

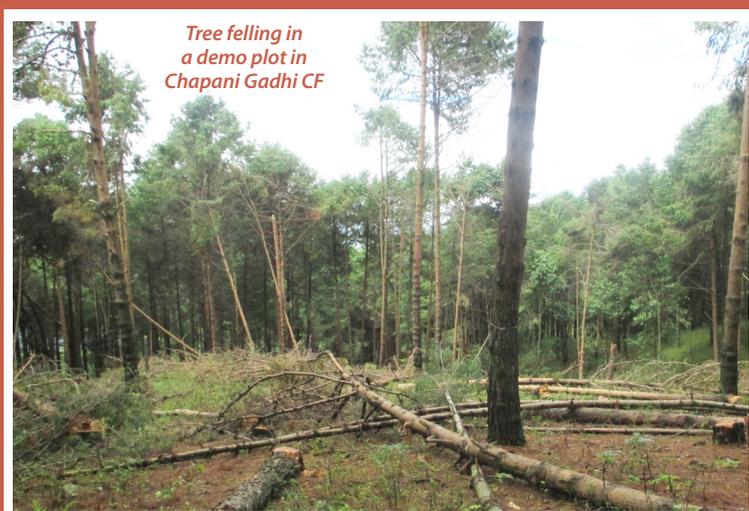
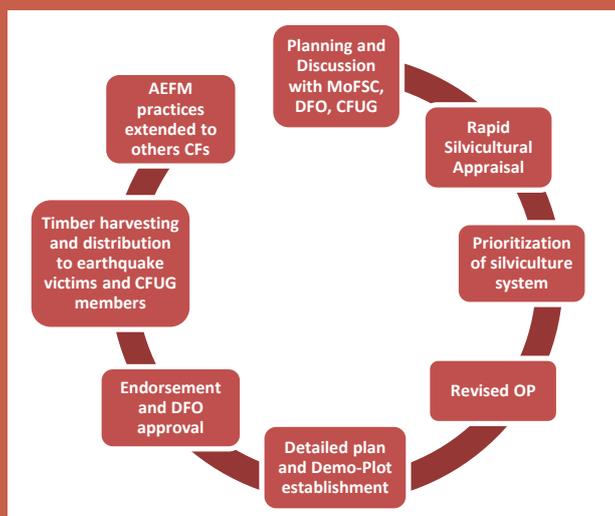
Improved Silviculture Practices through Active and Equitable Forest Management

Half of Nepal's forest has prospects for active forest management and is estimated to i) generate around 1 million full time employments and ii) generate 60-120 million cft/annum timber. Unfortunately, Nepal has been importing around 5 million cft timber due mainly to lack of proper silvicultural intervention. The policy environment and socio-institutional contexts too need some adjustments in order to benefit from silvicultural interventions in Nepal.



AEFM¹ facilitation process

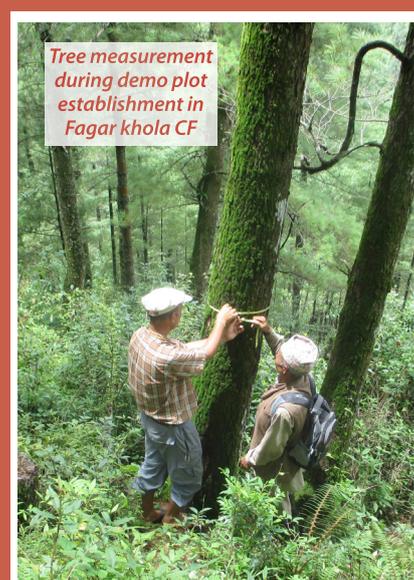
A participatory process involving various stakeholders was adopted in order to facilitate forest management interventions in the research sites. Apart from facilitating timber harvesting, the process was equally crucial in terms of supplying timber to the earthquake victims during reconstruction.



Establishment of demonstration plots

Demonstration plots (12) were established in various sites with the objective to have a better learning on the various silvicultural prescriptions. Based on the learnings, silvicultural interventions were scaled out to other sites with prospects of implementing forest management activities.

Selected CF for Silviculture	Demo Plot	Treatment
Chapani	1	Selection system for creating uneven age mixed forest
	2	Negative thinning to improve forest quality
	3	Selection system to convert Pine stand to Pine fodder forest garden
	4	Regular Shelterwood System for new forest crop
Fagarkhola	1	Planting cardamom following thinning of mixed forest
Kalapani	1	Selection system for creating uneven age Thingre salla forest
	2	Selection system for creating a Loth salla and Thingre salla forest garden
	3	Regular Shelterwood System for new forest crop
	4	Kasru fodder tree management plot
Lampata	1	Negative thinning to improve forest quality
	2	Selection system with planting of Amriso and ground cover crops
	3	Selection system to development well-stocked uneven age Sal stand



Stakeholder engagement and capacity building

EnLiFT organized series of workshops with MoFSC², DoF³, DFO⁴, FECOFUN⁵, media and political leaders to primarily discuss on forest management interventions in the research sites.

Workshop/Training

The objective of the workshops was to draw commitment and confidence of the stakeholders on the actions and interventions designed under the project. Likewise, trainings were held in various sites targeting the CFUG members on different silviculture techniques.

Training/Workshop	Where	Participants
GIS training for DFO staff	Banepa	17
Forest management	Dhulikhel	33
	Dhunkharka	36
Silviculture boot camp	Mithinkot	24
	Choubas	33
	Lampata	20
	Dhamilikuwa	32
	Nalma	34
	Khasru management boot camp	Kalapani (2 times)

¹ Active and Equitable Forest Management
² Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
³ Department of Forest
⁴ District Forest Office
⁵ Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal

Field visits of policy actors

Several visits of policy actors were organized in course of EnLiFT project. The visit became a kind of on-site policy dialogue where policy actors, researchers, practitioners, communities and their federations collectively discussed about the problems and prospects of silvicultural based forest management. One of the crucial outcomes of these visits was the realization of knowledge gap in silviculture-based management in Nepal. The need for organizing a National Silviculture Workshop was thus conceived during one of these visits.



DG and silviculture working group members visit to Chaubas, 22 April, 2017



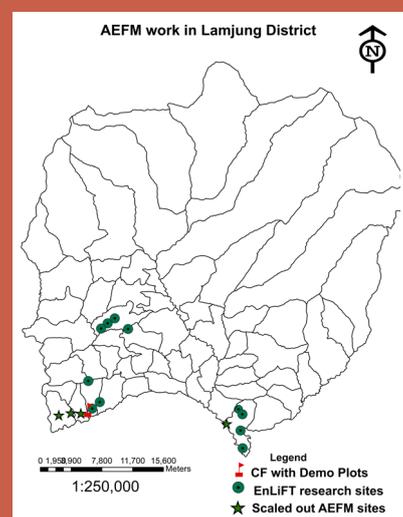
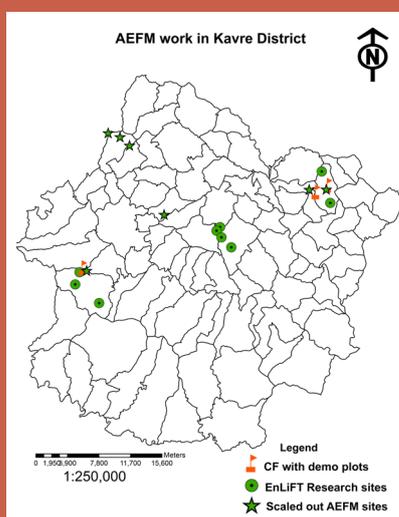
DG and forest officials visit to Dhungharka, 16 May, 2015

Date	Field visit	Participants
3, Jan, 2015	Forest official from DOF including DG, Chaubas field visit	11
16, May, 2015	Forest official from DOF including DG, Dhungharka field visit	10
22, Jan, 2016	DFO, DFSCC ⁶ members and media person, Chaubas field visit	25
19, Feb, 2016	DG, forest officials, FECOFUN members, FENFIT ⁷ members and media person, Chaubas field visit	28
22, April, 2017	DG, forest officials and silviculture working group member, Chaubas field visit	17
12, August, 2017	CF division head and forest official, Lampata field visit	5

Scaling out silviculture interventions

Following the success of silviculture management interventions in the research sites, EnLiFT team were formally approached by DFOs and adjacent CFUGs⁸ (of the research sites) to extend their support to other CFs. Apart from the core research sites (24) silviculture management interventions were carried out in additional 11 CFs in Kavre and Lamjung districts.

Name of CFUGs	Area (ha)
Gelkhola	7.42
Lakuripakha Bhulbhule	39.2
Rachhama	45.7
Hile Jaljale "ka"	118.4
Hile Jaljale "kha"	185.5
Faskot Sundar	18.25
Dhungepakha Bahal Ban	95.49
Sanepani	54.65
Jyamire	63.6
Deurali	80.73
Gaulitaar	28.14



National silviculture workshop

Idea emerged during the DG visit to Chaubas. Since then EnLiFT team organized a series of meeting with DG and Silviculture Division Head at the Department of Forest. It was later formalized by the MoFSC and a National Silviculture Workshop was held in Kathmandu during 19-21 Feb 2017. EnLiFT played important role in organizing and follow up actions.

- This was the first of its kind in Nepal, therefore drew strong enthusiasm among the policy makers, foresters, media and civil society.



⁶ District Forest Sector Coordination Committee

⁷ Federation of Forest Based Industry and Trade

⁸ Community Forest User Group

- EnLiFT contributed to the preparatory process through Advisory Committee and the Organizing committee.
- Eight out of 60 papers were presented by EnLiFT researchers during the workshop.
- EnLiFT team along with DoF personnel produced the Workshop Proceedings.
- Our team served the role of facilitators and rapporteurs.
- EnLiFT was well acknowledged by the government.

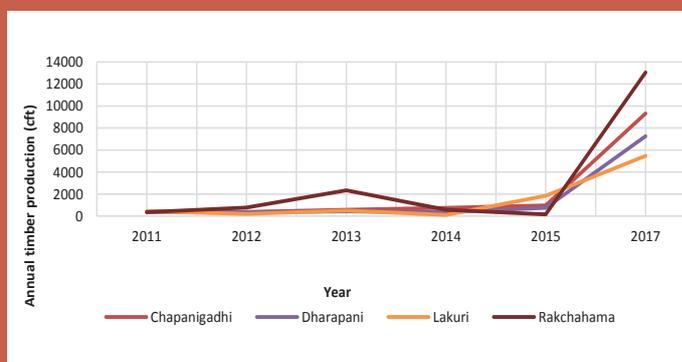


Post workshop engagements

We are contributing in follow up action as a part of the National Silviculture Working Group. Developing a guide book for the management of the Pine Plantation Forest is in progress and is led by EnLiFT researchers. The implementation of recommendations from the silviculture workshop was later discussed among the team where EnLiFT researchers have significantly contributed in operationalizing it.

Outcomes of AEFM

- Enhanced awareness on silviculture techniques among participating forest users, particularly women and marginalized groups.
- The earthquake victims benefited through supply of timber for re-construction.
- Silviculture demonstration plots were the foundation for initiating the National Silvicultural Workshop.
- Enhanced forest management ensured equitable sharing and distribution of natural resources among CFUGs.
- Transition from passive to active silviculture management leads to increased timber production, revenue and generate employment opportunities.



Voices of people

"EnLiFT training helped us developing operational plan with active silviculture. Now we will be able to carry out forest management activities with little technical support of Ilaka Forest Office."

Chandra Singh Lama,
President, Dharapani CFUGs

"The demonstration plots established in Chaubas has given us a good basis to carry out silviculture management in pine forests elsewhere."

Assistant Forest Officer, Kavre

"Next intervention in Nepal's forestry sector should be the promotion of active or scientific forest management for enhancing both the forest productivity and income of CFUGs. As a forester, I was always looking for opportunity to use my silvicultural knowledge and here I got it."

Prem Khanal, DFO, Kavre.



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