Recording 120610\_001; Focus Group at Dhamilikuwa Ward no: 2

INTERVIEWER: Have you heard about bio fuel before I told you?

Male 58: I have not heard about it before.

INTERVIEWER: Have you heard about Sajiban and it used to use in producing bio fuel?

Male 34: I have heard about it and I had even collected some but it is disappearing now a days.

Male 58: Sajiban is really easy to plant. You just have to cut green twig and plant it anywhere.

Male 34: it is really easy to plant.

Male 44: if you throw one green twig in to your field it will come up.

INTERVIEWER: What kind of trees do you use for firewood other than Chilaune?

Male 34 and Male 52: We use Padke most.

Male 52: we don’t have Saal and Chilaune is decreasing. Therefore we use Padke most.

INTERVIEWER: who goes to collect fuelwood in the jungle? Male? Female?

Male 34: It is female most of the time.

Male 52: Male member does heavy work and female does light one. Male use Banchoro to cut big timber and female helps in assemble.

Male 34: it is female to collect fuelwood and fodders most of the time.

INTERVIEWER: who cook food most of the time? Is it female?

Male 34: yes it is female most of the time.

Male 61: yes it is female.

INTERVIEWER: What kind of stove do you have in your home? Open fireplace or improved cooked stove?

Male 61: I have stove made of brick (Itako chulo)

Male 34: most of the house has Gobar Gas in this VDC.

Male 52: still most of the house have open fire place. Some houses use Cylinder gas as well.

Male 61: It is hard to maintain enough dung for Gobar Gas.

Male 52: Dung is enough but in winter gas is less in summer.

Male 52: in our VDC, they are making a rule that those families will be excluded from services provided by VDC office who does not have toilet at home. And therefore most of the house has Gobar gas and toilet.

INTERVIEWER: is it government rule or make by some individual at VDC.

Male 52: it is rule make by VDC. People who don’t have toilet will not even get ***Bridha*** Bhatta. About 10 days ago personal from VDC was out in the villages to check whether all the houses in VDC has toilet. VDC has provided pipe to build toilet. It was given two to three years ago as well but some individual abuse those facilities provided by VDC.

INTERVIEWER: Dhamilikuwa VDC has announced as Disa Mukta Chhetra (Open Defecation Free Zone) . Isn’t it?

Male 52: yes it has but some houses still don’t have toilet.

INTERVIEWER: especially which village has houses without toilet?

Male 52: some houses in Birsaltaar and Bange Chaur do not have toilet.

Male 61: Financially weak people cannot afford to have toilet.

Male 52: this is why VDC has provided some equipment to build toilet. At least they can afford to build temporary toilet using bamboo.

INTERVIEWER: is there any health effects in your family because smock in the kitchen?

Male 52: to minimise smock in the kitchen one can build improved cooked stove. It is easy to build and all you need is some brick. Most people spend money on alcohol but don’t spend money in necessary stuff.

INTERVIEWER: are you saying that society is going in the wrong direction?

Male 52: Yes. One cannot afford to spend RS 800 in one place but he cannot build a basic toilet.

Male 61: when we use bamboo pipe to make flame out of fuelwood, smock goes inside our breath and we and effected.

INTERVIEWER: Do you suffer cough Dum etc. because of smock in the kitchen?

Male 61: yes we do.

INTERVIEWER: do you suffer accident while going to jungle for fuelwood collection?

They said yes.

INTERVIEWER: where do you do your treatment in those unfortunate circumstances?

Male 34: we had Aapipal for that but most of the people go to Beshisahar now.

Male 52: there is church to treat general injury. It is run by Sahodar Nepal. For serious injury people go to Beshisahar or Pokhara.

Male 61: People who have money go to Pokhara and others go to Beshisahar.

Male 52: this health post planning to add 60 to 70 more medicine. But even doctors are corrupt and they sell medicine outside for cash.

INTERVIEWER: how much does it cost for one gas Cylinder?

Male 52: Rs. 1600, if we buy here.

INTERVIEWER: so you don’t have to travel to purchase gas?

Male 52: yes, some people in the village do those business and they provide gas to household. If you go to Dumre, it just cost 1480 but if you buy here it cost 1600. Lumbini gas is cheaper than others. It is just 1500. I purchase gas from Dumre.

INTERVIEWER: do you have Gobar gas at home?

Male 44: yes, I have.

INTERVIEWER: how many years it has been?

Male 44: it has been four years.

INTERVIEWER: did you get some money to build Gobar gas at your home?

Male: they did not give money but they give 7 Pkt cement.

INTERVIEWER: how much did you spent in total?

Male 44: I had to buy three more Pkt cement and other equipment. I spent about Rs. 13000 from my pocket.

Male 52: now it will cost about Rs. 35000 to build a Gobar gas.

INTERVIEWER: what do you cook in Gobar Gas?

Male 44: we cook food for us. We have seven members in my family and it is enough to cook food for us. We use fuel wood to cook food for animals.

INTERVIEWER: do you have cylinder gas at home?

Male 44: no, I don’t have it.

INTERVIEWER: why don’t you have it?

Male 44: It is not needed because we have Gobar gas and fuelwood.

Male 61: I don’t have it because I cannot afford it.

INTERVIEWER: how many Bhari fuelwood do you use in a week?

Male 44: we use five to six Bhari fuelwood in a week.

INTERVIEWER: do you collect fuelwood from community forest?

Male 44: yes. We are only allowed to collect dry twigs.

INTERVIEWER: don’t you have trees in you field to collect fuelwood?

Male 44: I don’t have trees in our field.

INTERVIEWER: why? Did you cut all of them down?

Male 44: no, there were not any trees since I know.

INTERVIEWER: don’t you feel like planting trees in your field?

Male 44: I have some Pipal tree. This is it. I have to buy fuelwood. It cost Rs. 5 for each Bhari fuelwood. I have to give that money to community forest committee.

INTERVIEWER: who cooks food at your home?

Female 33: All of my brothers are abroad and I have to cook myself. At the moment I don’t male members in the family.

INTERVIEWER: Do you face breathing problem while cooking food in fuelwood?

Female 33: yes, it happens when I cook food in fuelwood.

INTERVIEWER: do you have Gobar gas at home?

Female 33: Yes, I have it.

INTERVIEWER: do you have cylinder gas.

Female 33: I have that too.

INTERVIEWER: if smock less bio energy available in you village than it will be nice for you, isn’t it?

Female 33: yes that is right but we already have Gobar gas. Most of the houses in the VDC have this and they also have cylinder gas.

INTERVIEWER: do you have Aama samuha in your village?

Female 33: yes, there are many.

INTERVIEWER: how is Aama Samuha doing? Are they doing well?

Female 33: At the moment we are actively involving to settle down general fight in village. We also clean our street once a year. Now we are planning to take some action to minimise Alcohol and Gambling.

INTERVIEWER: do you think it is nice to coordinate with such group before we start such kind of project in the VDC?

Female 33: There is some project here already and they coordinate with us.

INTERVIEWER: to what extent you punish people who drink alcohol?

Female 33: there was process previously. Now drunkard people are not walking in the street with dirty words and people who gamble hide and play secretly. We still fined who drink and be loud in the street.

INTERVIEWER: how much do you find them?

Female 33: it depends on their economic situation.

INTERVIEWER: does that fine effect on their economic situation?

Female: Most of the people who are Dalit and financially poor and who cannot afford to feed two times act unsocial when they drink and we cannot fine them heavy. Financially able and strong people don’t do that.

INTERVIEWER: you said financially able people do not fight but poor people fight. Why is it like that?

Female 33: They always are in financial pressure, they cannot manage their finance and they drink. And if any one said something bad they feel torcher and they fight. Financially able person just pop in the hotel, drink and leave hotel quietly. Poor people cannot manage their finance and they fight in the pub. They even get told off by their wife if they are drunk while wife do not have salt in the kitchen. So I think the main reason of fight is poor economic condition. If man financially able and if he has fulfilled basic demanded by wife than there is less chances to have conflict at home.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think this kind of bio energy project can be helpful to improve livelihood of those people?

Female 33: There was training on production of bio energy by Sajiban. We were not allowed to cultivate Sajiban in public forest and it was not possible to grow Sajiban in private land because that will destroy the food. Now there are not even bunds. Also, Dalit do not own much land. For this we have to separate a plot of land only of Sajiban cultivation. Financially able people may not want to do that and poor people do not have land to cultivate.

To cultivate Sajiban in community forest we have to take permission from authority above.

INTERVIEWER: you mean, with those kind of programme rich people will be richer and poor will be even poorer?

Female 33: yes.

INTERVIEWER: how do you think it could be manage?

Female 33: Rich people will not be helpful. Any kind of project in the VDC should be should be supported by rich people but they do not want to come forward and poor people cannot do that.

Female 33: ‘Ka’ Group do not care about that kind of project. ‘Kha’ Group are in confusion on where to go. ‘Ga’ Group are powerless and do not have access.

**FGD 2: Batase School**

Participants

Bhes Bdr Pariyar, 42

Bhisma Kanta Chiluwal, 51

Indira Panday, 37

Anita Chiluwal, 24

Sushila Laudari, 47

Pabitra Magrati, 29

Sirjana Rijal, 25

Ram Prasad Chiluwal, 56

INTERVIEWER: have you heard about bio energy before I told you?

Male 56: I have heard about before.

INTERVIEWER: Have you heard about Sajiban and oil can be making from its fruit?

Male 56: I have heard about it. People have left talking about that now.

INTERVIEWER: did that idea (producing fuel from Sajiban) attracted you?

Male 56: People had done that. Women, children and adults were involved in collecting Sajiban fruits.

INTERVIEWER: Did authority made an effort to understand views and approach of the community before they took project into your village?

Male 56: No, they did not do anything.

INTERVIEWER: how many times a year community forest open for fuelwood collection?

Male 42: Previously people used to go to jungle whenever they want but now people only allowed going to jungle on Saturday to collect dry twig. Community forest decides where to collect fuelwood and which side of the forest to open for fuelwood collection.

INTERVIEWER: how many Bhari fuelwood do you use in a week?

Male 42: we use Gobas Gas for cooking food for us. And we use about 3 Bhari fuelwood for cooking food for animals in a week.

INTERVIEWER: Is Gobar gas reliable in winter season?

Male 42: it is enough most of the time but in winter season Gas is less. Gobar has to be enough.

INTERVIEWER: Who goes to collect fuelwood and fodders in your home?

Male 42: it is Female most of the time. All the household in our society are like this. Most of the male members work outside home and therefore it is female to do household work most of the time.

INTERVIEWER: What kind effect society will have by this kind of project?

Male 51: it will improve life of general people. It will create employment in the society. It also helpful to improve environment. However, with previous experience, this kind of project comes and disappears. There was Sajiban project and general people were so happy to get employed. There were also a program to make medicine form Tite Pati but it disappeared. Those kind of program is nice if it came in the community but it has to be implemented sustainably.

INTERVIEWER: how do you want this project to come into your village? From Government? NGO/INGO?

Female 37: Villagers has to participate and unite. With the help of government it can be sustainable.

INTERVIEWER: How is the unity in your village?

Female 37: There is no unity in the government and not even in the village. This could be the main reason that our society is not developing as expected.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of stove do you have at home? Open fireplace or others?

Female 37: l has gas and open fireplace.

INTERVIEWER: how many community forest Dhamilikuwa VDC has?

Female 47: May be four to five.

Female 25: each ward has community forest. So we have nine community forests in the VDC.

INTERVIEWER: can people from ward no: 4 come in Ward no: 3 to collect fuelwood or vice versa?

Female 29: No, they can’t.

INTERVIEWER: what is your main source of energy?

Female 47: I am only one at home. I don’t have cattle. So most of the time I use Gobar gas.

INTERVIEWER: Do you have Gobar Gas?

Female 47: Yes, I have it. But it generates really minimum gas due to not having dung.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think there is market for bio fuel?

Female 29: If we produce it we can sell it. However we should have training on marketing. One person cannot do this. Maximum number of people has to unite and corporate with organisation like NGO/ INGO.

INTERVIEWER: if Bio energy project came in to your village will you be willing to cultivate plant and trees suitable for bio fuel production in your field?

Female 29: if we can see profit on that, we can do it but we will need training first.

INTERVIEWER: If you want to cultivate plant and trees suitable for bio fuel production, do you want to plant those in cultivated land or uncultivated land?

Male 56: We can use both of them. Currently there is lots of uncultivated land due to lack of manpower. We can cultivate those plants on these lands.

INTERVIEWER: Do you know any other plant or trees suitable for bio fuel production other than Sajiban?

Male 51: I have heard about Naisar, Amala.

INTERVIEWER: is there Nisar trees in the jungle?

Male 51: it is almost disappearing now.

INTERVIEWER: people used to wash clothes from Nisar, isn’t it?

Male 51: no that was Rittho.

INTERVIEWER: can we produce oil form that?

Female 37: Yes we can.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of trees do you use for fuelwood?

Female 25: Budhainro, Padke and Chilaune. We don’t have saal here.

INTERVIEWER: do you have Aama Samuha?

Female 41: Yes we have. We have Aama Samuha in each ward. In some ward there is two to three Aama Samuha.

INTERVIEWER: was that made for separation from one Samuha or how?

Female 41: No, it was formed independently.

Female 41: There is different Aama Samuha for different purpose. Some are for vegetable farming, Pasu Palan.

INTERVIEWER: Can Aama Samuha be actively participating to make those kind of project successful?

Female 41: yes. Without the help of Aama Samuha, it will be difficult to operate those kind of project in the village. It is almost impossible.

Female 25: Aama Samuha’s involvement will be important because female are hardworking than man and they have to work in the kitchen and therefore they have more interest in energy fuel.

INTERVIEWER: Who cooks most of the time in your family?

Female 25: I cook myself.

INTERVIEWER: do you get help from male member sometimes?

Female 25: Yes, I do.

Female 51: I don’t know whether it is a system or what; it is female to cook food most of the time. In some home Male member stay without food but don’t cook.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of health issues you are facing due to staying in the smock?

Female 29: we suffer eye irritation, headache, not feeling well and cough.

INTERVIEWER: has anyone suffer from Dum at your home?

Female 29: yes, my father in law has it.

INTERVIEWER: has anyone member in the family faced accident while in the kitchen or in the jungle for fuelwood?

Female 29: No, there is none in my family but I have heard in the village.

INTERVIEWER: Where do people go when accident occurred?

Female 29: It depends on the case. If it is general injury we can do first aid or take patient to nearest health post. If we referred to take big hospital we have to take patient to Beshisahar, Pokhara or Kathmandu.

INTERVIEWER: Who cooks food at your home?

Male 56: It is my wife.

INTERVIEWER: who collect fuelwood and fodders?

Male 56: I collect fodders sometimes.

INTERVIEWER: Why is it like that?

Male 56: I get busy with my job (principal in the school). And I am kind of lazy to do those kind of work as well.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think such kind of gender discrimination will change in the future?

Male 56: it is already improving these days. It was even worse some years back. At some home female works in the offices and male member does the house work?

INTERVIEWER: does your wife have any health issues because of smock in the kitchen?

Male 56: No, she has no health problem till now.

INTERVIEWER: Has she got back pain?

Male 56: Yes she has. She had done her operation because of that.

INTERVIEWER: where did you take her for that treatment?

Male 56: Kathmandu.

INTERVIEWER: do you have such kind of health problem in your family?

Male 51: No one has it now but they may face problem with back when they get older. I had Gobar Gas at home about 25 years ago and because of that my family is not suffering from smock in the kitchen.

INTERVIEWER: Do all the houses in you village has improved cooked stove?

Male 51: No they don’t. Only few houses have it. There was one person in the village to trained people on how to build improved cooked stove. He was employed by an organisation. He built some sample stove in few houses and he disappeared and that idea to build improved cooked stove in the village disappeared as well. That was nice program but implementation was very poor.

Male 42: I think it is coming again in our village. They have started to make brick in some houses.

Male 51: For the success of the project, there has to be continuity.

Male 42: There has to be demand from people as well.

Female 47: Gobar gas is the best.

Male 51: Gobar gas produces less gas in winter. It is almost half less.

Female 47: When I came in this village after marriage the jungle was not thick. Now it is thick and well maintained. Some credit for this goes to Gobar gas.

Male 42: Jungle is preserving because of forming community forest.

INTERVIEWER: Are there any people in the village who buy fuelwood?

Male 51: I don’t think there is anyone who buys fuelwood.

INTERVIEWER: how is cast discrimination in your village?

Male 51: There was maximum previously but now it is very less. Older people still discriminate on the basis of cast.

INTERVIEWER: is there equality in collection and distribution of fuelwood?

Female 47: Yes, it is equal. They measure by rope to make it equal.

INTERVIEWER: there could be the chances that such kind of project can make rich people even richer and poor ever poorer? What is the solution to minimise those situation?

Male 51: Rich people will not directly involve in farming bio energy related plant and trees. They will rather rent their land to poor people to do that. And poor has to be able to do that.

Female 37: If they receive proper training than they can earn by working in such kind of project.

Male 51: most of the young people in the village are abroad or in the cities and there is lots of uncultivated land due to lack of man power. Therefore land will be available for those who want to rent it.

Male 42: if they can see benefits in doing that than people can rent and do farming.

Female 47: If it happens to be profitable, people who work abroad can return and do cultivate plants and trees suitable for bio fuel production.

INTERVIEWER: do you have any suggestion?

Male 56: participation of all the group and individual in the community is essential for the success of the project.

Male 42: People have to know the significance of the project first and there has to be some sample work and training for those who are interested.

**FGD 3- Dhamilikuwa**

Participants:

Ojaraj Chiluwal, 73

Durga Prasad Pandey, 60

Prem Raj Pathak, 46

Prem Raj Chiluwal, 55

Gopal Sunar, 46

Buddhiman Shrestha, 73

Durga Bdr Tamang, 57

INTERVIEWER: Have you heard about bio fuel before?

Male 57: No, I have not heard about it.

INTERVIEWER: if such kind of project came in to our village than how our village can be benefited?

Male 46: No one has done it here. We will know once it came in to the village.

Male 57: I have heard that there is a big project in India to produce bio energy and it can mix with petrol and use it.

Male 60: Sajiban farming is so easy. It can be cultivated anywhere. It does not even need proper care.

Male 46: I have heard about one project. There was a rumour that if we produce Sajiban than they will come and buy that. Some people were interested. People had fear that there may not be buyer for Sajiban and therefore interest disappeared.

Male 57: In our village, about twenty years ago almost everyone was interested in coffee farming. That disappeared half way through and it is coming in highlight now.

INTERVIEWER: now, can you tell me what kind of benefits community will have if such kind of project came in to your village?

Male 46: it will be beneficial for the society if it can be the solution for energy problem in our society.

Male 72: we had given training in Siudi Baar on producing oil from Tite Pati, Sajiban, Gayo, Aakhe tare and Machhi Kade. We had told to collect fruits from these plants. Later on those projects happen to be unsuccessful.

INTERVIEWER: do you think there is market for bio fuel? Can we sell it if we produce?

Male 73: we don’t have experience, where can we sell that? Who we going to sell?

Male 57: there is market in India.

Male 73: such kind of project was unsuccessful previously because there was no market.

Male 57: in our country, there is some million litres milk shortage each day. Therefore cow farming will be very beneficial. People may have thought that I am crazy when I decided to do cow farming for milk and I invest RS 275000. My son was sick badly and my business happens to be unsuccessful. I have only one cow left now.

INTERVIEWER: where do you sell cow milk?

Male 57: there was not transportation previously and I had to employ people to carry milk to Baisjagar. I was in Kathmandu when I heard that the bridge in Marsangdi river has been completed. I had jumped with joy at that time. And I decided to return back to village.

INTERVIEWER: How much milk do you produce in a day?

Male 47: 40 litres. And I can sell Rs 40 to 41 per litres. Price depends on lacto fat on the milk.

INTERVIEWER: do you help female member in the family in cooking?

Male 55: we do cooking in absence of female member at home.

Male 60: in most of the family male members cooks only in special circumstances (utko padko pareko belama).

Male 57: Until your generation, our society is running like this. There is female member to cook food. However it will reduce in future ahead. If all the genders in the family are educated there is less gender discrimination in terms of work. Therefore, everyone in the family has to be educated to reduce gender discrimination.

We are the cast which has nick name called Mateuli, that means who drinks allot.

INTERVIEWER: who gave this nick name to your cast?

Male 57: it could be Brahman. They were the one who were ruling society. I don’t drink now. I feel bad for saying us Mauteuli.

INTERVIEWER: how is untouchability in your village now?

Male 46: there is still some in the society.

INTERVIEWER: Dalit works for upper cast. Upper cast feed them outside. Has they ever told Dalit that “you have been working is the field whole day, you must have been so tired, you don’t have to wash your plate today”.

Male 55: Old people will not say that. Young people will say that.

Male 60: few years back there was Dalit teacher in Dhamilikuwa School. One day he went into a hotel and drank cup of tea. He was about to walk without washing up tea cup, he was stopped by hotel owner (Saalphedi Krishna) by saying “you may be master for others but you are Dalit. I cannot wash your cup; you have to do it yourself”. Mane Sarki (Master) washed that cup and he said “I will never come back to your hotel again”. He is still alive.

INTERVIEWER: how is community forest committee doing here? Are they doing well?

Male 57: as far as I understood, it is doing ok.

Male 49: what can I say? Some people collecting timber for free but for general people they save every pence in the account and collect money from them.

Male 55: as far as I have seen, they are working ok.

Male 57: there is no big corruption.

Male 49: it is not that equal.

INTERVIEWER: is there equality in distribution and collection of fuelwood?

Male 55: It depends on the number of member in the family. More members will get more fuelwood.

INTERVIEWER: do you think such kind of project will make rich people richer and poor people even poorer?

Male 73: yes, that can happen. This is what happening till now.

Male 57: we have to male policy and regulation to reduce that. There has to be well payment for who does labour. Government has to have progressive tax policy.

INTERVIEWER: who should take those kind of project? Government? NGO? INGO?

Male 57: first of all general public has to be educated about the project. Project has to progress through general public to upper authority. After that it can be successful.

**FGD 4- Nay Pauwa**

INTERVIEWER: do you use fuel wood to cook food?

Female 54: Yes. We have Gobar gas as well.

INTERVIEWER: do you suffer health problem due to smock in the kitchen? Like cough?

Female 54: I have not suffered cough yet.

Female 61: I do suffer coughing due to smock in the kitchen.

INTERVIEWER: do you suffer burn accident sometimes?

Female 61: yes I do. If we have to use fuelwood for fire, than we face burn injury and other illness due to smock.

INTERVIEWER: where do you go for treatment?

Female 61: we stayed at home and wait for recover. We don’t get that serious injury.

INTERVIEWER: does male member in your family help in cooking?

Female 61: My son is abroad and there is only me and husband at home. My husband is too old to stay in the kitchen and to cook. He also has Dum problem so I don’t let him stay in the kitchen.

INTERVIEWER: Who goes to collect fuelwood?

Female 54: we employ other people to collect fuel for us.

INTERVIEWER: how many Bhari fuelwood do you use in a week?

Female 54: 8 to 9 Bhari fuelwood. We don’t use fuelwood to cook for us. We have Gobar Gas for that. We use fuelwood to cook for animals, to warm up and for hot water.

INTERVIEWER: did you get financial help from government to build Gobar Gas?

Female 54: it was built about 17 years ago. We dint get any help.

INTERVIEWER: do you have improved cook stove or open fire place at home?

Female 54: we have open fire place.

Female 61: we have open fire place. We put fuelwood all around the fireplace and make fire.

INTERVIEWER: do you suffer back pain?

Female 61: yes we suffer back pain while collecting and carrying fuelwood.

Female 54: we don’t have any option. We will need fuelwood even if we suffer.

INTERVIEWER: how much do you pay for electricity each month?

Female 61: we have shared electricity for three houses and we pay 4 to 5 hundred per month.

Female 54: we have four houses to share electricity and it just come RS 80 per month. We control electricity consumption.

INTERVIEWER: have you heard that fuel can be produced by processing plant and trees available in your field and jungle?

Male 61: No, I have not heard about it.

Male 54: we use fuelwood when there is not enough Gobar Gas.

Female 61: Fuelwood consumption in winter and summer is different. Fuelwood consumption in winter is more than in summer.

INTERVIEWER: you have to keep cattle at home to run Gobar Gas, isn’t it?

Female 54: Yes it is essential. To run Gobar gas with full capacity, we need 36 Kg Dung each day. Gobar Gas in winter is not as efficient as in summer.

Female 54: we have to pay if we cook food in electricity but fuelwood is free.

INTERVIEWER: have you heard about Sajiban and its usage to produce bio fuel?

Male 63: I have heard about it. That program was in out village saying that we can produce fuel from Sajiban and we can be independent in fuel. I have also heard about Naisar and Aakhitare.

INTERVIEWER: do you still have Naisar trees in your jungle?

Male 63: it is so rare now. There must be very few.

INTERVIEWER: I have not heard about Aakhi Tare before. Can you tell something about it?

Male 63: we can obtain really nice oil from that.

Male 63: we can produce fuel form Sajiban and Aakhi Tare but I don’t understand why that project was unsuccessful.

Male 72: That project was unsuccessful because farmers were unable to provide enough raw materials.

Male 63: Farmers did not do Sajiban farming to supply enough raw material and therefore project was unsuccessful. Everyone was so excited about that project initially.

Male 72: if everyone would have produced Sajiban than it would have been successful but who comes to collect few KG Sajiban fruit all the way here.

Male 63: purpose of the project was brilliant but production of raw material was failed.

INTERVIEWER: there must have been Aama Samuha and community forest committee at that time. Dint they help in Sajiban farming?

Male 63: project came in village so suddenly. Community were not educated and trained about it.

Male 72: Suppose I collect two bags of Sajiban fruit than who comes all the way here for two bags of raw material.

Male 63: Everyone should have done Sajiban farming commercially. They came and told us about Sajiban and they dint came back. There was no continuity.

INTERVIEWER: will you be able to sell produced bio fuel in the market.

Male 63: Of course we can.

Male 72: We can sell raw material but we have to produce big quantity. If we collect two to three truck of raw material than they will come here and take that.

Male 63: Gobar Gas is very successful in our village.

INTERVIEWER: Who cook food at your home?

Male 45: my wife.

INTERVIEWER: do you help your wife in cooking sometimes.

Male 45: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: how many time a month do you cook?

Male 45: I cook when my wife is ill and unable to cook.

INTERVIEWER: who goes to collect fuelwood and fodders?

Male 45: I do that most of the time.

INTERVIEWER: do you face accident while collecting fuelwood and fodders?

Male 45: no I have not suffered that.

INTERVIEWER: any member in your family suffer health problem due to smock in the kitchen.

Male 45: no. we just suffer eye irritation.

INTERVIEWER: Do you have Gobar gas at home?

Male 45: no I don’t have it.

INTERVIEWER: almost every one in your village has Gobar Gas but you don’t have it, why?

Male 45: we are just two members in the family and I don’t want to spend money on Gobar Gas.

INTERVIEWER: where are other members of the family?

Male 45: They live in Kathmandu.

INTERVIEWER: who cook food at your home?

Male 72: my wife. I am so lazy to cook food.

Male 65: there is no employment opportunity in Nepal and most of the male members in the family go abroad for money. Female stay in the home and they do daily household work.

Male 45: culture of heading abroad for work raised due to Maoist problem. Young people were in fear that Maoist going to take them in the war. And therefore they left village.

Male 73: it is good for young people. At least they are earning some money.

INTERVIEWER: how much does it cost for one cylinder Gas?

Male 73: I don’t know about it. My son bought that for me.

Male 40: it cost Rs 1500.

Male 45: it is 1450.

Another man: 1470.

INTERVIEWER: have you ever faced trouble in cooking due to scarcity of fuelwood or Gas?

Male 80: we have three sources. Gobar, Coal and fuelwood. In absence of one we can use another.

INTERVIEWER: is your community forest committee working well?

Male 65: it is not that good. It is satisfactory. We have preserved forest. They have not done any plantation in the forest.

Male 80: they should have planned to plant Saal trees. We don’t have to plant other trees.

INTERVIEWER: how is the unity among people in your community?

Male 80: Unity in social work is not good. To repair cannel most of the family send members who has never done any work.

Male 65: it is not satisfactory.

Male 93: unity was really good in our time.

Male 65: these days, there is lack of social awareness. There is no sense of everyone has to work together.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of trees do you use for fuel wood?

Male 80: Almost all kind of trees available in the jungle.

The entire participant agreed that they use mainly Chilaune, Padke and Buldhainro.

INTERVIEWER: how many times community forest open for fuelwood collection?

Male 80: once a year. In winter season.

INTERVIEWER: is it enough for whole year.

Male 80: No, it is not enough. It is about 15 Bhari. Some people collect more than that, who are not afraid to do that. No one goes to check proportion of fuelwood collection.

Authority says that we cannot collect more than 20 Bhari fuelwood but some family collect 40 Bhari fuelwood. It is not organise.

INTERVIEWER: You mean there is no equality in collection and distribution of fuelwood?

Male 92: Yes. There is no discipline in fuelwood collection.

Name and age:

Maha Kanta Chiluwal, 80.

Suk Bdr Nepali: I am just 68. I am old because of illness. I have problem with heart. Our cast don’t know what happens with age in citizenship certificate. Most of the people in our cast don’t know the year they were born. It is because they were uneducated.

INTERVIEWER: why they were uneducated?

Male 80: they are uneducated because of poverty. Parents have to work to earn few Kg rice.

Male 68: it is because of cast based discrimination as well.

Male 80: but no one has refused to teach Dalit in school.

Male 68: I am younger than you and I have faced discrimination several times. We used to get told off when we drink water from Padhero. We were not allowed to touch that water.

Male 80: In Dhamilikuwa School, there were majority Non Dalit students and Dalit students used to offend by Non Dalit. When I observed that situation in Dhamilikuwa School I built a school in Kadam Khola 37 years ago. Now, their parents don’t come in school anniversary. They just happy with Five hundred which they get from government for their children’s education.

Male 68: I was 15 years old. In Lekh. I had to carry one Muri rice from field to uphill village. We have to carry rice even in your clothes and pocket. It used to take four to five hours to reach village (Dhital Gaun). That labour was to earn one Mana rice (Chamal).

INTERVIEWER: is there any cast based discrimination in collection and distribution of fuelwood?

Male 68: there is no discrimination on that basis.

Male 80: there is not such discrimination.

Male 68: there was not much cast based discrimination in this place like where I came from when I was thirty. I was migrated from Gorkha Bhachek.

Male 68: I was carrying her rice uphill. I was thirsty. I took water from Padhero (well) and drank that. I was told off by one widow. It was because I touched water in Padhero. I was so angry. I was uneducated and aggressive young man. I told her; I have touched your rice as well, I will take this to my home sine you are not going to eat rice touched by me.

INTERVIEWER: what she told after that?

Male 68: She didn't say anything. I told about that incident to other people later. They told me to not to worry about things uneducated widow said. They all were Sosak any way. Cast based discrimination was even worse in Rana Sasan. We were not even allowed to look straight.

Male 68: we have Dalit society here but places where there is really few Dalit in Non Dalit community they suffer discrimination allot.

INTERVIEWER: do you still have to wash your cup and plates when you eat in non Dalit home?

Male 68: no, I don’t have to do that now.

Male 80: when I see Dalit’s home now, it is so clean. We have to learn from them now. They were called ‘Sudra’ and that was meant change your behaviour and way of living but we misunderstood that and we discriminate them on the basis of cast.

**FGD 5- Pachbhai**

Participants:

Kul Chandra Chiluwal, 45

Kaji Babu Chiluwal, 54

Bhoja Raj Chiluwal, 59

Babu Ram Chiluwal, 57

Ganesh Kumar Shrestha, 59

Jagadish Bhujel, 48

Prakash Tripathi, 34

Kalpana Nepali, 35

Suk Bahadur Gurung, 36

INTERVIEWER: Do you know any other plants and trees suitable to produce bio fuel like Sajiban?

Male 54: there were a lot of Sajiban in the field bunds previously. But it is rare now because motor way destroy most of them. Still we can get seed.

INTERVIEWER: have you heard about bio energy production before.

Male 54: I have heard about it.

Male 57: I had worked on Sajiban project. Office was in Bhotewadar. My work area was Rainastar and Changling.

INTERVIEWER: why that project was unsuccessful?

Male 57: They have produced oil. They had said that they can use that oil to run motors. They also had said that it was profitable but it disappeared.

INTERVIEWER: how much Sajiban fruit did you sale at that time?

Male 57: that was my work to collect Sajuban from villages and take that to office.

INTERVIEWER: was that NGO/ INGO or some others?

Male 57: That was INGO. There was one Nepalese involved on that project called Bhushan Shrestha.

Male 54: there was less interest among people in cultivation and collection of Sajiban and therefore that was unsuccessful.

Male 57: I used to collect Sajiban and Naisar from Changling and from here. There was one Mill (Machine) to process raw material.

Male 34: I have heard that in Palpa there is a Mill to process rice which runs from bio fuel.

Other participants said: not only mill they have run vehicle as well from that bio energy.

INTERVIEWER: Are there any Rittha trees in your forest now?

Male 45: Rittha has disappeared now.

INTERVIEWER: why?

Male 45: it was no use other than using it for fuelwood and that is why it disappeared.

Male 54: Mainly, we did not know its use. We dint know we can produce bio fuel from Rittho.

INTERVIEWER: If such kind of program came into your village can you cultivate Rittho trees again in your jungle?

Male 45: yes we can do that. If any such kind of NGO or INGO came in our village and help us to cultivate Rittho, we can do that in our field and jungle. We have lots of private uncultivated land. We can cultivate plant and trees suitable for bio fuel on that land. They have to guarantee that they going to buy produced raw material.

Male 34: if it is just the research than nothing going to happen. It has to be sustainable and it has to be continuous. Than it is possible and we can cultivate plant and trees suitable for bio energy.

INTERVIEWER: Who do you think should take this kind of project? NGO/ INGO, Government?

Male 34: it does not matter, who comes to do it but produced raw material has to be utilised. Whoever demands raw material they have to buy it. Farmers should provide assurance on utilisation of their production. If that happen farmers can produce without hesitation.

Male 45: Farmers should provide assurance. They should provide seeds or plant. They should be told how many years project going to operate.

Male 34: if organisation provide plant and seeds to cultivate and provide financial help that will be even better. We can even do it with self-financing.

INTERVIEWER: past 10 years’ time, is jungle increasing or decreasing?

Male 34: jungle is increasing. However, motor way and other development activities caused some deforestation.

Male 45: Motor way has not caused major deforestation. We have community forest committee and its rules and regulation. We have to ask for permission to collect even a dry timber.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of trees do you use for fuelwood?

Male 45: Chilaune, Padke, Buldhainro, Rajbirchhe and Katus.

INTERVIEWER: Who cook food at home?

Male 45: Female most of the time.

INTERVIEWER: do they get help from male member sometimes.

Male 57: Male cook food four days in a month.

INTERVIEWER: why is it four days?

Male 45: it is nature made by god.

INTERVIEWER: who goes to collect fuelwood most? Male? Female? Or equal?

Male 45: it is equal. A joint task.

INTERVIEWER: are all the household use fuelwood to cook food or they use other fuel as well?

Male 48: Most of the house Gobar gas as well.

Male 45: about 90 per cent of houses have Gobar gas. They use gas to cook food and use fuelwood to cook food for animals.

INTERVIEWER: what kind of stove people have at home? Improved or open fire place?

Male 45: open fire place.

INTERVIEWER: why don’t they have improved cook stove? It would have been less smoky.

Male 45: people here are not conscious about improved cooked stove. No one has taught people on how to build improved cook stove. There were some people and had built few stove as a trial and it is now destroyed. People do not have interest in building new one.

Male 34: people come here to build improved cooked stove and help them to build it but people do not show any interest. People are in contact with me but no one in the village shows interest. Improved cooked stove also consider ineffective comparing to Gobar gas.

Male 34: it is an American organisation. It works in bees farming, fish farming and making improved cook stove. They have told that they are going to teach how to build improved cooked stove. But no one come forward saying they need one.

INTERVIEWER: if this project came in the village, people with more land can be more beneficial than people with less land or no land. Isn’t it?

Male 54: yes, it is true.

Male 45: there is plenty of land. People can cultivate in public land. It is just has to be sustainable. There has to be regular observation of farmer’s activity. This place has huge possibility.

Male 45: people have left their land uncultivated due to lack of manpower. People can cultivate Sajiban in those land.

INTERVIEWER: does any household use cylinder gas?

Male 45: Yes, some of them do. Most of the hotel, small family and lazy family. A family who has husband working abroad has mentality that their husband going to earn and send money so they don’t have to work hard.

INTERVIEWER: have you ever heard accident while collecting fuelwood in the jungle?

Male 45: I have not heard that much. General injury happens sometimes.

INTERVIEWER: are there any burning accidents while staying in the kitchen?

Male 45: I have not heard any serious burning injury.

INTERVIEWER: are people in the village suffering respiratory problem due to smock in the kitchen?

Male 32: Yes people suffer that problem. People used to have small houses with small windows. Now, most of the houses have big windows at home and less smoky. House structure has helped in better health.

Male 45: people only use fuelwood to cook food for animals and they do it home outside in open place. It is not big problem. There are some people who have breathing problem like Dum but there is no proven research that it is because of smock in the kitchen.

Male 34: people who have suffered smock in the kitchen happen to be stronger than us. Previously all the family used to have bed around the fire place in one room and they are stronger. There are lots of research happening and changes in peoples lifestyle accordingly but we still have weak health.

INTERVIEWER: who cooks food at your home?

Female 25: My wife does it.

INTERVIEWER: is it always female who cooks food at your home?

Female 25: male member helps in cooking sometimes.

INTERVIEWER: is there Aama Samuha in your VDC?

Male 34: Yes there are.

INTERVIEWER: Will Aama Samuha help in such kind of program?

Male 34: everyone will help but it has to be sustainable (permanent). If it is really coming to our village, we will provide land; community forest committee will be helpful.

Male 57: when I was working with Sajiban and Naisar project, I had seen people with self-motivation. People had earned some money. People had collected Sajiban and Naisar with excitement and they were asking me if I am going to go back in their village to collect those again; I had said yes but project disappeared later on.

INTERVIEWER: is community forest committee working well?

Male 34: community forest committee has not done much other than protecting jungle from misuse. It has unable to cultivate new types of plant and trees. It has got lots of possibility to cultivate Amriso, Bamboo and other plants from which community can earn cash but it has unable to do that. It is natural forest. People have not done anything to make it better.

Male 55: people have left their land uncultivated and there is no person to work in the field. Most of the young people are abroad than who is going to make better community forest.

INTERVIEWER: if such kind of project came in village and create employment opportunity, will the number of people heading abroad for work reduce?

Male 55: Yes it will reduce.

Male 34: If one person can earn 8 to 10 thousands in village that he will not go abroad. Young people who teaches in the boarding school 12 hours a day for Rs 5000. If they can earn 8 to 10 thousands per month by working for such kind of project they will be more than happy.

**FGD 6- Sauli Bazar**

**Participants:**

Tej Kumari Tamang, 35

Dil Kumari Tamang, 42

Hapuki Kumari Tamang, 53

Jag Maya Tamang, 61

Kamala Tamang, 24

INTERVIEWER: how is availability of fuelwood in your forest?

Female 35: It is available in the jungle but people from Besi took fuelwood from our jungle.

INTERVIEWER: do you have gas at your home?

Female 42: No, I don’t have it.

INTERVIEWER: why don’t you have it? didn't government help you to have Gobar Gas?

Female 42: Yes they have helped us but my son has cut his hand and we will have it next year.

INTERVIEWER: how did he cut his hand?

Female 42: while collecting fodders for goat in rainy day.

INTERVIEWER: where did you go for treatment?

Female 42: I had taken him to Turture. He is getting better now. I have two sons, one is separating from the family and he is building a new house.

INTERVIEWER: do you have gas at your home?

Female 61: I have gas at my home.

INTERVIEWER: how many years has it been?

Female 61: seven years. I had made that with self financing. Nobody helped us.

Female 24: I have Gobar Gas at my home.

INTERVIEWER: who goes to collect fuelwood and fodders at your home?

Female 24: when there is no Male member at home we have to do it ourselves.

INTERVIEWER: where is your husband?

Female 24: he is an Indian Army.

INTERVIEWER: How about at your home?

Female 53: I go myself.

INTERVIEWER: is there any one in your village with such kind of program?

Female 42: No, there was not any one.

No one knows about it.

INTERVIEWER: do you think it is going to be good if we can produce bio fuel?

Female 42: Yes, it will be good.

Female 53: I had seen people making light (flame) from Naisar. I was small at that time and there was no electricity.

INTERVIEWER: Have you ever faced burning injury and other health issues due to fire and smock in the kitchen?

Female 42: yes we face burning injury while staying in the kitchen. Strong people do not suffer health problem due to smock but weak one does.

INTERVIEWER: Do you have community forest?

Female 42: Yes, we have it.

INTERVIEWER: is community forest working well?

Female 42: they are doing ok. We are allowed to collect fuelwood and fodders but not others.

INTERVIEWER: how many times a year jungle open for fuelwood?

Female 24: it is just once a year.

Female 42: they are making an effort to ban jungle for fuelwood and fodders but they have not done that yet.

INTERVIEWER: do you do plantation in your jungle?

Female 42: we had done that many years ago.

INTERVIEWER: is your jungle increasing?

All participants said: people are increasing and jungle is decreasing. We have to keep cattle and we have to feed them.

INTERVIEWER: do you get power cut sometimes?

Female 53: yes, we get that sometimes.

INTERVIEWER: Does is cause inconvenience?

Female 61: yes it goes sometimes.

Female 42: we had power cut for a month.

Female 24: it was because transmitter was broken.

Female 42: it happens twice a year.

INTERVIEWER: what was the cause for broken?

Female 24: due to overload.

Female 42: it was because of monkey.

Female 24: no, it was not because of monkey.

INTERVIEWER: who cook food at your home?

Female 42: Female most of the time.

Female 61: almost everyone cooks at my home.

Female 24: it is female most of the time. I cannot make my old father in law cook for me. So I have to cook for all the members. It is daily job. So it happens to be habit now.

INTERVIEWER: do you face accident while collecting fuelwood in the jungle?

Female 42: yes, accident happens sometimes.

INTERVIEWER: have you ever feel like getting out of hassle of collecting fuelwood?

Female 42: yes I do but I have no option.

INTERVIEWER: do you have Aama Samuha in your village?

Female 61: there was previously but there is no Aama Samuha now.

INTERVIEWER: why is it?

Female 61: people have migrated to Besi.

Female 42: We have Bau Samuha.

INTERVIEWER: Bau Samuha???

Female 42: it is also called club. We also have Lok Git Samuha.

INTERVIEWER: how much you are going to pay for electricity this month?

Female 61: Rs 80.

INTERVIEWER: is it Rs 80 for up to 20 units?

Female 61: yes.

INTERVIEWER: do you have rice cooker at home?

Female 61: No.

Female 24: we just use electricity for lighting and to run TV.

INTERVIEWER: do you have open fire place or improved cook stove?

Female 42: I have improved cooked stove at my home. I was trained to build improved cook stove.

Female 61: my house was the first to use improved cook stove.