



WWF

ANNUAL
REPORT

NP

2012



WWF NEPAL
ANNUAL REPORT

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FOREWORD

Conservation cannot wait.

Nearly two decades in the making, WWF Nepal, as an institution, a program and a dream, is still evolving. Why? For the simple reason that we define our work as not just conservation but also transformation. And it is in this role that we have found a key ally – the local people, with whom we work, inspire and empower to lead an evolutionary movement in conservation.

This year we celebrated the historic Zero Poaching Year for rhinos in Nepal and estimated 46 (41-64) tigers in Bardia National Park.

While both are clear national wins, it is but apt that we acknowledge the grassroots level efforts that helped largely bring about this success. When there are other immediate needs that local people would be more concerned with, it is heartening to note that these very people, often working on a voluntary basis, are standing guard over their forests and wildlife. From motivating a village to hand over their home-made weapons, which were primarily used for poaching, to the government, to bringing some of the most wanted poachers and traders to book, the local people have in many such instances placed their own lives at risk for the sake of conservation.

Snow leopards posed for photographs in front of a camera trap for the first time in Kangchenjunga!

Nepal's Himalayas, while boasting of beauty and pristineness, is also home to one of the harshest of terrains and the poorest of people. In Kangchenjunga, we worked with these very people through their groups called Snow Leopard Conservation Committees. Members of this group, who are primarily less educated and are farmers by profession, sat through months of learning and applying this new technology to help bring to the world some magnificent photographs of snow leopards.

Women, who were earlier tied to their homes and with very little education, are now finding their space in conservation and living a dream.

In Amaltari in Nawalparasi district, for example, we provided a small stimulus, an idea, to divert the village's attention from the fish in the river to the fish in their own ponds. What this sparked was a better protected river, a new enterprise and a new role for women. With close to zero exposure in running a business enterprise, these women are now managing the fish ponds on their own, building market linkages and ensuring that this new enterprise is yielding benefits for their own village and for conservation.

Rural communities, one of the hardest hit from climate change impacts, are slowly learning to adapt to it.

With water, food and energy security being the prime areas impacted by climate change, we are now working with rural communities to address these challenges. By combining local knowledge with scientific inputs, WWF Nepal is helping local



communities in Nepal's Himalayas better adapt to climate change. A key initiative is the construction and management of water ponds by these communities that is helping them tide over water scarcity problems and subsequently gain from improved agriculture. If climate change was viewed as a threat by the local people, today it is in fact providing opportunities to them to change their traditional practices and way of life...for the better.

Local people are seeing life beyond their forests.

The role of forest resources in the lives of millions of Nepal's rural-folk is undeniable. From wood that lights up a million kitchens to fodder that feeds an equal number of livestock, forests are indeed the lifeblood for rural households. And it is no small feat for the local people to be able to see life beyond their forests. The completion of the first phase of the Gold Standard Biogas Project helped provide an alternate fuel source for the local people while saving acres of forests. Ecotourism, non-traditional agro-products such as herbs and essential oils and various community-based enterprises, all financed by local micro-credit facilities, are playing a huge role in changing forest dependence patterns for the local people.

Conservation is bringing in new, and quite interesting, partners!

The Decent Work: Healthy Environment project is giving us an opportunity to work with an important stakeholder, the trade unions, which is engaged in natural resource-based enterprises and construction. As users of such resources, they are now our key partner in fostering sustainable forest management and ensuring that economic development does not place pressure on natural resources. The Green Lumbini Initiative, a hallmark conservation program that blends Buddhist philosophy with conservation, brought together Nepal's leading financial institutions in an ambitious reforestation drive in the birthplace of Lord Buddha.

All of these local gains have been backed by a committed government, strong policy measures and strengthened cooperation at the trans-boundary and regional levels. Nepal is making significant progress in the area of sustainable carbon financing through REDD+, and WWF is the government's key partner in helping realize this. The recently endorsed National Land Use Policy, in which WWF had provided substantial input, has carved out key strategies to ensure Nepal's land resources are allocated and managed to best benefit conservation.

The past twelve months were exciting times indeed which helped contribute to the ongoing evolutionary movement in conservation in Nepal. Through WWF's Annual Report 2012, I would like to take you through some key milestones of this journey.

I thank you for being our partner in change.

Anil Manandhar

Country Representative



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WWF IN NEPAL

Since 1961, WWF has worked to conserve nature and ecological processes through a combination of actions on the ground, national and international advocacy work to establish appropriate policies, and international campaigns to highlight and demonstrate solutions to crucial environmental problems.

WWF started working in Nepal from 1967 when it launched a rhino conservation program in Chitwan. To keep up with the evolving face of conservation and the environmental movement, WWF's focus evolved from its localized efforts in conservation of single species in the 1960s, integrated conservation and development approach in the 1990s, to a new horizon of landscape level conservation encompassing national, regional and global scales of complexity in the early 2000s.

WWF's work in Nepal is focussed in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) and Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL), including Koshi River Basin, and Chiwan Annapurna Landscape (CHAL). WWF-Nepal works to conserve flagship and priority key species, forests, freshwater, and to mitigate the pervasive threat of climate change to communities, species and their habitats. The effective delivery of conservation results under the above four thematic areas are supported by crosscutting programs on policy and advocacy, curbing illegal wildlife trade, sustainable livelihoods, communications, and education.

In Nepal, WWF works closely with the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation through the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) and Department of Forests (DoF), Ministry of Environment, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). Besides the national priority areas, WWF-Nepal also works in conservation issues of regional and trans-boundary importance.

VISION

WWF-Nepal envisions a prosperous Nepal with a society possessing an ethic of stewardship and responsibility towards nature.

By 2050 Nepal will have:

- Conserved biodiversity and the natural processes that sustain it in the Global 200 Ecoregions within Nepal
- Established social and economic development patterns that assure the sustainable and equitable provision of natural goods and services, improving livelihoods and quality of life for current and future generations
- Eliminated or mitigated critical threats to species, habitats, and ecological processes that derive from climate change, over exploitation of resources, unsustainable consumption, and pollution

MISSION

WWF-Nepal's Mission is to stop the degradation of Nepal's natural environment, and to build a future in which people live in harmony with nature by:

- Conserving biological diversity
- Ensuring the sustainable use of renewable natural resources
- Reducing pollution and wasteful consumption
- Securing sustainable livelihoods

GOAL

By 2015 WWF-Nepal shall conserve at least 3 priority landscapes within the Global 200 Ecoregions by:

- Reducing threats to species, habitat and ecological processes
- Improving the livelihoods of local people



SNOW LEOPARDS ON CAMERA

Camera traps were used for the first time in Kangchenjunga Conservation Area to monitor snow leopards in Nepal's Himalayas.

Ten camera traps (Moultrie D- 40) were installed with the support of WWF Nepal in Kangchenjunga Conservation Area in October 2011 under a pioneering initiative led by local communities through the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Management Council and the Snow Leopard Conservation Committee (SLCC)-Ghunsa.

There are presently six SLCCs in Nepal's Sacred Himalayan Landscape. These committees, comprising members of the local community, have been empowered through information, technology and funds to help lead snow leopard conservation work in their communities. They also manage and run a livestock insurance scheme amounting to USD 100,000 to help compensate villagers who lose their livestock to snow leopards thereby reducing the possibilities of human wildlife conflict.





ZERO POACHING YEAR FOR RHINOS

Not a single rhino was killed in Nepal in 2011. The year was, in effect, declared by the government as 'Zero Poaching Year'.

This success is attributed to stronger institutional mechanisms established by the government, tighter security and enforcement measures, and improved coordination among the government, conservation partners such as WWF Nepal, local communities and enforcement agencies.

To combat poaching more effectively a separate national body, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, has been formed with the representation of major enforcement agencies responsible to deal specifically with wildlife crimes while security inside the parks has been stepped up. In October, a complete chain of criminals involved in the poaching and trading of the one-horned rhinoceros was arrested. In that case alone, 17 people were held on the charge of poaching the endangered species and smuggling of their derivatives.





A BETTER FUTURE FOR NEPAL'S TIGERS

A tiger monitoring study conducted in Bardia National Park in March 2012 estimated 46 (41-64) tigers as compared to the 2009 baseline that had estimated 18 (17-29) tigers in the national park.

The study was conducted over a period of three months and covered an area of 1,035km² in Bardia National Park including Khata corridor in Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape. The study was led by the Government of Nepal with the support of WWF Nepal and National Trust for Nature Conservation.

In Babai valley, tiger numbers were found to increase from 2 to 13 individuals mainly accounted for by the increased prey-base density as identified by the study. The study was also able to confirm Khata as a functional trans-boundary corridor between Nepal and India. The capture of seven individual tigers through camera traps in Khata and the subsequent recapture of two male tigers of Bardia National Park in Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in India suggest that Khata not only provides safe dispersal route for tigers but also contributes to genetic exchange between these two populations.





© WWF Nepal/Rupak Maharjan

STRONGER BOOTS ON THE GROUND

In helping combat wildlife crime, WWF recognizes the need to invest in frontline people who ensure that the parks are better protected and wildlife crimes are effectively addressed.

In collaboration with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, WWF Nepal organized trainings for 55 enforcement officials this year on investigation of wildlife crime and legal prosecution. The trainings conducted in Chitwan National Park and Bardia National Park saw the active participation of officials from the Protected Areas, District Forest Offices, Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, Nepal Army and National Investigation Department from 12 districts in TAL.

In Nepal's protected areas, game scouts are entry level positions for young people to begin careers in anti-poaching and park protection. This year, 70 newly appointed game scouts in TAL received training supported by WWF Nepal on anti-poaching operations and using technologies such as Monitoring Information System Technology (MIST) for effective patrolling and wildlife monitoring.



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© WWF Nepal/Mreedu Gyawali

NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO HELP FIGHT WILDLIFE CRIMES

WWF Nepal has helped introduced new technologies in the national parks in order to strengthen on-the-ground anti-poaching efforts and patrol operations.

A successful test of two Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) was carried out in June 2012 in Chitwan National Park in Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape. Traditionally, effective monitoring of national parks has depended largely on accessibility of the terrain by anti-poaching patrols as well as prior intelligence on poachers in the vicinity. The UAV gives the patrols a new strategic advantage with an "eye in the sky," allowing them access into previously unreachable areas and a safe view of illegal activities on the ground.

The Monitoring Information System Technology (MIST) program was also initiated in Bardia National Park this year. Under this program, GPS devices and a daily patrolling plan help the park staff and Nepal Army personnel to effectively capture site-based information on illegal activities as well as presence of wildlife and prey inside the park. WWF Nepal in collaboration with the park authority provided the required equipment and training under the MIST program.



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STRENGTHENED PROTECTION FOR NEPAL'S GHARIALS

As a new initiative, five river conservation sub-committees were formed under the buffer zone management committees in TAL. The sub-committees mobilize their user groups to monitor gharials and patrol two rivers, Rapti and Narayani to help keep track of the species trend and check on illegal activities in the river. Preparation of the Gharial Conservation Action Plan and the River Conservation Plan for Rapti and Narayani rivers this year is another national landmark in helping protect this species. Likewise, as a part of the ex-situ conservation measures, two adult breeding pools for gharials were newly constructed in Kasara.

To better engage communities in gharial conservation, 16 community fish farms were established with the support of WWF Nepal in TAL to directly benefit 72 households. The fish farms primarily managed by the women from the local community will help considerably reduce pressure on the rivers while empowering the women through a stronger social and entrepreneurial role.



© WWF Nepal/Akash Shrestha



© WWF Nepal/Akash Shrestha

COMMUNITIES AND ANTI-POACHING

WWF has helped form more than 400 community-based anti-poaching units (CBAPU) in TAL and SHL to date. These units work on a purely voluntary basis to patrol community forests, raise awareness on the need to curb poaching and illegal wildlife trade, and work with the enforcement agencies to confiscate contraband and bring poachers and traders to book.

A unique CBAPU can be found in Churiamai village in the buffer zone of Parsa Wildlife Reserve where all of its members are women. With the collection of firewood primarily being a women's job in the village, this CBAPU was formed out of the idea that women could better convince their peers on the need to stop this unsustainable practice. This unit presently has 23 members and has given the women a new role in conservation stewardship.

Likewise, in Bardia, CBAPU members were successful in collecting and handing over 135 guns to the authorities of Bardia National Park. These locally made guns were earlier used for hunting and poaching of wildlife by the people in this buffer zone.



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TIDING OVER WATER WOES FOR WILDLIFE

Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve houses the largest grassland in Nepal and harbors the world's biggest herd of swamp deer (above 1,800 individuals). The wetlands and water holes in the wildlife reserve get dry mainly during the Autumn and Winter seasons posing a major problem for the wildlife in the reserve. As an initial solution, generators were used to pump up water from the ground to recharge the wetlands. However, this required the staff from the reserve to travel for 20km to turn on and switch off the generator every day. The generators also used a lot of fuel, making it a costly alternative, and also disturbed wildlife because of the loud noise made by the generator.

An alternate and more effective solution came in the form of a solar-powered recharger. Supported by WWF Nepal, the self-running recharger significantly reduced operating costs. The solar recharger was also noise-free which did not create any disturbance for the wildlife thereby providing them with water even during the dry seasons.





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MICRO-CREDIT CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AND CONSERVATION

Micro-credit provided through community-managed cooperatives and savings groups is playing a significant role in minimizing the dependence of local people on forest resources by helping finance alternate livelihood opportunities.

In TAL, the cooperatives are presently managing a capital fund of USD 1,062,500 generated from member savings and shares. This has helped provide alternate energy, such as biogas, and initiate and operate household and community enterprises for the local people in order to reduce their dependence on the forests for their livelihood.

In SHL, a revolving fund of USD 35,000 managed primarily by mothers' groups is helping local people gain from livelihood programs such as chiraita farming. Chiraita farming has provided dual benefits for the local people. It has helped reduce human wildlife conflict since wildlife such as barking deer and wild boars do not come near the farms given that it is unpalatable. Chiraita is also a highly valued cash crop; the local people are currently earning USD 21,500 per year by selling Chiraito, part of which is invested by them towards conservation.



© WWF Nepal/Meredu Gyawali



PROMOTING ECOTOURISM FOR CONSERVATION

The home-stay program in Dalla in the Terai Arc's Khata Corridor is serving as a leading example in using ecotourism to benefit both communities and conservation. Following active restoration efforts of the local community in Khata and the subsequent presence of wildlife such as rhinos and tigers, Dalla has now become a tourism hot-spot. There are presently 20 households in Dalla offering homestay facilities. More than 1,500 tourists have already visited the homestay which has brought in revenues of over USD 10,000 till date.

WWF's Green Hiker campaign which promotes responsible tourism in the high altitude wetlands brought together ten trekking guides who successfully completed a 10-day expedition to Gosainkunda (4,380 masl) - a high altitude lake and a Ramsar site. Through the expedition, the trekking guides were educated on responsible tourism practices to further the same in their work allowing for effective replication in the larger trekking community in Nepal.





A CHANGE IN FUEL; A CHANGE IN LIVES

The first phase of the Gold Standard Biogas Project was successfully completed in 2011 with a total of 7,500 biogas units installed. 1,658 biogas units were newly installed this year which contributed to saving about 7,500 metric tons of fuelwood.

Two villages in Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape were also declared as biogas model villages bringing the number of such model villages to four in the landscape.

The use of biogas has had cascading effects on forests as well as people's lives. Biogas, as an alternate fuel, has helped reduce considerable pressure on forests in corridors, bottlenecks and buffer zones which earlier used to be the prime source for firewood for majority of the local people. Biogas, in turn, has also helped improve health and sanitation measures amongst the local people given that biogas is a clean fuel and that the construction of a household toilet has been made mandatory before installing a biogas unit.





© Gary Brausch

IMPROVED WATER SECURITY IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Water smart communities promoted by WWF Nepal are using simple techniques such as rainwater harvesting, runoff water collection and spring source conservation to help build water security for the local people. A total of 108 water smart communities were formed and promoted in Indrawati sub basin and Dudh koshi sub basin till date.

The water smart communities have helped promote efficient use of water to provide direct benefits to the local people in agriculture whereby they no longer need to depend on the rains for a timely harvest, and to provide improved availability and access to drinking water.

Pankhu catchment in Dudhkoshi sub basin was recognized as a "Demonstration Plot" by the District Agriculture Development Office, District Development Committee and respective VDCs of Okhaldhunga for promoting the efficient management of existing water resources in agricultural development. Additionally, the District Development Committees of Solukhumbu and Okhaldhunga decided to incorporate climate change and integrated water resource management activities in their periodic plans.



© WWF Nepal/Anil Adhikari



CONSERVING HIGH ALTITUDE FRESHWATER SYSTEMS

The second phase of the “Saving Wetlands Sky High” project continued conservation programs in Gosainkunda Lake, a high altitude Ramsar site in Langtang National Park in SHL. The major emphasis of such programs was on implementing the priority activities of the site management plan of Gosainkunda which included management of waste and pollution

Gosainkunda is a holy site for Hindus and the lake sees an influx of pilgrims especially during the religious festival of *Janaipurnima*. Problems related to waste and water pollution are therefore rife during this season. In order to address this issue, WWF Nepal worked with local youth from the Langtang Area Conservation Concern Society and the Gosainkunda Community Based Anti-Poaching Unit to collect and properly dispose the waste generated during this festival season by using dumping pits. In addition, forest restoration and plantation was initiated and open grazing minimized as part of the conservation activities in Gosainkunda.





BREAKTHROUGH LAND USE POLICY FOR NEPAL

The Government of Nepal's Ministry of Land Reforms and Management launched the National Land Use Policy 2012 with the objective of managing and classifying land for optimum long term use. WWF Nepal was an active member of the committee that helped draft this policy.

The policy bodes well for conservation in Nepal as forest area is one of the six land categories classified under the policy. The other categories include agricultural area, residential area, commercial area, industrial area, and public and other necessity area. The policy has also included the provision to preserve at least 40% of the total land area for forestry.

As per the policy, land can be only used in accordance with the stated classification and any development activity must be in accordance with the Land Use Plan. The government will also identify and preserve environmentally sensitive land and will discourage people to reside in areas that are prone to natural disasters.





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NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Building and Wood Workers' International Nepal Affiliate Committee (BWI-NAC) joined hands with WWF Nepal to launch a new program in the forestry sector – Decent Work: Healthy Environment.

This maiden project with the trade unions sees WWF Nepal working closely with individuals and enterprises dependent on natural resources such as bricks, wood, bamboo, herbs, paper and tourism. Through the project, WWF Nepal will help educate this sector on sustainable forest management, climate change and biodiversity conservation while addressing the rights, safety and livelihoods issues of this sector. The project will be implemented across 10 districts of Nepal over a period of three years.

WWF has always advocated for environmentally-conscious development in Nepal. The coming together of this community to improve their way of business is a positive step in this direction and can be a leading example in creating win-win situations for both nature and people through the wise use of natural resources.



© Juha-Pekka Kervinen



ENCOURAGING CROSS-COUNTRY LEARNING

A ten-member Namibian delegation headed by Namibian Parliamentarians visited Nepal this year to promote learning between Namibia's and Nepal's globally recognized community-based conservation programs. A similar delegation comprising of Nepal's Parliamentarians had visited Namibia in 2011.

The purpose of the visit was to explore areas of learning between Namibia's communal conservancy and Nepal's community forestry programs and to identify best practices from Nepal that could be adapted and introduced in Namibia's communal conservancies. The team visited the community-based conservation programs in TAL and identified household biogas, ecotourism and micro-credit through community cooperatives as key programs that could be replicated in Namibia's 71 communal conservancies. The team also met with the President of Nepal, Rt. Honorable Dr. Ram Baran Yadav, during their visit.

While there are vast differences between the two countries in terms of culture, population density, landform and climate, both countries have established successful approaches to engage communities in the management of wildlife and their habitat with strikingly similar positive results.





ENGAGING NEPAL'S PARLIAMENTARIANS IN CONSERVATION

An enabling policy environment is a crucial ingredient in securing conservation goals; WWF Nepal has been, in this regard, working actively with Nepal's policy makers and Parliamentary Committees.

Various awareness and capacity development activities were carried out for the members of the Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources and Means in order to develop conducive environmental policies for Nepal. The committee also played a leading role in addressing several conservation issues such as protection of the Chure range through regulated extraction of gravel and boulder and prohibiting illegal logging; poaching and illegal wildlife trade; illegal mining; drinking water pollution in Kathmandu Valley; energy crisis; and the challenges of hydropower development.

As immediate results, the West Seti Hydropower Development Project was redesigned wherein a larger share was allocated to the local community thereby making it a multipurpose project and building community buy-in. Similarly, a probe committee has now been established to investigate the issue of forest destruction and initiate the amendment of several clauses on the existing forest act.





© WWF Nepal/Rabi Sharma

STRONGER TRANS-BOUNDARY TIES FOR CONSERVATION

WWF Nepal has played an active role in supporting the Government of Nepal to strengthen trans-boundary relations with India and China in addressing wildlife trade and biodiversity conservation issues.

This year, Mr. Jia Zhibang, Minister of the State Forestry Administration of China paid a maiden visit to Nepal to discuss on the bilateral issues related to biodiversity conservation and illegal wildlife trade with his Nepalese counterpart. A Joint Technical Group (JTG) of both countries was also set up during this visit to undertake collaborative measures in conservation and combatting wildlife crimes.

A local level trans-boundary meeting was also held between the chiefs of the administrative units of Jilong County (TAR, China) and Rasuwa District (Nepal) in Langtang National Park. An understanding was developed between the two units to initiate joint efforts to address cross-border conservation issues.



© WWF Nepal



AN EARLY START TO CONSERVATION EDUCATION

WWF Nepal, in partnership with the District Education Offices and Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal in TAL, developed a curriculum on conservation to be included in formal and informal education in community schools.

Presently, this curriculum is being followed in more than 250 primary-level schools thereby giving children an early start to conservation awareness and understanding.

WWF Nepal's education program also works with numerous Eco Clubs in TAL and SHL who have been instrumental in building awareness on conservation amongst the local community, participating in reforestation activities and leading community-level campaigns on biodiversity conservation. 36 new Eco Clubs were formed this year bringing the total number of Eco Clubs to 528 in TAL and SHL. Three new Eco Club networks were also established in the Indrawati sub-basin thereby helping children understand and promote freshwater issues in their communities.





© WWF Nepal/Akash Shrestha

EARTH HOUR 2012

Five corporate partners, seven musicians, 20 monasteries and over 5,000 youth together made this year's Earth Hour supposedly the biggest event for Nepal since Earth Hour 2010.

WWF-Nepal organized two simultaneous events in Basantapur Durbar Square in Kathmandu and the Sacred Garden in Lumbini to mark Earth Hour. The focus of Earth Hour was the Million Trees Project under WWF's Green Lumbini Initiative which brought together, for the first time, five leading financial institutions of the country to fund the plantation of 28,000 trees in Lumbini. A special prayer session was organized by the monasteries from Lumbini as a call to motivate individual action towards creating a living planet.

In Kathmandu, the Earth Hour event which featured a live musical performance drew an impressive audience of 5,000 youth. The guests of honor for the event, Mr. Krishna Gyawali, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, and Hon. Gagan Thapa, Constituent Assembly Member, appealed to the youth to help shape the future of Nepal's conservation landscape through individual as well as collective actions.



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FY 2012 IN NUMBERS



1,800HA

of degraded land were restored by the local communities through plantation and regeneration activities in TAL

29

community-based anti-poaching units were formed in TAL to add strength to youth numbers in conservation



2,000+

households in Koshi River Basin benefited from integrated water resource management programs

232HA

of grassland were managed by the local communities to provide improved habitat for wildlife

1,658

biogas units were installed which helped save about 7,500 metric tons of fuelwood annually

394

Himalayan tahrs were identified under the snow leopard prey-base survey in Langtang National Park



3,413HA

of forests were handed over to the local people in TAL and SHL to manage as community forests



147,220

individuals benefitted from livelihoods and non-formal conservation education programs in TAL and SHL



46 (41-64)

tigers were estimated through a tiger monitoring study in Bardia National Park

108,000

trees were planted in Lumbini under an ambitious reforestation project that aims to have one million trees in Lumbini by 2020.

USD 1,062,500

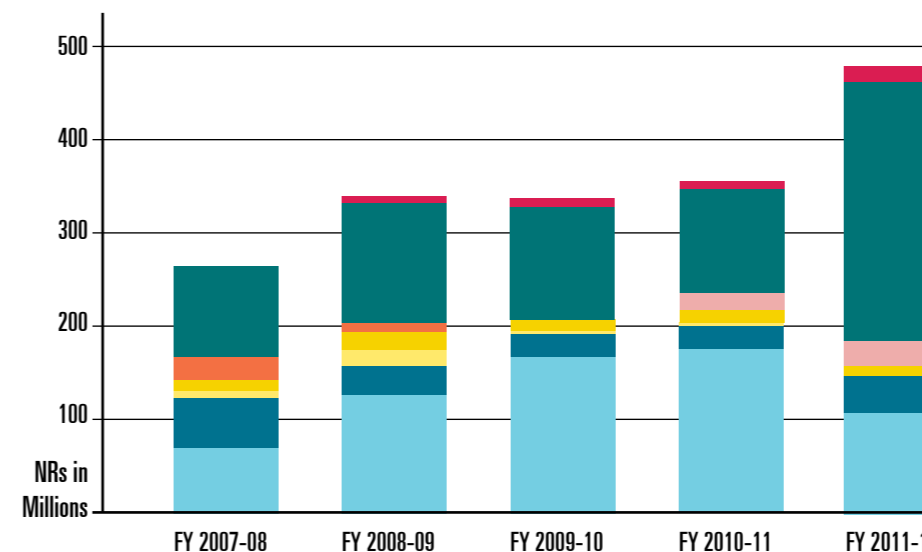
in revolving funds with community cooperatives helped finance alternate energy and income generation activities for local people

7

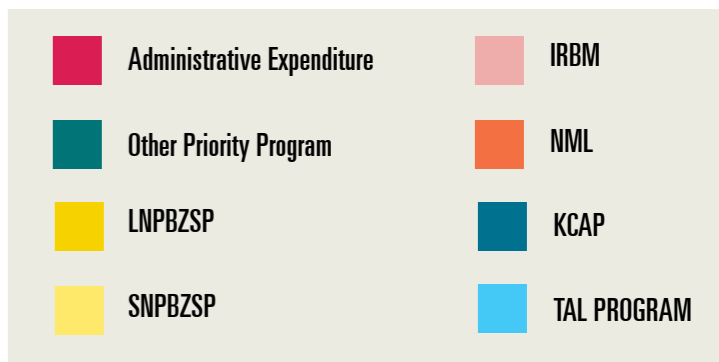
new gharial nests were identified in the Narayani and Rapti rivers which are expected to give a boost to gharial numbers in the near future

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FY 2007/08 - 2011/12

Financial Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1 Terai Arc Landscape Program	82,577,019	127,741,435	163,835,343	177,043,595	106,996,711
2 Sacred Himalayan Landscape Program	66,331,101	71,091,329	45,507,929	55,021,658	75,813,866
i. Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Project	47,245,923	34,288,539	28,464,039	28,930,309	42,925,107
ii. Sagarmatha National Park and Bufferzone Support Project	7,000,770	16,605,976	2,915,374	1,244,850	
iii. Langtang National Park and Bufferzone Support Project	12,084,408	20,196,814	14,128,516	8,848,717	8,835,800
iv. Indrawati Sub-basin Project	-	-	-	15,997,782	24,052,959
3 Northern Mountain Landscape	21,863,255	9,920,795	-	-	-
4 Other Priority Program	92,385,983	123,257,952	118,141,612	107,826,219	282,256,987
5 Administrative Expenditure	*-809,389	8,262,798	9,756,793	9,075,579	16,689,465
Total Expenditure [1+2+3+4+5]	262,347,968	340,274,309	337,241,677	348,967,051	481,757,028



Figures in NRs
* Excluding Head Quarter Expense
WWF's fiscal year ends on 30th June



WWF'S INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS

LIVING HIMALAYAS NETWORK INITIATIVE

WWF's work in Nepal is part of Living Himalayas – WWF's Global Initiative, which aims to bring the three governments of Bhutan, India and Nepal together to effectively manage and conserve the natural resources in the face of Climate Change for the sake of their unique people, their exceptional wildlife and their breath-taking environment. Combining connectivity and regional solutions, the initiative views the ecoregion as a single unit and not a series of fragmented landscapes in separate countries. Wildlife trade, landscape management and development issues will be treated regionally, bringing people, government and industry together in the three countries and developing plans that straddle borders and landscapes.

Vision

A harmonious mosaic of healthy, vibrant landscapes providing plentiful resources for people while giving wildlife space and securing the ecological and cultural treasures of the Himalayas.

Goals

By 2020:

- Ecosystem integrity and climate resilience of critical freshwater systems in the Eastern Himalayas are secured in the context of hydropower development.
- Ecosystem contiguity and ecological connectivity of the Living Himalayas secured in a mosaic of ~5 million hectares of high conservation value forests, grasslands and wetlands.
- Populations of iconic and threatened species thrive in the Eastern Himalayas.

TIGERS ALIVE INITIATIVE

The tiger is iconic of Asia's natural heritage and ecological integrity, and has wide cultural esteem. Unfortunately, due to extensive habitat loss and intensive poaching for their body parts, tiger populations across the range have shrunk alarmingly over the past five decades. Today tigers occupy a mere 7% of their historic range. WWF, recognizing that a wider paradigm shift is required if Asia's top predator is to survive the next decade and beyond, is working to protect the tiger through its ambitious network-wide Tigers Alive Initiative (TAI). The TAI team proposes a bold plan to galvanize political will and take action to double the number of wild tigers by the year 2020, focusing on 13 tiger landscapes.

Vision

Tigers will thrive in viable wild populations in priority landscapes, and in restored, interconnected habitats, secure from threats to their survival and coexisting with local communities.

Goal

The wild tiger population increase to at least 6,000 by 2020, through conservation in 13 priority landscapes.

Action plan

WWF's TAI is dedicated to developing and applying this shift by focusing on key, strategic areas - places and policy - to recover wild tiger populations over the next decade.

The TAI includes WWF offices in 11 tiger range countries; namely India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Russia.

ASIAN RHINO AND ELEPHANT ACTION STRATEGY

Asian elephants and all four Asian rhino species are amongst the most endangered large mammals in the world and their numbers are falling at some of the critical bio diversity sites. WWF is doing its best to halt this trend and initiated a suite of conservation activities for these important species under a comprehensive program called AREAS (Asian Rhino and Elephant Action Strategy) and based the regional HQ in WWF Nepal Program since the year 2000. The overall objective is that the WWF AREAS program is instrumental in achieving conservation results through interventions by WWF and interventions of partner organizations (Governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders) so that Asian elephant and rhino populations are viable in adequate habitats in 2020. It will do so by enhancing institutional capacity of WWF and partners through technical and policy support to contribute to the survival of viable populations of Asian Elephants, Greater One-horned, Sumatran and Javan Rhinos in the wild. The program will also monitor at the regional level to measure the impact of WWF investments for the conservation of these four species of Asian pachyderms.

In Nepal, the AREAS program has been working closely with WWF and its partner organizations in developing and implementing the conservation Action Plans for rhinos and elephants. In addition, the program works closely with WWF Nepal staff on the issue of combating illegal trade of rhino and elephant parts.





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WWF was founded in 1961

+ 100

WWF is in over 100 countries,
on 5 continents



+ 5M

WWF has over 5 million
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+ 5,000

WWF has over 5,000
staff worldwide



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and
to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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WWF Nepal, P. O. Box: 7660, Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Nepal

T: +977 1 4434820, F: +977 1 4438458, E: info@wwfnepal.org