

Selected LGCDP Case Studies from around Nepal



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Compiled by JFA Coordinator

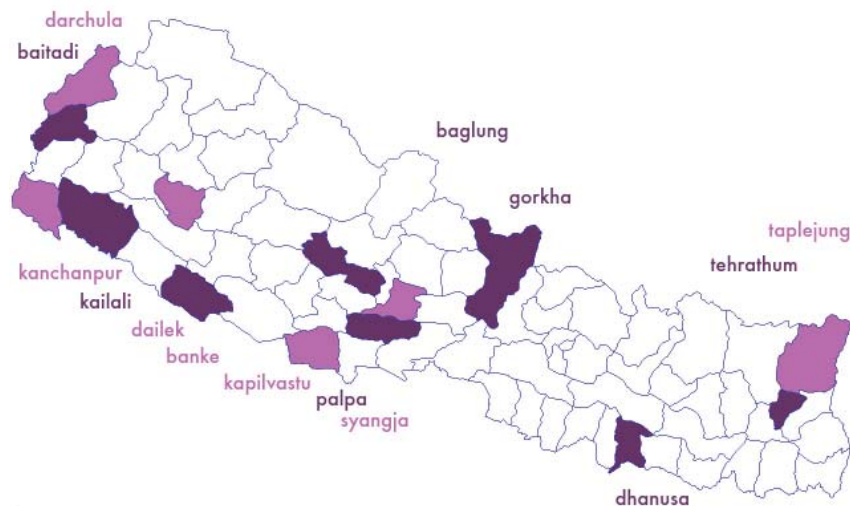
About LGCDP

The Local Governance and Community Development Programme (LGCDP) was undertaken formally in July 2008. Its coverage is nationwide and it is administered by the Government of Nepal through its Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development. The programme approaches governance reform at the local level by building village and municipal institutions, encouraging citizens of all income levels (with special attention to disadvantaged and underprivileged groups) to participate and express their needs. LGCDP recognizes that governance reform on this scale needs more than just empowerment. Empowerment is accompanied by other change instruments, including capacity development, measures to ensure accountability and the provision of funds for projects proposed by village populations as they engage more in village level political affairs.

Overview of document

This document provides examples of how people in the different districts in Nepal have benefitted from projects carried out by LGCDP.

Case study locations in Nepal



Road improvement increases trade from Kalakhola Village to Syangja Bazar Syangja district, 2013

new

The farmers from Kalakhola Village in Putalibazar municipality used to carry their fruits and vegetables on their head for 2km in mountainous terrain to Syangja Bazar. With the support of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP), the main road has been improved, making it much easier to get their products to market.

Every year more than ten tons of oranges are produced in Kalakhola Village, home to 35 households from the disadvantaged group, and 60 households from other ethnicity. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the community with the climate being favourable for growing citrus fruits, vegetables, ginger and coffee. However, the road connecting to Syangja Bazar, which was opened four years ago, was very narrow with poor drainage and not usable by vehicle. With a contribution Rs. 300,000 from LGCDP in 2012/2013, the Ghumti-Kalakhola road was widened and black-topped. The community contributed Rs. 60,000 for maintenance.

Now fruits and vegetables are being transported by jeep to the bazar. With the new road, the farmers of Kalakhola Village are motivated to produce more fruits and vegetable and sell their fresh produce at a competitive price in Syangja Bazar.



Easier access to the market with the new road

The farmers in Kalakhola no longer have to carry their fruits and vegetables manually with the black-topping and widening of the road to Syangja Bazar.

new

New school building for students in Shree Primary School Kapilvastu district, 2012

With the support of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) funding, students are now enjoying studying in their new school building at Shree Primary School in Kapilvastu and enrollment is on the increase again.

Fewer students were attending class at Shree Primary School due to the poor condition of the school building and classrooms caused by water seepage during the rainy season. With poor facilities being offered and fewer student attendance, the district education office stepped down the number of classes being offered from five to three. The community requested for financial support to build a new school building. With a contribution of Rs. 680,000 from LGCDP and Rs. 97,000 from the community in 2011/2012, a new school building with two rooms was constructed.

Student numbers have increased from 70 to 105 and it is likely that school will soon provide more levels of classes. There are also 12 disabled students as the school has been approved by the district education office to teach disabled students.



Enrollment on the increase with new school building

The students at Shree Primary School are going to class even during the rainy season as their new school building doesn't suffer from seepage problems like their old one.

new

Micro-hydro power improves lives of Limbu community in Phawakhola Taplejung district, 2010

Although only 40 kilometers from the district headquarter Fungling in Taplejung district, it takes a whole day to reach Phawakhola, the home to the Limbu community. The Limbus were very much dependent on expensive kerosene oil to produce light until their request for electrification got granted.

With the joint support of DDC Taplejung and the Rural Electrification Development Organisation (UNDP), the Phawakhola Micro-Hydro Project was initiated. Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) contributed Rs. 500,000 out of the total project cost of Rs. 17,494,276 that went towards construction costs including the penstock pipe anchor block, machine foundation and settling basin. VDC grants, loan from the Agricultural Development Bank and cash contribution from the community enabled the project to be implemented.

The load centre at Phawakhola, with capacity to generate 70 kilowatts, supplies electricity to 702 households in Wards 1 to 7. Out of the total population of 4450 that are benefitting, 23% are from the disadvantaged groups.



Limbu community gets electricity in Phawakhola

The Limbus are not dependent on using kerosene oil for light anymore after establishment of the load centre in Phawakhola which provides electricity to 702 households.

new

Water tank system reduces waterborne diseases in Baglung municipality Baglung district, 2013

Most of the residents in Malika Tol in Baglung municipality live below poverty level and have low socioeconomic status. Through the social mobilisation programme provided by Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP), their proposal for a drinking water system was approved and has helped them reduce their suffering from waterborne diseases.

Until LGCDP started the Social Mobilisation programme in 2012/2013, the residents of Malika Tol had no access to governmental and public resources and had no knowledge of how to improve their situation. Through the REFLECT sessions at the Community Awareness Centre (CAC) with the social mobiliser, they identified and prioritised their issues at the weekly sessions. They realised that their health and sanitation problem could be solved if they had access to safe drinking water. Therefore, through CAC they made a proposal to the Ward Citizen Forum for a drinking water supply system. With the municipality allocating Rs. 100,000 and the community contributing Rs. 32,000, a 15,000 litre water tank was constructed.

Now the community has access to safe drinking water and has learned that through the social mobilisation process, they can access resources to help improve their living conditions.



Water tank makes it easier to get drinking water

The residents in Malika Tol requested for a drinking water system through CAC, realising that this would lead to better health and sanitation.

Case Study 4

Dalit community helps themselves through classes at Citizens' Awareness Centre Baitadi district, 2012

Twenty minutes away from Dasrathchand municipality, lies Ward No. 1 Badilek inhabited by the Dalit community. The locality used to be hidden away by the overgrown bushes and shrubbery and the water supply to the community was limited. After the formation of the Citizens' Awareness Centre (CAC) in 2011, the Dalit community's living conditions has improved.

The REFLECT classes have been popular among the members of the Dalit community, all of who are illiterate. Through discussions at the Citizens' Awareness Centre, they have learned about the benefits of working as a group and understanding each other's needs. Topics covered include birth registration, health, death certification, and municipality budget and allocation.

During a CAC session, the members learned about the importance of cleaning and in a 4 day effort, cleaned their neighbourhood making it more livable and accessible. The members also discussed their limited water supply and random distribution system where not everyone was guaranteed water from water collected into the reservoir. Working as a team, they decided on a new system where each household gets water based on need and the amount of water collected into the tank, and that the tank is kept clean and the water kept secure with a lock.



CAC sessions lead the way

Radha Bhul, CAC member, says that she was able to use her training in water supply maintenance during a CAC session, to help the community improve the supply of water to all households.

Case Study 5

Better study environment for Dalit students at Dasrathnagar Primary School

Darchula district, 2010

The children at Dasrathnagar Primary School in Darchula are no longer sitting in class with a leaking roof thanks to the initiative of the School Management Committee and funding from the Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP)

Due to some roof slabs having been blown away, there was much water seepage at the school that is home to almost 100 Dalit students from Khalanga, Chapari and Katai VDCs. The School Management Committee, lead by Mr. Dhana Bahadur Kuwar, put forward a proposal and successfully received the required amount from the DDC's Dalit budget allowance for renovation and building works. With a contribution of Rs. 528,000 from LGCDP in 2009/10, Rs. 60,000 from school parents and Rs. 84,000 from the Bio-Engineering/Environment budget, a new building has been constructed. Renovation work has also been carried out on the roof, toilets and furniture so the student and teachers of Dasrathnagar Primary School can now comfortably get on with their studies.



Primary school gets new roof

The Dalit students are enjoying studying in the new school building and no longer have to worry about the leaking roof which has also been renovated after many years.

Newly constructed road in Dhangadhi increases tourism to Jokhar Lake

Kailali district, 2011

The Jokhar Lake, located nearby Dhangadhi, is a popular tourist spot covering 5 hectares of land and surrounded by beautiful scenery. It used to be a bumpy ride to the lake, but since 2011, the newly pitched road has made access to the lake easier and more than doubled the number of visitors.

In 2010/2011, Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) contributed Rs. 1,200,000 to the Dhangadhi Municipality, while Dhangadhi Municipality and the local community provided Rs. 120,000 and Rs. 360,000 to pitch 822m of the road that leads to the lake. With the support of the user committee and the dedication of local people, the road leading to Jokhar Lake was transformed.

The local Tharu community has been increasing earnings through setting up new businesses like restaurants, shops, and boat riding services as more and more people are visiting the famous lake.



Smoother road to Jokhar Lake creates opportunities

The Tharus are increasing their earnings by opening restaurants, shops and providing boat riding services as more people visit the lake.

New pumping system in Malikarjuna brings water directly to residents

Darchula district, 2011

During the festivals, thousands of people visit Shree Shaile Malikurjana, one of Nepal's seven shrines located in Malikarjuna VDC. Previously there was lack of sufficient drinking water and locals and devotees would be dependent on the water source located one hour away. With help of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP), water is now being pumped up to the location relieving the whole community.

In 2010/11, LGCDP funded Rs. 538,000 for supplying water supply components including water reservoir, tank, pump and pipelines while the Ministry of Environment provided solar panels, filters, and motors for lifting water from 500m below the ground. With the new equipment, water is lifted up into the tank four hours a day which is enough to supply the community and the local businesses like hotels and shops.

The Ministry of Environment has plans to provide an additional machine allowing water to be lifted up during the entire day so that water can also be distributed to the nearby communities.



Water directly available with new pumping system

With the installation of water pump and pipelines, the locals in Malikurjana now have direct access to drinking water unlike before when they travelled one hour to fetch water.

Dalits relieved with better roads and water supply in Dasrathchand

Baitadi district, 2012

The Dalits in Dasrathchand Municipality, one of the least income generating municipalities in Nepal, were used to the poor roads and having limited water supply, only accessible far away from the community. Their lives have been significantly improved with the projects they have taken on with the support of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP).

The Jiutali Water Supply and Kayalkot Road projects were carried out in 2009/10 with grants from LGCDP to improve water supply and road access to the Dalit community.

With a further contribution from LGCDP of Rs. 500,000 and community contribution of Rs. 200,000 in 2010/11, the Dalit community worked hard to construct 1000m of road from Dungara to Nigad, sourcing enough water for construction. This road had been mended many times before, but all efforts washed away during each rainy season. The new road benefits over 20 Dalits households and is a major road link in the Sorad belt covering VDCs including Nargajun, Rodidewal and VDCs of Mahakali belt.



Better roads for the Dalit community

The Dalits in Dasrathchand worked hard to improve the roads for their community making it easier to get around and bring home water.

Information received from Citizens' Awareness Centre helps woman to save her life Kanchanpur district, 2012

Being sick for months, Kaushi was struggling to till the land and being discriminated by her community, until she became a member of the Citizens' Awareness Centre (CAC).

Through one of the REFLECT classes conducted in the CAC session at the Purna Secondary School, Kaushi found out about the activities in the Chadani VDC and about the sub health post. From the visiting assistant health worker, she learned about hygiene and different diseases and soon found out that with her symptoms she may be suffering from tuberculosis. Visiting the health post, it was confirmed that she had tuberculosis, and with the free medication provided, Kaushi was soon back to being healthy and accepted by the community again.

LGCDP has been targeting the most disadvantaged community in the VDC through the establishment of the Citizens' Awareness Centre that informs them about their rights and empowers them to access local services.

Healthy again thanks to CAC

Kaushi Nepali from Purna Prabi Tole, Ward No. 4 would like to thank the Chadani CAC and sub health post, for helping her to find out that she had tuberculosis. After receiving free treatment, she is now perfectly healthy.



Janajati community increases earning through pig rearing in Tikapur Municipality Kailali district, 2012

A landless Janajati community in Tikapur Municipality dependent on daily labour income for subsistence has started increasing their earning through pig rearing.

A Citizens' Awareness Centre was established in 2011 in Ward No. 5 at this Janajati community in Tikapur Municipality. Through their training on the planning process, the community requested support for income generating initiatives through their Ward Citizens' Forum and was selected for funding as part of the livelihood improvement pilot of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP).

The 25 households selected pig farming as their income generating preference as the community had previous experience with this trade. A total grant of Rs. 124,000 was given to build a farmhouse and buy seven female pigs (sows) and one male (boar). Basic training was provided by the Agriculture and Livestock office.

Each household contributed Rs 900 to pay for food, and collected a further Rs. 4,200 during the festival period. They share the responsibility of looking after the pigs one day each every 25 days. After six months this initiative is profitable as at least 12 piglets can be sold every 4 months at Rs. 2,000 to Rs 2,500 each.

Pig farming increases earnings

More communities are requesting funding for income generating activities like pig farming due to the success of the pig farming pilot in Tikapur says Mr Narayan Bahadur Bist, Municipality Executive Officer, Tikapur.



Re-opening of micro-hydro plant in Gokulee Bazar relieves residents

Darchula district, 2012

The micro-hydro power plant in Gokulee Bazar, that was constructed through the Rural Energy Programme, benefits 350 households around Gokulee Bazar. The plant is run through the User Committee, with each household making a contribution.

Unfortunately the powerhouse was constructed further away from the source than planned during the conflict period and suffered with the weak geostructure and temporary water outlet to the river. With much controversy among the local landowners regarding the outlet and scarcity of funds for the operation of the power plant, the plant had not been in operation for six months.

Through the Social and Environmental security budget of the fiscal year 2011/12 of DDC and LGCDP, the water outlet was reconstructed and the weak geostructure strengthened through an afforestation programme. Out of the estimated cost of the project Rs 742,000, Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) contributed Rs. 530,000. Seventy percent of the construction works were completed through labourers from the local area User Committee. The residents of the Gokulee Bazar area are now comfortable with more hours of electricity with the 20 KW power plant now fully functioning and the water outlet issue resolved.



Lights on at Gokulee Bazar

The residents are back to having more hours of electricity with the reconstruction of the water outlet and strengthening of the weak geostructure around the power plant.

Broadening of the major road in Syangja connects residents

Syangja district, 2010

The Garlang-Chaopakot-Kailadi Road is a major road for the residents of Ratnapur and Chapakot, and eight other VDCs in the Syangja district. The mostly narrow 29km of rural road suffered soil erosion during the rainy season.

A total of Rs. 2,161,000 was spent in 2009/10 to broaden and gravel the road and tree saplings planted to prevent further soil erosion. Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) along with Syangja DDC contributed over 80% of the cost, Rs. 1,761,000 to improve this key road which also benefits people in the districts of Tenahu, Syangja and Palpa districts. Over 2400 households in the eight VDCs in Syangja have benefitted from the widening of the rural road.

After improving the road, the locals are more connected to schools and hospitals. The transportation cost of vegetables, fruit and agricultural produce is stimulating both higher production and demand.



Wider and smoother road

After widening and gravelling the narrow soil eroded road, the locals have better access to schools and health care and trade has increase among the districts.

Irrigation in Gorkha improves livelihood of agricultural based society

Gorkha district, 2010

The main source of livelihood of the residents of Gharitar and Kudulee is agriculture. There is plenty of cultivatable land but hardly any water flows down the Daraundi river. With crops lasting only three months with limited irrigation and rainfall, the inhabitants had been forced to seek livelihood elsewhere.

The Gharitar Kudulee Irrigation Project was implemented in 2009/10 with an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,410,000, of which Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) contributed Rs. 600,000. The project, which had massive participation from the User Committee and the locals, has provided irrigation to the entire 300 ropanies of cultivable land and benefitted 210 households.

With the improved irrigation facilities it is now possible to cultivate more than one crop at a time, and cultivate significantly more crops than before.



More abundance of crops

With improved irrigation, Sadhu Ramtel can now grow a variety of vegetables throughout the year, unlike before when he could grow a single crop that would sustain him for 3 months.

Solar power improves lives of remote communities in Palpa

Palpa district, 2010

The interior part of Palpa district is quite remote and far from infrastructure facilities and 14 VDCs are not connected to the electricity grid. In this remote part of the country, solar power becomes the best option for lighting and electronic communication and almost 9% of households in the Palpa district are using local generated solar energy.

The User Groups from Kachal, Archale and Bhurawal VDCs in Palpa raised Rs. 2,500 from each household and requested Palpa DDC and Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) to install solar energy. Under LGCDP's Solar System Distribution Programme, 180 households in these three VDCs are now using solar power sets to light up their homes and listen to the radio. Contributions were made by the User Groups, Alternative Energy Center, VDC, DDC and the Local Governance Community Development Programme to fund the project which costed Rs. 3,924,000

Having solar power has significantly improved the lives of the deprived community of Dalits and Janajatis in Palpa by allowing them to have more time to study and carry out income generating activities; and update and educate themselves by listening to the radio.



More study and work time

After getting the solar panel installed, this family in Palpa is now weaving their straw products and studying at night allowing them to do other activities in the day.

Dalit community lives improved with new road in Halkhor

Dhanusa District, 2012

The Mehator residents in Dhanusa, Janakpur had been struggling for years with their dilapidated roads and poor drainage system in their settlement.

A 211 metre long road and drainage system was constructed in Dalit settlement of Halkhor with active initiative of the Users Committee at a cost of Rs. 188,399 of which 70% was funded by Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP) and the rest by the locals. The local Mehators contributed significantly in the construction with additional work worth Rs. 30,000 in addition to the 30% which they funded.

Out of 137 households in the settlement, 92 households belong to the Mehator community are deprived of political access, socially discriminated and economically very poor. The construction of the road and drainage system has raised their morale and given them hope. They are raising their livelihood by cleaning the municipality areas, government offices and rearing pigs and swines residing in the roadsides.



New road and drainage system

The construction of the new road and drainage system has raised the morale of the Mehator community.

Women in Kamdi benefit from new Maternity Service Centre

Banke district, 2011

Women in Kamdi only had a Government run health post that really did not cater to the needs of maternity services. It was difficult for them to get regular check ups and emergency deliveries.

In 2011, a Maternity Service Centre was constructed in ward number 9 of Kamdi Village Development Committee in Banke with the support of Local Governance Community Development Programme (LGCDP).

Now, altogether 1795 households are receiving maternity services from this centre. The Maternity Service Centre was constructed at the total cost of Rs. 1,222,702 out of which LGCDP contributed Rs. 917,027, the District Development Committee (DDC) contributed Rs. 122,270 while the Village Development Committee (VDC) contributed Rs. 61,135 and the communities contributed labour worth Rs. 168,158.



Newly constructed Maternity Service Centre

The new maternity centre has made it easier for women to get regular check ups and emergency deliveries unlike before at the government health post.

Training enables more women to take on VDC secretary role Tehrathum district, 2012

Out of the total 3,915 positions for Village Development Committee level, the lowest tier of the government body, there are 81 women secretaries. With the absence of elected government for almost a decade, the villages of Nepal suffer from untimely delivery of services. The rural people are disconnected from central level policies and planning. LGCDP has been strengthening the capacity of the local institutions such as the Ward Citizens' Forum, Village Development Committees and District Development Committees for better delivery of services and more accountability. Having more women as Secretaries at the Village Development Committee level is a leap progress from gender perspective and a move towards more inclusive participatory decision making process at the local level.

As part of strengthening the capacity of local level institutions, LGCDP recently provided technical support to the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, to organise training for all the VDC secretaries in the five development regions of Nepal. There were 718 participants including 64 new women Village Development Committee Secretaries who received a 4-day comprehensive training on planning, monitoring, financial management, reporting, block grant allocations etc. The training was facilitated by the government's Local Development Training Academy.

More confident as VDC secretary

Upon completing the 4 day training course, Nirjala Ban is clearer on her role as VDC secretary. It has given her confidence to execute her responsibilities and think at new angles.



Background information

CCU Dhangadhi
MoFALD
UNDP

Editing and design

PhotoBOXx.com



Compilation

Rune Qvale, JFA Coordinator

Districts covered

Baglung

Baitadi

Banke

Dailek

Darchula

Dhanusa

Gorkha

Kailali

Kanchanpur

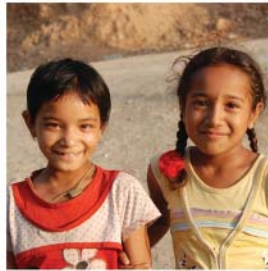
Kapilvastu

Palpa

Syangja

Taplejung

Tehrathum



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