

## Project Update: June 2015

- **Pilot survey**

To determine the hot spots of Lesser Adjutant stork, a pilot survey was made for 9 days from 4th to 12th June 2015. Informal questionnaires were taken from each Village Development Committees (VDCs) of Rupandehi district and some VDCs of Kapilbastu districts targeting the concerned and knowledgeable persons such as local farmers, students, leaders, District Forest Office staffs and the staff of local conservation organisations. We surveyed the Madhuwani VDC, Aama VDC, Bhagwanpur VDC, Khudabagar VDC, Kamariya VDC, Ekla VDC, Bishnupura VDC, Pakadi VDC, Labani VDC and Baskhor VDC of the Rupandehi and Kapilbastu districts all around the Lumbini IBA. All the sighted points were recorded using GPS receiver. These points were plotted in Google Earth to predict potential habitat in the area for further distribution studies.

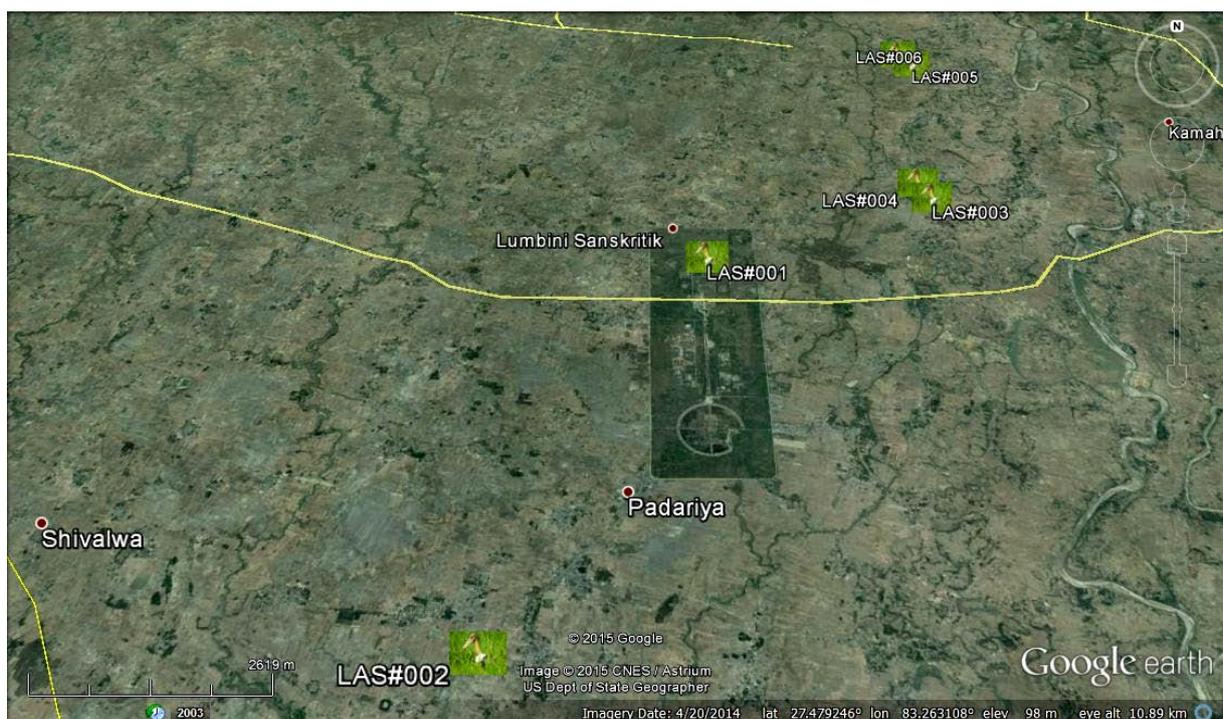


Figure 1. Google Earth map showing occurrence points of Lesser Adjutant Stork (LAS) in and around Lumbini IBA.

- **World Environment Day celebration**

This project made partnership with local governmental and non-governmental agencies to celebrated 'The World Environmental Day (WED) on 5th June 2015. The event was organised by Green Youth Nepal (GYN) with the support from Government of Nepal (GON) and WWF Nepal in collaboration with Lumbini Development Trust (LDT), District Forest Office (DFO), Green Youth of Lumbini (GYL), The Rufford Foundation (RF), Global Primate Network-Nepal (GPN), Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), Jatayu Restaurant (JR), Friends of Nature (FON) and Pragyan Seeds Nepal. The main theme of the event was 'Six Billion Dreams, One Planet, Consume with Care'. The WED is celebrated every year on 5th June to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth.



Figure 2. Banner of World Environment Day 2015

The chief guest of the event, Indra Bahadur Prasai - District Forest Officer, highlighted the importance of celebrating WED for the nature conservation. The main guests, Durga Nath Gautam - Executive Officer, Lumbini Samskritic Municipality, and Ajitman Tamang - Member secretary, LDT emphasised the role of youth in conserving local natural resources. Our team took part as the guest in the event and discussed the needs of lesser adjutant stork in nature, their threat and potential mitigation



measures. More than 300 local students, teachers, farmers, media person, local political leaders and community based organisation representatives actively participated in the event. Local media, FM radio and daily papers highlighted the event in their stations and publications. The event was held at Shree Buddha Aadarsha Higher Secondary School, Lumbini, Rupandehi.

- **Plantation**

On the occasion of WED, the plantation programme was also completed. The chief guest, main guest and other guest planted the Ashoka and Kadam plants on the barren land of the Lumbini. The Kadam is the nesting tree of lesser adjutant stork. One week plantation programme was also successfully done



Figure 4. Plantation of Ashoka and Kadam plants.

in the area, in which 200 plants were planted by local youth and local community based organization representatives.

- **Capacity building training and workshop on report writing and proposal writing**

We successfully completed a one- day 'Capacity Building Training and Workshop on Report Writing and Proposal Writing' on 8th June 2015 at Hotel Green View, Lumbini. To empower the local youth and women in conservation this event was organised. Twenty youth from 'Green Youth of Lumbini' enhanced their skill from the event. During workshop the participants practically made expert in report and proposal writings for fund raising in further conservation works and continuation of their good jobs.



Figure 5. Participants giving attention on Workshop.