



विश्व वन्यजन्तु कोष
नेपाल कार्यक्रम



Inside

- Forests and Species 2
- Sustainable Livelihoods 2
- Education and Capacity Building 4
- WWF News 4

EcoCircular

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WWF Nepal Program Newsletter

MOU signed between

WWF Nepal Program
and Alternative Energy
Promotion Center

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between WWF Nepal Program and Alternative Energy Promotion Center on 14 January 2004. The intent of the five year MOU is to use the resources of both organizations efficiently and effectively to promote alternative energy technologies in areas, where WWF has also implemented project activities.

Contd. on page 4 ►



Country Representative of WWF NP, Dr Chandra P Gurung (left) and Executive Director of AEPC, Dr Mohan Bdr Basnyat (right) after signing the MOU



Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Management Council receives a Letter of Intent

His Majesty's Government of Nepal provided a letter of intent to the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Council on 14 January 2004 as per the policy of HMG/N 2003 (2060) of providing management responsibility of national park, wildlife reserve or conservation area to non-governmental organisations and other agencies. The letter of intent was in response to the proposal submitted by the Council for the management of the Conservation Area. The government has also agreed to allow the development of a comprehensive management plan considering the legal capacity of the Council.

news briefs



FOREST AND SPECIES

Tiger Carcass Found in Khata

The members of Gauri Mahila (female) Community Forest User Group is reported to have chanced upon the carcass of a fully-growth female tiger in the Khata Area of Royal Bardia National Park. The area falls outside the national park. The presence of tiger in the area had been reported earlier. The tiger is believed to have met a natural death.



Joint meeting of Buffer Zone User Committee (BZUC) and BZCFUGs

A joint meeting of Buffer Zone User Committee (BZUC) and Buffer Zone Community Forestry User Groups (BZCFUGs) was organized on 3 Jan 04 at SCAFP field office in Phakding. The meeting, which was participated by 30 representatives of BZUC and BZCFUGs, discussed on issues relating to community forest management and institutional linkage of BZCFUGs with National Park and Buffer Zone institutions. The Chief Warden of Sagarmatha National Park and other staff members actively participated in the meeting.



SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Promoting Renewable Energy Technologies

Senior Program Officer- Mountain, Janita Gurung, Program Officers-Mountain, Neera Pradhan and Rudriksha Rai Parajuli and Project Manager-SCAFP, Rajendra Gurung had a meeting with Senior Renewable Energy Advisor Mr Sjoerd Nienhuys of SNV on 28 January 2004. The meeting discussed on collaboration to promote renewable energy technologies, particularly green houses, insulation technology, improved cooking stove, solar water heating system etc. The meeting reached the decision that SCAFP will be the implementing agent for the renewable energy promotion project in SNP BZ.

Micro Hydro Projects in SNP BZ

A Meeting was held between WWF NP Mountain Unit and the representatives of AEPC on 27 January 2004 to discuss on agenda for the implementations of

Support to SNP Range Post

The WWF initiated Sagarmatha Community Agro-forestry Project (SCAFP) has provided support for the renovation of a Range Post at Lukla on the request of Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) National Park. The renovation of the Post has already begun. A Ranger and four Game Scouts will be stationed at the Range Post after its maintenance. The Post will be helpful to oversee and support the implementation of Buffer Zone activities in the area.

Operational Plans for Four Buffer Zone Community Forest User Groups

Operational plans for four Buffer Zone Community Forest User Groups (BZCFUGs) have been prepared with the financial and technical support of SCAFP. A number of surveys were conducted to determine the forest areas and establish the inventory of forest resources. A series of intensive discussion were also held with concerned local communities while preparing the operational plans. General assembly of four BZCFUGs were held from 5 to 12 Jan 04, which endorsed operational plans and statute of BZCFUG. The BZCFUG operational plans will be eventually approved by Sagarmatha National Park. After the approval of operational plans, a total of 20,457 ha forest area will be handed over to local communities to be managed as Buffer Zone Community Forest. Community forest area

Micro-Hydro Projects in Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone with reference to MOU signed between AEPC and WWF NP. The meeting decided to review the detailed Project Reports on five Micro Hydro Projects in Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone prepared by SCAFP. It also decided to prepare a detailed work plan.

Business Development Service (BDS) Project Meeting

A meeting was held at BDS MaPS (Business Development Service - Marketing, Production and Service) office to discuss on the first workplan of the project on 20 January 2004. The representatives of various I/NGOs made presentations on the topic for the staffs of USAID.

The project will be implemented in partnership with International Development Enterprises (IDE), Asia Network of Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), Winrock International, Lotus Opportunities and WWF Nepal Program. In Terai Arc Landscape, the project activities will be integrated with the ongoing TAL activities. Program officer, Bharat Pokharel of WWF NP attended the meeting.

has been clearly delineated as protection forest, production forest, plantation area etc. Moreover, CFUGs have set aside a total of 1000 ha of forest area for Red panda habitat management.

SNP Management Plan and IEE Report

Sagarmatha National Park Buffer Zone Management Plan and Initial Environment Examination CIEE report have been submitted to the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation for endorsement. After the endorsement of the Plan, 30 to 50 percent of revenue generated by Sagarmatha National Park will be allocated for the implementation of Buffer Zone Program. The plan has proposed a total of 140 million rupees for Buffer Zone Program. This cost will be recovered by mobilizing national park revenue and partner organization's financial resources.

Journalists' visit to TAL sites

The Everest Press Club organised a press trip to various TAL sites to make the journalists aware of conservation issues and various interventions in the area. During their visit they conducted several interaction programs with local communities in Basanta, Khata, Lamahi, Dovan and Kanchanpur Area.



Field training Workshop

Field training Workshop on 'Sampling Based Approaches for Monitoring Tigers and Prey' was held in India from January 17-22, 2004. WCS India, WWF-International and WWF India in collaboration with Maharashtra Forest State Department organized this training cum workshop. DRM Coordinator Dr Sarala Khaling and Field Research Officer Kanchan Thapa attended the Workshop.

First International Conference of Amchis

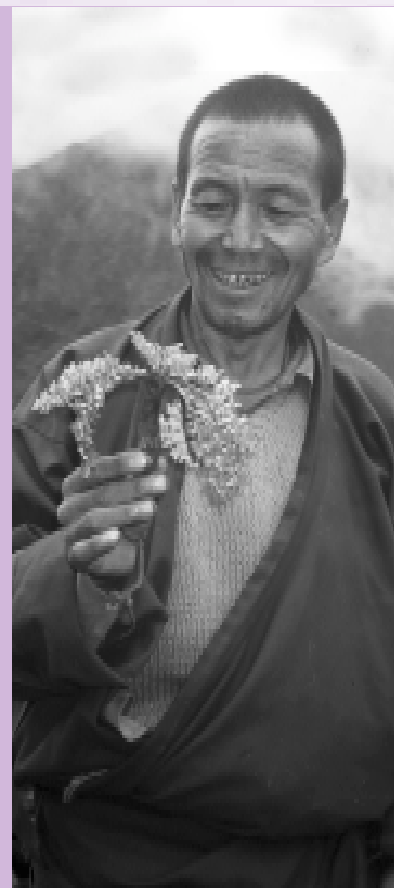
The First International Conference of Amchis in Nepal was held from 25-29 January 2004. The Himalayan Amchi Association organized the workshop with the support of the Japan Foundation Asia Center, WWF Nepal Program/People and Plants Initiative, Drokpa Foundation, Jaiti, and Himal Asia. The recommendation of the workshop include providing traditional education, conservation, cultivation and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants, and international networking.



First International Conference of Amchis

The Lessons Learned and Future Directions of People and Plants Initiative (PPI) in Nepal

A two-day workshop on 'Lessons Learned and Future Directions of PPI in Nepal' was held in Kathmandu from 30-31 January 2004 in coordination of WWF Nepal Program/People and Plants Initiative. The main objective of the workshop was to review the accomplishment of PPI, the approaches and methodologies adopted, results achieved and lessons learned. It also discussed the opportunities for further work and strengthening partnership based on the lessons learnt. The recommendations from the evaluation and the workshop as well as lessons learned from the project were used to draft key follow-up activities. Dr Damodar Parajuli, Chief of the Foreign Aid Coordination Division, MFSC and Dr Uday Raj Sharma, Director General of the Department of Plant Resources, attended the first day of the workshop. Debbie Heaney of WWF-UK, Organizational Learning Unit, made a presentation on lessons learning, and facilitated the workshop on the second day. Also present on the workshop were Dr Alan Hamilton of WWF UK, Head of the International Plants Conservation Unit and PPI International Project Advisor Dr Yildiz Aumeeruddy Thomas.



An Amchi



EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

WWF Nepal Program's Display at International Mountain Museum

WWF Nepal Program has set up a display, at the International Mountain Museum in Pokhara, Nepal portraying WWF NP's conservation activities. This mountain museum will be one of the centers of attraction for domestic as well as international visitors. The prime focus of the WWF display is floral and faunal species found in the Himalayan regions of Nepal.

Peace Corps Nepal All Volunteer Conference NGO/INGO Fair

WWF Nepal Program participated in a Peace Corps Nepal All Volunteer Conference NGO/INGO Fair on 13 January 2004. The fair was not only helpful in disseminating WWF NP educational materials but also in providing an opportunity to talk directly with volunteers about the services and resources available through WWF NP.



WWF NP taking part in Peace Corps Nepal All Volunteer Conference Fair

TAL Documentary on NTV

The documentary on Terai Arc Landscape (in Nepali) was telecast on Nepal Television on 15 January 2004. This was part of the public conservation awareness campaign to help people understand that conserving biodiversity and restoring forests will benefit them in the long run. This documentary is also being used as an educational material in the field.

WWF Nepal Program and AEPC share the common objective of establishing a working relationship under which both the organizations could achieve their common goals and objectives by promoting micro-hydro, solar, biomass and other alternative energy projects in WWF's project areas in Nepal. It is also aimed at achieving the targets set by HMG/N, including reducing stress on natural resources, strive towards understanding important roles, capabilities and approaches of each party for the promotion of micro-hydro, solar and other alternative energy projects. It further aims to achieve synergy in program support by avoiding duplication in activities, as well as by allocating the resources in the most effective manner. The MOU came into effect from 15 January 2004.

► MOU signed between WWF Nepal Program and Alternative Energy Promotion Center
Contd. from page 1



WWF NP Displays at International Mountain Museum

CITES

The CITES Unit set up by WWF NP prepared and conducted a CITES coordination meeting between the management and scientific authorities of CITES, including the representative of the Singha Durbar Ayurvedic Company regarding the use of wildlife parts in Drugs. The unit also prepared the concept paper on CITES Coordination Meeting for Scientific and Management Authorities, law enforcement agencies, concerned supporting agencies, conservation organizations and experts.

WWF NP NEWS

Country Representative's visits

Country Representative Dr Chandra P Gurung attended the Program Office Representatives Training in Rolle, Switzerland from 19-23 Jan. He also visited Austria, Germany, Norway, Netherlands and France and visited the different WWF offices there.

New Staff

Rudriksha Rai Parajuli and Neera Shrestha Pradhan joined WWF NP starting from 12 January 2004 as Program Officers for Mountain Programs. Similarly, Anee Tamang joined the office from 21 January 2004 as a Receptionist.

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