



An Examination of the Factors Impacting on the Farm Bargaining Intentions of Smallholder Women Farmers in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

By: Dipika Das

Venue

Physical presence : SIAS meeting hall

Virtual presence : <https://bit.ly/3Bek48m>

Date: 8th Oct, 2021

Time: 2-3:30pm

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Seminar Overview

Various studies have confirmed that women smallholders have low farm bargaining power and that bargaining intention is a predictor of bargaining behaviour. However, this phenomenon has not been studied within the farm bargaining context. To fill this theoretical gap, the main objective of this research was to explore the factors influencing the bargaining intentions of women smallholder farmers in the Eastern Gangetic Plain region (EGP). The theoretical foundation of this research is the theory of planned behaviour, which argues that attitudes, behavioural norms and perceived behaviour control determine behaviour. Hence, three research questions were formulated to examine the impact of the three factors on the bargaining intentions of these women smallholder farmers. An interpretive paradigm was employed using a qualitative phenomenological approach and case study methodology. Data were collected by conducting in-depth interviews with 35 women smallholders and 17 interviews were conducted with the farmers' bargaining opponents in the EGP region. A thematic analysis was employed to inform the research questions using NVivo. The findings of the study shows that four farm bargaining spheres were evident, which consisted of multiple bargaining issues. Examining these spheres and bargaining issues enabled the identification of the bargaining attitudes, behavioural norms and perceived behavioural control of women farmers and the related impact on their intention to engage in farm bargaining. The smallholder women farmers intention to engage in farm bargaining was embedded in power dynamics based on personal, product-related, sociocultural and institutional factors. These factors affected their attitudes, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control and consequently their farm bargaining intentions. Thus, it was found that the theory of planned behaviour can indeed be effectively used to explore and explain the antecedents of women farmers' intentions to engage in farm bargaining.



Dipika Das has submitted PhD at the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. She is a recipient of the John Allwright Fellowship, Australian Center of International Agriculture Research (ACIAR), Australia Awards. After completion of a bachelor's degree in public health in Nepal, she worked in the field of health research for several years. She received the Asian Development Bank Japanese scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in Gender and Development Studies at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. She has added research experience in gender studies from Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, Japan and accomplished an Executive Leadership program at the University of New England, Armidale, Australia.

Dipika has research experience for more than a decade. She was part of the social science research team at the International Water Management Institute-Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) research team working in Eastern Gangetic plains of Nepal, and India on gender issues of smallholder farmers. She gained expertise in qualitative research methods, NVivo software, and mixed research methods. Dipika is keen to understand the context of feminised agriculture, resulting from increasing male out-migration, and how women smallholder farmers are facing socio-cultural and gendered challenges.

Organized by:



SIAS is a Kathmandu-based research institute involved in Nepal and in South Asia in several social science and environmental issues. Its research utilizes recent knowledge in Nepal and globally to understand, unravel and interpret unfolding social, political, economic and environmental dynamics. SIAS also promotes critical dialogues on research, policy and practice interface.