



e-Newsletter

Policy Dialogue

Deforestation and Forest Degradation, REDD+ and Gender

The national level Validation Workshop was held on, 20 November, 2015 in Kathmandu. The workshop was organized by ForestAction Nepal. The objective of the program was to disseminate and discuss the research work of FA, with the wider group of people working in REDD+ sector. Naya S. Paudel was the moderator, three panelists of the event were, Sushila C. Nepali of Women Leading for Change in Natural Resource Management (WLCN), Ambika Gautam of Kathmandu Forestry College (KAFCOL) and Krishna P. Pokhreal of Department of Forestry, Community Forest (CF-DoF). The first presentation was by Madhu Ghimire of MoFSC on, "Forest Governance, gender, social inclusion and REDD+ in Nepal". The Second presentation was by Kanchan Lama of WOCAN on, "Gender and REDD+: Results of WOCAN's Assessment in Asia". Similarly, the third presentation was by Indira Pokhreal of HIMAWANTI on, "REDD+ and Gender: Capacity building of women stakeholders on Climate Change and REDD+". On the second half of the program, the final presentation was by Rahul Karki of FA on, "Understanding the driver-commodities-gender nexus in Nepal". The participants and panelist were actively involved in discussion and presented valuable feedback and comments on the presentation. Various governmental and non-governmental organizations participated including, FECOFUN, Ministry of Forest and Soil conservation (MoFSC), Community-based Forestry Supporters' Network (COFSUN), The international Center for integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), SIAS, HIMAWANTI, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), MSFP, Asia Network for Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), CF-DoF, WLCN, Women organizing for change in Agriculture and Natural resources management (WOCAN), KAFCOL, Ministry of Science, technology and environment (MOSTE), REDD-IC, WWF, Dalit Alliances for natural resources (DANAR), Swedish University of Agriculture science (SLU), NFA.



National validation Workshop on Deforestation and forest degradation, REDD+ and Gender, Kathmandu, 20 November, 2015

National Policy Dialogue on Chure Management

A National Policy Dialogue on Chure Management was held in Department of Forestry, on 27 December, 2015. The event was organized by ForestAction Nepal, Nepal Foresters' Association (NFA) and Nepal Forester Technician Association (NeFTA). The purpose of the program was to discuss on Chure Management amongst all stakeholders. The participants were from, AFFON, HIMAWANTI, MFSC, NAFAN, NeFTA, NFA, ForestAction Nepal, NRPP/Radio, HELVETAS, FECOFUN, Nepal engineering college, COFSUN-Nepal, Foresters, DoF, DFAN, FFM, MSFP-PCO and former members of parliament. The first presentation was by Vijay Raj Subedi of Department of Forestry (DoF) on, "Chure conservation, its management and questions and suggestions regarding the same". Second presentation was by Dr. Naya Sharma Paudel of ForestAction Nepal on, "Chure Conservation interventions: Alienation of local people and potential consequences to collective actions on forest commons". After the presentation, the Panel discussion started, the Panelists of the Program were Hari Rokka- former Member of Parliament, Dr. Keshav Kandel- forestry specialist, Dr. Nagendra Yadav- forester/ former member of President Chure-Tarai Madesh Conservation Development Board, ShekharYadav- DFO/NFA, Shanta Chaudhary – Former Member of Parliament and Ganesh Karki- FECOFUN. In the panel discussion session the participants raised different issues and provided views on the issues raised on Chure management.



National Dialogue on Chure Management,
Babarmahal, 27 December, 2015

Field Action

Community forest governance strengthening and visioning and planning workshop

Balkumari women CFUG and DipdoleEtapu CFUG, Banepa, Kavre As part of Participatory Action Research (PAR) and adaptive learning process under CALCNR project, two days' workshop was conducted in two PAR sites Balkumari and Dipdole Etapu CFUG on 28-29 November, 31 November and 1 December, respectively. The main aim of the training was to strengthen the governance and prepare short term and long term plan of CFUGs through the participatory discussion process amongst user groups. The workshop was organized by the community forests themselves with the technical and financial support of ForestAction Nepal. In the first day of the workshop the discussion was focused on the importance of participatory work required for the strengthening of governance of community forest and also how collaborative action of users and executive committee can help to solve the issues of community forest at community level. Simple tools and methods like participatory game, questionnaire, personal views and idea sharing were used to make the discussion more effective. In the second day, participants were divided into five different groups and each group were provided with the responsibility of visioning on the expectations and future plans of their community forest and make plans based on the visioning. The visioning process was done focusing on five different sectors: forest and environment development, forest based enterprise development, poverty alleviation program, community development program and institutional development. Among the plans so made, users prioritized the long term (5-10 years) and short term (2 years) plans based on the resources and time they have. More than 70 users participated in the workshop representing women, Dalit, Janajatis and users from marginalized class. The workshop was successful to enhance the local forest governance techniques and importance, increase the responsiveness and preparedness of users in forest management and enriched the importance of collective action and reflecting planning and learning process in community based natural resource conflict management.

Deforestation and Forest Degradation REDD+ and Gender

The District level Validation Workshops were organized between 5-7 November, 2015 in Kapilbastu, Nawalparasi and Bara district. The aim of the workshop was to validate the outputs of the study and seek feedback, on the research done by FA. The research topic was, "Understand the role of women and men in various land use and the benefits from the commodities associated with the drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation (D&D) in Nepal". This study was conducted in between July, 2014 and March, 2015, in the three districts. The study adopted both qualitative and quantitative analysis to draw the key findings under its three major objectives. The study is part of the initiative being carried out in three countries: Nepal, Tanzania and Vietnam, where different commodities, specific to country context were selected to analyse the drivers of D&D. This study also attempted to understand the differentiated roles of men and women along the different value chains of key forest commodities - fuelwood and timber in case of Nepal. The primary objective of the workshops was to validate the findings of the study and seek further feedback on the issue. Participating representatives were from, FECOFUN from respective districts, District Forest Office, members of community forestry user groups, community based organizations, local clubs among others. During the workshops in all three districts, presentation on the overall objective, methodology, findings and recommendations were made; followed by discussion among the participants.



Participants playing participatory game, Balkumari Women CFUG



Participants in District Level Validation Workshops

Information and Analysis

Enhancing Livelihood and food Security from Agroforestry and Community Forestry in Nepal (ENlift)

Site level meeting was held in Dhamilikuwa of Rainas municipality in Lamjung district, with local leaders from CFUGs in November. Annual review team visit to Tandrangtakasar, was also held. Similarly, District level coordination committee meeting was held in Kavre, in November. Also, the Demonstration Plot was established in Lampata CFUG for tree measurement, final harvest, harvesting trees with the permission of DFO in December.



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Organizing and empowering farmers and civil society organization for national agriculture policy influence

Feminization in agriculture survey conducted in 4 districts (Baitadi, Dadeldhura, Kailali and Surkhet) in between 28 September, 2015 and 16 October, 2015. Data collection of 100 HHs, 7 FGD and 8 KII was conducted and initial draft of the report prepared. The purpose of this is to fill the HH level questionnaire and test checklist for FGD and KII. The participants are female farmers and a few male farmers from 4 districts.

Survey on, VDC 15% agriculture budget, utilization in 2 districts (Baitadi and Dadeldhura) in between 28 September, 2015 and 6 October, 2015. Interview with VDC secretaries of 5 VDC from each district and follow up on the budget data of each fiscal year from 2068. The purpose is to find the actual condition of the budget utilization and budget expense trend. The participants are VDC secretaries and member of partner Organizations.

Ecofarm profile collection and documentation of innovative farmers. Contact list of innovative farmers from 3 districts has been documented for making detailed profile. The purpose is to make network of innovative farmers with Ecofarm and to make farmer's federation in future. The participants are innovative farmers from 10 partner districts and additional districts.

Women success case study good practices video documentary work between 30 October, 2015 to 10 November, 2015. Total of 24 videos documented for documentary preparation from 3 districts Surkhet, Dailekh and Dadeldhura and script of the documentary has been written. The purpose is to support policy advocacy by exposing successful women farmers through video documentary. The participants are successful women farmers from three districts Dailekh, Dadeldhura and Surkhet.



MSFP LOT Livelihood Improvement Activities of MSFP in Koshi Hill Districts

Improve livelihoods of forest dependent poor and climate vulnerable people are the major objectives of Multi Stakeholder Forestry Program (MSFP), jointly implemented by Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN) and ForestAction Nepal, in Koshi Hill districts. During the ongoing cost-extension period March 2015 to July 2016, MSFP has been facilitating and supporting to prepare and implement Livelihood Improvement Plan (LIP) of selected Community Forest User Groups (CFUG). During November-December 2015, the total of 14 CFUGs supported by MSFP have been visited (5 in Bhojpur, 5 in Sankhuwasabha, 4 in Dhankuta, and 1 in Terathum districts) to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the implemented LIP activities. The total of 244 households in the visited CFUGs has been supported with NRs. 15,000 for per HHs. The LIP activities of some selected households have been observed and interviewed. Similarly, executive committee members of particular CFUGs and social mobilizers employed by MSFP have also been consulted. There are some strengths of the processes followed and support schemes. Two of them are: (a) it is evidenced that the LIP scheme of MSFP has increased economic activities of forest dependent poor; (b) the process followed has become able to identify (livestock, vegetable farming, retail shops etc.) the real and practicable needs and demands of the users. However, some weaknesses have also been observed. Two of them are: (a) in some cases very poor and climate vulnerable households have been excluded from this support schemes which is mainly due to their unsatisfactory performance in the past (either not so good performance LIP activities or delay in interest payments); (b) lack of clear mechanisms for accessing required technical supports of support agencies and institutional facilitations schemes of particular CFUG may hinder in achieving targeted/expected goals.

MSFP LOT I team attended DFSCC meeting in Terathum district. This multi-stakeholder meeting was attended by CDO, LPO, DFO, MSFP cluster office, RRN DC-Terathum, Local political parties, FECOFUN, DAS and other NGOs. ForestAction attended the eastern region meeting; it was the regional meeting of forestry sector in Biratnagar. The focus of the meeting was sharing of first quarter progress of DFO, DiSCO, plant resource offices all concerned under MoFSC. First Quarter progress made by FAN under MSFP LOT I was presented. The program was attended by secretary of MoFSC, DG of DoF, RD of eastern region, DFO of eastern region, RRN, ENCARD



Supported Goat rearing in Siddakali VDC of Sankhuwasabha district



Supported piggery in Thime VDC of Bhojpur district

Housewarming gathering at ForestAction Nepal

On 30 December, 2015 ForestAction organized a Housewarming gathering. Krishna Prasad Paudel (Executive Coordinator of FA) reflected on 15 years of journey in policy research. The building represents a hope, to be a semi-academic institution, to disseminate learning from our research work. It aims to be a research center that binds together the social, cultural aspect of our nation.

Amrit Adhikari (Finance and Administrative Coordinator of FA) gave a brief overview on the financial details regarding construction of the building. Khem Raj Dahal (Chairperson of FA) inaugurated the building and formally welcomed a new era for the organization. This occasion was graced by the company of associates from the field of Forestry, Agriculture and Climate change.



Publication

Policy Brief

- Bhusal, P., Regmi, U., Bhandari, K., Gurung, K., Paudel, N.S., 2015. Potential role of expanded community forest mitigating North-South Conflict and forest management challenges in Terai Region of Nepal. Policy Brief No.39.Kathmandu.ForestAction Nepal.
- Regmi, U., Bhusal, P., Bhandari, K., Karki, J., and Paudel, N.S., 2015. Landlessness and Forest Management: What can Community Forestry Offer? Policy Brief No.40. Kathmandu.ForestAction Nepal.
- Thing, S. J., Bishwokarma, D. and Paudel, N.S. 2015. Chure Conservation and Community Forests in Nepal: Policy Pathways and Consequences on Collective Actions. Policy Brief No.41. Kathmandu.ForestAction Nepal

Books/ Book Chapter

- Roy,R. , Karki,S. ,Karky, B. S. ,Kotru, R. ,Sohail, M. , Reinhardt, S. ,Phuntsho, K.REDD+ in the Hindu Kush Himalayas: A stocking study from Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan, 2015. ForestAction Nepal and ICIMOD <http://lib.icimod.org/record/31132>
- Shivakoti,P.C., Karna, K. B., Gautam, P.A., Inoue, M., 2015. Nepal: Evaluating Different Forest Management regimes. In Multi-level Forest Governance in Asia SAGE Publication.

Discussion Paper

- Pain, A., Adhikari, B. Dhungana.H., and Gurung, N., 2015. The Production of Landslides Risks and Local Responses: A Case Study of Bhoje Landslide, Lamjung, Nepal: ForestAction Nepal and Southasia Institute of Advance Studies.
- Khatri, D.B., Adhikari, B., Gurung, N. and Pain, A., 2015. The Production of Landslides Risks and Local Responses: A Case Study of Bhirkot, Dolakha District of Nepal. Case Study Report. Kathmandu: ForestAction Nepal and Southasia Institute of Advance Studies.



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