

Context

In Nepal, food security is still a problem at the national level spread from the lower terai to the mountains. Cooperatives are said to bring changes in the rural socioeconomics and livelihood by uplifting the living standard of rural lives and enhancing food security. We tried to explore the roles of cooperatives in addressing the status of transitory food security (availability, accessibility, affordability and utilization) in the four districts of Nepal.

Objectives

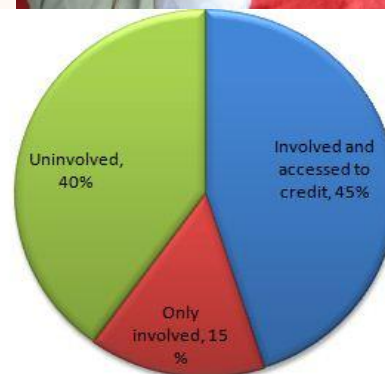
- ✓To access the role of cooperatives in addressing the status of transitory food security
- ✓To figure out the region specific roles of cooperatives in food security

Methodology

The impact of cooperatives on food security was accessed by administration of pretested questionnaire through household survey, focal group discussions (FGDs) and cooperative meetings. The accessibility was assessed by analyzing the market and the transportation availability, affordability was assessed by analyzing the household income, credit supply, and deposits in the cooperatives. The utilization was assessed by the study of food habits, consumption status of local and indigenous food, dependency on rice based food habit and market.

Key Insights

- ❑ Cooperatives in the plains are found to empower the rural communities in regards to financial opportunities.
- ❑ In hills to enhance the access to market and value chain.
- ❑ In mountains to promote the production and consumption of the indigenous food and decreasing the dependency on external sources of food by up to 20%



Support	Contribution
Ag. Inputs	Upto 50% Subsidized
Market Access	Cereals – 25% Veg & Fruits – 34% Milk – 60%

Conclusion

If the access to the farmers to farmers cooperatives of all the ecological regions are made effective in engaging peoples and financially empowering them can be a milestone in ensuring the household food security.

References

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