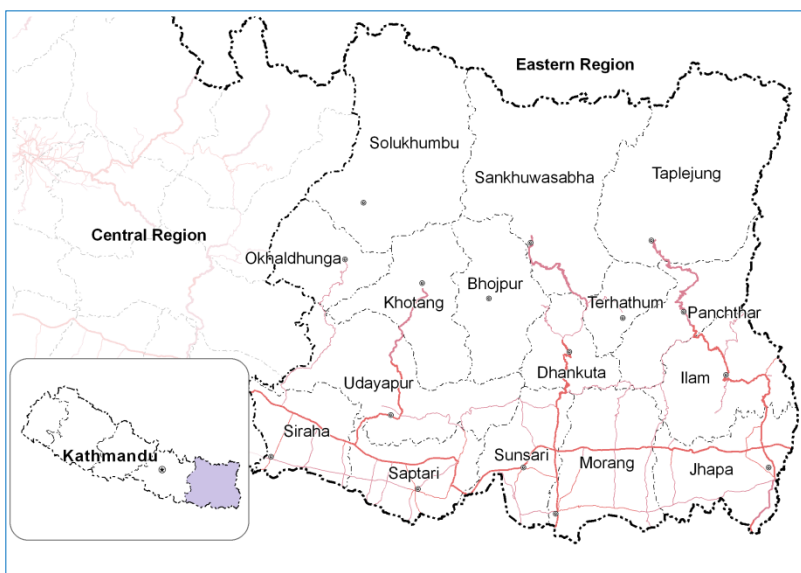


An overview of the Eastern Region of Nepal

The Eastern Region (ER) of Nepal has three eco-zones: mountains, mid hills and the Tarai that vary between an altitude of 60 m and 8,848 m. Administratively, the region is divided into three zones (Mechi, Koshi and Sagarmatha), 16 districts, 893 Village Development Committees (VDCs), 1 Sub-metropolitan city, and 13 Municipalities. The ER is home to a mosaic of ethnicities and languages as its population comprises major castes and ethnic groups - Brahman, Chhetri, Rai, Limbu, Tharu, different Madhesi groups and Dalit castes. Its population speaks Nepali, Maithili, Tharu, Tamang, Magar, Sherpa, Bantawa, Gurung, Limbu and other indigenous languages. Major religions of the region include Hinduism, Kirat, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and Prakriti (Census 2011).



Both Mount Everest (8,848 m), the highest mountain in the world, and Nepal's lowest point, Kechana Kalan (60 m) in Jhapa are located in the ER. Nepal's largest river system (the Koshi), its longest waterfall, (the Hyatrung in Tehrathum) and its biggest forest (the Charkoshe Jhadi in Sunsari) can also be found in the region. It is rich in biodiversity, with for example 28 species of Rhododendron (out of the 31 species available in Nepal) found in the Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale area.

Eastern Region at a Glance

Total Area:	28,456 sq Km
Population density:	204 per Sq Km
Total Population:	5,811,555(21.9% of total)
Male:	2,790,483
Female:	3,021,072
Total Household No:	12, 30,743
GDP per capita (PPP US\$):	1,570
Life expectancy at birth:	66.16
Child Mortality rate (Under 5):	60/1,000 live births
Human Development Index:	0.526
Human Poverty Index:	33.7
Adult literacy Rate:	53.95

Source: CBS 2011, NHDR 2009

The major agro-products of the region are paddy, maize, sugarcane, wheat, barley, millet, potato, tobacco, oil seed, vegetables, tea, cardamom and ginger. Around 550 large and medium companies are operating in the following industries: agriculture and forestry, manufacturing, mining and quarrying, electrical, vegetable oil and garments.

Human Development

The Human Development Index (HDI) for Nepal is 0.509 in 2006. However, the HDI throughout the country varies widely across the urban-rural divide, by ecological belt, and by development region. Among the development regions, the ER has the second highest HDI at 0.526. Within the different ecological zones, the hills have the highest HDI (at 0.543), while the Mountain and Tarai zones have equal indexes (at 0.519). The Global Empowerment Measure (GEM) varies from 0.483 in the Eastern Tarai to a high of 0.538 in the Eastern Mountains. The Human Poverty Index (HPI) value for Nepal as a whole is estimated at 35.4 but in the ER, human poverty is higher in the Mountains (37.6) and lower in the Tarai (33.8).

Table 1: Human Development Index (HDI) - 2006

Development Index	Nepal	ER	E Mountain	E Hill	E Tarai
Human Development Index (HDI)	0.509	0.526	0.519	0.543	0.519
Gender Development Index (GDI)	0.499	0.516	0.514	0.534	0.508
Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM)	0.496	0.516	0.538	0.529	0.483
Female representation in CA (%) - 2008	32.40	30.30	9.10	37.50	29.80
Human Poverty Index (HPI)	35.40	33.7	37.6	34.3	33.8
Poverty incidence (poverty head count rate (%) - 2003/04)	30.80	29.30	-	-	-

Source: Nepal Human Development Report, 2009

Table 2: Values of the Human Development Index and other related indices, 2006 (Source: NHDR 2009)

Region	HDI	Life expectancy at birth	Adult literacy 15+yrs	Mean years of schooling	GDP per capita (PPP US\$)	Life expectancy index	Educational attainment index	GDP index	Ratio to national HDI
Nepal	0.509	63.69	52.42	3.21	1597	0.645	0.421	0.4624	100.0
ER	0.526	66.16	53.95	3.21	1570	0.686	0.431	0.4596	103.2
E. Mountain	0.519	65.42	55.29	3.06	1441	0.674	0.437	0.4453	101.8
E. Hills	0.543	69.33	57.16	3.42	1344	0.739	0.457	0.4336	106.6
E. Tarai	0.519	64.87	52.46	3.14	1696	0.664	0.420	0.4725	101.9

Geographical Challenges and Natural Disasters

Dhankuta is the regional headquarters of the ER. However, most regional level services are available in Biratnagar. All district headquarters are connected by road and six remote districts have air services. Nonetheless, geographical isolation and the lack of bridges at most of the river crossings are major accessibility challenges. The climate of the region varies from Alpine to cool temperatures in the high hills and from tropical to sub-tropical in the lowlands. The region is regarded as having a diverse landscape, ecology and bio-diversity.

Deaths and other losses due to disasters in ER: (1971-2011)

- 6,228 deaths; 539 missing; 15,229 injuries; 12,67,761 affected;
- 92,411 houses destroyed; 82,916 houses damaged;
- 6,623 people evacuated;
- Damages in crops: 2,33,435.86 ha.;
- lost cattle: 53,397;
- Total Losses NRs. 9,05,91,90,881:
- Damages in roads(Mts): 2,09,900

Source: Nepal DesInventar Database 2013

The ER is one of the 'hot-spots' for natural disasters in Nepal, of which floods and landslides are the most recurrent. In August 2008, the Koshi

River broke through its embankment and flooded several villages in Sunsari district resulting in the displacement of approximately 42,800 people (7,563 households) on the Nepali side (India also suffered extensive losses and damages). The ER is also vulnerable to severe thunderstorms, cold waves, drought, food shortages (mostly in the hills and mountains), disease epidemics, accidental fires and earthquakes. The city of Dharan, in Sunsari district, is located in the most earthquake prone area of the ER.

Conflict Dynamics

The armed conflict in Nepal, which lasted ten years from 1996 until 2006, saw widespread violence, torture, disappearances, displacements and a general anticipation of terror. During the decade long conflict, more than 1,991 individuals were killed, of which approximately 8% were women and more than 3% children (INSEC report 2007). Political activists, agricultural workers and police personnel were the major victim groups. In addition, 3,979 people in the region had been displaced by the end of 2004 (NHDR 2009).

In the ER, civil unrest continues today through the presence of armed and identity-based groups. Since early 2007, the emergence of political movements and armed groups, especially in the Eastern hill and Central Tarai districts, has considerably disrupted normal social and economic activities and has also caused displacement. Self determination campaigns, strikes and the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) continue. Madhesi and ethnic armed groups have proliferated in the lowlands and hills of the ER. In addition, the varied interpretations and understandings among Indigenous Peoples (IPs) of ILO Convention 169 have served as a source of some of the current conflicts in the region¹.

Health and Sanitation Statistics in ER (2009/10)

- 1 Zonal hospital, 18 district hospitals, 48 PHC, 145 HP, 721 SHP, 10,590 FCHVs.
- 54 Ayurvedic health facilities, 1,833 Pharmacies/clinics, Private hospital/medical College: 68.
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR): 45/1,000 live births (NMDG progress report 2010).
- Under 5 mortality rate (U5MR): 60/1,000 live births (NMDG progress report 2010).
- Neonatal mortality rate: 30, Post neonatal mortality: 17, Infant mortality: 47 Child mortality: 8 (NDHS 2011).
- Underweight children (U5)-2006: 32.5% (NHDR, 2009).
- % of pregnant women receiving antenatal care from a skilled birth attendant (SBA): 60.7 (NDHS 2011).
- % of delivery of live births in: health facility- 39.6; home - 59.3; private sector-8.8; non government sector- 6.0; government sector- 24.8; others - 1.1 ((NDHS 2011).
- % of children receiving all basic vaccines: 87.7. Not immunized: 1.6 (NDHS 2011).
- % of the population with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: men- 26.8, women -20.3 (NDHS 2011).
- % of Households with toilet facilities: 52.3 (MDG progress report 2010).
- % of the population without access to safe drinking water: 17.72 (Mountain - 46.26, Hill - 37.13, Tarai - 5.47) – NHDR 2009.

Source: CBS 2009, Nepal district health profile 2007

¹ INSEC- Nepal Human Rights Yearbook 2009 & 2010, and Nepal's Political Rites of Passage, Crisis Group Asia Report N°194, 29 September 2010)

Health and Sanitation

In the ER, basic primary health services are provided by 19 Hospitals, 48 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 145 Health Posts (HPs), and 721 Sub-Health Posts (SHPs)². Moreover, some international organizations, NGOs and private organizations also provide health care services in the region. According to the CBS-Nepal living standard survey for 2003/04, the self reported adequacy of government health facilities in ER is rated as 14.6 % 'good', 66.4% 'fair' and 19% 'bad'. According to the Nepal MDG Progress Report for 2010 and the Nepal Demographic Health Survey for 2011, progress on the MDG indicators point to the possibility of achieving the health related targets in the region (MDG 4: reduce child mortality; MDG 5: improve maternal health; and MDG 6: combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases) by 2015.

Despite some vacant posts and the occasional absences of staff, most health post/sub health posts are functioning at the VDC level. Basic services and vaccination programmes are regularly carried out on time. However, the quality of service delivery is low, and although centrally supplied medicines and essential drugs are normally available in the urban and Tarai health institutions, there is a often a lack of infrastructure and equipment in many health facilities in the hills and mountains.

Remote villages and districts also experience higher absenteeism amongst trained health personnel than do urban areas.

The average sanitation coverage in Eastern Region is 52.3 %, with the remote hill district of Khotang having the lowest at 18.14%, and Ilam District the highest at 67.97 %. The national sanitation coverage is 43%.

Education

According to Flash-II Report 2011/12, there are 6,366 community (7383 including institutional schools) schools in the ER, in which a total of 16,76,144 students are enrolled. The Student-to-School ratio is 226.9 and the Student-to-Teacher ratio is 28 at primary level, 41 at lower secondary level, 28 secondary level and 33 at higher than secondary level. The literacy rate in the ER is 61.9% for the population above 6 years and 56.9% for the population above 15 years (NLSS 2011). However, there is a considerable gap (21.6% for 6+ years and 26.7% for 15+ years) in the literacy rate between males and females, and there are substantial inequalities in literacy rates across different social groups (MOHP et al. 2007; UNDP 2009, Flash II Report 2011-012, NLSS 2011). Literacy data for various social groups reveal substantial

Education Statistics in ER (2009/10-2066)

- Government schools: 6,713 units, ECD/PPCs: 6,506.
- Community schools: school 6366, ECD/PPCs: 6720.
- Institutional schools: school: 1017, ECD/PPCs: 869.
- School student ratio: 226.9(P-136.7, LS-140.7, S-121.8, HS-128.9)
- Student teacher ratio: P-28, LS-41, S-28, HS-33.
- Girl enrolment rate: P- 507407, LS- 207733, S- 97207, HS- 49570.
- % of new enrolments in Grade 1 with ECD/PPC experience: 59.8(60.9 girls, 58.6 boys).
- Gross enrolment rate (GER) in Grade 1: 133.9 (139.2 girls, 129.0 boys).
- Net enrolment rate (NER) in Grade 1: 92.1 (91.8 girls, 92.4 boys).

Source: Flash – I Report 2011, MoE, CBS-2009

disparities among Hill and Tarai Dalits, Madhesi Brahmins and Madhesi Dalits and advanced and marginalized Janajati groups (NHDR, UNDP 2009). The net enrolment rate (NER) in Grade 1 is 92.1(91.8

² Nepal Demographic Health Survey (NDHS) Report, 2006

girls, 92.4 boys). Although there has been a gradual closing of the gender gap in NER at the primary level, the gender gap is particularly high in the Tarai (5.1% in 2008) compared to the Hills and Mountains (DOE, 2008). The NER of Dalits at the primary level is 17.3, whereas it is 45.4 for the Janajati groups. In order to remove physical barriers to access, the government has adopted policies to establish more schools and upgrade existing schools. As a result, since 2005, the number of registered primary schools had increased by 15% and the number of primary students by nine percent. The government has also implemented policies to mainstream religious educational institutions such as Gompa and Madarasha. As a result, some new schools were established in 2009 (DOE, 2009).

In the ER, the BP Koirala Institute of Health Science (BPKIHS) in Dharan, is providing health services and teaching medicine up to university level (Bachelor-MBBS, BDS, B.Sc. Nursing, BMIT, BMLT and Master-MD/MS, MSc, MPH). Similarly, Purwanchal University also provides university level (Bachelor and Master) education in arts, management, education, law, medical science, science and technology.

Table-3: Literacy Rate by Sex, NLSS 2010-011

Area	Population 6+years			Population 15+years		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Nepal	72.2	51.4	60.9	71.6	44.5	56.5
ER	73.8	52.2	61.9	72.9	44.3	56.9

Table-4: Net Enrolment Rate of Dalit and Janajati in the ER (Flash I Report 2011-012)

Ethnic group	Primary			Lower Secondary			Secondary			Higher Secondary		
	Girl	Boy	Total	Girl	Boy	Total	Girl	Boy	Total	Girl	Boy	Total
Dalit	9840 8	95 95 6	1943 64	27349	269 18	54267	875 2	9082	1783 4	267 7	2578	5255
Janajati	2271 82	216 874	4440 56	10472 2	936 56	19837 8	498 90	4317 3	9306 3	211 95	1588 8	3708 3

Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition

Nepal is predominantly an agricultural country, where the agricultural sector contributes 33% of Nepal's GDP (World Bank 2010) and employs two-thirds of the work force. Despite the potential for commercial production of High Value Crops (HVCs) such as vegetables, fruits, tea and spices in the ER, subsistence



Photo-2: Various fruits found in ER
(Source: Internet)

farming continues to dominate over commercial farming. The Tarai districts are the main producers of food grains in the ER, with the Hill and Mountain districts suffering food deficits and being more vulnerable to winter droughts. In the ER, the total area of agricultural land is 31.1% (of which



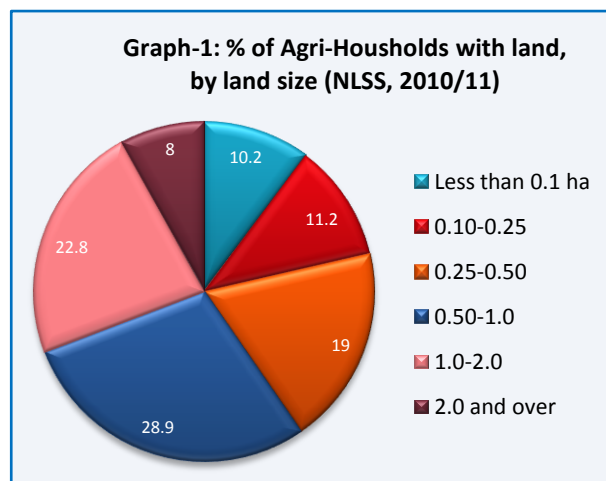
Photo-1: Tea Garden, Ilam
(Tea and coffee Development Board, Nepal)



Photo-3: Cardamom farm (LFP)

57.9 % is irrigated). A total of 79.9 % of households in the region are reliant on agriculture for their living. Among them, 8 % hold 2 and over hectares of agricultural land and 10.2 % hold less than 0.1 hectare. 47% of families are not fully food secure throughout the year³.

Tea, cardamom, off-season vegetables, fruits (citrus, mango, banana etc) and spices are the main HVCs of the ER. The total area under tea plantation is estimated to be 15,753 hectares (in 2007) most of which are located in Jhapa, Ilam, Panchthar, Dhankuta and Tehrathum districts, with an annual production volume of 16,116,673 kgs. There are 134 Tea Gardens, 40 Tea Processing Units and 7,825 small scale tea farmers in the ER which provide direct employment to 40,000 people. The climatic



conditions are suitable for orthodox tea production in the hill districts and CTC (Crush-Tear-Curl) in the Tarai districts and Nepal has also initiated production of export quality Green Tea⁴. Nepal is the largest producer of cardamom in the world and accounts for two-thirds of the global output⁵ and the ER is the main area for cardamom production in the country. However, the spread of diseases (locally known as *furkhe* and *chirke*) has infested 60-70% of cardamom farms in the ER. Consequently, cardamom production has been decreasing 20-30% annually, which has inflated prices by about 250 percent over the past two years.

Agricultural Statistics in the ER (2009/10)

- Agricultural HHs: 79.9%
- Agricultural HHs with land: 75.3%
- Area of agricultural land (%):31.1
- % of agricultural land irrigated: 57.9 (322345.57 Ha)
- Food security status (%):
 - Food secure: 55.9;
 - Mildly food insecure: 11.1
 - Moderately food insecure: 19.0
 - Severally food insecure: 13.9

Source: NLSS, 2010/11, NDHS, 2011

The Eastern Hills have the highest rate of child undernourishment in the ER at approximately 10% compared to the Eastern Mountains at around 7% and the Eastern Tarai at nearly 6%. The national average is approximately 7%⁶.

Employment and Migration

Due to stagnation in the overall economy, load shedding and the activities of armed groups, local employment opportunities have declined in recent years in the ER. Agriculture still provides employment to the majority of self employed people in the region. Hill districts like Ilam, Panchthar, Dhankuta, Taplejung and Sankhuwasabha are famous for cultivating cash crops such as tea, cardamom, ginger, oranges and vegetables and those sectors provide formal and informal employment opportunities to people in those districts. Rapidly growing settlements and construction business particularly along the

³ Nepal Living Standard Survey (NLSS) Report, 2004

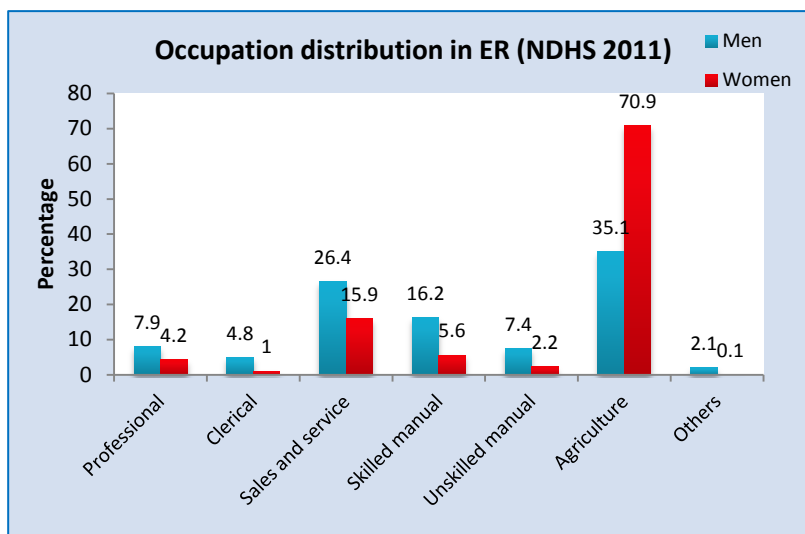
⁴ Website of the National Tea and coffee Development Board, Nepal <http://www.teacoffee.gov.np/>

⁵ SNV Nepal (<http://www.snvworld.org/en/countries/nepal/Pages/default.aspx>) and <http://www.intracen.org/atf/nepal/LargeCardamom.htm>

⁶ WFP Food Security Atlas 2010

East-Western highway and in urban and semi urban centres also provide job opportunities to both skilled and unskilled labour.

The Ithari-Biratnagar corridor which has almost 500 small to big manufacturing industries also provides a significant number of jobs to people residing in nearby districts, particularly in Morang and Sunsari. Due to the flow of remittance money, employment opportunities for construction workers have also increased in rural areas of the Tarai. However, districts like Khotang, upper Udaypur and remote pockets of the hill districts do not offer much local employment opportunities. Employment opportunities in the agricultural sector in the Tarai districts like Saptari and Siraha are also limited due to the low return on agriculture in those districts.



Employment and migration in ER

- Household income: 48,482 (median) and 68,310 (mean)
- Per capita income: 9,288 (median) and 13,000 (mean)
- Employment sources: Wage-28%; Self employed-50%; Other-23%
- Distribution of migrant population by origin of migration (%) :
Urban: 5.5 Rural: 81.7 External: 12.8
- Percentage of migrant population by sex: Male: 22.8 Female: 52.8
Total: 39.3

Source: CBS, Nepal Living Standard Survey (2011)

Migration from Tarai districts for foreign employment is high. Five Tarai districts in the region are among the top ten districts which send the highest number of migrant workers abroad. Migration from hill districts to urban and semi urban centers

along the East-Western highway is also on the increase due to better living conditions compared to rural areas in the hills.

Forestry and NTFPS

In Nepal, the concept of community forestry emerged in the mid-1970s as an innovative and future oriented approach towards participatory forest management by local communities. Community forestry in



Photo-4: Allo cloth weaving (LFP)

Nepal involves management and the user rights of forests by local user groups. Access to forests is important because they are central to general farming systems, and more than 76.3 % of Nepal's population are dependent on agriculture (NLSS 2010/2011). Forests play a critical role in the agro-ecological cycle of cropping patterns, animal husbandry and other forest products that sustain agricultural production.

In mid-2010 mass deforestation was reported across the Tarai districts of the ER challenging the sustainability of forest management. The management of Non-Timber Forest

Products (NTFPs) is crucial to support livelihoods in Nepal as they present opportunities. Nepal has more than 700 medicinal plants and 165 NTFPs are currently collected for commercial purposes. However, approximately 10-20,000 metric tons are collected and sold without being processed, mostly across the border in India. Nevertheless the government collects nearly NPR 45 million as revenue from NTFPs annually⁷. In the mountains and high hills of the ER, there is a great potential for NTFPs to promote self-reliance among the community forestry user groups by helping them capitalize on natural resources to meet their own needs for livelihood creation, while ensuring that they manage their resources in a sustainable manner.



Photo-6: Lokta Paper (<http://www.nepalpaper.com>)

Farming of Chiraito and other Jadibuti (medicinal) plants can be found in the hill districts of the ER and industries producing handmade paper made from the Lokta plant have been established in Taplejung, Tehrathum, Sankhuwasabha and Bhojpur districts. Lokta paper is unique in many ways. It can be preserved for a long time and is non-perishable in water, free from germs and highly resistant to insects like silverfish and paper crawlers. The Government of Nepal uses Lokta paper in its offices. In the Northern parts of Sankhuwasabha district there are some Allo (Himalayan giant stinging nettle) clothes cottage industries which make for example coats, shirts, shawls and



Photo-5: Nursery of banana (Source: Internet)

bags from the nettle fibre using indigenous handicraft techniques.

Nettles have become a valuable commodity for the villagers and there is an increasing international demand for this type of clothes fibre⁸. Capacity development for the cultivation of NTFPs, establishment of nurseries and forest based enterprises and cooperative promotion could positively impact livelihood opportunities the ER. The creation of demonstration plots, nursery management and trade shows and exhibitions would also make a difference in the ER.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Status

Nepal is home to a vast array of multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-religious communities. Caste and ethnicity are the basic elements of the social mosaic of Nepal. In recent years, the demand for data and indices by caste and ethnicity has risen because of the increase in identity politics, along with the need for disaggregated planning data. The national census 2011 listed 125 caste and ethnic groups.

Socially excluded groups refer to women, Dalits, Janajatis, Madheshi, Muslims and other minority groups. Gender refers to the socially constructed roles and identities of men and women, as well as the relationships between them. In Nepal, women face unequal power relations and gender-based barriers due to a patriarchal social structure. The major gender issues in the ER are restricted movement of women, torture related to dowry, alleged witchcraft, child and early marriages, domestic violence and barring from education as well as certain economic activities.



Photo-7: Tajpuria People (NCARD)

⁷ Federation of Community Forestry User's Groups in Nepal - www.fecofun.org

⁸ <http://www.nepalpaper.com/1000883.html>

Nepal has made some achievements in human development by improving health and education indicators. According to the Nepal Human Development Report 2009, of the seven main caste and ethnic groups, the



Photo-8: A Dalit family collecting coal (LFP)

HDI of all Brahman and Chhetri ranks third (0.552) after the Newar (0.616), and other caste and ethnic groups (0.559). The HDI of the Janajatis falls somewhere in between (0.494), with the lowest value being that of Muslims (0.401), followed by all Dalits (0.424). However, across these seven castes and ethnic groups, wide variations emerge when they are disaggregated by region. Of the 11 groups viewed regionally, the Tarai Madhesi Brahman and Chhetri have the highest level of HDI, followed by the Newar, most of who live in urban areas. By contrast, the Tarai/Madhesi Dalits have the lowest level of HDI (0.383), followed by Muslims (0.401)

and all Dalits (0.424). According to the Poverty in Nepal 2010/2011 report of the Central Bureau of Statistics, some groups experienced greater declines in poverty (with current rates among Newars of 10.25% and Hill Brahman 10.34, Tarai Brahman 18.61 and Chhetri of 23.40%) than socially excluded groups (with current rates among Hill Dalits 43.63% , Tarai Dalits of 38.16 % , Muslims 20.18 % , hill Janajati 28.25% and Tarai Janajati 25.93%). No region wide disaggregated data is available.

Other social development indicators reveal the unequal development for women of different groups. According to the Asian Development Bank's Overview of GESI in Nepal, 2010, Dalit women from the Tarai belt have the lowest literacy rate at 17%, compared to the national female average of 55% and national male average of 81%. The gender gap in literacy is highest among the Madhesi 'other caste groups', with men three times as likely to be literate as women (72% versus 24%). In 2006 the adult literacy rate was 52% (Male 69.3% and female 38.2%), but with of a range from seven percent for Musahar to 76% for Hill Brahman. In the ER, the male adult literacy rate is 72%, whereas the female rate is 45%. The total NER is 86%, with 17% for Dalits and 45% for Janajatis⁹.

Vulnerable and Endangered Ethnic Groups

One of the main Janajati groups, the Rais, live in the Solukhumbu, Okhaldhunga, Khotang, Bhojpur and Udaypur districts, while the Limbus inhabit the Sankhuwasabha, Tehrathum, Dhankuta, Taplejung, Panchthar and Ilam districts. There are 29 linguistic groups within Rai in the ER. Gurung, Tamang and Magar groups are found in the hill districts of Okhaldhunga, Sankhuwasabha and Taplejung whilst the Tharus are mostly found in the Udayapur district and the Bhujels scattered across the Eastern hills.

The Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) has categorized 59 indigenous nationalities which are categorised by the National Foundation for Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN) into five categories: endangered, highly marginalized, marginalized, disadvantaged and advanced groups.

The vulnerable and minority ethnic groups inhabiting the ER are shown in Table 5 below. The table shows that Jhapa, Morang and Sankhuwasabha districts have a majority of the ethnic groups in the ER.

Table 5: List of minority and excluded/marginalized ethnic groups in the ER, CBS 2011

S.N.	Ethnic group	Location	Population	Level of marginalization	Recognition status
1	Meche (Bodo)	Jhapa	4,513	Endangered	Listed
2	Lepcha	Ilam, Dhankuta	3,236	Endangered	Listed

⁹ Ministry of Education (MoE) Flash – I Report, and CBS-2009

S.N.	Ethnic group	Location	Population	Level of marginalization	Recognition status
3	Gangai	Jhapa, Morang	36,590	Marginalized	Listed
4	Kisan	Jhapa	1,056	Endangered	Listed
5	Jhangad (Urawa)	Sunsari, Morang	33,333	Marginalized	Listed
6	Sherpa	Solukhumbu, Taplejung	64,237	Excluded	Listed
7	Lhomi (Shingsaba)	Sankhuwasabha	1,068	Marginalized	Listed
8	Tajpuria	Jhapa and Morang	18,839	Marginalized	Listed
9	Tokpegola (Dhokpya)	Taplejung	1,472	Marginalized	Listed
10	Dhanuk (Rajbanshi)	Saptari, Siraha	91,955	Marginalized	Listed
11	Koch*	Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari	1,302	Marginalized	Unlisted/unidentified
12	Walung	Taplejung	1,209	Marginalized	Listed
13	Dhimal	Jhapa, Morang	25,074	Marginalized	Listed
14	Satar (Santhal)	Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari	50,510	Marginalized	Listed
15	Jogi*	Tehrathum, Taplejung, Sankhuwasabha, Jhapa	Not enumerated - Minority	Excluded	Unlisted/unidentified
16	Sunuwar	Okhaldhunga	24,514	Marginalized	Listed
17	Yakkha	Sankhuwasabha, Dhankuta	18,046	Excluded	Listed
18	Kumal	Sankhuwasabha	9,211	Marginalized	Listed
19	Majhi	Udayapur, Dhankuta, Okhaldhunga	27,940	Excluded	Listed
20	Aathpahariya*	Dhankuta	5,940	Marginalized	Unlisted/unidentified
21	Kulung*	Dhankuta, Morang, Sunsari	28,282	Excluded	Unlisted/unidentified
22	Yamphu*	Sankhuwasabha	6,869	Excluded	Unlisted/unidentified
23	Kewat*	Jhapa, Morang	44,758	Marginalized	Unlisted/unidentified
24	Kewarat*	Jhapa, Morang	Minority	Marginalized	Unlisted/unidentified
25	Kurmi*	Saptari, Siraha, Morang	8,384	Marginalized	Unlisted/unidentified

Source: Websites of Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) - <http://www.nefin.org.np/>, National Coalition against Racial Discrimination (NCARD) - <http://www.ncard.org.np/>; <http://www.himalkhabar.com/hkp/news.php?id=3279> - High level task force list, National Foundation for Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN).

* Unlisted ethnic minorities groups. They are demanding to be enlisted in the list of Indigenous Nationalities, they were recommended for enlistment by High level task Force: <http://www.himalkhabar.com/hkp/news.php?id=3279>

Scheduled Castes of Dalit

Table 6: List of Dalit groups (National Dalit Commission, Nepal) present in Nepal including the ER

Hill Dalit	Tarai Dalit
Gandharba (Gaine), Pariyar (Damai, Dargee, Suchikar, Nagarchee, Dholee, Hudke), Badi, Bishwokarma (Kami, Lohar, Sunar, Od, Chunanra, Parki, Tamata), and Sarki (Mijar, Charmakar, Bhoole)	Kalar, Kakaihiya, Kori, Khatik, Khatwe (Mandal, Khang), Chamar (Ram, Mochi, Harijan, Ravidas), Chidimar, Dom (Marik), Tatma (Tanti, Das), Dushadh (Paswan, Hajara), Dhobi (Rajak), Pattharkatta, Pasi, Bantar, Musahar, Mestar (Halkhor) and Sarbhang (Sarbariya).

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