

Gender Work/Writeshop

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Gender aspects in joint experimentation related to the Jalkhari



Introduction to the PID case of the Jalkhari

- *Jalkhari* “a feeding net for goats and sheep” is the innovation of Uttam Chaudhary of Sissai, Chitwan and this is documented by the staff of ECOSCENTRE.
- Uttam has 10 members in his family- 2 wives, 3 daughters and 4 sons.
- All his children go to school and some high school.
- Sometimes his daughters but mostly his wife and he himself fetch fodder and feed the animals.
- For solving the stall feeding problem of goats on his farm and also to increase efficiency of feeding fodder, he innovated *Jalkhari*- using fishing net.



- Through focus Group Discussion, Possibilities for its improvement were discussed for efficiency and easy handling of this innovation.
- *Jalkhari* was selected for Focus Group Discussion through short listing and preference ranking among the innovations.
- Value addition was done by using iron ring in making *Jalkhari*.

Gender roles in traditional Nepalese Society

• Responsibilities of Men

- *To generate sufficient income in family (food, education, healthcare, other necessities)*
- *To be more involved in public affairs (participation in social gatherings, attending meetings and discussions and religious ceremonies)*
- *To take responsibilities of activities requiring heavy physical labor (land preparation, using draught power, irrigation, transport of farm produces) in farming systems.*
- *Have more legal rights in relation to property and family matters.*

• Responsibilities of Women

- *To meet the family's basic needs (food, water and fuel wood)*
- *To engage in mundane household chores*
- *To perform labor intensive tasks (transplanting, weeding, harvesting, and livestock raising) in farming systems*
- *Have less access to income, wealth, employment, education*
- *Have few legal rights in relation to property and less freedom than men do.*

The Tharu Community

Tharus are

- *Most numerous ethnic minorities of Nepal*
- *Indigenous Nepalese people*
- *Found in the lowland terai*
- *Inhabitants of the former jungle area where other people are reluctant to settle*



Gender roles in Tharu Community

Man

- *take lead in access to agricultural extension services-agricultural extension, veterinary worker*
- *dominate women in access to community services-meetings, skill development trainings and farm study tours*
- *take lead in access to financial services-banking facility, private money lenders, savings*
- *Has control of crop income-cereal crop income, cash crop income*
- *Has control of livestock income-income of large and small animals*
- *Has control over off farm income-income of pension and remittances*
- *Tasks- Feeding and watering of animals, fishing, ploughing, milking, marketing, net weaving, fetching fodder*

Woman

- *No access to agricultural extension services- Has cultural barriers that limits their confidence in interacting .*
- *Has no/less access to community services- which lacks in their development skills*
- *Access to financial activities is poor-largely illiterate*
- *Has also control of crop income-both cereal and cash income*
- *Has also control over livestock income-large animals and more control over small animals*
- *Has no control over off-farm income-no freedom to travel and earn and should depend on their male counterparts*
- *Tasks- Feeding and watering animals, labor intensive agricultural activities, making utensils of mud etc.*

Methodology of gender analysis

The field work for this case study was carried out in September.

- *Focus Group Discussion with women (20) in the community*
- *Personal Interview with the innovator and his family*
- *Discussion with the staffs of ECOScentre (two women and one man staff)*
- *Informally talked with some men in the community*



Identification of the Innovation

- ECOSCENTRE identified this innovation through informal discussion in the community. (it's own working area)
- Male, female and youth groups of this community had participated
- Uttam Chaudhary, One of the member of the community had innovated this *Jalkhari*.
- It make a little difference whether the innovator was a male or a female-mostly the task of feeding is performed by women in every community and this should be innovated by woman.



Documentation of the Innovation

- Group discussion was done involving innovator, his family and others in the community.
- Male, Female and the youth were included in the discussion.
- Female staff of ECOSCENTRE had documented this innovation



Selection of Innovation for PID

- Discussion with the innovators and community, identification, selection and prioritization of innovation by themselves.
- The staff of ECOSCENTRE had facilitated this community session.
- Male, female and youth in the community had participated.
- The ideas of men and women were considered.
- Participatory discussion and preference ranking tools were used.
- Their criteria for ranking were its durability, cost effectiveness, convenience in use and materials used.



The PID Process

- Through Focus Group Discussion, idea about innovation development was shared and Possibilities for improvement of *Jalkhari* were discussed.
- After discussion, observations and suggestion from innovators and the community, *Jalkhari* was approved for further joint experimentation.



- Criteria used to select innovation were- use of local materials, convenience in use, cost effectiveness and its durability.
- The innovator developed three models of *Jalkhari* as alternatives for improvements- narrow, rounded and rectangular mouth . His wife and children were also included in value addition and examination. (only innovator name given).
- Other volunteer farmers, his relatives (men and women) were involved in this process- in value addition and in examination of each model of *jalkhari*
- ECOScentre's role- Technical backstopping, financial assistance, record keeping during experimentation.

Spreading the innovation within the community

- Both men and female involved in dissemination by sharing to others.
- Most of the people are now using this innovation in this village.
- Now, other men are also trying to make this kind of Jalkhari but women haven't make yet only use it.
- Women are not bringing any ideas for it's improvement.
- This innovation was also shared in group meetings, among NWG partners, photo demonstration in fair, through local media including FM and daily magazine, paper presentation in international seminars.
- The innovator himself briefed about this in the meetings.
- Innovator's wife and children briefed about this innovation to the visitors in his absence.
- Most of the community members were in touch with university professors and students of IAAS.
- Shared with their friends and class mates.

Innovation's impact on men and women

Men are benefited from this innovation in term of

- Easy handling
- Easy deposition of fodder
- Efficiency of feeding forage is high
- Time saving
- Extra additional income by selling *jalkhari*

Women are benefited in term of

- Easy handling
- Easy deposition of fodder
- Less time needed for cutting grass and can do other work
- Not needed to feed goats by them.



Integrating gender into PID

Gender has been considered in the aspects of

- *Innovation identification*
- *Group meetings*
- *Problems sharing*
- *PID process*
- *Validation*
- *Value addition*
- *Adaptation*
- *Dissemination*



Gender has been Overlooked in terms of

- *Exposure*
- *In most of the cases household head deals with the visitors and external officers first.*
- *Decision making: women can't do what they want to do and should take permission from their husband first.*
- *Male household head but not female in most of the cases*
- *Male dominate female in case of policy making*
- *All these due to the male dominated rule of the society.*

Thank-you

