

## **Project Update: January 2010**

We would like to update you on how we had carried out the proposed activities in the field /community level. The followings are the major activities which were carried out in the field level until December 2009:

### **A. Conservation workshop ( 5 days)**

At the beginning, we started to conduct the workshop entitled “Community **Based Wildlife Conservation**” at the building of Community Forests User Groups (CFGs), Charatirtha-6, Lamjung. Altogether, there were 40 participants among the marginal sections of the society (indigenous people, blacksmith community, dalits, etc), school teachers and students. All the subject matters were directly related to nature and its conservation, community roles and responsibilities and recommendation for the future courses of action in order to long-term survival of endangered species. Most of the marginalized people had little knowledge on the protection of endangered wildlife species. As a result, they had seriously practised the hunting related activities in their own community. In fact, we faced very difficult situation to convince them not to practice hunting mentioning that they have rights to survive in the earth. After long discussion in that workshop, we were able to convince them not to continue hunting practices on the wildlife species. Obviously, it was the major outcome of the workshop. Along with these activities, we focused on various subject matters related to conservation education to school teachers as well as students on brief introduction of wildlife species in Nepal and globe towards conservation, inventory methods of wildlife species, habitat evaluation, importance of wildlife species and their roles in the community, knowledge on ecosystem and relationship among the people, forests and wildlife species.

### **B. Activities for school based eco clubs**

After conducting the conservation workshop, we focused on the activities in schools. Formation of eco-club is an essential tool in order to create the community awareness on biodiversity conservation for sustainability aspect. Altogether, 12 eco-clubs were formed during the course of 1 year. After forming the eco-clubs, the members were actively participated in preparing the wall paper magazine, environmental day’s celebration, plantation programme including nursery bed preparation for practical means, and make aware to community on conservation education. Along with these activities, community had actively participated in nursery bed preparation with the involvement of school based eco-clubs. Altogether, 24 nursery beds were prepared in the periphery of schools. During time, we planted 1500 plants in the periphery of Chakratirtha and Bhalayekharka VDCs of Lamjung district.

### **C. Non formal adult education on wildlife conservation**

In order to make the consensus on wildlife conservation, 2 months classes were designed and carried out in the NImbote village of Chakratirtha VDC where there are the highly majority of indigenous people (Gurung and Tamang). Classes were conducted in the evening focusing on

wildlife conservation, roles and responsibility of the community, audio-visual programmes through video showing programme, etc. Along with non formal adult education, we also conducted the one and half months *Gothala* or cattle herders' education in the field. We conducted such education programme because of the fact that *Gothala* or cattle herders are directly related to wildlife species in their day to day activities.

#### **D. Environmental Awareness and Extension Programmes**

Six times audio visual programmes were organized in the village level in order to make the aware to villagers especially on conservation education and communication. Altogether, 1600 people of all ages were directly benefitted through this programme. Street theatre was shown in the proposed VDCs regarding the rights of wildlife species, expression of wildlife after destructing their habitats, etc. Five times street theatre were shown in the respective VDCs

#### **E. Educational materials printing and distribution**

During the course of time, we printed 1200 copies of books in local language. The entitled of the book was "Biodiversity Conservation and Environment Management". The main contents of the book were background and information on biodiversity conservation, present situations, problems, endangered species of wild flora and fauna, roles and responsibility of the community, simple census techniques, process of environmental management, riverside protection, bio-engineering, solid waste management, survey form, etc. Beside this, we published and disseminated the posters (2000 copies), stickers (3000 copies) and preparation of the conservation video clip (progress is going on) for community awareness.



Left: Formation of Children`s eco-club. Right: Participants are watching the video program regarding biodiversity conservation.



Left: Refined for CECP. Right: Villager`s rally on biodiversity conservation and environmental management.