



Studying the importance of International/Non-Governmental Organizations (I/NGOs) in local economy development of Nepal: Post Earth-Quake

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The 2015 Earthquake

- Nepal ranked 11th in earthquake risk globally, and 20th in disaster risk. Country has been subjected to some 500 incidents of disaster including earthquake, landslides, flooding, glacier outbursts, and forest fires / bush fires
- World Bank reported that over the same period, country incurred economic losses are estimated at \$7.8 billion
- The devastating 2015 earthquake impaired the livelihoods of more than two million people
- The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Report of the Nepal National Planning Commission (NPC) suggested that people under poverty line have been rocketed and the number is further pushed to seven thousand in the same year.

1.2. What is Local Economic Development??

- Local Economic Development (LED) is an approach that allows for sustainable economic growth and encourages local people.
- International Labor Organization (ILO) states LED reflects more than just economic growth. It encourages engagement and social discussion, associate people and their possessions for better and higher quality of life

1.3. I/NGOs in Nepal

- NGOs has played catalytic role on recovering human habitat
- NGOs have been working on multi dimensional programs
- I/NGOs are growing in Nepal with annual growth rate of 5.31 percentage and 1312 projects from 655 NGOs got the approval from SWC in the FY 2071/72 inculcating total amount NRs.11022085452.
- During emergency respond, NGOs acted important role to rescue and relief. Similarly they provided temporary employment opportunities like cash-at- work .

1.4 Objectives

- A. To understand how I/NGOs of Nepal are working on the recovery phase; post-earthquake to shore up the local economy.
- B. To study prominent strategies and innovative organizational approaches of grassroots organizations

1.5. Methodologies

- The study is conducted mostly based on desk research
- Published documents of I/NGOs like an annual report, facts sheet, project complication reports, case studies, and beneficiaries stories were used to study
- Other published paper from similar study were used
- Data from government bodies like the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Commerce are used
- Five different roles (local community development, local product development, training, marketing, and promotion of local product and empowerment) were taken as thematic areas
- INGOs and NGOs are taken randomly based on their projects at affected districts

2. SWOT Analysis

A. Strength

- Establish rapport with community
- Friend and Helpers in ground level
- Support from regulatory bodies of Nepal
- Positive change in policy by pressurizing government
- Quick and swiftly actions
- Capacity and efficiency in social mobilization

B. Weakness

- Lack in implementation of strategy and transforming frameworks in line work
- Lacks self-evaluation and self-transformation
- Lack sustainability of funds/ donation
- Misused the workplace for family or politicians for their interest
- Huge difference between ground realities and donor interest
- Lack of knowledge of ground level

C. Opportunity

- Social Transformation
- Protected by Constitution of country
- Disasters and Conflicts creating new scope of project
- INGOs supporting NGOs financially and technically
- Constant failure of state and market in coping with social problems has widened the engagement of NGOs

D. Threats

- Competitive in Grant System and NGOs working for political parties gets quick fund
- Lacks expertise in local level and difficult to maintain human resources
- Politicization
- Weak monitoring and supervision mechanism of government

3.Results

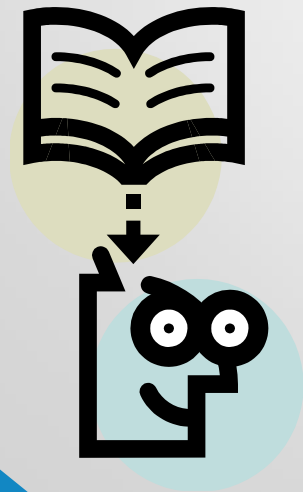
- Regardless of urban, rural people who were already vulnerable are especially found to be **severely impacted**.
- Among vulnerable, women and children, mainly one who belongs to the **lower class and caste are most marginalized**. It seems that I/NGOs have prompted their wellbeing.
- **Community empowerment** is the central piece of rural livelihood and recovery and a key to sustainable and resilient livelihood.
- I/NGOs have promoted **community empowerment** to fulfill the shortage of human resources for community development and the problem of food insecurity.

Building Capacity of local experts is another impressive takeaway of post-earthquake practiced by I/NGOs.

- I/NGOs have significantly brought **structural transformation** on farm, and non-farm.
- **Input supply and technology adaptation** are remarkable steps in product development along with this, promotion of crop insurance is found to be undertaken.
- I/NGOs have emphasized on **farming system development**. In-fact, have emphasizes modern farming strategy from subsistence farming practices.
- Training for seasonal and off-seasonal vegetable farming is highly prioritized by I/NGOs, as it is **highly profitable**.
- Other than vegetable farming, I/NGOs are driving to capitalize on other means of **cash crop, horticulture, and poultry framings** by their capacity building programs.

- I/NGOs are the mediator for service delivery in rural areas. They are **strengthening the value chain and involved in promoting the local product.**
- **Centralized Information** has been established to extend for better communication with stakeholders and **Management Information System** is been encouraged by I/NGOs to practice at a local level for weather information, vegetation information and also allows understanding the market price of their yield.
- I/NGOs have extended its expertise on **branding high value commodities.**
- I/NGOs are practicing social objectives rather than commercial objectives to boost **fair trade movement** at the local level.
- In the rural setting of crises hit districts, I/NGOs are particularly **developing enterprises** and have generated empowerment opportunities by their capacity building programs and have encouraged rural entrepreneurs with their **market research and innovative ideas** on local economy development.

4. Thematic Areas of the study



Roles:

4.1. Local Community Development

4.2. Local Product Development

4.3. Training

4.4. Marketing and Promotion of local product

4.5. Empowerment

4.1. Local Community Development

- Community Empowerment
 - Cash-for-work
 - Food-for-work

(Community Infrastructure and Livelihood Recovery Programme, UNDP Nepal,)

- Building Community Infrastructure (Road facilities, Irrigation facilities)
(Micro Irrigation Technology Development, SAPPROS Nepal)

- Empowering community stakeholders to make community level decision

4.2. Local Product Development

- Climate Smart Village, ICIMOD Nepal
 - Nutrient Smart: bio-fertilizer and bio-pesticide "jholmol (liquid fertilizers)
 - Water Smart: small plastic ponds for water collection
 - Crop Smart: Crop rotation and nitrogen fixation
 - Future Smart: Mitigating loss and damage, Crop Insurance
 - ICT Smart: Providing information to the farmers by using the local language
 - Energy Smart: Support of Alternative Energy Promotion Centers (AEPC)
- Seed and Grains Storage facilities
(FORWARD Nepal)
- Input supply and technology adaptation
(PHASE Nepal Livelihood Support Program)

Livelihood Support of PHASE Nepal								
S.No	Livelihood support	Sindhupalchwok			Gorkha			Total
A	Vegetable Production Support	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	Seeds	284	954	1238	88	526	614	1852
2	Agro-tools	198	342	540	0	0	0	540
3	Drip	7	65	72	0	0	0	72
4	Silpaulin sheet	5	4	9	4	25	29	38
5	Bio-fertilizerMicronutrient	241	532	773	0	0	0	773
6	IPM tool	239	489	728	0	0	0	728
7	Agri-mechanization Tools			5				5
Total Vegetable Support								4008
B	Poultry Farming	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	Chicks	200	376	576	27	159	186	762
2	Feeder	200	376	576	27	159	186	762
3	Drinker	200	376	576	27	159	186	762
4	Feed	200	376	576	27	159	186	762
5	Vaccine/Medicine	13	124	137	27	159	186	323
6	Cash for coop	200	376	576	27	159	186	762
Total Poultry Support								4133
C	Goat Support	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	Goat	159	174	333	3	3	6	339
2	Feed/Fodder	140	123	263	0	0	0	263
3	Insurance premium			148	0	0	0	148
4	Medicine/Vaccine	0	0	0	3	3	6	6
Total Goat Support								756
D	Mushroom farming Support	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	Seed/Spawn	22	33	55	0	0	0	55
2	Plastic	22	33	55	0	0	0	55
3	Drum	22	33	55	0	0	0	55
4	Sprayer	22	33	55	0	0	0	55
5	Construction material for tunnel	22	33	55	0	0	0	55
Total Mushroom support								277

Production list of local products	
Production	Name
Food Crops Production	Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Millet, Buckwheat, Rice
Oilseed and Pulses Production	Lentil, Gram, Peas, Beans, Cowpea, Mustard
Cash Crops Production	Potato, seasonal and off-seasonal vegetables, Mushroom
Spice Crops Production	Cardamom, Ginger, Garlic
Livestock Production	Poultry farming, Bee Keeping, Goat farming, Rabbit farming

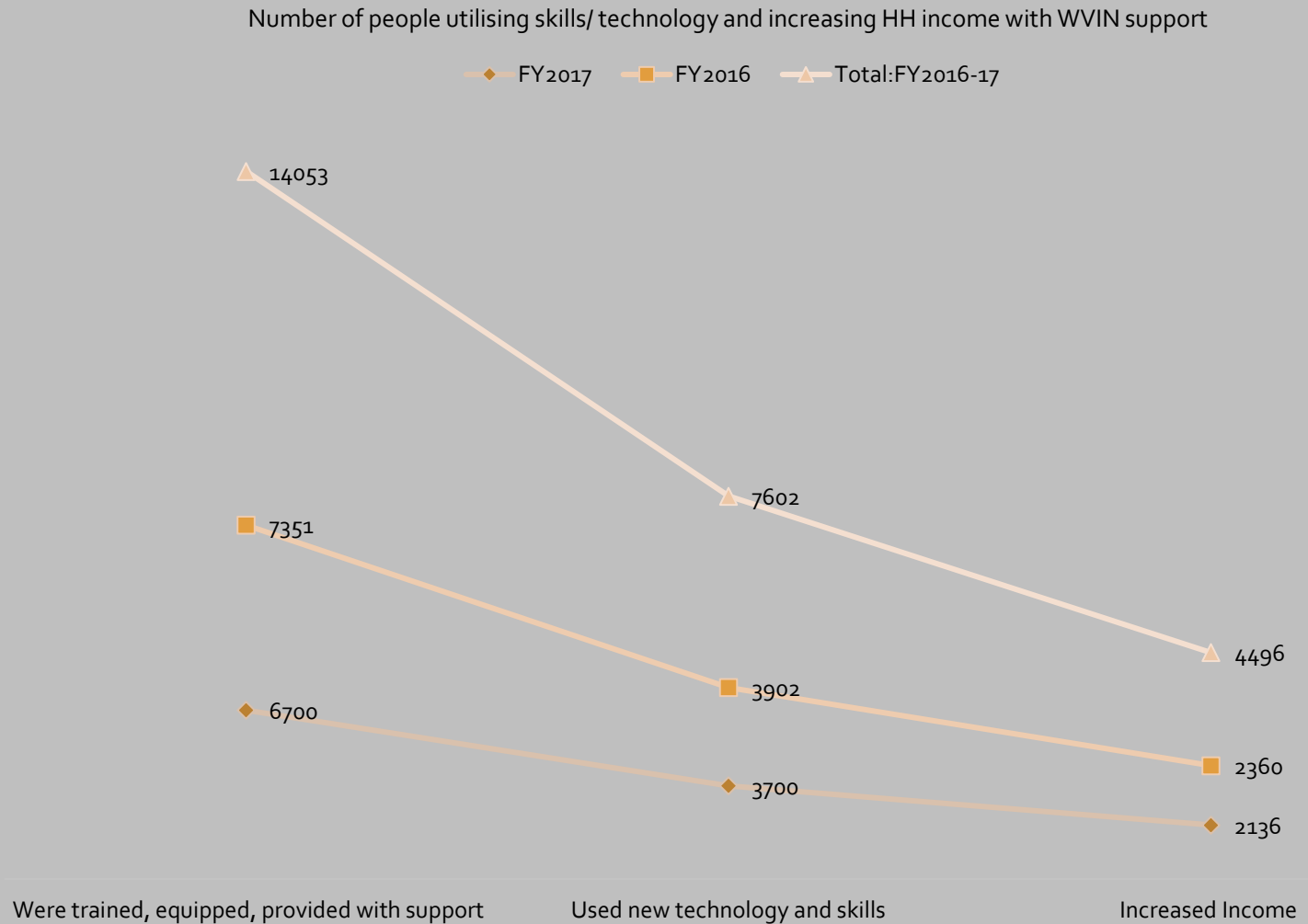
4.3. Training

- The training programs has opened new pathways and possibilities for trainee samples and invariably had a major effect on the yield of both the already grown crops and new ones
- Farmer Field School (FFS)
(Caritas Nepal: training on rice farming and vegetable farming: 1,950 smallholder farmers are trained to improve farming practices and tackle local farming challenges. 1,621 small farmers were trained in kitchen gardening; an enhanced nutrition status and 1,979 small farmers were trained in livestock care and management)
- Training Details
(World Vision International Nepal)

Training Detail of WVI, 2015		
Components	Key Outputs	Key Results
Technology transfer and farming support (vegetable, high value crops, livestock) to increase production and income	13,369 farmers trained in commercial farming (vegetable, cash crops, high value crops)	Increase in food security (8% of the general population)
	1,625 farmers trained in kitchen gardening	27% of those farmers given training had increased income, and 33% had increased production
	4,188 farmers trained / helped with livestock and poultry	
	848 farmers trained in organic farming	
	3,164 farmers helped with agro inputs	
	40 farmers given help with land terracing	
	3,103 families helped through irrigation schemes	
	51 service centers provided with equipment	
Improving economic opportunities esp. for vulnerable youth	738 people, 80%-90% from vulnerable families, trained in vocational skills	28% of trainees involved in self-employment
	288 people developed business plans	

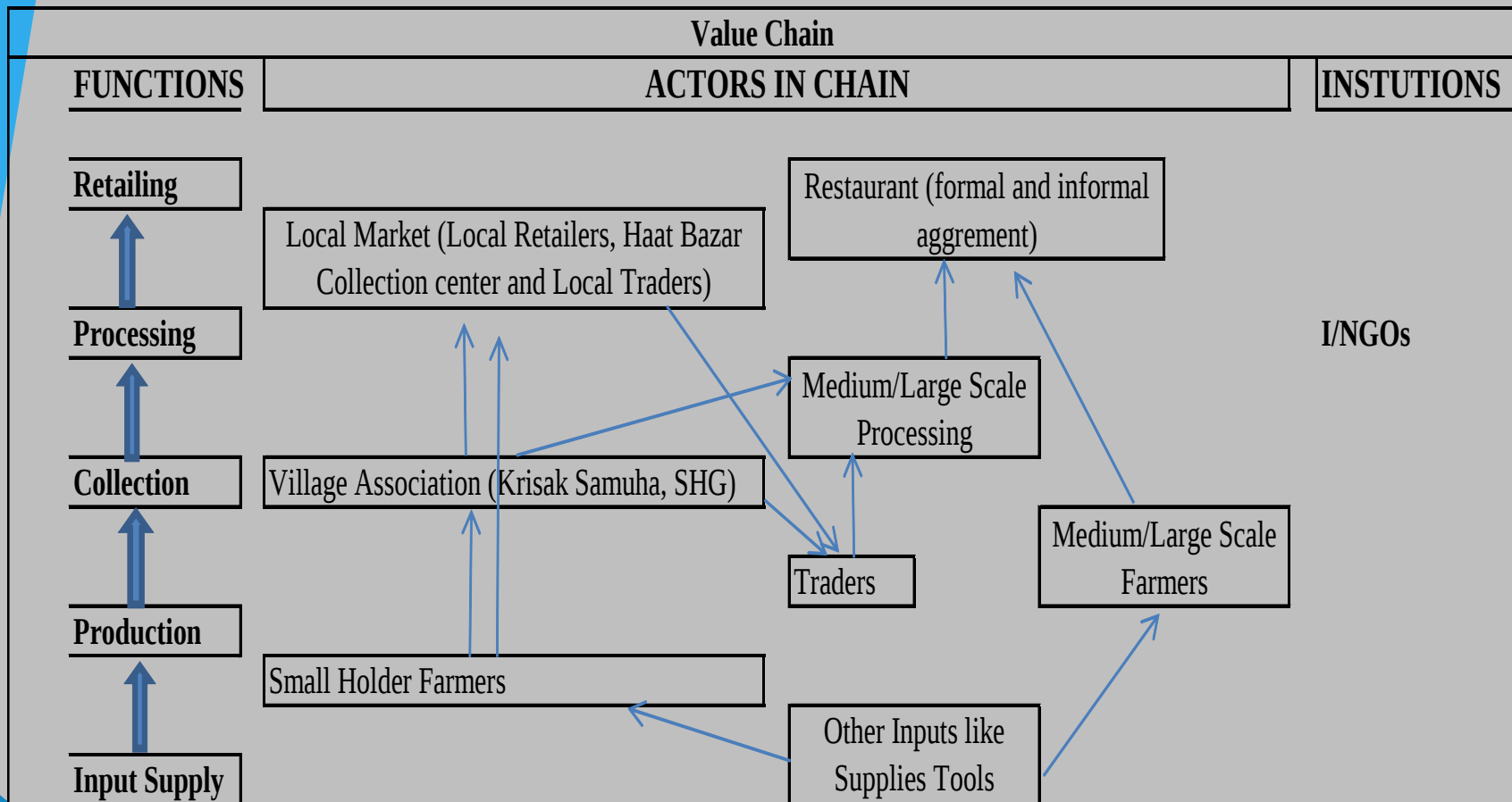
- Training Outcome

(World Vision International, Nepal: Income change of the trainee)



4.4. Marketing and Promotion of local product

- I/NGOs are strengthening Community infrastructure for marketing and promotion
 - ICT : Smart Kripsi, RIMS Nepal
 - Community Collection Center: Agro Enterprise Center, Rural Urban Partnership Programme of UNDP
 - Transportation facilities
- I/NGOs are working on value chain
(FAO Nepal)



4.5. Empowerment

- Socio Economic Empowerment : USAID Nepal in collaboration with Save the Children, Nepal

SABAL Theory of Change (ToC)- to bring sustainable action for resilience and food security project to address problem related to agriculture, livelihood, diversification, nutrition and disaster risk reduction.

- Women Empowerment

(CARE Nepal: 87% of 1496 extremely poor household livelihood improvement plans have started saving their income in group and financial institutions. Also 13% of their income are been used for shelter construction and 12% was saved and 18% was reinvested in livelihood)

- Enterprises Development

- > Oxfam Nepal: Livestock Recovery Grant (LRG)

- > Federation of Women Empowerment Association of Nepal (FWEAN) in collaboration with ILO, Nepal: to run business clinic

- Enterprises Training and Capacity Building

- Village Animal Health Worker Training: PHASE Nepal, participatory approach that has enabled youth to start their own Agro Vet business

- Micro Enterprise Development

- MEDP, UNDP Nepal
- HELVETAS Nepal: Support small business
- ICIMOD Nepal: Training related to start-up management and processing of local products (Bio-Briquette)

Strategies and Approaches to revitalize MSME, Provided by

ICIMOD

- Advance soft loans to MSMEs to restart their business, and upgrade and diversify
- Promoting inclusive private sector growth through policy and financial support in areas affected by the earthquake to build jobs and earnings among people affected by the earthquake by strengthening local production, business development services and market systems.
- Identify and promote disaster-sensitive value chains in which consumer demand is significant and people affected by disasters may be identified as entrepreneurs or employees.
- Design interventions to enhance the competitiveness of value chains while expanding the share of the value added benefits that reach target groups
- Supporting the upgrade of the supply chain between farmers' groups and processors / traders to build value adding facilities closer to production pockets.
- Provide the private sector with economic incentives and regulatory support for increased investment in renewable energy off-grid electricity generation systems that can cater for smart village micro grids in areas affected by the earthquake.
- Create insurance schemes with public-private partnerships for MSME sector to reduce risk
- Rehabilitate cooperatives and have urgent assistance to restore their functions

Conclusion

In nutshell, majority projects related to local economy development has invariable outcomes like production (farm or off farm), employment generation, food security, capacity development and lastly community development. However factor like equality always go on hand to hand and it is imperative to I/NGOs to follow. Hence it can be concluded that I/NGOs has major role for local economy development after earthquake in Nepal.



THANK YOU

Any Quires??
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