



SMALLHOLDER LANDSCAPES

Understanding Land Use Practices and Dynamics of Change

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LANDSCAPE RESEARCH in the field of Rural Development

PECA: Understanding landscape changes

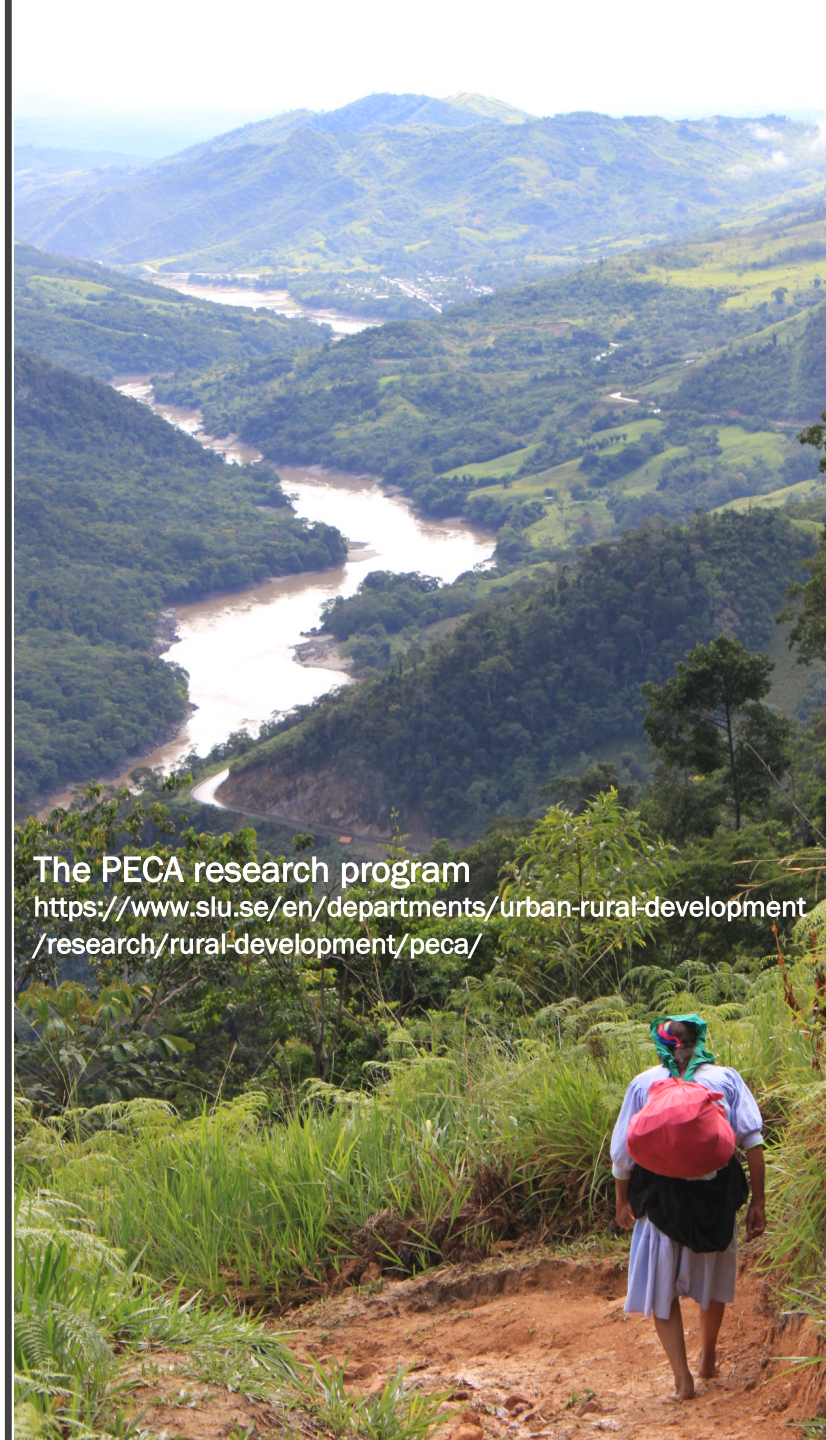
- The changing role of agriculture and forests in rural livelihoods
- *How* do agrarian change and forest transition happens in practice?
- The role of state and international programs/interventions in shaping future land uses
- Increasing mobility and limited rural labour
- Local risk management strategies in a changing climate
- Smallholder motivations for long term land investments

Point of entry: understanding local land uses

- The multi-functionality of local landscapes
- Integrated land uses
- What are seen as (non) legible land uses? And by whom?
- Who lives where and use what in the landscape? Social relationships and power dynamics

Developing research designs

that capture social differentiated land uses in relation to geographical variability within a landscape



The PECA research program

<https://www.slu.se/en/departments/urban-rural-development/research/rural-development/peca/>

NEPAL – UNDERSTANDING LAND USE PRACTICE



Community forestry

International labour migration

Climate change

Bajho jagga - land abandonment



1. In a first step we do group interviews with village leaders where we explore village history

THE PATCHES APPROACH



Group interviews on:
local history, village characteristics
and livelihood and land use changes

Transect walk



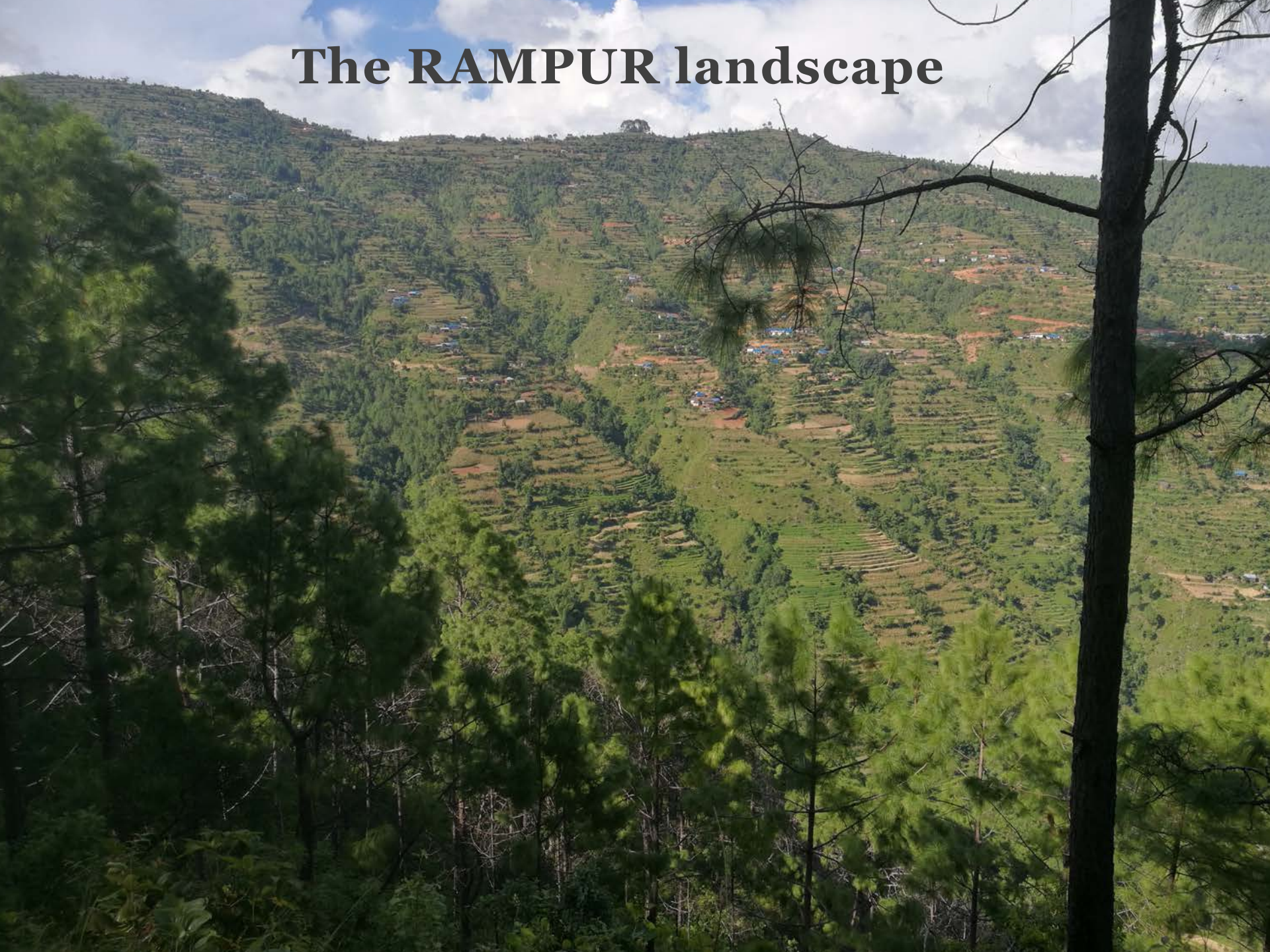


Group discussions on land use and scoring exercises with different social groups

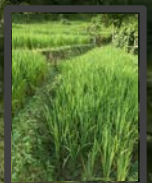
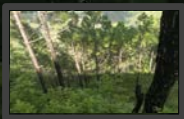
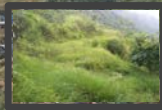


Semi-structured household interviews

The RAMPUR landscape



The RAMPUR landscape



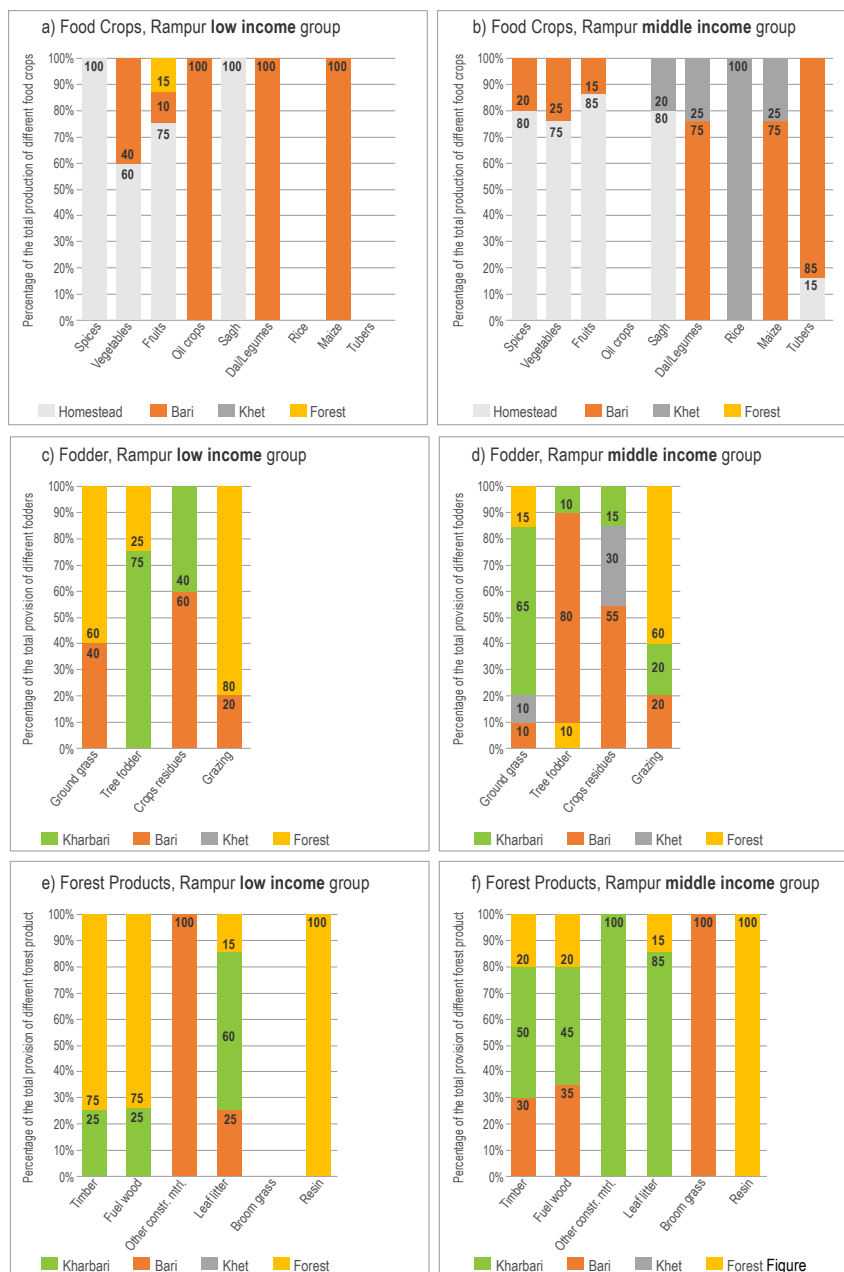


Figure 3. The estimated proportion of different food crops, feeds, fuel wood and timber harvested in different land use patches in Rampur.

LAND USE DYNAMICS IN RAMPUR

Decreasing land holdings

High level of out-migration

Lack of farm labour, minimising labour input

Change in livestock practices

Intensification on the best land

Extensive use of marginal land

Drought



Where does this lead?

Understanding unruly landscapes

- Different forms of transition and intensification happens at the same time
- Who/what defines legible land use?



The importance of subsistence production

The role of perennial vegetation in farm land?

- A long term investment in land productivity?
- A climate change adaptation strategy?



What is secondary about secondary forests?

- How can we rethink forest landscapes?





Thank you!

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