

OBJECTIVES

The Impact Monitoring Unit (IMU) of GTZ has assessed five programmes — Small Farmers' Cooperative Limited (SFCL), Banking with the Poor (BWTP), Self-help Banking Programme (SBP), *Swabalamban* (Self-reliance), and Grass Root Level Institutional Development in Gorkha. Although all are oriented to promoting local self-help organisations with similar objectives, there are commonalities of and differences in the various programmes, institutional models, and strategies. Experiences from the five specific approaches are summarised in this paper with reference to a conceptual framework for poverty alleviation with the following specific aims:

- to highlight the various programme approaches/strategies/institutional models;
- to indicate the programme achievements so far and their potentials;
- to indicate their strengths and weaknesses;
- to encourage learning processes among various intermediary institutions (NGOs and others) through experiences from the diverse approaches; and
- to document the experiences and analyse policy issues for the benefit of all concerned agencies (including the supporting GTZ projects) and individuals concerned with rural development in Nepal.