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नेपाल कार्यक्रम

## Inside

- Forests and Species 2
- Education and Capacity Building 3
- WWF NP News 4
- Hot off the Press 3



# EcoCircular

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WWF Nepal Program Newsletter

## Meltdown in Nepal

*“I am honored to be involved with  
the work of WWF in Nepal as the  
first Conservation Ambassador”*

– Miss Nepal 2004 Payal Shakya

WWF Nepal Program launched the documentary *“Meltdown in Nepal”* on 11 January 2005 as part of the International Climate Witness Project to create awareness among the public and policy-makers on the impact of climate change in the country. *“Meltdown in Nepal”* focuses on the impact of climate change on the glacial ecosystem in the Himalayas and its people. It was filmed entirely in Solukhumbu district, Nepal's biggest tourist draw with its access to several of the world's highest mountains, including Everest. In the documentary, Payal Shakya, Miss Nepal 2004, accompanied by Sandeep Chamling Rai, Climate Change Officer of WWF NP, trekked to Imja Tsho and Dig Tsho glacier lakes, talking to locals along the trail, many of them whose lives have been affected by glaciers melting in the Himalayas.



Country Representative Dr Chandra Prasad Gurung (right) giving away certificate to Miss Nepal Payal Shakya after introducing her as the first Conservation Ambassador for WWF Nepal Program

# news briefs



Miniworkshop for TAL Business Plan preparation

and mid-western development regions participated in the workshop. Coordinator Santosh Nepal and Program Officer Rajendra Gurung of TAL and Program Officer of WTLBP Shubash Lohani participated in the workshop. TAL Program Managers Ram Prasad Lamsal and Uba Raj Regmi presented the program and budget for the next fiscal year.

A one day miniworkshop for TAL Business Plan preparation was also organized after the Regional Planning Workshop. TAL Strategic Plan core team leader Dr Mohan Prasad Wagley chaired the miniworkshop sessions. DFOs, Park Wardens and DSCOs from the two development regions participated in the miniworkshop which finalized the assumptions and unit cost of the Business Plan model.



## FOREST AND SPECIES



Dr Mohan Prasad Wagley, Chief of Planning and Monitoring Division, MFSC welcoming the participants of the Regional workshop in Nepalgunj

### Regional Planning Workshop

Regional Planning Workshop for the mid and far western development regions was held on 6 and 7 January in Nepalgunj to discuss the program and budget for the Fiscal Year 2005/06.

All the District Forest Officers (DFOs), District Soil Conservation Officers (DSCOs), Wardens, representatives from the donor agencies working in far

### Presentation of RAPPAM

Sushila Nepali, Senior Program officer – DRM, presented the outcome of RAPPAM process on 4 January 2005 at DNPWC. The process was conducted for all 16 protected areas in Nepal. The meeting was attended by representatives from MFSC, DoF, DNPWC, KMTNC, TRPAP and WWF NP.

## RCNP to build enclosure for orphan rhinos



Jangey

The Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) Program has provided support to Royal Chitwan National Park (RCNP) to construct an enclosure to raise two orphan rhinos in a natural setting at Kashara, the Park HQ. Bill Jordan Foundation-UK, an NGO working for the management of orphan animals, has also joined hands with the TAL Program for the construction of the enclosure. The Foundation is also providing support to feed the two orphan rhinos.

In the absence of an enclosure the Park staffs are faced with the difficult task of raising orphan rhinos. Mangaley, a 17-month old park raised rhino, was killed by a tiger on 21 January 2005 in Chitwan. The baby rhino was rescued when it was being washed away by floodwaters and separated from its mother.

The park now has two other orphan rhinos.

Beauty, a female rhino, was rescued four years ago after its mother was killed by a tiger. Jangey, another park raised male rhino, was also rescued after it was washed away and separated from its mother about eight years ago.

The game scouts of the park had lately intensified the monitoring of the rhinos after they started foraging in the adjoining crop fields. However, despite the regular monitoring, Mangaley succumbed to the injuries sustained in the tiger attack.

"Orphan rhinos will be released in their natural habitat after they become sub-adults", says Dr Chandra P Gurung, Country Representative of WWF Nepal Program. Two sub-adult rhinos raised by RCNP staff have already been translocated to Royal Bardia National Park with the initiation of WWF NP.

Mortality of wild animals due to poaching and natural calamities has resulted in increased orphan young animals in the protected areas of the country. These orphan animals are more vulnerable than those in the wild. Behavioral changes are apparent among human reared orphan animals, which reduce the



Annual Report 2003/2004



## EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### International Conference on Education for a Sustainable Future

International Conference on Education for a Sustainable Future was held in Ahmedabad, India from 18-20 January 2005. The conference, organized by Center for Environment Education, was to mark the beginning of the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014). More than 800 participants from 40 different countries expressed spirit of urgency, commitment, hope, and enthusiasm on the objectives of the Decade through “The Ahmedabad Declaration” on 20 January 2005. Assistant Education Officer of WWF Nepal Program Neelima Shrestha submitted a paper on ‘Education and Communication for Biodiversity Conservation in Nepal’.

chances of their adaptability and survival in the natural habitat. Organizations working for wildlife conservation need to be sensitive towards the management of orphan wild animals.

Apart from the support for anti-poaching operations, field gear and incentives, WWF NP has been providing support for the translocation of rhinos to establish new viable populations in other protected areas of the country. The objective of rhino translocation is to ensure the long-term survival of the endangered species from natural calamities and epidemics.



## Crossing the ‘Iron Gate’

Miss Ngima Yangi Sherpa, a resident of Chaurikharka VDC in Khumbu region, is optimistic to pass School Leaving Certificate (SLC) exam going to be held in this April with good marks. Ngima is excited to reach up to SLC, which is still considered to be the Iron Gate in Nepal. “Becoming a candidate for the SLC exam was also a dream to me as I was about to leave school while in grade six due to my parents’ weak economic condition”, Ngima says. “Fortunately I was selected in the Poor and Intelligent Scholarship program by Women Awareness Group formed by Sagarmatha Community Agro-forestry Project (SCAFP)”, Ngima recalls the hours she walked to reach to school with full of joys and hopes.

Walking an hour to reach school used to be the happy times for Ngima. Apart from studying, Ngima has been an active student and enjoyed every moments she spent on Eco Club activities like awareness raising and cleaning campaign programs. Her teachers appreciate her for her diligence and hard work while her mother is excited to know her progress at school and hoping for the best for her upcoming exam. “After my SLC, I would like to continue my studies and dedicate my life for the poor who are highly dependent on the natural resources”, Ngima adds. “However, I still need support to achieve my further education. I must thank SCAFP which made me capable to dream for my better future”.

► Contd. from page 1  
Meltdown in Nepal

On the same day, Country Representative Dr Chandra P Gurung introduced Miss Nepal - 2004 Payal Shakya as the first Conservation Ambassador to WWF Nepal Program. "Payal is in a unique position to share conservation messages through experiences such as her trip to the Sagarmatha region where she saw the impacts of climate change on the Himalayas," said Dr Gurung. "I am honored to be involved with the work of WWF in Nepal as the first Conservation Ambassador," said Payal. "On my trip to the Solukhumbu, I saw that climate change is really taking place and I urge everyone to take responsibility."



Miss Nepal 2004 Payal Shakya in Sagarmatha



Price: NRs 200

"Meltdown in Nepal" is available at WWF Nepal Program office. All the proceeds will be used to promote alternative energy and sustainable livelihoods for the people of Solukhumbu.



### Climate Witness Project

Climate change is happening and people have started to feel its impacts on their lives, but decision-makers are still hesitant to take decisive steps towards combating climate change - the problem still seems too far away. Climate Witness Project aims to work with local communities to bring realities of climate change closer to the general public, decision-makers and the supporters of how climate change is affecting the lives of Nepalese people.

## Organizational Analysis and Development Feedback Workshop

OA Feedback workshop, held on 13 and 14 January, started with the opening remarks on the workshop by CR Dr Chandra P Gurung. Presentations were made followed by the discussions and agreement of the initial findings. Key capacities were also prioritized. All the staff from center as well as field office attended the workshop.



Organizational Analysis and Development Feedback Workshop

## WWF NP NEWS

### PO Representative Training

Country Representative Dr Chandra P Gurung attended the Program Office Representatives training and thereafter visited various European offices of WWF network from 15-28 January 2005.

### WWF Nepal Program Review Meeting

WWF Nepal Program Review meeting was held on 20-22 January 2005. The objective of the meeting was to review programmatic progress for the period July-December 2004.

### New Staff in WWF

- Manoj Kumar Chaudhary joined WWF NP as a Field Assistant for TAL DoF to be based in Lamahi area.

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