Study of gender roles in bean production system in Jumla district

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INTRODUCTION

Bean (Phaseolus vulgaris L.) is one of the most important annual legume crop which has great nutritional and economic value. Bean is indigenous crop to Jumla as well as karnali province as a whole which is gaining popularity by the name Jumli simi/Rajina. Being nutrient dense and an excellent source of dietary fiber, Jumli bean can be promoted as a healthy crop which can potentially reduce the risk of developing a chronic disease (Wu et al. 2004). Jumli bean is highly diversified with color, size and shape. There is the practice of mixing different varieties of bean before sowing which is practiced from the ancient period and has been passed from generation to generations. There are different roles and responsibilities of gender in diversity management and decision making in bean production system.

OBJECTIVES

➢ To study the roles of gender in bean diversity management and maintaining local seed system in Jumla district.
➢ To understand the traditional knowledge and practices regarding mixed bean production system
➢ To assess the involvement of men and women in different community based organization

METHODOLOGY

The questionnaire and survey methodology was developed by the project team and was refined using the inputs from various experts within the project team of NAGRC, Bioversity International and LI-BIRD as well as with the involvement of gender specialist and pre-testing was done at dhading district. Household survey was done in seventy five households of four wards (Gutambada, Aireni, Dhulalapani & Raka) by using random sampling method from 8-13th September 2019. Household survey was supplemented by two focus group discussion at gautambada and raka respectively. Data compilation and entry was done using the standard format and analyzed using Microsoft Excel 2013.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1. Involvement of gender in bean production system in the study area (2019)

➢ Higher percentage of female farmers (54%) involved in whole bean production system than male farmers (46%) in the study area (Figure 1).
➢ Women farmers are more decision maker than men in bean production system. The result showed that 79 %, 95%, 94%, 92% and 49% women decide for seed sowing, weeding, fertilizer application, harvesting and marketing of bean respectively (Figure 2).

CONCLUSION

There is higher involvement of women farmers in bean production as well as decision regarding different cultural practices in bean production system. Female farmers are more important for conserving local agro-diversity and maintaining local seed system than male farmers in Jumla district.

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