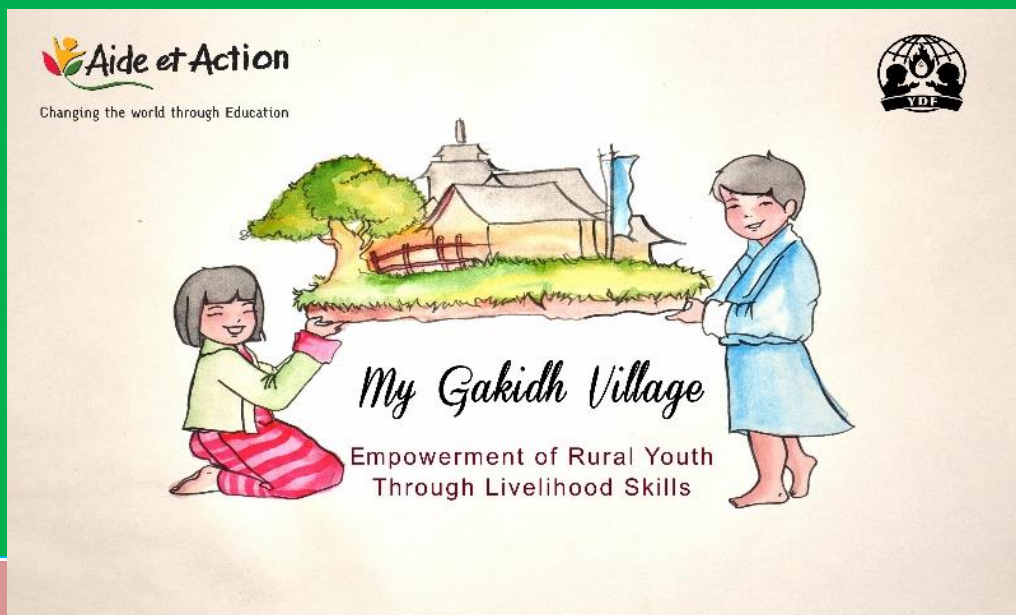


MY GAKIDH VILLAGE

Empowering Rural Youth through Livelihood Skills



2014

Baseline Assessment Report

[BHUTAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND]

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Chapter one

Introduction

The influence of global economic and political change on the job market has not left Bhutan untouched as opportunities for employment is changing rapidly. The socio-economic development that has taken place in Bhutan has brought about extensive social changes that have direct bearing on our youths. Under these dynamic circumstances, many young school leavers are left without support in providing sustained livelihood skills education. Although, a key objective of the current education system in Bhutan is to improve the links from school to work and to ensure that all young people are engaged in education, training or employment (MoHE 2002, p.1), stakeholders (policy makers, teachers and parents) do not seem to comprehend the magnitude of this problem for Bhutanese youth. In other words, they do not tend to provide necessary conditions for the school leavers to prepare themselves for the transition from school to work or further education.

Some stakeholders viewed unemployment problems as a mismatch between the career aspirations of school leavers and the careers available in the job market. Zimba, (2002: as cited in AsiaNews, 25 February 2006) stated that 'there was a mismatch in his country between people's employment aspirations and the work available'. The problem is also linked to an education system, which is unable to produce skilled manpower so that industries must turn to foreign labour. In the light of these issues, it is obvious that future employment opportunities will be needed for Bhutan's economic development in the private sector in areas such as the agriculture, manufacturing, trades, tourism and hospitality.

Many a time, there have been debates and serious arguments on the presence and magnitude of rural-urban migration and unemployment in the country. Media reports have validated that Bhutanese citizens have been migrating to urban centres in search of employment. If we allow this trend to continue, excessive urban growth will put a severe strain on the existing urban services and pose serious developmental and environmental problems such as increasing noise and air pollution, shortage of safe drinking water and electricity, inadequate sewerage facilities, creation or increase of urban slums and squatter settlements, due to shortage of housing, unemployment and other social issues. Some of these symptoms are already visible in the cities of Thimphu and Phuentsholing. Youth violence and crime have increased, along with mounting pressure on housing, sanitation, shortage of drinking water, health care system etc. The limited arable land will also be affected by the expansion of the urban areas which will make the task of the government to attain its objective of cereal self-sufficiency more difficult. This is a potential problem and a cause of concern for Bhutan. Thus, there is strong call for curbing rural - urban migration through the creation of employment opportunities, and the provision of socio-economic facilities and infrastructure in the rural areas.

Objective of the study

The overall objective of this assessment is to identify the potential or feasible village to set up 'My Gakidh Village' (the first project village). Specifically, this assessment will identify:

- potential young men and women in the villages
- the interest and motivation of the young men and women
- the availability of resources in the community
- current economic condition of community

Methodology

A Participatory Rural Approach (PRA) method was adopted to collect information from the community. Parents, youths and stakeholders representing members of the house were involved in the process. There were two phases that went into the preparation of the assessment. Training of the assessors and a pilot study in the field to test the procedures, specifically the application of the PRA. Following completion of the field work, participants were asked to provide feedback on the content and procedures of PRA. Further, in order to improve the approach as well as to have the content consistent with the conceptual framework and content validity, the process was reviewed.

Data collection

- ❖ *Consultative meetings and Key Informants' Interview (KII)*: The informal consultative meetings were held with the key stakeholders of the village.
- ❖ *Situational analysis*: To understand the inside story of village, a situation analysis was carried out. The findings are used as a spring board for conducting the assessment.
- ❖ *Focused Group Discussion (FGD)*: After completion of initial assessment using PRA, FGD was conducted with the youth and people who possessed livelihood skills and local wisdom, which helped in getting a deeper insight of the village and eventually added value to the analysis and report.
- ❖ *Sampling for data collection*: In order to get a representative sample of respondents, at least a member from a house was invited to attend the assessment meeting.

Data analysis

The data obtained from each village were checked, grouped and tabulated to generate the report. The data collected was analyzed thematically. The issues of same theme was grouped and presented in the report. The descriptive statistical analyses employed were frequency and percentage.

Chapter two

Findings

This section presents the statistical analysis of the data in this study. Descriptive statistics will be presented for the scales used in this study as well as for the demographic information. The findings are divided and presented in eleven sections as follows.

- 1. Name and number villages under each cluster**
- 2. Habitations and type of houses in the cluster**
- 3. No. of Household Assessed**
- 4. Population and Youths**
- 5. Details of Youths between aged 15 to 30**
- 6. Information on Area of interest among the youths**
- 7. Details of skilled Person**
- 8. Information of Infrastructure**
- 9. Seasonal Mapping and Livelihood Activities**
- 10. Economic conditions of the clusters**
- 11. Resources and Facilities**
- 12. Selection Process**

Table 1. *Name and number villages under each cluster*

Goemkha	Begana	Thinleygang	Renakha	Menchuna
1. Goemkha	1. Bemsisi	1. Lemjikha	1. Sitokha	1. Jalu
2. Chelikha	2. Beechekha	2. Thinleygang	2. Renakha	2. Phentakha
3. Goemsa	3. Yueammo	3.	3. Damchi	3. Achekha
4. Siluna	4. Zekotako	4. Tokha	4. Chanana	4. Menchuna
			5. Lungjam	

The table above shows the name and number of villages under each cluster. Each cluster is headed by a village headman known as Tshogpa. Toeb Gewog has 20 villages, which are divided amongst 5 Tshogpas. Goemkha cluster had 4 villages, namely Goemkha, Goemsa, Chelikha and Siluna. There were 4 villages, Bemsisi, Yueammo, Beechekha and Zekotako under Begana cluster. Renakha cluster had the highest number of villages (5 villages) namely Chandana, Renakha, Lungjam, Sitokha and Damchi, while least number of villages (Lemjikha, Thinleygang and Kokha) was in Thinleygang cluster.

Table 2. *Habitations and type of houses in the cluster*

Cluster	No. of household		Total	Concrete	Traditional	Semi-permanent
	Inhabited	Uninhabited				
Goemkha	55	2	57	0	57	0
Begana	48	6	54	0	54	0
Thinleygang	102	7	109	14	90	5
Renakha	39	2	41	0	41	0
Menchuna	67	5	72	3	64	5
Total	311	22	333	17	306	10

Table 2 represents the habitations and type of houses in Toeb Gewog. There were 333 households, of which 311 household were inhabited and 22 households were uninhabited. Maximum households were from Thinleygang with 109 households (inhabited = 102, uninhabited = 7 households), followed by Menchuna with 72 households (inhabited = 67, uninhabited = 5 households). Goemkha had 55 households' inhabited and 2 households uninhabited, whereas Begana had 48 household inhabited and 6 household uninhabited. Renakha had least households with 39 households inhabited and 5 households uninhabited.

There were three types of houses (Concrete, Traditional and Semi- permanent) in the Gewog. In all clusters, traditional type of house dominated the other type of houses. There were 306 traditional houses, 17 concrete houses (14 from Thinleygang and 3 from Menchuna) and 10 Semi-permanent houses (5 each from Thinleygang and Menchuna).

Table 3. No. of Household Assessed

Cluster	No. of households	No. of Respondent	
		Assessed	Not Assessed
Goemkha	57	49	8
Begana	54	42	12
Thinleygang	109	102	7
Renakha	41	39	2
Menchuna	72	62	10
Total	333	294	39

The diagram above present the total number of households assessed. Out of 333 households under this Gewog (Goemkha = 57, Begana = 54, Thinleygang = 109, Renakha = 41, Menchuna = 72), 294 households were assessed and 39 households could not assessed.

Table 4. Population and Youths

Cluster	Population		Total	No. of Youths between aged 15-30		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Goemkha	164	177	341	40	41	81
Begana	178	181	359	56	50	106
Thinleygang	263	263	526	92	91	183
Renakha	166	193	359	58	52	110
Menchuna	223	228	451	70	70	140
Total	994	1042	2036	316	304	620

The above table shows the total population and number of youth in the gewog. The total population of the gewog was 2036 people, out of which 994 were male and 1042 were female. The highest population was recorded in Thinleygang with 526 (263 male and 263 female). Menchuna stands at second with 451 (223 male and 228 female). The total population of Renakha was 359 (166 male and 193 female). The least populated cluster was Goemkha with only 341 people (164 male and 177 female). The total number of youth recorded was 620 (316 male and 304 female).

Table 5. Details of Youths between aged 15 to 30

Cluster	Married	In-Service	Business	In School/ Training	Monk	Potential Youth	
						In Village	Out of Village
Goemkha	7	20	0	31	2	10	11
Begana	10	13	0	29	26	22	6
Thinleygang	7	56	0	80	10	19	11
Renakha	3	27	1	59	6	6	8
Menchuna	9	39	2	59	7	13	11
Total	36	155	3	258	51	70	47

In the above diagram it shows the details of youth in the clusters villages. The youths (between aged 15 to 30) were categories as married, in-services, business, in school/training and monk. There were a total of 620 youths in the Gewog. Out of 620 youths, 36 youths were married, 155 were in services, 3 were doing business, 258 were either in schools or undergoing training, 51 were monks and 117 were identified as potential youths to take up this project. Out of 117 youths, 70 youths were in the village and 47 youths were out of the village. Thinleygang cluster had the maximum youth of 183 followed by Menchuna with 140 youths. Goemkha had the least with 81 youths.

Table 6. Information on Area of interest among the youths

Interest	Goemkha		Menchuna		Renakha		Thinleygang		Begana	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Painting	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Weaving	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1
Woodcarving	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Tailoring	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	3
Embroidery	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
General	2	6	6	3	2	2	2	4	4	8
Bamboo Weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carpentry	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Others(Business and Veg. Vendor)	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total	4	13	7	6	3	5	6	7	7	14

The above table displays the interest areas of the youth. In Goemkha cluster, out of 17 youth, 2 male are interested in painting and 2 are interested to take up any program offered to them by the project (general). In case of female, 2 are interested in weaving, 1 in wood carving, 4 in embroidery and 6 in general. In Menchuna cluster, out of 13 interested youths, only 1 male and female are interested in painting, 2 females are interested in embroidery and 6 males and 3 females are in general category. In Renakha cluster, out of 8 interested youths, 2 males and 2 females are in general category and 1 each in others category like vegetable business followed by 2 females in weaving. In Thinleygang, out of 13 youths, 2 males each are interested in wood carving, carpentry and in general category. Out 114 potential youths, only 72 youths are interested to join the project.

Table 7. Details of skilled Persons

Area	Goemkha	Menchuna	Renakha	Thinleygang	Begana	Total
Sculpture	1	-	-	-	1	2
Weaving	-	2	2	-	1	5
Bamboo weaving	1	-	-	-	9	10
Painter	2	-	-	-	1	3
Woodcarving	1	-	-	-	2	3
Carpenter	-	-	1	-	-	1
Tailoring	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	6	2	3	-	14	25

The table above shows the skilled person available in the cluster. The skilled persons were indentified based on the skills possessed by the individuals (both adults & youths) like sculpture, handloom weaving, Bamboo weaving, painting, wood curving, carpentry and tailoring. Of the 5 clusters, Begana cluster had the maximum number of skilled persons (14), followed by Goemkha cluster with 6 skilled persons. Renakha cluster had 3 skilled persons, while Menchuna cluster had only 2 skilled persons. Thinleygang cluster had no skilled persons.

Table 8. Information of Infrastructure

Cluster	No. of household	Toilet		Water tap		waste pit		Accessibility to farm road	Remark
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Goemkha	57	44	5	41	8	48	1	Yes	8 no info
Begana	54	42	0	41	1	42	0	an hour walk from Zekotako	12 no info
Thinleygang	109	102	0	100	2	102	0	Yes	7 no info
Renakha	41	38	1	39	0	39	0	Yes	2 no info
Menchuna	72	62	0	61	1	62	0	Yes	10 no info
Total	333	288	6	282	12	293	1		

The table 8 above shows the detail information of the infrastructure in the villages. All the houses in the 5 clusters are Bhutanese traditional houses and all these villages are connected by farm roads, expect for Bemsisi, Yueammo and Beechekha villages under Begana cluster. 5 households in Goemkha cluster and 1 household in Renakha cluster did not have toilets while 8 households in Goemkha, 2 in Thinleygang and 1 each in Begana and Menchuna did not have water tap. Except for 1 household in Goemsa, all households had waste pits for disposing their wastes.

Table 9. Seasonal Mapping: work Load and livelihood Activities

Cluster Village	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
	Moderate work	Moderate work	Moderate work	Light work
Goemkha	Peach, Orange, Lettuce, Tomato, Maze	Peach, Passion fruit, Chilli, Tomato, Eggplant, Beans, Onions, Maize, Paddy, Spinach.	Peach, Walnut, Lettuce, Spinach, Tomato, Beans, Paddy, Maize	Orange, Walnut, Passionate fruit, Chilli
	Moderate work	Light work	Moderate work	Light work
Begana	Potato, Carrot, Chilli, Cucumber, Maize, Millet, Wheat, Paddy, Mustard, Soya bean	Potato, Carrot, Chilli, Cucumber, Maize, Millet, Wheat, Paddy, Soya bean and peach	Paddy, Maize, Millet, Barley, Buckwheat, Mustered, soya bean, Premium	Potato, Carrot and Paddy
	Moderate work	Moderate work	Light work	Light work
Thinleygang	Potato, Chilli, cucumber, Pumpkin, Fern, Cauliflower, Eggplant, Radish, Beans, Ginger	Potato, Carrot, Chilli, Lettuce, cucumber, Pumpkin, Eggplant, Radish and Beans	Radish, Turnip and Beans	Potato, Lettuce, Radish and Beans
	Moderate work	Moderate work	Moderate work	Light work
Renakha	potato,Carrot,Chilli, Cucumber,Pumkin,Tomato,Eggplant,Parsely,Raddish,Turnip, Beans,Caigua, Garlic and Paddy	Chilli, Cucumber, Tomato, Eggplant, Parsley, Beans, Caigua, paddy and Maize	Chilli, Cucumber, Pumpkin, Tomato, Beans, Eggplant, Caigua, paddy, Maize	Potato,Carrot,Chilli,Cucumber,Pumkin,Raddish,Turnip,Beans,Spinich and Garlic
	Heavy work	Heavy work	Heavy work	Heavy work
Menchuna	Potato, Carrot, Chilli, Lettuce, Egg plant, Cane shoot, Beans, Caigua, Asparagus, Cabbage, Spinach, Onion, Broccoli, Maize, Wheat, Mustard, Soya bean, Radish	Carrot, Chilli, Lettuce, Egg plant, Cane shoot, Beans, Caigua, Cabbage, Spinach, Onion, Broccoli, Maize, Wheat, Mustard, Soya bean, Radish, Fern, Cucumber	Carrot, Chilli, Lettuce, Egg plant, Cane shoot, Beans, Caigua, Cabbage, Spinach, Onion, Maize, Soya bean, Fern, Cucumber, Garlic, Turnip	Potato, Carrot, Lettuce, Cane shoot, Beans, Spinach, Onion, Wheat, Mustard, Soya bean, Turnip

Table 9 above presents the months in which the people in the community are engaged. This seasonal mapping is one of the important setup to find out which are the busiest months for the community so that the project implementation plan can be worked out accordingly. The busiest season for these communities falls in spring and autumn seasons. During these months, community are involved in ploughing paddy field, transplantation of paddy, plantation of chillies, cultivation and harvesting spinach and safeguard the crops from wild animals. The least busy season of these villages was in winter.

Most people in the villages grow peach, guava, walnut, passion fruit, apricot, pomegranate, avocado, strawberry, sugarcane, chilli, spinach, tomato, fern, eggplant, coriander, beans, radish, asparagus, onion, garlic, pea, rice and maize. Every household in the community is involved in selling of grains, fruits and vegetables. Almost all people in the community gives priority to maize, rice and peach since these crops fetches good prices. On the other hand, apricot, pomegranate, and sugarcane are given least priority due to less profit. Although not many people are into avocado business, it also fetches good price.

Table 10. Economic Conditions

Particulars	Goemkha		Begana		Thinleygang		Renakha		Menchuna	
	Annual	Average	Annual	Average	Annual	Average	Annual	Average	Annual	Average
Income	2010500	255725	1147500	140398	6989350	335958	3070500	439986	2761500	213760
Expense	1534000	201523	960000	113929	4036660	181147	2343000	300314	2248440	180163
Saving	476500	54202	187500	26469	2952690	154813	727500	139671	513060	33597
Total	4021000	511449	2295000	280796	13978700	671918	6141000	879971	5523000	427520

Table 10 above shows the economic conditions of each cluster. Renakha had the highest average annual income of Nu. 439,986 followed by Thinleygang, Goemkha, Menchuna and Begana with the average annual of Nu. 335,958, Nu. 255,725 and Nu. 213,760 respectively. Begana has the lowest average annual income of Nu. 140,398. Most people had balance of income and expenses, which leads to low saving scheme. Thinleygang has highest annual expenses of Nu. 4,036,660 and annual saving of Nu. 2952690, followed by Renakha with annual expenses Nu. 2,343,000. Begana had the lowest annual expenses of Nu. 960,000 and annual saving of Nu. 26469.

Resources and Facilities

Natural resources such as bamboo and timbers are available within and around the community. Bamboo is the one of the cheapest resources and abundantly available in the vicinity. It is used for fencing, manufacturing flute, baskets, pencil containers, cosmetics containers, electric bulb holders and Bachung (Traditional plates). Timbers are used for construction of the houses, curving various objects such as mask, making chilli grinder, furniture, milk churner, chopping board, etc. Goemkha cluster have Manchu (Traditional hot stone bath), where people believed that diseases will be cured if one takes hot stone bath. Hot stone bath site can also bring other local people to their villages on fee basis.

In all the clusters, men and women have different roles and responsibilities in some of the farm works - men are accountable for ploughing field and women are accountable for manure works. People in these villages speak five types of dialects such as Sharchops, Bumthaps, Kurtoep, Dzongkha and Nepali. The majority of the people speak Dzongkha and Bumthap. The traditional games and sports such as Kuru, Archery and Deogor are also played in all the villages. Begana, Goemkha and Chelikh village have an archery range while other villages do not have any archery range. The villages have very good traditions of welcoming their guest(s).

Table 10. Service centres'/Facilities

Sl. no	Service centre's/ Facilities	Goemkha	Begana	Thinleygang	Renakha	Menchuna
1	B.H.U	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	5hrs walk to Thinleygang	yes	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	2hrs walk to Thinleygang
2	Animal husbandry	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	5hrs walk to Thinleygang	yes	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	2hrs walk to Thinleygang
3	Agricultural extension office	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	5hrs walk to Thinleygang	yes	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	2hrs walk to Thinleygang
4	forest extension office	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	5hrs walk to Thinleygang	yes	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	2hrs walk to Thinleygang
5	School	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	5hrs walk to Thinleygang	yes	2hrs walk to Thinleygang	2hrs walk to Thinleygang
6	Monastery	Yes	Yes	yes	yes	Yes
7	Archery Range	Yes	Yes	yes	yes	Yes
8	Druk Organic Farm	No	No	No	No	Yes, at Jalu

All service centres such as School, Basic Health Unit, Agriculture Extension office, Forest Extension office, Gup's office are located in Thinleygang and people have to travel from their villages to Thinleygang to avail these facilities.

Selection Process

The selection of the project sites were done considering the following indicators. Each indicator was marked out of 5. A cluster securing the highest point was graded 5 and the lowest was graded 1 as shown in the table below. However, in case of average economic income, it was graded otherwise (5 points for the lowest average economic income cluster and 1 point for the highest) as the project is aimed to help the lowest income group.

First (1st) = 5	Second (2nd) = 4	Third (3rd) = 3	Forth (4th) = 2	Fifth (5th) = 1
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For Arts and Crafts:

1. Number of interested youth (Female)
2. Availability of Skilled Person
3. Availability of Natural Resources
4. Nearness to Market
5. Economic condition

Table.11 Project site selection for arts and crafts

Clusters	Number of interested youth	Availability of Skilled Person	Availability of Natural Resources	Market	Avg Eco. Income	Total	Rank
Begana	5	5	2	2	5	19	1st
Goemkha	4	5	2	4	3	18	2nd
Menchuna	2	3	2	4	4	15	3rd
Thinleygang	3	2	2	5	2	14	4th
Renakha	1	4	2	3	1	11	5th

The above table shows the points scored by each cluster based on the availability of youths, resources, skilled persons, market and average economic status of the community.

Begana scored 19 points followed by Goemkha with 18 points. Menchuna scored 15 points and Thinleygang scored 14 points, claiming third and forth positions. The lowest was Renakha with only 11 points.

For Eco-tourism (General). The following are the indicators were considered for the selection of eco-tourism project site.

1. Number of interested youth (Male in handicraft)
2. Festival
3. Distance from service centre
4. Infrastructure
5. Menchu
6. Feasibility of trekking
7. General Youth
8. Avg Economic condition

Table.12 *Project site selection for eco-tourism*

Cluster	No. of interested youth	Festival	Distance from service centre	Infrastructure	Menchu	Feasibility of trekking	General youth	Total	Rank
Begana	3	4	3	3	4	4	5	26	3rd
Goemkha	5	4	4	3	5	4	3	28	1st
Menchuna	2	3	4	4	5	5	4	27	2nd
Thinleygang	4	2	5	5	4	5	2	27	2nd
Renakha	2	5	4	3	4	4	1	23	4th

For rating criteria, refer the selection process above.

The above table shows the procedure and status for selection of eco-tourism project site. Goemkha was ranked first with 28 points followed by Menchuna and Thinleygang in second place with 27 points each. Begana stood at third place with 26 points and Renakha at fourth place with 23 points.

Table.13 *Final project site selection*

Cluster	Category One (Arts and Craft)	Category Two (Eco-tourism)	Total	Rank
Begana	19	26	45	2nd
Goemkha	18	28	46	1st
Menchuna	15	27	42	3rd
Thinleygang	14	27	41	4th
Renakha	11	23	34	5th

The above table shows the overall points scored for Arts and Crafts and Eco-tourism by each cluster. Goemkha scored 46 points, while Begana scored 45 points. Menchuna and Thinleygang scored 42 points and 41 points respectively. Renakha ranked the fifth with 34 points.

Chapter 3

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

This project is intended to facilitate young women and men in the villages for developing livelihood skills to improve their living standard. It also helps in binding people together and integrates various aspirations and resources of the community. Under Toeb gewog there are five clusters namely Goemkha, Begana, Thinleygang Renakha and Menchuna.

There were 333 households under Toeb gewog. The highest number of households was in Thinleygang cluster (109 households), followed by Menchuna cluster with 72 households. Goemkha cluster had 57 households and Begana cluster had 54 households. The least was in Renakha with 41 households. Out of 333 households, 239 households were assessed for baseline assessment and 94 households were not assessed.

As per the report of number of households assessed, Thinleygang cluster had total population of 526 people in 61 households. Menchuna cluster had 451 people in 56 households. Begana cluster and Renakha cluster had 359 people each in 39 households and 34 households respectively. Goemkha cluster had total population 341 people in 49 households.

Most houses in Toeb gewog are traditional structured, Concrete and semi-permanent houses are only found in Thinleygang cluster and Menchuna cluster. All clusters are connected by farm roads except for some villages (Bemsisi, Beechekha and Yueammo) in Begana cluster had to walk for an hour from farm road end. 5 households in Goemkha cluster and 1 household in Renakha cluster do not have toilets facilities, while 8 households in Goemkha cluster, 1 in Begana cluster and Menchuna cluster, and 2 in Thinleygang cluster do not have water tap. Out of 294 households assessed, only 1 household (in Goemkha) do not have waste pit.

The main source of income for all five clusters is agriculture. Every household in the community is involved in selling of grains, fruits and vegetables. Almost all people in the community gives priority to cultivation maize, rice and peach since these crops fetches good price. Apricot, pomegranate, and sugarcane are given least priority due to nominal profit.

There are 620 youths in Toeb gewog. 37 of them are married and living with their spouse. 154 youths are working in various organizations, while 260 youths are studying or undergoing trainings. 3 youths are doing business while 51 youths are monk. 45 youths are living out of village. Currently, there are 69 youth living in the village.

This assessment could not trace the exact statistics of youths in the community. However, from the youths that we met in the villages, it is understood that there are some young people who are interested in taking up the opportunities being provided. The study also revealed that there are few skilled people in the village who are willing to share their knowledge and experiences with the interested youths. The most resources available in the village are bamboo, and different kinds of timber to produce arts and crafts product.

Since most of the youth were out of their villages, understanding of their aspirations and interests were difficult. Nevertheless, the youth who attended the assessment meeting and their elders in the community aspires to develop the village as the business hubs in the community. Apart from this, the villages also own some special feature like, preparing of many unique foods, the performance of religious ceremonies and rituals, celebration of festivals and other social events. Though more than 18 dialects are spoken across the country, people in these villages spoke 5 dialects - Sharchops, Bumthaps, Kurtoep, Napali and Dzongkha. English is also widely used by all youths and adults who went to the school

The study revealed that the youths are willing to move out to the project site, if their cluster is found not feasible for the project.

Recommendation

- 1) The Bhutan Youth Development Fund's stakeholders had agreed to implement the project as proposed. The project will be implemented first at Goemkha, than at Begana, Menchuna, and Thinleygang and at last at Renakha.
- 2) If in case there are no enough number(25 as per project objective) of girls to take up arts and crafts, than interested(in arts and crafts) boys will be given opportunity.
- 3) For eco-tourism both girls and boys are eligible to take part in project activity.
- 4) Implementation feasibility test are to be carried out Goemkha and Begana. This is because they had only a point difference, i.e. 46 points for Goemkha and 45 points for Begana.

Feasibility Survey Findings Begana Cluster

Confirmed Youths and Skilled Persons

Sl.No	Name	Contact No.	Category	Area of Interest	Mobility
1	Phurba	17598393	Youth	Orchid & manure	Yes
2	Chimi Wangmo	17235657	Youth	Orchid & Flower pot	Yes
3	Namgay Bidha	77487475	Youth	Flower Pot	Yes
4	Ugyen Choden	17909046	Youth	Manure	Yes
5	Kinley Om	17973323	Youth	Flower Pot	Yes
6	Namgey Thinley	17427642	Youth	Flower Pot	Yes
7	Kinley Zam	17940315	Youth	Manure	Yes
8	Sonam Lham	77491855/ 17517325	Youth	Orchid	No
9	Kinley Lham	17962327	Youth	Manure	No
10	Passa	No Phone	Skilled Persons	Orchid & manure	No
11	Ugyen Tshering	17688130	Skilled Person	Bamboo Weaving	No
12	Ugyen Tshering	17688130 (Father of Sl. No 2)	Skilled Person	Block Printing/ wooden toys	No
13	Namgay	17688130	Youth	Block Printing/ wooden toys	Not sure
14	Phub Tshering	17986239	Youth	Block Printing/ wooden toys	Not sure
15	Rinzin Dorji	17844001/ 77844001	Youth	Block Printing/ wooden toys	Yes
16	Sangay Penjor	17662908	Youth	Block Printing/ wooden toys	Not sure
17	Namgay Zam	17600778	Youth	Block Printing/ wooden toys	Yes
18	Kuenga Zam	17267556	Youth	Ecotourism	No
19	Dawa Dem	17681002	Youth	Ecotourism	No

The above table represents the number of youths and semi-skilled persons interested to take up the project activities from Begana cluster. There were 9 youths and 1 skilled person interested in pottery (making of flower pots), orchid collection and decoration and manure collection. 5 youths and 1 skilled person were interested to take up new ideas such as block printing, wooden toys, etc and 2 youths were interested in ecotourism. There was only 1 skilled person interested in bamboo weaving.

There were 9 youths willing to travel to other places to take up the skill development training in case the training has to conduct outside their villages. 3 youths are not sure if they will be able to travel or move to other places for training while 4 youths and 3 skilled persons indicated that they are unable to travel/move to other places to attend the training.

Ecotourism

Name	Village	Contact #	Facilities					Remarks
			Toilet	Water tap	Road Connectivity	Type of House	Number of Rooms	
Kuenga Zam	Tahogang	17267556	Yes/Aqua toilet outside	Yes/ Outside	Yes	Traditional/2 storied	4 rooms (1 kitchen, 1 choesham room, 1 sitting room, 1 bed room)	Ground floor is being used as cow shed
Dawa Dem	Bechekha	17681002	Yes/Pit	Yes/ Outside	No/ 45 mins walk from farm road	Traditional/ 2 storied	4 rooms (1 kitchen, 1 store, one bed room, 1 sitting room)	Ground floor is being used as cow shed

The table above shows the detail information of youth who are interested to take up ecotourism. There were 2 youths, Kuenga Zam and Dawa Dem from Begana cluster willing to take up ecotourism. Both the houses are 2 storied Bhutanese traditional house. Kuenga Zam's house is connected by farm road, while Dawa Dem's house is about 3 km away from the road head. One house has Aqua privy toilet and one has a pit toilet. Both the toilets are outside their houses. Both households have tap water facilities in front of their houses.

Note: Kuenga Zam and Dawa Dem are willing to develop their house surroundings if it is necessary.

Goemkha Cluster

Feasibility Survey Findings

Confirmed Youths and Skilled Persons of Goemkha cluster

Sl.No	Name	Contact No	Village	Category	Area of Interest	Mobility
1	Kinley Pem	17661631	Goemkha	Youth	Ecotourism	Yes
2	Kinley Dema	17276149	Goemkha	Youth	Ecotourism	No
3	Pema	17942369	Chelikha	Youth	Ecotourism	No
4	Kinley Yangdon	17591024	Chelikha	Youth	Ecotourism	Yes
5	Pem Zam	17989931	Goemkha	Youth	Block Printing/wooden toys	
6	Pema Thinley	17737956	Goemkha	Youth	Block Printing/wooden toys	Not sure
7	Tashi Dorji	17717998	Goemkha	Youth	Block Printing/wooden toys	Not sure
8	Gyem Dorji	17686145	Goemkha	Youth	Block Printing/wooden toys	Yes
9	Karma Wangchuck	17941073	Chelikha	Youth	Block Printing/wooden toys	Yes
10	Kinley Dem	17941073	Chelikha	Youth	Block Printing /wooden toys	
11	Sonam Deki	17545517	Goemkha	Youth	Bamboo weaving	
12	Tshering Samdrup	17644713	Goemkha	Youth	Bamboo weaving	
13	Sonam Yeuden	17427478	Goemkha	Youth	Bamboo weaving	
14	Ugyen Choden	17482772	Chelikha	Youth	Bamboo weaving	
15	Sangay Thinley	17844696	Goemkha	Skilled Person	Bamboo weaving	Not sure

The above table represents the number of youths and semi-skilled persons interested to take up the project activities from Goemkha cluster. There were 4 youths interested to take up ecotourism while 6 youths were interested to take up new ideas (Block Printing / Wooden Toy). 5 youths and 1 skilled person were interested in bamboo weaving.

There were 4 youths willing to travel to other places to take up the skill development training in case the training has to conduct outside their villages. 3 youths are not sure if they are able to travel or move to other places for taking up of the training while 4 youths and 2 skilled persons indicated that they are unable to travel/move to other places to attend the training.

Ecotourism in Goemkha Cluster

Name	Village	Contact Number	Facilities					Remarks
			Toilet	Water tap	Road Connectivity	Type of House	Number of Rooms	
Kinley Dema	Goemkha	17276149	Yes/flush outside	Yes/ Outside	Yes	Traditional/ 2storied	4 quarters (2 rooms, 1 kitchen and 1 store)	Ground floor is being used as cowshed
Lotey Thai	Goemkha	17645629	Yes/Aqua toilet inside and pit toilet outside	Yes/inside and one outside	Yes	Traditional/ 2storied	8 rooms (2 rooms down stairs and 6 room upstairs), (1 kitchen, 1 store 4 bed rooms)	
Kinley Pem	Goemkha	17661613	Yes/ Pit toilet	Yes/ Outside	Yes	Traditional/ 2 storied	5 rooms (1 kitchen, 1 store and 3bed rooms)	
Kinley Choden	Chelikha	17584902 17248130	Yes/ Inside	Yes/ Inside	Yes	Concrete/ 2 storied	3 rooms (1 master bed room, 1 sitting room and bed room)	Ground floor will be used for home stay

The table above shows the detail information of youth who are interested to take up ecotourism. There were 4 youths, Kinley Dema, Lotey Thai, Kinley Pem and Kinley Choden from Goemkha cluster willing to take up ecotourism. Out of 4 houses, 3 houses were 2 storied Bhutanese traditional houses and 1 house was 2 storied concrete building. All houses were connected by farm road and had tap water facilities. Kinley Dema's house had flush toilet outside her house, while Lotey Thai's house had Aqua toilet inside his house and a pit toilet outside his house. Kinley Pem's house had a pit toilet outside her house while Kinley Choden's house had flush toilet inside her house.