

Project Update: February 2012.

A) Ecological and Socio-economic survey:

The team completed the ecological study, preparation of village level mangrove action plan and socio-economic survey at six new project villages.

B) Meeting with Stakeholder Committee members:

A stakeholder committee meeting was conducted at Maa Manasa Devi Village Mangrove Council, Suniti. The work plan and quarterly progress reports were presented and reviewed by a stakeholder committee which consisted of representatives from government, NGOs, six existing Village Mangrove Council's key members and six new project villages, SHG representatives and school teachers.

C) Training of project team and members of Village Mangrove Council:

We have organised a training programme for project team and Village Mangrove Council members at Sankhapur cyclone shelter on 21st February 2012. This component has enhanced the capability for sustainable mangrove forest management.

D) Study tour of School Students to Mangrove Forest:

We have organised a mangrove education field trip for 48 students and 12 teachers to Barunei mangrove forest. The participants got an opportunity to learn about special characteristics of mangroves and were able to see up close the vital role that mangrove forest plays, such as homes for wildlife and acting as a coastal barrier. This field experience for the students that motivate their interest to preserve the mangrove ecosystem.