

Format for abstract submission:

Research Title

Abstract (200 words in font size 11 Arial with context, objectives/methodology, findings and recommendations)

Key Words (20 words with font size 11 Arial)

Example abstract

Research Title: Gender Mainstreaming in Rural Transport Projects in Nepal: Transformative Changes at Household and Community Levels

Abstract (200 words with context, objectives/methodology, findings and recommendations)

This research study examines whether and how gender mainstreaming in selected rural transport projects implemented by the Government of Nepal (GoN) have transformed the lives of rural women and disadvantaged groups¹. It asks:

- What are the most significant changes in the lives of beneficiaries, particularly females?
- Has 'gender mainstreaming' helped contribute to change in female's roles within their households?
- Has 'gender mainstreaming' changed the way decisions are made at community and district levels?

The research was carried out in Ramechhap and Okhaldhunga districts using a mix of qualitative methods. It shows that the most significant changes that women and discriminated groups perceive in their lives derive from the new income-earning opportunities made available, especially through quotas and equal pay on the transport projects. This has enabled some change in consumption patterns (increased meat and vegetable consumption), encouraged a shift from subsistence farming towards cash crops and increased employment in the service sector. There has been a significant increase in some female's ownership of assets (gold, mobile phones, small businesses); their status and confidence has also increased because these income-earning activities take place outside the house. However, men continue to dominate community and district decision-making.

Key Words

Gender Mainstreaming, Gender and Social Inclusion, Rural Roads and Bridges, Gendered Transformative Changes, Roles of Women, Qualitative Research Methods