours are necessary for the team work:

1. Trainers training,
2. PRA/RRA training,
3. Forest/watershed management training,
4. Agro forestry practices,
5. Practical training on Community development & people's participation,
6. Educational and environmental tour, and
7. Tour in the different successful project.

**Presentation  
on  
Gender Sensitivity and Environment Conservation**

Binod Regmi,  
DSCO Parbat

**Introduction**

Gender Sensitivity is the main focusing point on the present socio-economic situation in Nepal. In Nepali culture female are suppressed and family economy is controlled by male. All the decisions (economically, politically and development activity) are made by male, but in practical activities has to be carried out by the female. Women contribute most of their time on agricultural work, live stock tending, child care and other domestic works. So women are the backbone of the hill economy. Majority of women are engaged in fodder and fuelwood collection, grazing the cattle, seeking fruits, nuts, tubers and leave litters collection (compost manure) etc. which have direct linkage in the management and enhancement of the existing natural resources. Giving due consideration on these facts, the HMG/JICA Community Development and HMG/JOCV Greenery Promotion Cooperation Project highlights on womens participation on institutional frame work in local community like users groups.

**Structural relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation**

During the field observation, it has been observed that only men are in direct contact with development activities. In forest/watershed conservation project's users committee 50 % involvement of women are recommended, but has been revealed that they do not contribute in decision making process actively. The presence of women in the users committee meeting is either low or they appear inactive. For example, men participate in the users committee/group and make a operation plan to control over grazing and felling of trees on steep slope, gully control and landslide areas but it is not followed in practice because she is ignorant.

The following sharing of responsibility indicate contribution of women in environment conservation.

Description of Work	Responsibility
1. Fuelwood collection	Women
2. Preparation of timber as construction material, furniture and agriculture implements	Men
3. Fodder Collection	Women
4. Cattle grazing	Majority by women and children
5. Collection of fruit, nuts, vegetables, tubers and medicinal herbs	Women
6. Hunting and fishing	Men
7. Planting dry land rice, paddy, maize and weeding,	Women
8. Ploughing the field	Men
9. Irrigation on paddy field	Mostly by women
10. Stone quarrying for conservation structure	Men
11. Transportation of stone	Majority women
12. Fetching water	Women
13. Cooking	Women
14. Kitchen gardening	Women
15. Preparation of operational plan	Men
16. Preparation of joint work plan	Chairman of Users Committee

By sharing the responsibility as stated above, if natural environment is depleted, women are likely to be the victims at first because they will have to walk long distance for collecting fuelwood, fodder, leaf litter etc. The condition of the women will be even more poorer and miserable as they will have to collect forest products and earn their living as well. So if the knowledge and importance of conservation is delivered to the rural women, they will also be in the favor of using it properly and conserving natural resources. Otherwise, natural resources may neither be sustained nor developed without womens participation. Women may have some skills and arts, which can be explored by seeking suitable resources and minimize the dependency on natural resources.

#### Activity to Strengthen the Gender Sensitivity

As already stated, majority of the conservation and development activities in the project areas has been carried out to empower women for gender effective participatory approach. The activities to be noted are as follows:

1. Skill development training including income generation, giving priority to women like improved stove installation, ginger cultivation, mada making etc.
2. Encourage women to participate in training for learning and sharing the experiences,
3. Formation of users committee by involvement of at least 50% women,
4. Encourage women to participate in ICLA through mothers group.

**Constraints:**

1. Lack of effective involvement of rural women in project identification, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation,
2. Women present in the users committee are not self motivated,
3. Users Committee is likely to be inactive after completion of sub-project,
4. High percentage of female illiteracy,
5. All the members of M/P team including DSCO counterpart are male,
6. Upland women are viewed as cheap source of manpower which encourage gender disparity.

**Recommendation for Strengthening Gender Sensitivity**

1. Recruitment of local women motivator to facilitate women for project identification, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of conservation and development activities.
2. Women, who play significant role in the users committee have to be self motivated and be able to conduct individuals or group meetings,
3. All the staffs of the project should respect socio-cultural norms and socio-economic situation, They should not make physical affection to show that they have different status in the society,
4. Users group/committee should be long lasting. They should be encouraged to continue their activities by providing reversible fund for extension and maintenance of the sub-projects,
5. Sup project should not be the sack of exposing the activity, it should have continuity and long lasting
6. The activity should not be confined within the solution of the present problem, but it should be able to upgrade the rural life style,
7. Sub project should be implemented using local ideas and resources,
8. Women literacy class should be conducted.



**Case Study**  
**on**  
**Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation.**

Mr. Yadav  
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Arba Site office

**Introduction**

Human relation is linked with Environment. Without the conservation of environment all the living things cannot survive. Ecological balance should be maintained for the environmental balances. Greenery Promotion plays a vital role to maintain the environmental Conservation.

This report presents a summary of projects implemented in Arba Bijaya V.D.C. in Kaski. It presents the detailed information of the community participation in Arba Bijaya along with clear the relationship between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation.

There are several Governmental and non Governmental agencies working for the rural development and income generation activities. Community approach is a new approach in community development, which is being exercised by the people in the community level.

Peoples participation has been provided as per our estimation for the community level sub-projects. In community level the sub-projects the peoples participation was positive, but for inter-community level sub-projects it was very less due to the weakness of the users group.

**Gender Analysis in Implemented Sub Project**

In Arba Bijya V.D.C., there are many castes like Brahman, Chhetri, Kami, Damai, Sarki and Gurung etc. Women and men both equally participated, according to the nature of the Construction work to implement the sub-project. In case of decision making process both of them, male and female attended the meeting but women were passive to take decision in comparison to men. Brahman, Chhetri and Gurung played vital role at the time of discussion, decision making. KDS group are dominated in all aspects like culture, income generation and education. Majority of the people are under poverty line due to unemployment, lack of education, traditional and culture. Due to the above mentioned facts the people of the Arba Bijaya V.D.C. are behind in the development activities.

The activities of the women depends on the characteristics of the implemented subproject. In the cases of pond maintenance, women were more active than men, while in the case of trail improvement subproject men were more active than women. The following table shows the comparative representation of women and men in each subprojects.

S.N.] Subprojects name	User committee			Majority of cast
	M	F	T	
1. Upallo pond maintenance work, ward No.8 [120 SQM]	2	9	11	Kami, Damai
2.Tallo pond maintenance work, ward No.8 [240 sqm]		2	9	11   Gurung
3.Trail improvement work Thapa ko Chautra to Lower Secondary School, ward No.6 [864.69m]		9	4	13   Brahman, Chhetri, KDS
4.Trail improvement work VDC to Shiva temple [465.79m]		10	1	11   ,, ,, ,,
5.Trail improvement, Tilsi Chautra to chase High School ward No. 7 [2.67km]		8	5	13   Gurung , Damai, Kami
6.Trail improvement work Khamghale to Temple, ward No. 9 [832m]		9	2	11   Gurung, Chhetri, Brahman

In the case of Upllow Pond Maintenance Sub-project in ward No. 8, there was more participation of women than men and works like stone collection, stone transportation had been done by women, while transportation of cement and construction materials had been done by men . Skill labour works had been done by the community members. Community has the majority of Kami and Damai. From this sub-project the Gurung community may take the benefit for irrigation, while occupational caste will be benefited to use it as drinking water for the animals.

In the case of Tallo Pond Maintenance Sub-project in ward No.8, there was active participation of women than men. The community has the majority of Gurung. From this sub-project, all the Gurung community may take the benefit of irrigation and drinking water for the animals.

In Trail Improvement Sub-project, Thapa ko Chautra to Lower Secondary School in ward No.6, there was equal participation both men and women. Here, the community has the majority of KDS group and others are Brahman and Chhetri. Out of the total numbers of the occupational caste more than 50% of the women and men worked for digging the trail and transporting stones.This trail improvement has made it easier for transportation of goods and easy to walk for people and animals.

In Trail Improvement Sub-project, VDC. to Shiva Temple in ward No. 6, men actively participated than women because women are illiterate. Some women worked for stone collection and stone transportation. The community has the majority of Brahman. People and animals have directly benefited from this trail improvement.

In Trail Improvement Sub-project, Tilsa Chautara to Chase High School in ward No. 7, Diha gaon, there was an equal participation of both men and women for stone collection and transportation while trail digging and way making was done by men. This trail is useful for the high school student and the people have also gained more transportation facilities from this trail improvement.

In Trail Improvement Sub-project, Khamghale to Temple ward No. 9, There was an equal participation of men and women. Stone collection and transportation works had been done by women and trail digging and way making had been done by men. The community has the majority of Gurung, Brahmin and Chhetri. People and animals have gained transportation facilities from this trail improvement.

From the above mentioned sub-projects study, I have analyzed that there was more participation from women than men. Women's participation depended upon the majority of caste in the community. Occupational caste also actively participated to implement these sub-projects. So the ratio of participation with respect to gender sensitivity should be analyzed in each sub-project in the planning phase.

### **Structural Relationship Between Gender Sensitivity and Environmental Conservation**

Many women are dominated by the men because of illiteracy. Women are responsible for both household and agricultural activities. Women of the rural area are working in the field of agriculture, forest product collection and animal keeping. All kinds of human activities are directly linked with environmental conservation. To develop the structural relationship between gender sensitivity and environmental conservation, the following points should be considered in the planning phase.

1. Communication /extension programme through audio visual, poster, pamphlet,
2. Management training programme should be provided for men and women,
3. Organise income generation training for women,
4. Organise agroforestry training and tour,
5. Organise literacy programme in rural area,
6. Focus income generation programme in KDS (occupational caste) group,
7. Priority should be given to women's participation in occupational activities.
8. Share idea among homogeneous group to manage alternative energy.
9. Awareness proper land utilization (individual, community),
10. To manage subsidy, agricultural tools, seeds and improved animals to increase the greenery promotion and income generation programme,
11. Co-ordinate with NGO, local NGO, mothers group, fathers group and club etc.

In my opinion if encouragement is given to the above mentioned points, structural relationship between gender sensitivity and environmental conservation will be developed.

In order to promote the relation between gender sensitivity and environmental conservation, the following trainings and team work are necessary for Japanese volunteer, Nepali volunteer, HMG/DSCO staff and JICA experts.

- Forest management training ,
- Trainers training,
- Agro forestry training,
- Community development and peoples participation training,
- Education and environmental training and tours,
- Tours in different successful area.

### **Conclusion**

The coordination between the HMG/JICA/JOCV, local NGO, local volunteer, JOCV volunteer, HMG counter part and users group is very essential for fulfilling the projects goals.



