

## **Project Update: February 2012**

Eight sites of four districts namely, Khotang, Okhaldjunga, Solukhumbu and Udayapur in Sagarmatha (Everest) zone were selected as study sites. Schedule survey, mistnetting, echolocation study, roost search, GIS mapping, open-art competition and awareness programme were methods deployed. Six species were recorded in this first phase of the project. Pre-awareness schedule survey was conducted amongst 168 participants. Open-art competition and awareness programme were conducted amongst 101 and 418 schoolchildren in seven and eight schools, respectively. The level of knowledge regarding bats and their importance of ecosystem services was very low. Second phase of the project is remaining in which bat echolocation study, species survey and post project conservation activities will be more focused.