



Monitoring & Evaluation of FGs and Coops

Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Administration

Report, 2023

1. Introduction

The nationwide Monitoring of Farmers Groups and Co-operatives was conducted in Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag with the aim to identify performing FGs/Coops. Additionally, the goal was to strengthen them further through necessary interventions, revitalize those with the potential to perform, and dissolve inactive FGs/Coops.

A total of 53 registered FGs/Coops were monitored and evaluated from the 11 gewogs. The Economic Development Sector carried out the M&E from May 30, 2023, to June 9, 2023.

2. Numbers of FGs/Coops

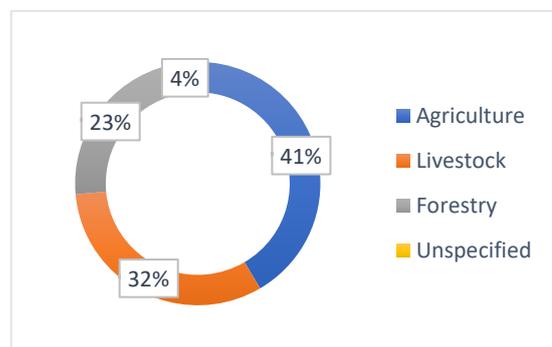
In the Dzongkhag, there are 6 registered cooperatives and 47 farmers' groups. However, there are numerous unregistered, informal FGs across eleven Gewogs.

SN	Item	Number
1	Coops	6
2	FGs	47
	Total	53

3. Sector wise representation

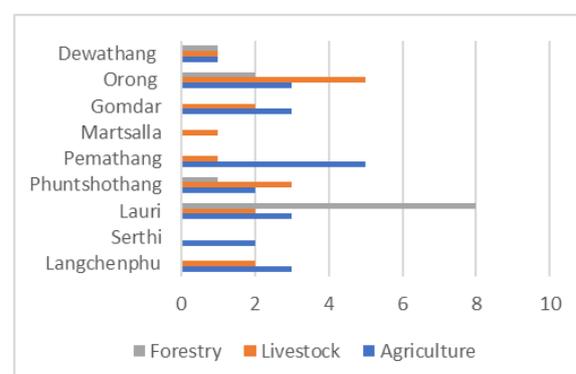
The majority of FGs are in the Agriculture Sector, followed by Livestock and then Forestry, with 41% in agriculture, 32% in livestock, and 18% in forestry. However, approximately 4% of the groups are

unspecified and do not fall under any of these sectors.



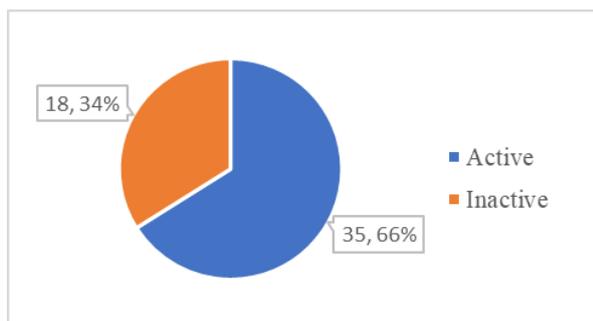
4. Gewog wise representation

Out of the 53 FGs/Coops, the majority of FGs are in Lauri, dominated by the forestry sector. The second-highest number of FGs is in Orong, dominated by the livestock sector. The lowest number of FGs is at Martsalla, with only one FG. Additionally, there are gewogs like Wangphu and Samrang that do not have registered FGs.



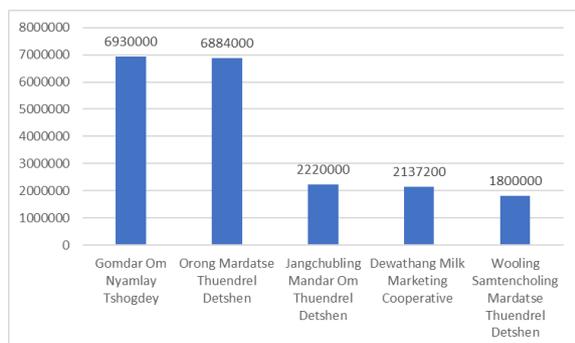
5. Active and Inactive FGs/Coops

According to the M&E findings, there are 35 active and 18 inactive FGs/coops, accounting for 66% and 34% respectively in terms of percentages.



6. The top 5 performing FGs/coops based on their annual net income.

Based on the annual net income of FGs/Coops, Gomdar Om Namlay Tshogdey emerges as the best-performing FG in the Dzongkhag with a net income of Nu. 6.9 million. It is closely followed by Orong Mardatse Thuendrel Detsen with a net income of Nu. 6.8 million. These groups have successfully upgraded from FGs to Cooperatives, indicating their successful functioning.



7. The bottom 5 non-performing FGs/Coops based on their annual net income.

On the other hand, in the low-performing category, Mayphu Shekpa shing Community Forest Management

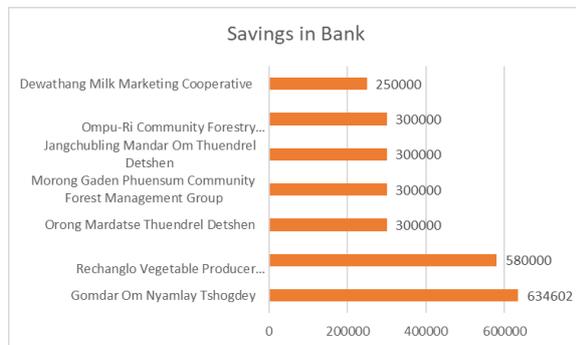
Group (Orong) ranks with a low annual net income of Nu. 10,000. It is closely followed by Argothang Sanam Yarphel Detsuen (Gomdar Gewog) with an annual income of Nu. 30,500.



8. The top 5 FGs/Coops with better Bank Savings.

Gomdar Om Nyamlay Tshogdey has the highest savings with Nu. 634,602, closely followed by the Rechanglo Vegetable Producer and Marketing Group (Gomdar Gewog). The bank savings come from the annual membership fees, annual sale contributions, and one-time member fees. Additionally, the bank savings accumulate from the interest earned on the amounts lent to group members. However, they do not have a clear direction regarding the use of the bank savings, despite clearly mentioning in the bylaws how and where they should be used. Nonetheless, they are found using the funds for uneconomical activities such as building Lhakhangs, constructing members' houses, and performing community rituals. But there are a few FGs/Coops that use the funds for economic activities, such as purchasing

marketing vans, contributing to the construction of MCC units, and cost-sharing the purchase of machinery, ultimately leading to increased production.



9. M&E Findings

- Lack of clarity about the purpose of the group.
- Absence of inventory management.
- Lack of group cohesion and dynamism.
- Formation for eligibility purposes rather than genuine interest.
- Non-adherence to their by-laws.
- Weak management and operational systems.
- Insufficient capacity-building and training.
- Internal conflicts and lack of trust.
- Poor leadership and governance.
- FGs do not know what to do with their saving. Hence, they are found investing in uneconomical activities.

10. Recommendations

- Enhance clarity of purpose.

- Promote inventory management
- Strengthen group cohesion and dynamism.
- Foster genuine interest and commitment.
- Strengthen adherence to by-laws.
- Invest in capacity-building and training.
- Promote trust and address conflicts.
- Strengthen leadership and governance.
- Encourage proper utilization of savings.

11. Conclusion

Overall, the nationwide monitoring of farmer groups and cooperatives in Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag provided valuable insights into their performance, strengths, and areas for improvement. The process aimed to promote the growth and sustainability of these groups by addressing their specific needs and fostering a conducive environment for their development.