

***CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE BARJU GAUPALIKA, SUNSARI
DISTRICT, EASTERN NEPAL***

CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE BARJU GAUPALIKA IN SUNSARI DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Chimdi *Gaupalika* in Sunsari district in eastern Nepal covers an area of 69.43 km² with population of 31,178. This *Gaupalik* has been restructured after merging 5 VDCs (Ramganj Belgachiya; Amaduwa; Amahibelaha and Chimdi). With reference to the previous Chimdi VDC, an average HH size is 7 and annual population growth is 3.4%. Tharu indigenous community dominates population in *Gaupalika*. Marginal communities of *Sardar*; *Mahato*; *Pandit* and *Mushahar* are dependent to wetlands resources. Majority of marginal groups are landless, do wage-labor and economically poor; their literacy is fairly low.

Socio-economic status of women is very poor. Majority of them are active in domestic works like cooking, cleaning, washing and on-farm activities, and are more engaged in fuelwood and fodder collection and in making dung-stick. Tharu women are skilled in harvesting fishes and lake resources.

This *Gaupalika* holds wetlands called Chimdi or Barju lake which has tremendous potential to change livelihoods of entire *Gaupalika* through fishery and tourism.

CODEFUND calls to donors; businessmen; industrialists; NGOs; environmental institutions and so on for their support.

Project Period: 5 years

Budget Requirement: NRs. 20 Corer

