

Rural Tourism to Create Equitable and Growing Economy in Nepal

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Abstract

In Nepal almost half sky is afflicted with the poverty and deprivation and where the economy is of dual nature (small modern sector and vast poor rural sector), any economic activity out of the poor's reach wouldn't carry any meaning. Poverty reduction measures have to be essentially integrated with the tourism development. Someone has rightly said, Nepal is a live global museum, where hundreds of villages can be developed as tourism attractions. As tourism has tremendous forward and backward linkages it will help to boost other sectors as well as diversify our economy, we are so much in need of. In that direction, decentralized tourism policy, planning, affective harmonization of macro, meso and micro planning and all inclusive/mass participation of the people are the pre-requisites. From the hands of few hundred entrepreneurs tourism should be taken to common people.

These things won't materialize overnight, yet the prospect is very high with good planning and aggressive marketing strategy within half decade or so, we can gear our tourism, and the economy thereby, to the desired direction. Committed and consensual political culture is *sinqua'non*. Above all, it calls for the bureaucratic commitment and the 'will' of political leadership.

Political change alone do not change the society. In order to transform our society we need to reform our ill traditions, wrong practices, and the system that have made our society corrupt, unethical, immoral and hollow. Bringing the Maoists into the mainstream politics might end the gun politics, but only for a brief period. If we fail to install value system in our society, if we do not create a role models in our society, and continue with nepotism, favourism, and all sorts of sycophancy, some other groups or person will definitely raise the arms again to make their voice heard. If we continue with the widening discrimination and gap between the rich and the poor, rural and urban areas the society will never get stabilized. Therefore the present all party interim government has a big responsibility to shoulder Nepal's hope that the political parties and leaders have learnt lessons and will sincerely work to create a 'New Nepal'/environment where people are equal and free to decide on their own. The government and the political parties need to work faithfully not only on negotiating political issues but more concertedly in national capacity building for the empowerment of people. Nepalese people sincerely hope that bickering of leaders and interplay of parties vested interest won't imperil national priorities. To realize the common hope, there is a need for serious political commitments from all.

Background:

Nepal is a small Himalayan Kingdom in between two big economic power of Asia, China in the North and India in the East, West and South with an open border. Nepal is least developed, land locked and geographically disadvantageously placed country. Its location is in the northern margin of south Asia. The country has 147,181 sq. km. in area which accounts as 0.3 percent of land area of the earth. Nepal's territory is double the size of Sri Lanka, 3.5 times greater than Switzerland and 6.7 times bigger than Israel, on the one

hand and 23 times smaller than India and 68 times less than the size of China on the other. It has an asset of about 26 million people, 6000 rivers and rivulets, 5000 species of plants, 175 species of mammals, 850 species of birds and over 6000 species of butterflies. Nepal's greatest advantage lies in its diverse ecological zones, the terai, hills and mountains. It has four major river systems, Koshi, Gandaki, Karnali and Mahakali that have been a perennial source of civilization, nation state and economic development from times immemorial. (Upadhyay; 2006)

Nepal is the country of the highest mountain and deepest gorges. The Third Pole of the planet earth is the Mr. Everest. Nepal is an abode of "Eight Thousanders" (Mountains above 8000 meters). Nepal has the largest number of Everest Summiteers. Some of the highest lakes including Tilicho are found in Nepal. Nepal has highest number of repeated visitors than any countries of South Asia. Nepal offers the best eye hospital services in South Aisa and Nepal even exports ocular contact lens in Europe. Last but not least, Nepal is the only country where people shake their head to say "yes" (Shakya 2005).

Our villages are a real face of Nepal since they preserves their own culture, life style, values, institutions and traditions. However, the youths from nearby village attracted to the urban life style. The number of people living in 3915 Village Development Committees exceeds 86 percent of the total population in the country. Farming is the major economic activities of the people living in village and non farm economic activities are very rare in these villages. The ultimate result is mass poverty, hunger, disease and deprivation translated into greater dissatisfaction, caused hill to terai and rural to urban migration, foreign employment and so on. These problems have greater implication in the national economy in both short and long run. The escape from these miseries is no doubt the development of non-farm economic activities in the rural areas including rural tourism (Poudyal; 2005).

The concept of Rural Tourism:

Rural Tourism is both need based and right based concept. More particularly it is need based approach because rural area needs to have more jobs created and revenue to be generated. However, most of the author has concluded that Rural Tourism in need based. However to my opinion it is also right based. Development of tourism calls for even distribution of income from tourism. Moreover the processors of the richness of our culture and nature is with the village and they should have right to claim for development of rural tourism for their sustainable development. The rural community needs to have developed the alternative more productive non-farming activities to switch off the excess labour force from less productive farming sector. Agriculture sector has less multiplier effect with weak backward economic linkage and this sector has very low marginal to other sectors bearing high multiplier effect and productivity. But due to our geographical feature, natural resources and cultural heritage we have comparative advantage in tourism sector.

The concept of rural tourism was started by Club Mediterranean, with the view that people who live and work in cities need holidays in totally different surroundings. The Club Mediterranean started its first "vacation village" on the Spanish Island of Majorca in 1950. Similarly the best example of planned and programmed rural tourism developed in Sirubari Village, Syangja, Nepal as a new agenda in travel and trade tourism industry

institutionally propounded by Kathmandu Research Centre. See "Village Tourism & Nepal", NTTR by dr. Upadhyay.

Rural Tourism helps to create employment and income for the community through tourist catering services such as trekking, guiding, touring and entertaining and so on. Besides rural tourism can generate indirectly other non-farm economic activities such as micro business enterprisers, local art and crafts, food processing enterprises, teashops and other in the community. (Poudyal:2005)

The rapid environmental crisis in urban areas mostly in Kathmandu has been further widening the scope of tourism outside the urban areas. Nepal should therefore, develop its tourists destinations in the potential rural areas to move our tourism from where it is now to where it could be. In this direction Rural Tourism is the only preferable option for market our tourism industry in the true sense and to our maximum advantage. Hopefully the idea will looked upon favorably by the planners, policy makers and decision markers in the field.

The main objectives of Rural Tourism:

- To achieve maximum human welfare and happiness, through sustainable socio-economic development of rural areas.
- To reduce regional inequalities.

Other objectives:

- To generate employment and income for the villagers,
- To establish and sustain the cottage and small scale industries based on local resources,
- To establish and develop the micro-business
- To revitalize demolishing local art and crafts,
- To learn positive things from visitors,
- To preserve the social and cultural heritage of the rural community,
- To impress the visitors from our culture, traditions, human values and guest friendly behaviours. (POudyal:2005)

In short, rural tourism is tourism, which take place in the country side. The stress and strain of modern urban life have turned a number of holiday makers to the countryside for peace and rest. Charms of agriculture and farming attracts visit to farms. Buying and ownership of second home in rural areas has increasingly become popular to urban dwellers as a result of increased income, more leisure time and the wish to escape from the pressure of urban life have made Agro-Tourism popular these days.

Agrotourism is a new concept for Nepal. It is an expanding sector around the world. It is an economic activity that occurs when people link travel with products, services and experience of the agriculture and food system. The concept of agrotourism is a direct expansion of ecotourism, which encourages visitors to experience agricultural life at first hand. Agrotourism is gathering strong support from small communities as rural people have realized the benefits of sustainable development brought about by similar forms of nature travel. Visitors have the opportunity to work in the fields alongside real farmers and wade knee-deep in the sea with fisherman hauling in their nets. Agrotourism is the

specific rural tourism focusing on agricultural diversity, variety of produces like mushroom, honey-production, different organic farming practices for vegetables production, fishing, hunting, medical plant cultivation, agriculture related fair and festivals, boating, swimming, horse riding, bird watching, visiting different nurseries, herbal farming, botanical garden, ploughing with pair of bullock, Ropai Jatra, different Hat Bazars, that attracts both internal and international tourists.

Contrasting Features Between Urban Tourism Vs Tourism:

Lane, Bernard in his book "What is Rural Tourism" has presented a list of contrasting features between Urban Tourism and Rural Tourism as under:

Urban Tourism	Rural Tourism
Little open space	Much open space
Settlement over 10,000	Settlement under 10,000
Densely populated	Sparsely populated
Built environment	Natural environment
Many indoor activities	Many outdoor activities
Infrastructure-intensive	Infrastructure-weak
Strong entertainment base	Strong individual activity base
Large establishment	Small establishment
Nationally & Internationally owned firms	Locally own business
Much full time involvement in tourism	Much part time involvement
No farm/forestry involvement	Some farm/Forestry involvement
Workers may live far from work place	Workers often live close to work place
Rarely influenced by seasonal factors	Often influenced by seasonal factors
Many guests	Few guests
Guest relationship anonymous (unknown)	Guest relationship personal
Professional management	Amateur management
Many modern buildings	Many older buildings
General in appeal	Special in appeal
Broad marketing operation	Niche marketing

Source: Bernard Lane; 1993, 15

Thus rurality as a concept is connected with low population densities, open space, with small scale settlements generally of less than 10,000 in habitantas. Farming, forestry and natural areas dominate land use. Societies tend towards traditionalism, the influence of the past is often strong, government policies lean towards conservation rather than radical change.

Now we can argued that, Rural Tourism, in its purest form should be located in rural areas, functionally rural built upon the rural world's special features of small-scale

enterprise, open space contact with nature, heritage, traditional societies and traditional practices, rural in scale-both in terms of buildings and settlements and usually small-scale, traditional in character, growing slowly and organically and connected with local families. It will often be very largely controlled locally and developed for the long-term welfare and happiness of the area: of many different kinds, representing the complex pattern of rural environment, economy, history and location.

Cost and Benefits of Rural Tourism

According to Ganon the rural tourism is a socio-economic environmental business and can therefore generate both advantages and disadvantages in social, economic and environmental spheres. To avoid growth potential problems, a careful assessment of both advantages and disadvantages should be made at the planning stage by the community and the actors concerned. Richardson has suggested the outline of cost and benefits which can assist in the decision making process as under:

Economic Benefits of Rural Tourism:

- Brings more money particularly foreign currency to the economy;
- Creates job and increases family and community income;
- Helps to diversify and stabilize the rural economy;
- Provide broader business base for the community and creates an opportunity for attracting other business and small industries;
- Provide the opportunity for existing business and services;
- Helps to develop local craft and trade.

Economic Costs of Rural Tourism:

- Involves risk for the operator and community,
- Creates demands on public goods,
- May only give part time employment,
- May increase cost of living for community residents because of inflation of property, goods and services,

Social benefits of Rural Tourism

- Helps to build up a community infrastructure,
- Provides the opportunities for cultural change,
- Promotes a community team spirit particularly through the development of cultural and entertainment activities.
- Creates conditions for safeguarding and enhancing local cultural identities.

Social Costs of Rural Tourism:

- Rural Tourism may cause the introduction of conflicting ideas and styles into the community
- It may cause the increase in crime,
- Overcrowding and congestion,
- Break on privacy in household and in the sharing of important community resources with tourism

- Institutional community and family jealousies, as all may not share the benefit equally.

Role of Authorities:

Now the role of the authorities become clear in the light of the above analysis. The role of the authorities consists several strategies:

- Protect potentially attractive areas and make infrastructure investment to their advantage,
- Modernize the supply structure and production of tourist services in rural area,
- Promote these structures in the eyes of the potential user, as is already done by certain private producer's organization, but not systematically at present.
- Help to make potential demand solvable because some of rural tourists don not have the means to pay for costly form of tourism,
- Train rural people for their new activities,

On the top of the above strategies, it is necessary for the authorities to consider other problems, starting with the question of knowing whether or not to concentrate their intervention on clear defined geographical areas or non the country to spread their action over the whole of the country/territory concerned. Many states have defined and implemented policies for rural tourism. But we have to ask ourselves about the relevant level for organizing such policies. More precisely, should these policies be organized at Central level, Regional level, or Village level. The interest in implementing rural tourism policies at the intermediate level is very important. Therefore rural tourism activities must be developed in a network perspective in order to increase the supply of touristic products. This implies co-operation beyond the village level but relevant to an intermediate level. All in all rural tourism is to be developed as per our declared economic, social and political goal set up by our govt. to achieve sustainable socio-economic development of rural areas where majority of Nepalese people (86%) reside.

A Model Planning for Rural Tourism:

- **Attraction and activities:** Things for tourist to see and do.
- **Hospitality facilities and services:** Place to stay overnight and places to eat.
- **Transport facilities and services:** Assess to an within the area by land, air and water,
- **Basic Community infrastructure:** Water supply, electricity, sewage and solid waste disposal and telecommunication,
- **Promotion and tourist information service:** Informing tourists what to see and do in the community.

Constraints to Develop Tourism in Rural Areas:

- Poorly developed physical infrastructure,
- Poorly developed local institutions,
- Inadequate knowledge, skill and means,
- Weak coordination between micro and macro efforts,
- Fragile bio-physical environment,

- Persistent inequalities among women and disadvantageous groups hindering mass participation.

How to make Rural Tourism Pro-poor?

- Raised income and employment opportunities through micro enterprises development,
- Enable them to find employment in other sectors through training and education

How to Develop Rural Tourism in Nepal?

- Formulation of local team such as Tourism Management and Development Committee (TMDC) a must
- Survey of the tourism inventory in the village through several meetings and discussions can help to figure out such inventories (list of products).
- TMDC necessarily need business plan before they go for operating tourism activities,
- Selection of the visitors by type. Accordingly they can go for the marketing their destination and products. For this the TMDC has to formulate market plan for their products consisting marketing strategies.
- TMDC should develop links with their operators, MoCTCA, NTB, NTV and other tourism related institutions.

Important issues in the development of Rural Tourism Projects:

Current dynamics of rural tourism development requires the development of services, activities, the environment and quality accommodation. According to the experience of GANON (1993) the following issues are considered important in the development of the rural tourism project:

- Economic ambition
- Authenticity
- Benefit and cost of tourism
- Training and education
- Developing and delivering quality products
- Tourism as a part of strategic development plan
- Future trend (research)

Rural Tourism in context of Nepal and outside world:

Globally, the best examples of planned and programmed rural tourism can be found in the lower casamance region of Senegal. This project was designed at exposing tourists to traditional rural life, providing for spontaneous interaction between the tourists and residence about the local community and culture. It was designed to bring direct economic benefit to the villagers including employment for young people to reduce their migration to urban areas. The model called for simple lodging to be built by the villagers, using traditional materials, methods and styles then owned and managed by them. These lodgings are located along the river system, away from established tourists route with the village tourist traveling by traditional canoes. Investment cost are small. Management of the lodging by the villagers is organized through cooperatives. Local cuisine is served to

the tourists. Traditional villages are related cultural pattern are often major attraction for tourists and can bring benefits to these local communities. However village tour must be carefully organized and controlled to minimized negative socio-cultural impacts and insure that the economic benefit go to the villagers as well as the tour organizers. In some places, model villages are established to show tourists about traditional village architecture and activities. The economic importance of tourism for small villagers has been and important theme in various articles, notably in discussion of Germany and Portugal. The youth hostels grew rapidly based on the educational principles emphasizing the need by youth of large cities to travel on foot throughout the country. Villagers were established as a holiday areas and caravan and camping sites developed constituting significant accommodation facilities. These are very popular and in certain European countries particularly in Italy, Australia, Germany, and Switzerland and also in USA. These establishments provide only accommodation and breakfast and not the regular meal. These villages were established in some European countries after World War II. These villages situated at warm seashores in the regions, which offer certain facilities for tourists. These villages are located in the regions which are backward, thereby helping the region. The villages mostly develop important clubs, social organizations and also tourist organizations. The village complex is a center of accommodation providing extensive sports and recreation facilities, riding, swimming, tennis, volleyball, football, mini golf, badminton, table tennis and yoga. They provide boarding and lodging. Telephones, radios, television, newspaper are banned unless there is emergency. The easy mixing of guests is encouraged by banning of advance booking of tables in the village restaurants. So one rarely find sitting with the same group twice. The holiday villages are based on family units, each providing a living room, bath/shower and sometimes a kitchen. The villagers are self-sufficient providing almost required. The accommodation is sold for a week at an all-inclusive price.

Nationally, the best example of planned and programmed rural tourism can be found in Sirubari Village of Syangja district under Western Development Region of Nepal.

Village tourism in Sirubari village may be considered a micro-exercise in making tourism relevant to local economic and environmental development. Sirubari is predominantly Gurung Village. It demand 4 hours trek from nearest road head along Pokhara-Sunauli highway. It is located at the altitude of 1700 mtrs. From the highest point one can see great Himalayan peaks such as Annapurna, Machhapuchhre & Dhaulagiri. One can enjoy rich gurung heritage in Sirubari. Most of the households rely on remittances (85 HHS) and pensions (Indian 40 & British 19= 59) Non monsoon season is the best time to visit. Originally the idea was that of a retired Army Captain Mr. Rudra Man Gurung who approach Government of Nepal to support to develop village tourism in Sirubari. But came in contact with Australian tour operator Mr. Tony Parr proved fruitful.

Tourism Development Management Committee (TDMC) formed with VDC Chairman as its head look after the whole management. TDMC represents the Mothers Group, Fathers Group, the Youth Club and other members chosen through consensus for 2 yrs. Tour operator and his associates formed Nepal Village Resort (NVR) to take whole responsibility of promoting and marketing.

The unique features of Sirubari model of Village Tourism are:

- Management through participatory institution (TDMC),
- Broad based sharing of benefits,
- Visitors satisfaction

Detailed contractual arrangements were made specifying role & responsibilities between TDMC and NVR. TDMC has developed its own rules and procedure and decide about the upkeep of guest rooms, sanitation and hygiene, assignment of guest room accommodation is on rational basis, type and quality of meals and snacks as well as welcoming, sight seeing and cultural programmes.

The Main Attractions:

- Hill top (2 hrs walk uphill to view Himalayan Peaks),
- Prize winning 2500 hector covered community forest,
- Buddhist Monastery
- 146 households
- Shiva Temple
- Cultural Programme in the Tourist Building in the evening

All visitor groups are booked through Nepal Village Resort, Kathmandu office contact number 4430187. They also have a site on the world wide web (www.nepalvillage.com)

Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme (TRPAP)

Rural Tourism is one of the important feature of the ninth plan (1997-2002) has been its emphasis on the development of a Model Tourism Village in each development region. The Tenth five year plan (2002-2007) has also given continuity to the concept of Rural Tourism with its declared policy of poverty alleviation. The Tenth plan has spell out a various rural development programmes and policies to be completed within its time frame.

In tune with committed policies of Government of Nepal different INGO's such as UNDP, DFID and SNV/N have come forward with financial and technical support. In this regard a unique and Pilot Programme called Tourism for Rural Alleviation programme (TRPAP) is jointly initiated by the Nepalese Govt. together with above mentioned INGO's with the objective to address poverty alleviation through pro-poor sustainable tourism in Nepal since September 2001. From the above it can be obtained that the government and the planners have become conscious about the relative advantage of the developing the tourism sector in Nepal for including other sectors of economy while reducing regional disparities, poverty and unemployment through proper policy strategy in a dynamic framework.

As a result rural tourism development has received much attention in both current tourism policy and National plan as a means of income and employment, generation, diversification and direct effect on local economics without hiving environment, cultural and sociological adverse impact. Similarly it has given more thrust to increase in the tourist length of stay. This ultimately has linked up to bolster national proceeds in terms of foreign exchange. TRPAP is an important pilot programme which began in September 2001. It covers 48 VDC's of 6 districts.

Undoubtedly Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme (TRPAP) is the only pilot programme initiated in a large scale as to achieve sustainable tourism development in extremely rural areas of the country and to help alleviate poverty in those regions. The fact still remains that TRPAP was initiated during the country's most difficult time in term of tourism. Although it was said that the project was initiated to alleviate poverty by instituting tourism in the far and remote areas of the nation, it however could not reach its target due to the country's most difficult political situation and its adverse impact on the country's tourism. (Dangol: 2006)

However its strategic practice to create awareness in local level towards the development of tourism in remote district cannot be ignored. Again it is also, the only project in tourism, which has addressed issues like pro-women, pro poor, pro-community and pro-environment. The TRPAP model could, prove vital for the country's poverty alleviation by developing rural tourism. Therefore the phase out of the project would be unfair for the districts where it has not reached.

Conclusion

Tourism still largely concentrated in to special beach, lake, and mountain resort areas and in to major urban and cultural centers. It has proved to be a powerful engine for economic growth- transferring capital, income and employment form industrial, urban and developed areas to non-industrial, rural and less developed areas. In recent years, the rise of the independent traveler, seeking a non-resort based or rural holiday, has now added a new dimension to the travel industry. This trend towards holiday in the countryside has considerable potential as a tool for economic generation. That is one of the major reasons why government, which have rural remits, has begun to develop an interest in tourism development.

Rural tourism is a complex multi-faceted activity. It is not just farm based holidays but riding, adventure, sport, health, hunting, educational travel, art heritage and ethnic tourism.

It is difficult to quantify the growth of village tourism because few countries collect statistics, which separates purely rural from other form of tourism. In fact rural tourism is not a new concept. The rural tourism of the 1970's is, however different in several ways. It is revealed that over 70 percent of all Americans now participate in rural recreation. Likewise, many other developed countries also exhibit similar levels of participation.

The rapid environmental crisis in urban areas mostly in Kathmandu has been further widening the scope of the rural tourism outside the urban cities/areas. Nepal should therefore, develop its tourist's destinations in the potential rural areas such as to move our tourism from where it is now to where it could be. In this direction rural tourism is the only preferable option to market our tourism industry in the true sense and to our maximum advantage. Hopefully the idea will look upon favorably by the planers, policy makers and decision makers in the field.

The decision to develop rural tourism in a community, a region or a country must be address carefully. Development of rural tourism must be guided by carefully planned policy, a policy not built on balance sheet and profit and loss statements alone but on ideas and principles of human welfare and happiness. Social problems can't be solved

without strong and growing economy that rural tourism can help to create. Sound development plan and policy can have the happy result of a growing tourist business and the presentation of the natural and cultural resources that attracted the visitors in the first place.

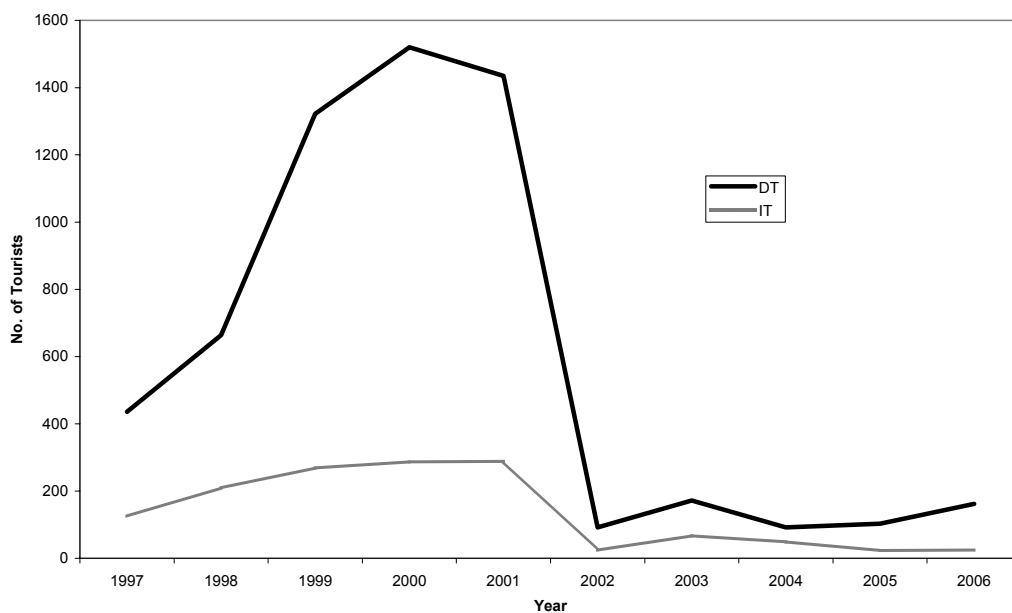
Nepal has entered a new phase in the history. The people now expect a real process of national reconstruction. Now with the advent of inclusive LokTantra (Democracy), hopefully our government will live up to it in practice and just limit it to excruciatingly agonizing speeches alone. This is correct time that our government has to become more open in their attitude, think about the happiness and welfare of all Nepalese people and country as a whole. Hopefully, proper attention will be paid towards the several natural and cultural sites that also have great tourism potential. Sincere efforts are needed to reduce visitors' concentration in Kathmandu and diverse visitors outside the valley. This is expected to bring much desired tourism benefits to locations that hold tourism benefits to locations that hold tourism potential. In order to reduce visitors' concentration in limited sites, the village in hinterland should be linked with the main trekking routes whenever possible. This can help to better spread tourism benefits.

Tourism is Nepal's oil. Without it Nepalese economy will suffer, self help is the best way. We are always told "we are landlocked, small, and very poor people". This is not the case. We might not have enough money but we have culture, customs, family values and support, and mountain environment that is probably the best in this planet but Nepal has enough potentialities which mainly come from the bio-diversity and cultural diversity in rural communities.

We have huge natural and cultural resources and people determined to make New Nepal i.e. prosperous, justice based and all inclusive, what we lack is stability, peace and charismatic leadership with vision, courage and commitment.

Given the gravity of above issue influencing the process of sustainable development of rural tourism in Nepal in particular, this discussion can perhaps be best concluded with the following piece of ancient Chinese wisdom as quoted by Prof. Amartya Sen – '... If the ruler is sincere and upright, then honest officials will serve in his government and scoundrels will go into hiding but if the ruler is not upright then evil men will have their way and loyal men will retire to seclusion'. We have an eye witness experience that competent, committed and farsighted leader can drive the nation in right direction, e.g. Mahathir Mohammed in Malaysia, Leequon in Singapore and Deng Sing Ping in China are a few examples to mention.

Flow of Tourist in Sirubari Village



Belgium	300
Japan	200
Germany	150
Others	350
Total	1000

Lodges Development in villages of Western Development Region

Until 1989-90	1993-94	After 1995	Annapurna Region		
271	432	661	1989-90	1993-94	After 1995
			191/271	321/432	489/661

Growth of Lodges in selected villages of Eastern Development Region

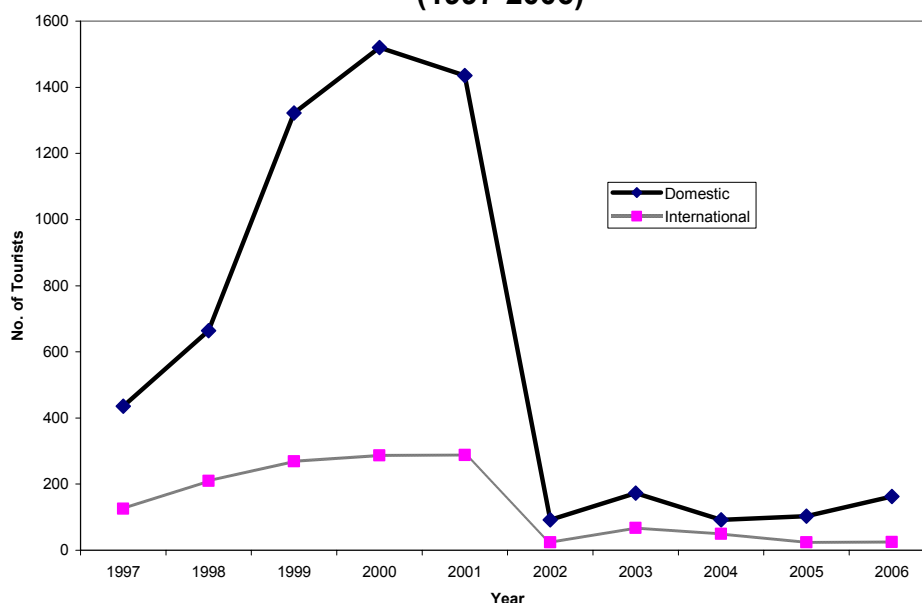
Until 1989-90	1993-94	After 1995	Everest Region		
137	248	338	86/137	161/248	220/338

Year	DT	% of GR	IT	% of GR	Total	% of GR In Total
1997	436		125		561	
1998	664	52.29	209	67.2	873	55.61
1999	1322	203.21	269	115.2	1591	183.60
2000	1520	248.62	287	129.6	1807	222.10
2001	1435	229.13	288	130.4	1723	207.13
2002	92	-78.90	24	-80.8	116	-79.32
2003	172	-60.55	67	-46.4	239	-57.40
2004	92	-78.90	49	-60.8	141	-74.87
2005	103	-76.38	23	-81.6	126	-77.54
2006	162	-62.84	25	-80	187	-66.67

GT	5998		1366		7364	
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Source: Field Survey, Shrawan 2063 BS

**Flow of Tourist in Sirubari Village
(1997-2006)**



Growth In Numbers of Tourists and Lodges in Major Trekking Routes

Year	Everest Region			Annapurna Region		
	Number of Tourists	Number of Lodges	Number of settle merits	No of Tourists	No of Lodges	No of Settlements
1980	5,836	17	12	14,300	45	29
1990	7,950	75	29	35,000	203	69
1998	22,826	225	38	65,000	518	84

Source: Nepal,2002.

Table -2

Flow of Tourist in Bandipur

S.N	Name of Resorts/home stay	year	No. of Tourists		Total
			Foreign	Domestic	
1	Bandipur Mountain Resort	2005	356	100	456
		2006	2600	1300	3900
		2007	3400	1800	5200
2	Bandipur Old Inn	2005	1150	-	1150

		2006	2000	-	2000
		2007	2275	-	2275
3	Rest House	2005	NA	NA	NA
		2006	NA	NA	NA
		2007	56	600	656
5	Raksha Lodge	2005	50	100	150
		2006	70	1500	1570
		2007	70	2500	2590
6	Pradhan Family Guests House	August to November 2007	-	-	115

Source: Bandipur Tourists information center

Presently 26 household have opened their doors for tourists. It takes one full day trekking to reach Briddim from DHQ, Dhunche. Different prices for food are charged for domestic tourist and foreign tourists.

S.N	year	No. of Tourists	Percentage Increases
1	2006	30	
2	2007	70	233.33

- Lodges develop Growth

Note: Briddim भन्दा केही माथि सुन्दर “गोदेग्याङ गाउँ” छ जहाँ चौरीको बथान हेर्न पाईन्छ । यसका साथै त्यहाँवाट केरुङ र तिब्बतको “नें गाउँ” देखिन्छ ।

- Mahabir Pun's Eco-Trek Supported by 3 sisters is a correct model of Rural Tourism in Nepal
- Panchpokhari region in Sindhupalchok district is crying for its proper attention
- List of Ph.D. Degree holders in Tourism

FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT DOMESTIC TOURISM IN NEPAL

- There is no scientific provision of keeping any proper record of domestic tourism in Nepal.

- It is 9th plan (1997-2002) that recognized the significance of DT and classified tourism into 3 major types: DT; Regional Tourism and International tourism.

(i) Motivation to travel:

Religious Motive:	21.2%
Ethnic Motive:	18.6%
Pleasure Motive:	14.8%
Business Motive:	12.5%
Other Motive:	32.9%

(ii) Barriers to travel:

Cost:	37.9%
Transport facilities:	25.9%
Lack of interest:	22.4%
Peace and security:	13.8%

(iii) Where Nepalese Travelers stay during their visit:

Hotel and lodges:	38.3%
Friends and relatives:	31.4%
Govt. guest house & quarters:	8.3%
Other:	20.0%

(iv) Per day Average Expenditure: NRS.500

Accommodation:	211
Food:	145
Sight seeing:	71
Other items:	69

(v) Average number of days traveled: 6.5 days

Source: Study of Domestic Tourism in Nepal, CEDA, T.U.

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Anexes:

Annex 1

Flow of Tourist in Sirubari Village

Year	Domestic Tourist	International Tourist	Total
1997	436	125	561
1998	664	209	873
1999	1322	269	1591
2000	1520	287	1807
2001	1435	288	1723
2002	92	24	116
2003	172	67	239
2004	92	49	141
2005	103	23	126
2006	162	25	187
Grand Total	5998	1366	7364

Source TDMC, Sirubari