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Pradhan, P.K. and T.S. Sigdel, 2005, Sahar Gaun Sambandha ra Gramin Bikas (in Nepali), New Hira Books, Kathmandu.

Pradhan, P.K., 1998, Market Center and Hinterland Relation in Lalitpur District, Nepal, University of Klagenfurt, Austria.

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Wannali, S., 1992, Rural Infrastructure, Settlement System and Development of The Re- gional Economy in Southern India, a research report, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, D.C.

# RD 521: Sustainable Rural Development Credit hours: 3

## Aim and Objective

This course intends to offer students the knowledge about concepts and conditions pertaining to making rural development sustainable. The aim is to heighten the students' ability to critically analyze and assess developmental and environmental situations in preparation for efforts towards attaining sustainable development for rural areas prevailing in a developing country like Nepal.

# Course Outline

# **Unit 1: Introduction to Sustainable Development**

Concept, meaning, definitions and models of sustainable development; evolution of sustainable development concept and practices in local and global perspectives; development paradigm shifts and the arrival of the sustainable development thought.

## Unit 2: Key Indicators of or Trends in Sustainability

Atmospheric trends; agricultural trends; economic trends; industrial trends; energy trends; Social trends; social trends; and food trends.

## **Unit 3: Environment and Sustainable Development**

biological (loss of bio-diversity, and deforestation), socio-economic (industrialization, Global environmental issues physical (global warming, ozone depletion, acid rains), urbanization and migration); disasters and sustainable development; linkage between poverty and the environment; biomass-based energy use in Nepal; green revolution and genetic engineering-farming and environmental threats.

# **Unit 4: Pollution and Sustainable Development**

Environmental pollution: types - air, water, soil, sound, toxic, atomic, thermal; causes of environmental pollution (population growth, industrialization, encroachment of local resources) and its consequences; measures to mitigate environmental pollution.

## **Unit 5: Climate Change and Its Impacts**

What is climate change?; situation and causes of climate change; impacts of climate change on agriculture (e.g. food security); water resources (e.g. snow cover, glaciers, river discharge. springs, and lakes); human, animal and plant health; settlements and infrastructure; gender and livelihoods; extreme events.

#### **Unit 6: Ecological Zones and Rural Nepal**

Significance of ecological zones in rural development; descriptions of zones (mountains, hills and terai); meaning, importance, classification (types), erosion, and conservation of soil; availability and condition of water resources (ground and surface); meaning, types, importance, and coverage of forest resources; settlement patterns and their implications for rural development; socio-cultural aspects, and resource conservation in ecological zones. Unit 7: Biodiversity and Sustainable Development in Nepal

Meaning, types and status of biodiversity in Nepal; biodiversity conservation practices in Nepal; importance of and threats to biodiversity conservation in Nepal; biodiversity and rural livelihoods; concept, types and practices of intellectual property rights (IPRS) in the special context of indigenous people.

### **Unit 8: Sustainability Approaches**

Capacity building; mobilization of human, natural, physical, financial and social capital; local resource conservation (soil, pastureland, minerals, water, and forest) and their mobilization; local institution building and capacity enhancement, including the role of GOs, NGOs, INGOs and CBOS; social mobilization including the role of community, women and indigenous people.

## Unit 9: Problems and Prospects of Developmental Sustainability in Rural Nepal

Brainstorming and note-taking sessions on the major problems and the major prospects. [NB: Field-based study for the course will be conducted as part of the practical courses.]

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Baumgartner, R. and R. Hogger (eds.), 2004, In Search of Sustainable Livelihood Systems, Sage Publications, New Delhi.

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Howard, P.L., 2003, Women and Plants, Zed Books, London.

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Kathmandu.

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Shiba, V., 1998, Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Survival in India, Zed Press, New Delhi Soubbitian, T.P., 2004, Beyond Economic Growth: An Introduction to Sustainable Development The World Bank: Washington, D.C. Tacoli, C. (ed.), 2007, Earthscan Reader in Rural Urban Linkages, Earthscan, New Delhi Stallworthy, M., 2002, Sustainability, Land Use and the Environment, Cavendish, London, Van Loon, G. W. et al., 2005, Agricultural Sustainability, Sage Publications, New Delhi. WB, World Development Report, The World Bank (WB), Washington, D.C., latest issue.

# **RD 522: Rural Development Policies and Strategies**

Credit hours: 3

## Aim and Objective

This course has the objective of familiarizing students with the rural development related policies and strategies adopted in Nepal. The aim is to make them gain insights into the lessons learned from experiences on rural development programmes and projects carried out in the country and develop visions for those likely to generate better results.

#### Course Outline

## **Unit 1: Introduction to Rural Development Policy**

Introduction to development policy; need for rural development policy; goals of rural development policy; methods, processes, techniques and stages of policy formulation with special reference to Nepal; models of policy formulation; rural development polices in Nepal.

## **Unit 2: Policy Instruments for Rural Development**

Concepts, types and importance of policy instrument; issues and choices of policy instrument: incentive structures, marketing, input supply, technology, land reform, credit, extension services and training; process of rural transformation and major areas of intervention for rural development.

### **Unit 3: Strategies for Rural Development**

Meaning, needs and types of strategies; strategy formulation for development; constraints in the choice of strategies; the implications of strategy.

## **Unit 4: Targets and Target Setting**

Concept of target and target setting; approaches to targeting and target setting; cost and benefits in target setting; targets and actions in major social issues.

## **Unit 5: Financial Management for Rural Development**

Meaning and functions of finance and financial management; financial management and accounting; sources of rural finance with particular reference to Nepal; role of foreign aid (grants and loans) and investment; financial practices of village development committees (VDCs) and district development committees (DDCs) in Nepal; formulation of budget.

## **Unit 6: Need for Development Programmes**

Need for development of rural areas; concept of opportunities and constraints of development programmes; identification of rural problems and prioritization of rural development programmes and projects; development agencies and programmes; stakeholder participation in rural development.

## **Unit 7: Rural Development Approaches in Nepal**

Basic needs approach; integrated rural development approach (Rahovot approach); area development approach; growth centre approach; concept of PRSP and MDGs.

## **Unit 8: Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development Policies**

Concept of poverty; poverty alleviation policies in Nepal with reference to current national plan; poverty alleviation measures in SAARC countries with special reference to Nepal; relation between rural development policy and poverty alleviation.

[NB: Study visits to impressive rural development project/s will be made as part of the practical courses.]

#### References:

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Kunwar, K.B., 2006, Rural Development in Developing Countries, Meena Prakashan, Kathmandu.

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Singh, R. and K. Debal, 2001, Social Development and the Empowerment of Marginalized Group, Perspectives and Strategies, Sage Publication, New Delhi.

Smith, D.H., 2000, Grassroots Associations, Sage Publication, New Delhi.

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# RD 523: Governance and Rural Development Credit hours: 3

### Aim and Objective

The objective of this course is to make the students understand the local governance system and political economy in the special context of rural areas in Nepal. It has the aim of raising the students' level of understanding and ability to offer better governance services in their professional life.

Course Outline

#### **Unit 1: Fundamentals of Governance**

Concept, types, meaning, organs and role of government in rural development; government structure in Nepal; federalism and rural development; concept, meaning and characteristics of governance; concept, elements, characteristics, mechanism, issues and challenges of good governance; concept, meaning, necessity of self-governance; and the Local Self Governance Act 2055 of Nepal; local governments in Nepal: village development committees (VDCs), district development committees (DDCs), and municipalities.

#### **Unit 2: Decentralization and Rural Development**

Concept, meaning, types (devolution, de-concentration, delegation) and necessity of decen- tralization; delegation of power and devolution of authority; theory and practice of decentralization in Nepal; importance of decentralization in rural development.

## **Unit 3: Civil Society and Rural Development**

Concept, meaning, types and functions of civil society; theory and practice of civil society in Nepal; role of community-based organizations (CBOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOS), legislative members' role in rural development. international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) in rural development;

## **Unit 4: Rural Policy Formulation System**

Concept and process of policy formulation; actors and agencies involved in public policy. making-legislature, executive, judiciary, bureaucracy, civil society and media; policy-making process of VDCs, DDCs, and municipalities.

### Unit 5: New Trends in Rural Development Related Governance

Concept, need and relevancy of human rights with rural development; concept and necessity of social equity/equality and justice; people's participation in local governance; entrepreneurship; social mobilization.

#### References:

Dahal R.K., 2009, State and Rural Development, Dikshanta Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu, Dahal, R.K., 2005, Rural Development Politics in Nepal, Dikshanta Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu.

Dahal, R.K., 2006, State, Governance and Rural Development, Dikshanta Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu.

Shrestha, M., 2008, Women and Development in Nepal, Sigma-Carts Printing and Logistics, Kathmandu.

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Singh, K., 1999, Rural Development: Principles and Management, Vistaar Publications, New Delhi.

Sridharam, D. and Vesna (eds.), 2002, Breaking the Political Class Ceiling: Woman and Local Governance in South Asia, Penguin Books, New Delhi.

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Verma, V., 2000, Justice, Equality and Community, Sage Publication, New Delhi.

WB, 1991, World Development Report 1991: The Challenge of Development, The World Bank (WB), Washington, D.C.

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# RD 524: Practical Workshop and Field-based Study cum Seminar II Credit hours: 3

## Aim and Objective

The objective of this course is to impart students with practical knowledge, exposure and experience relating to various dimensions of rural development. The aim is to enhance their analytical and presentation skills, knowledge base and confidence level essential to work effectively in their academic and professional life.

Course Conduct Pattern

## **Time Allocation and Schedule**

This course will occupy a total of four hours every working week for its classroom discussion part. Depending upon the availability of time and suitability, the four-hour period time could be used either in a single day or divided in four separate sessions of one hour on any four days of the working week.

#### Discourse, Deliberations and Output

Upon completion of a few hours of introductory sessions, the students will be asked to compile a set of statistical figures (data) on the major dimension of rural development (e.g. agriculture, industry, services, infrastructure, education, health) of Nepal, along with regional comparisons, based on relevant publications of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), and

prepare a write-up with an interpretation of the figures used. Each student will submit to the instructor one such output each week, two days prior to the forthcoming classroom discussion/ seminar. The submitted materials must be the respective students' individual work not tallying with the ones submitted by others in the class. In case of collision the concerned students will be asked to submit another work confirming independent work.

The students will put their respective materials in presentation formats - preferably power-point - for presentations in

the class. Each presentation will entail a brief question- answer/discussion. All materials submitted will be compiled and made available as references for the students and others interested in the subjects.

#### **Short Visits and Guest Lectures**

One or two brief field visits could also be arranged now and then in lieu of the respective day's classroom presentation session provided there are relevant cases to be observed in proximate locations for the students and instructor to make comfortable and amicable visit. Such visits would require students to make their individual notes for presentation and submission in the following classroom discussion session. The instructor could also decide to and arrange one or two guest lecture sessions in lieu of regular sessions depending upon the availability of guest lecturers to make relevant and interesting presentations. Field-based Study

Towards the end of the semester in which this course is offered, the students will make a study visit to one or just a few locations in proximity to each other in a prosperous hill or mountain- ous district of the Eastern Development Region (EDR) of Nepal. They will make observation of the area(s) and the various rural development related activities and situations around and prepare notes for presentation in written and report (presentation) format individually. They will also take structured interviews of concerned local people and have focus group discussions. Prudent picture- and video-takings and uses could be greatly supplemental in this regard.

#### Assessment/Evaluation

The instructor in charge will allocate appropriate percentage of marks to each of the major activities required and record performance scores for individual student, thus coming up with the final scores based on the overall evaluation of each of the students.

# RD 525: Statistical Methods for Social Science Research Credit hours: 3

## Aim and Objective

The objective of this course is to acquaint the students with the techniques of social research methods, some statistical methods used in research, and mode of scientific inquiry especially in the field of rural development and to develop their skills in writing research reports.

Course Outline

## **Unit 1: Measures of Central Tendency**

Meaning, calculation, usage and interpretation of average (mean), median, mode, standard deviation.

## **Unit 2: Measurement of Inequality**

Review of the relevance of measures of dispersion; Lorenz curve; Gini coefficient.

## **Unit 3: Probability and Probability Distribution**

Concept and definition of probability; addition and multiplication laws of probability; Conditional probability; Bayes theorem; random variable (discrete and continuous); probability binomial and normal distributions; relationship between binomial and normal distributions. distribution; mathematical expectations; variance and covariance of random variables; binomial and normal distributions, relationship between binomial and normal distributions.

## **Unit 4: Sampling Theory**

Meaning, importance and objective of sampling; population versus sample' sampling and non-sampling errors; types of sampling (random purposive, and so on); determination of sample size according to the type of sample; sampling distribution of means and proportions; standard error.

## **Unit 5: Correlation and Regression Analysis**

Simple (Pearson's) correlation; rank (Spearman's) correlation; partial and multiple correlations review of simple regression; multiple regression and analysis (up to 3 variables) by leas squares method; analysis of variance (ANOVA) and regression analysis; dummy variable

as regressor.

#### **Unit 6: Estimation and Hypothesis Testing**

Point and interval estimation; estimation methods (ordinary least squares): z-test, t-test, f-test, x2 (chi square) test.

#### References

Anand, S., 2000, "The Measurement of Income Inequality," in S. Subramaniam (ed.) Measurement of Inequality and Poverty, Oxford University Press, New Delhi. Baskota, S., 2006, Statistical Methods for Rural Development, New Hira Books, Kathmandu. Chou, Y., 1969, Statistical Analysis, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York. Croxton, P.E. et al., 1975, Applied General Statistics, Prentice-Hall of India, New Delhi. Freund, J.E. and F.J. Williams, 1959, Modern Business Statistics, Prentice Hall, Eaglewood Cliff.

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Yamane, T., 1967, Statistics: An Introductory Analysis, Harper & Row, New York.

# RD 526: Infrastructure Economics Credit hours: 3

#### Aim and Objective

The objective of this course is to provide students with knowledge regarding the role social and physical infrastructure can play in rural development process. It aims at making the students appreciate the importance of infrastructure and become motivated to contribute to its advancement in their own ways.

Course Outline

### **Unit 1: Introduction to Infrastructure**

The meaning of infrastructure; infrastructure as a public good; social and physical infrastructure; of nationalization; peak load; off- load problem; dual pricing controversy; marginal cost characteristics of public utilities; infrastructure-economic development inter-linkage; case pricing versus other methods of pricing in public utilities; cross subsidization; free prices, equity and efficiency.

## **Unit 2: Transport Economics**

The structure of transport cost and location of economic activity, cost function in the transport sector, pricing principles; demand for transport; special problems of individual modes of ansport; inter-modal coordination; government intervention in transport sector; ports, civil viation and maritime economics.

#### **Unit 3: Information and Communication Systems**

Telephone service and its coverage; telecommunication: network, telephone traffic and pricing: principles of decreasing costs in telephone industry; postal service- features and coverage; criteria for fixation of postal rate; measurement of standards of service in telephone and postal utilities; trends and growth in express mail systems (e.g., courier, DHL), mobile and cellular services; internet connectivity and services; technology and communication related policies in Nepal.

#### **Unit 4: Social and Tourism Infrastructure**

The concept of social infrastructure; financing and organization of the social services; private and public sector financing; pricing of social services and development of social services Nepalese development plans; tourism and economic development; role of the state in promoting tourism; tourism planning; infrastructural requirements for marketing tourism.

#### **Unit 5: Education and Health**

Education and economic growth; human capital versus physical capital; components of human capital; demand for education - private and social demands; determinants of demand; costs of education: educational expenditure; private costs to education; social cost-benefit dimension of education-direct, indirect, private and social benefits; health dimension of development; determinants of health; economic dimension of health care; demand and supply of health care; financing of health care; health insurance schemes.

#### References:

Becker GS., 1974, Human Capital, National Bureau of Economic Research, New York. Berman, P. (ed.), 1995, Human Health Sector Reform in Developing Countries: Making Health Development Sustainable, Harvard Series on Population and International Health, Boston.

Bhatia, A.K., 1996, Tourism Development: Principles and Practices, Sterling, New Delhi, Blaug, M., 1972, Introduction to Economics of Education, Penguin, London. Cohn, E. and T. Gaske, 1989, Economics of Education, Penguin Press, London. Crew, M.A. and Klendorfer, P.R., 1975, Public Utility Economics, Macmillan, London. Kneafsey J.T., 1975, Transportation: Economic Analysis, Lexington, Torouts.

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