Midterm Evaluation of Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Area, Supported by WWF

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Midterm Evaluation Team

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List of Abbreviations

APU	Anti Poaching Unit
BCA	Blackbuck Conservation Area
BNP	Bardia National Park
BZ	Buffer Zone
BZCFUG	Buffer Zone Community Forest User Group
BZMC	Buffer Zone Management Council
BZUC	Buffer Zone User Committee
CA	Conservation Area
CBAPO	Community Based Anti Poaching Operation
CBO	Community-based Organization
CBRP	Corridor and Bottleneck Restoration Project
CFCC	Community Forest Coordination Committee
CFUG	Community Forest User Group
CNP	Chitwan National Park
DAO	District Agriculture Office
DFO	District Forest Office
DNPWC	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
DoF	Department of Forests
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoN	Government of Nepal
HHs	Households
IGA	Income Generating Activities
I/NGO	International/Non-Government Organization
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
ICS	Improved Cooking Stove
IWM	Improved Water Mill
ISSC	International Standard for Sustainable Collection
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KCA	Kanchenjunga Conservation Area
KU	Kathmandu University
LSU	Landscape Support Unit
MAPs	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
MoFSC	Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
NATHAM	National Association for Tourism and Hotel Management
NMCP	Northern Mountain Conservation Program
LNP	Langtang National Park
NP	National Park
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
NTNC	National Trust for Nature Conservation

PA	Protected Area
PEC	Project Executive Committee
PHPA	Public Hearing, Public Auditing
PPI	People and Plants Initiative
PNP	Parsa National Park
SHL	Sacred Himalayan Landscape
SLCC	Snow Leopard Conservation Committee
SLIMS	Snow Leopard Information Management System
SNP	Sagarmatha National Park
SPNP	Shey Phoksundo National Park
SPNP	Sukla Phanta National Park
STG	Special Target Group
TAL	Terai Arc Landscape
TDS	Tax Deduction at Source
TRCCC	Tiger Rhino Conservation Coordination Committee
UC	Users' Committee
UG	Users' Group
VAT	Value Added Tax
VDC	Village Development Committee
WAG	Women Awareness Group
WECS	Water and Energy Commission Secretariat
WHS	World Heritage Site
WR	Wildlife Reserve
WTLCP	Western Terai Landscape Conservation Program
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Units

1 Katha = 333 Square Meters
1 Ropani = 500 Square Meters
1 ha = 20 Ropani (10,000 Sq. M.)
30 Katha = 1 Ha

Executive Summary

Background

The Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), with the support from WWF Nepal undertaking programs entitled "Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Areas in Nepal". The programs have been envisaged as long term until 2050. The program aims to contribute to biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods of the poor, marginalized groups and the most vulnerable sections of the community in Nepal. This mid-term evaluation of the program was carried out based on the Term of Reference provided by the Social Welfare Council (SWC).

The following objectives were set to carry out the midterm evaluation:

1. explore the level of progress/changes made by the project and analyze the extent to which the achievements have supported the program goals and their objectives,

2. evaluate the project effectiveness-longitudinal effect and community of the project activities/services as well as the scope and extent of the institutionalization of the project, explore the cost- effectiveness of the project activities,

3. identify the target and level of achievements as specified in the project agreement,

4. explore the coordination between the concerned line agencies in the project districts,

5. find out the income and expenditure in compliance with the project agreement and proportion of programmatic and administrative cost incurred by the project.

6. examine the financial regularities\disciplines in accordance with the prevailing Rules and Regulations and fix assets purchased in duty free privileges and locally, and.

7. assess the good lessons to be replicated in other projects and aspects to be improved in the days ahead.

Midterm Evaluation Methodology

The participatory approaches and methods were adopted by involving the project stakeholders primarily the direct right holders in general using a combination of qualitative and quantitative tools for data collection. The gender equality and social inclusion was taken into account while carrying out the midterm evaluation study. Appreciative inquiry was also adopted while discussing with marginalized people to dig out the positive and areas for improvement aspects of the programs. The triangulation method was also used to verify the information. Similarly, project reports and publication were reviewed as secondary source of information. The people's perception towards the programs as stated in the plan have been figure out and conducted the comprehensive analysis from different perspective.

Midterm Evaluation Findings

The midterm evaluation study was focused on programs ongoing in TAL SHL, and NCPA. Program's outputs, outcomes and impact at different level were observed. The following parameters have been included during midterm evaluation process:

1. Effectiveness and Impact

More than 5000 ha forests have been restored in different critical corridors. Likewise, 1085 ha critical grassland had been managed across TAL which has supported in improving quality habitat for Tiger, its prey base species and other wildlife species. As a result of which, Khata corridor is now functional. It has been proved scientific research and observation of Rhinos and Tiger migrating between BNP of Nepal and Katarniyaghat of India.

The overwhelming majority of the respondents (98.63 %) are being happy with the programs because the improvement of sustainable livelihoods of the poor people, conservation of species and ecosystem conservation, sustainable forest management, Climate Change Adaptation, alternative energy and conservation education and capacity building of women, men, youths, ethnic groups and conflict affected people. The women, poor men, Dalits and marginalized groups of the society particularly the buffer zone community, corridor and bottleneck restoration project areas are positive and cooperative towards the programs due to getting direct benefits from the programs. The forest conservation works have been done as planned by mobilizing the buffer zone forestry user's committees and groups. The Corridor and bottleneck restoration program have also gained good progress through the community forestry users groups, plantation and restoration efforts by community and conservation works done by CBRP. Although big achievements (like more than 1000 days of Zero poaching of Rhino, hundreds of community based anti-poaching units established and functional, 25 WCCB (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau institutions are set up in 25 districts to look after wildlife crime) have been made, some challenges are remains to sustain the achievements.

The sustainable livelihoods program needs to be scale–up in the years to come to make a difference in the life of poor and marginalized people in priority landscapes.

The popularity of the program outputs in the community is concerned that the respondents ranked first for species and ecosystem conservation and conservation education and capacity building, ranked second for sustainable livelihoods, ranked third for sustainable forest management, ranked fourth for climate change adaptation and alternative energy, ranked fifth for planning, monitoring and development, ranked sixth for policy and advocacy, ranked seventh for fresh water, ranked eight for Churia watershed conservation based on the direct observation, experience and best judgment because of conservation of forest and endangered species and ecosystem, increased income and resilient livelihoods, leadership development, increased social status of direct rightholders and increased women self-esteem in the community. However, there has been a still 20 per cent poor and marginalized group of people excluded from the benefit sharing of mainstream development process. This is challenging jobs for the government and social development agencies including biodiversity conservation workers in order to lift out the poor people from vicious cycle of the poverty.

The following key points have been drawn in order to map out the effectiveness and impacts of the programs:

- Increased in species population (tiger, rhino, snow leopard, blue sheep etc);

- Zero Poaching: mobilization of enforcement agencies through cutting edge technology like real time SMART, increased community stewardship like CBAPUs;
- Habitat restoration (functional corridors: Khata, Kamdi, etc;
- Livelihood enhancement (homestay, green enterprise etc; and
- Enhance access to financial scheme (revolving fund and its mobilization).

2. Sustainability

Sustainability is a major issue of the most of the development projects in Nepal due to high incidence of poverty, weak management capacity and poor governance system. In these programs, the implementing partner organization Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Department of Forests, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation and local civil society organizations has taken measures for the continuation of the conservation programs that are being implemented in Terai Arc landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation of Priority Area issues in the future. Nepal Army has been actively engaged in patrolling using mobile-based technology in 24 hour duty.

Similarly *Ban Heralus* (women and men) are also actively working in conservation works using mobile based technology. There are established local community based functionaries (CBOs) like Buffer Zone User Committees, Buffer Zone Community Forest Users Groups, Range Management Sub-committees and Eco-Clubs which are found more likely to be robust mechanism in sustainable operations of community based conservation in protected areas and corridors. Formation of Community based Anti-Poaching Sub-committee, Snow leopard Conservation Sub-committee in the program areas. Government of Nepal has also regular programs in the wildlife conservation and forest protection, management and utilization in each priority areas. The Government of Nepal has initiated number of long term programs particularly focusing to conserve the endangered species like Royal Bengal tiger, Asian rhinoceros, Asian elephant, snow leopard, red panda, River dolphin, and gharial etc. WWF has developed the linkage, coordination and collaborative woks with government line agencies and service providers for the continuation of the services as well.

There have been developed local institutions like agricultural cooperatives, homestay, and NTFP based small scale industries for self-employment generations at community level. However, it needs to be scaled-up in the future to increase coverage and large impacts. Nepal Army that was amazing works in order to conserve the forest and wildlife. "The main weapon is the self-discipline and unity of efforts for wildlife conservation. This is a team work. Nepal Army is doing 24-hour patrolling in order to anti-poaching operation. They are using mobile based technology developed by Nepal Army which is very useful to monitoring the movement of army and others in any time and from any place. There have been faced challenges in order to wildlife conservation that include human-wildlife conflict, limited resources, transboundary movement and wildlife trade etc.

The following aspects have been observed for the sustainability of the programs:

- Government ownership (policy/strategies/action plan) and resource allocation like WCCB institutionalized and government allocated resources for its functioning;
- Community stewardship (functional CBOs) such as CBAPUs etc;
- Revolving fund for IGA and Biogas; Endowment fund for HWC victims, repair and maintenance fund for community infrastructure;
- Conservation school for enforcement agencies;

- Community based tourism has been flourished which generate revenue for local people and natural resource conservation; and
- Buffer Zone community forest user group and BZUCs has started to allocate some funds from their regular budget for mobilizing community based anti-poaching units.

3. Efficiency

The Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Area have been envisaged for long term program until 2050. However, the midterm evaluation has been focused for the period of August 2012 - June 2017. There has been completed most of the program activities as planned. The WWF program team, partner organizations and Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Department of Forests and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation have done good performance. Around 95 per cent budget has been utilized during the five year program period. There is a need of more joint field monitoring by the government staff and WWF staff members in order to find out the proper situation of the program as planned. There has been challenged faced by the Program Management Team particularly in Sacred Landscape Program due to the Gorkha earthquake of 25 April 2015 and its aftershocks resulted in huge loss of life, injury, and economic damage in 31 districts (Central and Western Regions) of Nepal, affecting all sectors.

The following key things have been observed in the program efficiency:

- Institutional arrangement and modality: PMC, PCC and PEC playing role in immediate action to address emerging issues/need;
- Community leverage on conservation intervention: Eco-club mobilization; 20-30% kind contribution; cash support in intervention like biogas/integrating grazing management;
- Community based organization capacitated/strengthened for timely implementation; and
- More than 95% target achieved in each fiscal year but some programs has not been able to maintain the 80:20 ratios in Program Cost and Admin Cost.

4. Relevance

The project found to be relevant to address the need and priorities of the vulnerable and poor families particularly focusing on biodiversity conservation of Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Areas that include sustainable forest management, species and ecosystem conservation, climate change and energy, freshwater, sustainable livelihoods, Churia Watershed conservation, policy and advocacy, conservation education, local institutional development like Forests users groups, farmers' cooperatives, anti-poaching campaign, linkage and coordination with district line agencies particularly with District Development Committees, National Parks in the project areas focusing the buffer zones of Nepal. The program's goal, objectives and activities were consistent with the Constitution of Nepal-2015, Forests and Wildlife Conservation Policies and programs, and the Thirteenth (Three Year) Plan (2013/14–2015/16) of the Government of Nepal in terms of biodiversity conservation in partnership with MOFSC, DoF, DNPWC, Ministry of Land Reform and Management, civil society organizations in TAL, SHL and NCPA. This program seems to be more relevant in order to address the climatic variation. This program has contributed to National Adaptation Plan of Activities (NAPA) and Local Adaptation Plan of Activities (LAPA) prepared by Government of Nepal.

5. Coordination Compliance and Transparency

It has partnership with Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and its departments: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Department of Forests. Government of Nepal and conservation partners work closely with technical expertise and financial resources to achieve the conservation results. WWF Nepal closely collaborates with community partners and government agencies from local to district and central levels. Field project offices have maintained coordination with DDC and other district level government agencies. WWF Nepal also intensively engaged at different central level mechanisms to support technically to work on policy revision formulation, national level coordination; and resource mobilization. WWF Nepal has followed the terms and conditions provisioned in the general agreement and project agreement made with SWC.

Project implementations has been done under co-management system where government representatives deputized as a project lead and play critical role in ensuring co-ordination with local level authorities and partners on the ground whereas central level project steering committee and project executive committee provides policy guidance and support with strategic direction in implementations. The civil society organizations-project partners of WWF regularly organize the public hearing in order to promote the transparency and good governance in the program. The public hearing program is compulsory in Government Offices as well.

WWF has supported Government of Nepal to organize the transboundary meeting with China and India as well in order to enhance the transboundary cooperation.

6. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Program has supported CBOs to strengthen more inclusive society like CFUGs started to perform public hearing and public auditing (PHPA) regularly to maintain transparency, accountability etc. The participation of women (55 per cent) in the development process has increased particularly in decision-making process at households, community and municipal level. There has been narrowing down the gap in traditional gender roles and division of work in women and men. However, women have still more engaged in domestic chores whereas men have focused more in seasonal migration. The migration of youth to foreign countries for employment has become a major demographic phenomenon, affecting local level resource management. Men represent the overwhelming majority of the absentee population, skewing the gender balance as a whole. These factors have forced a change in gender roles, increasing the number of women-headed households and compelling women to take on a greater role in natural resource management.

7. Lobbying and Advocacy

WWF has been engaged in a number of policy formulations at national level such as land use policy, green infrastructure, green recovery and reconstruction etc and supporting implementation of government policies at local level in TAL, SHL and NCPA programs. For example: landscape strategies, species actions plans, species monitoring protocols etc.

Large, linear infrastructure such as roads, the railway and canals should, wherever possible, avoid important biodiversity conservation areas. While future, planned infrastructure in the TAL should include eco-friendly and climate resilient engineering designs, existing infrastructure should be retro-fitted with the same. Being compliant with environmental regulations and conducting sound environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and initial environmental examinations (IEEs) is essential, and can address socio-ecological concerns during the early stages of planning.

8. Target vs Progress

There have been compiled the cumulative targets vs progress over the last five years in order to figure out the quantitative performance of the TAL, SHL and NCPA programs. Most of the targeted outputs have been achieved as planned. However, some of the activities have not been achieved due to some unavoidable situations, impact of Gorkha earthquake 2015, economic crisis and limited resources.

9. Financial Management

The implementation of Project by the project office is guided by Project Operation Manual 2008 was revised Project Operation Manual 2015 which was an endorsed by Project Execution Committee (PEC). The financial management systems are computerized. WWF Nepal uses Sage 300 ERP which is software integrated with WWF US for recording of financial transactions. The finance department is well shaped with sufficient staffs. The budgeting process is mature and uses both top down and bottom up approach. The management is aware of reporting requirements in most of the cases but use of judgments based manual work in reporting can result in erroneous reports. Financial controls are generally in place, however, principle/practice based controls are in place rather than policy based controls.

Recommendations

The following recommendations have been put forward to improve the policy and programs in the future:

- Expand the program coverage to address conservation issues and the need and priorities of vulnerable, poor and marginalized people
- Improve inter-sectoral coordination to address land use issues.
- Mainstream the gender equality and social inclusion policy into practice effectively in project cycle management.
- Improve integration of climate change adaptation to the life and livelihoods of people, plants and wildlife to increase resilience.
- Improve coordination with concerned development agencies for conservation friendly infrastructures building like roads, railways, big irrigation canals, hydro-power plants, Encroachment etc.
- Strengthening the capacity of local institutions likes farmers' cooperatives and other local institutions.
- Maintain the wildlife population as per the carrying capacity of landscape and habitat.
- Scale-up innovative technologies in monitoring of forest and wildlife crime and human wildlife conflict mitigation.
- Increase the capacity on research, documentation, publications, reporting and result based monitoring and evaluation system.
- Focus on linkage and coordination with local government in the changed political context.
- Financial Management, Reporting and Internal Control System
    - Maintain balance in Program Cost and Admin Cost (80:20)
    - Periodic reports required by PA should be generated
    - Policies and procedures to fit Nepalese context should be generated.

- Expenditures should be booked only when same has been incurred. At the time of disbursement, it should be shown as advance.
- The use of sole source method of procurement should be limited.
- Record of fixed assets should be duly maintained and the physical verification should be properly conducted.

- Project targets and log frame.
  - The project agreement should clearly mention the quantitative targets for the project period.
  - The log frame should be prepared for all the projects based on the project agreements.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Projects Background

WWF Nepal has been carrying out Terai Arc Landscape (TAL), Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) and National Conservation Priority Area (NCPA) programs as per the general and project agreement signed with the Social Welfare Council (SWC). TAL and SHL programs are being implemented by Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) and Department of Forests (DOF) with technical and financial support from WWF-Nepal. This evaluation has focused on the above-mentioned programs as stated in the Terms of Reference prepared by Social Welfare Council, Government of Nepal.

The following districts have been covered by the programs:

Terai Arc Landscape Program: Rautahat, Bara, Parsa, Makwanpur, Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Palpa, Kapilvastu, Dang' Banke' Bardia, Kailali, Kanchanpur.

Sacred Himalayan Landscape Program: Taplejung, Panchthar, llam' Terathum, Dhankuta, Sankhuwasabha, Bhojpur, Udayapur, Solukhumbu, Khotang, Okhaldhunga, Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Kavrepalanchowk, Sindhupalchowk, Rasuwa, Nuwakot; Kathmandu' Dhading, Gorkha, Lamjung, Kaski, Myagdi, Manang and Mustang.

National Conservation Priority Areas: National priority areas (issue based sites outside the above two landscapes) including Global Priority snow leopard habitat as the Trans- Himalayan area namely Shey-Phoksundo National Park and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, wildlife trade routes and transit areas (Darchula, Humla, Surkhet, Kathmandu, Jhapa and WCCB working areas), Chitwan-Annapurna linkage (Dhading, Gorkha, Lamjung, Tanahu, Kaski) major river basins (Koshi and Gandaki), and protection forests, Ramsar sites, human wildlife conflict sites in Sarlahi and Jhapa and other mutually agreed areas and the activities related to bilateral and regional cooperation.

A. Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) Program

The Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) is a vast conservation landscape stretching from Nepal's Bagmati River in the east to India's Yamuna River in the west. This links 15 trans-boundary protected areas from Parsa Wildlife Reserve to Rajaji National Park in India. TAL in Nepal encompasses 23,199 sq. km and covers over 75% of the remaining forests of the Terai and Churia and 7 million people reside in TAL. TAL program is under implementation from 2001 and is being executed by Department of Forests and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation with technical and financial support of WWF Nepal. The second phase of the program has come to an end in 2011. Incorporating the lessons learnt, TAL Phase-II Document programs and feedbacks from Project Steering Committee (PSC) held in 2010 and other key stakeholders, the proposed third phase of the program is underway.

Terai Arc Landscape-Nepal, Strategic Plan (2004 - 2014) and Strategy and action plan 2015-2025 are the major guiding documents for all programs in TAL. The Strategic Plan was approved by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation in February 2004. A core team led by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and represented by other government agencies (DoF, DNPWC), major donors (USAID, SNV, DFID) and development partners (UNDP, LFP and WWF) working for the biodiversity sector and particularly active in the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) developed the TAL strategic plan in consultation with other key stakeholders at national, district and local level in different forums. WWF Nepal Program served as the Member Secretary to the Core Team.

TAL-Nepal is characterized by Terai duar savanna, Global 200 Ecoregion and harbors one of the last bastions of endangered animals such as royal Bengal tiger, Asian rhino and Asian elephants. The landscape is thus a mosaic of charismatic species, people and culture and the indispensable ecological functions.

TAL Goal

To conserve the biodiversity, soils, and watersheds of the Terai and Churia (Siwalik) hills in order to ensure the ecological, economic and socio-cultural integrity of the region.

Project Objectives

Objective 1 Sustainable Forest Management: To restore and effectively manage the forest areas in the identified critical areas of TAL.

Objective 2 Species and Ecosystem Conservation: To establish and maintain viable populations and habitats of tiger, elephant, rhino and other species of special concern

Objective 3 Climate Change and Energy: To reduce the vulnerabilities of biodiversity, ecosystems and people to climate change impacts in Nepal and to implement adaptation strategies.

Objective 4 Freshwater: To conserve and manage freshwater resources to maintain their integrity/biodiversity and ecological processes and functions and bring livelihoods benefits to the communities in the TAL.

Objective 5 Churia Watershed Conservation: To conserve soil and water resources in Churia hills through integrated soil conservation and watershed management programs to reduce the livelihoods vulnerability.

Objective 6 Sustainable Livelihoods: To bring livelihoods benefits to local communities in critical areas in TAL, particularly poor and marginalized households and at the same time reducing the pressure on forests and biodiversity.

Objective 7 Policy and Advocacy: To establish good governance and institutionalized at all levels through support to policy and advocacy, institutional capacity enhancement and improved coordination among TAL implementing partners.

Objective 8 Education and Awareness: To increase conservation awareness among the local communities in TAL, leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes that support conservation, and to document best practices and lessons learning at the local and national level.

B. Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) Program

The Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) builds upon the priorities of national governments in the region for landscape level conservation in the Eastern Himalayas. The Nepal Biodiversity Strategy (2002) clearly emphasizes the need for development of biological linkages between the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area to Makalu Barun National Park in the west. Likewise, the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan emphasize trans-boundary biodiversity conservation and biological corridor development in the landscape. Extending from Kaligandaki River in western Nepal through the Kangchenjunga region in Sikkim and Darjeeling in lndia to Toorsa Strict Nature

Reserve in western Bhutan, the SHL links l4 protected areas of Nepal and India and connects 39,021 KM^2 of natural ecosystems in Nepal, the SHL covers 18 districts and an area of nearly 29,000 KM^2 and includes five protected areas, namely Langtang National Park, Gaurishankar Conservation Area, Makalu Barun National Park, Sagarmatha National Park and Kangchenjunga Conservation Area. The most of southern boundary of the landscape follows the Watershed boundaries of the Koshi river basin and the northern boundary follow the international boundary with China. The SHL is contiguous with the qomolongma Nature Preserve in the in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China and also connects to the Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex (82c2) in the east. In the west, the SHL has the potential to connect to the Manaslu Conservation Area and the Annapurna Conservation Area. Western boarder of SHL has been redefined with Kaligandaki River in the west based on the scientific evidences.

The Goal

To conserve the rich biodiversity, enhance local livelihoods needs and sustain diverse cultures and traditions in the Sacred Himalayan Landscape.

Project Objectives

Objective 1 Sustainable Forest Management: To maintain forest cover, improve habitat quality and sustain local livelihoods through community forestry, alternative energy and forest restoration, including natural regeneration and plantation in the SHL.

Objective 2 Species and Ecosystem Conservation: To reduce the threats to key species, their habitats and prey species in the SHL through scientific research and monitoring, community-based conservation, including anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trade control, human wildlife conflict mitigation and conservation awareness.

Objective 3 Climate Change and Energy: To reduce the vulnerabilities of biodiversity, ecosystems and people to climate change impacts in Nepal and to implement adaptation strategies.

Objective 4 Freshwater: To conserve and manage freshwater resources to maintain their integrity/biodiversity and ecological processes and functions and bring livelihoods benefits to the communities in the SHL.

Objective 5 Sustainable Livelihoods: To bring livelihoods benefits to local communities in focal sites in SHL, particularly poor and marginalized households.

Objective 6 Policy and Advocacy: To create an enabling policy environment that supports the linkages between sustainable livelihoods and landscape level conservation in the SHL.

Objective 7 Institutional Strengthening and Coordination: To strengthen capacity of key stakeholders in landscape level conservation for effective management of the SHL and to improve coordination among the key partners for smooth implementation of the SHL program.

Objective 8 Education and Awareness: To increase conservation awareness among the local communities in the SHL, leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes that support conservation, and to document best practices and lessons learning at the local, national and global level.

C. National Conservation Priority Areas (NCPA)

WWF Nepal supported activities are implemented beyond the above mentioned two landscapes and they are subsumed under the National Conservation Priority Areas. NCPA are issue and site based project activities outside TAL and SHL. This includes WWF Global Priority Species (tiger, rhino, elephant, river dolphin, snow leopard) and their habitat, emerging threats to the species and ecosystem, wildlife trade routes and transit areas, human-wildlife conflict, climate change and energy, freshwater, bilateral and regional cooperation, multilateral environment agreements (MEA), national policies on natural resources, environment and sustainable development among others.

The main focus of this project will be engagement and advocacy on the, national policies, national, community based and protection forests, World Heritage sites and contemporary thematic issues of local and global scale Similarly, this project also cover the Trans Himalayan region, Chitwan-Annapurna linkage, major river basins protected areas, Ramsar sites wildlife trade/transit routes and other areas mutually agreed in terms of sites and themes for field implementation.

Objectives

The project aims to support Government, CBOs and NGOs for the conservation of biodiversity outside of the two priority landscapes.

Objective 1 Sustainable Forest Management: To restore and effectively manage the forest resources,

Objective 2 Species and Ecosystem Conservation: To conserve priority species and species of special concern, control wildlife crime and minimize human wildlife conflict,

Objective 3 Climate Change and Energy: To enhance climate resilience of ecosystem and communities,

Objective 4 Freshwater: To restore, protect and use sustainably the freshwater ecosystems for the benefit of biodiversity and people,

Objective 5 Sustainable Livelihoods: To enhance livelihoods of the local communities particularly natural resources dependent people and reduce pressure on natural resources,

Objective 6 Policy and Advocacy: To engage, establish and institutionalize mechanisms and instruments at all levels with respect to environment and sustainable development,

Objective 7 Education and Awareness: To increase conservation awareness among the local communities leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes at all levels.

1.2 Intended Outcomes of the Programs

The following intended outcomes have been identified using literature review:

- Forest conservation and restoration increased
- Habitats of tiger, elephant, rhino, snow leopard, red panda and other species conserved
- No. of endangered species increased
- Climate change vulnerabilities of biodiversity, ecosystem and people reduced

- Fresh water conserved
- Churia watershed conserved
- Sustainable livelihoods of poor and vulnerable improved
- Preparation of new policies on biodiversity conservation formulated
- Conservation awareness among local people increased
- Conflict between wildlife and human-being reduced
- Direct poverty and injustice reduced
- Household income increased
- Gender discrimination reduced
- Local institutions developed
- Local leadership (women and men) developed
- Social inclusion ensured
- Good governance promoted
- Policy and practice influenced

1.3 Intended Beneficiaries of the Project

The intended beneficiaries include women; ethnic groups, Dalits, youths, and conflict affected people and marginalized section of the communities in the program areas.

1.4 Donor Information

The funding has been received from the following sources:

A) WWF network: US, UK, Finland, Malaysia, Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden, WWF International and other WWF network partners.
B) Global Charitable Foundations and Initiatives: Mac Arthur Foundation, Darwin Initiatives, Plant Life International, Johnson and Johnson Corporation, national Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association, Conservation International.
C) International Aid Agencies and NGOs: US Fish and Wildlife Services, USAID, DfiD, British Embassy, Timberland, UNEP, GEF, SEI, PAF, MFA Finland, World Bank/WWF Alliance, FDBL/Lacoste, Nokia, ADB, SASK/Finland,

WWF Nepal is one of the most experienced and credible conservation organizations in Nepal. Association of WWF with the conservation history of Nepal dates back to 1967 when it supported the government for the conservation of a severely depleted population of Greater One-horned Rhinos and Bengal Tiger. WWF Nepal Program Office was officially established in 1993, in order to increase coordinate and support conservation efforts in Nepal. Since then, WWF Nepal has played an important part in imparting technical and financial inputs to the Government of Nepal in biodiversity conservation policy, planning and implementation of the conservation projects.

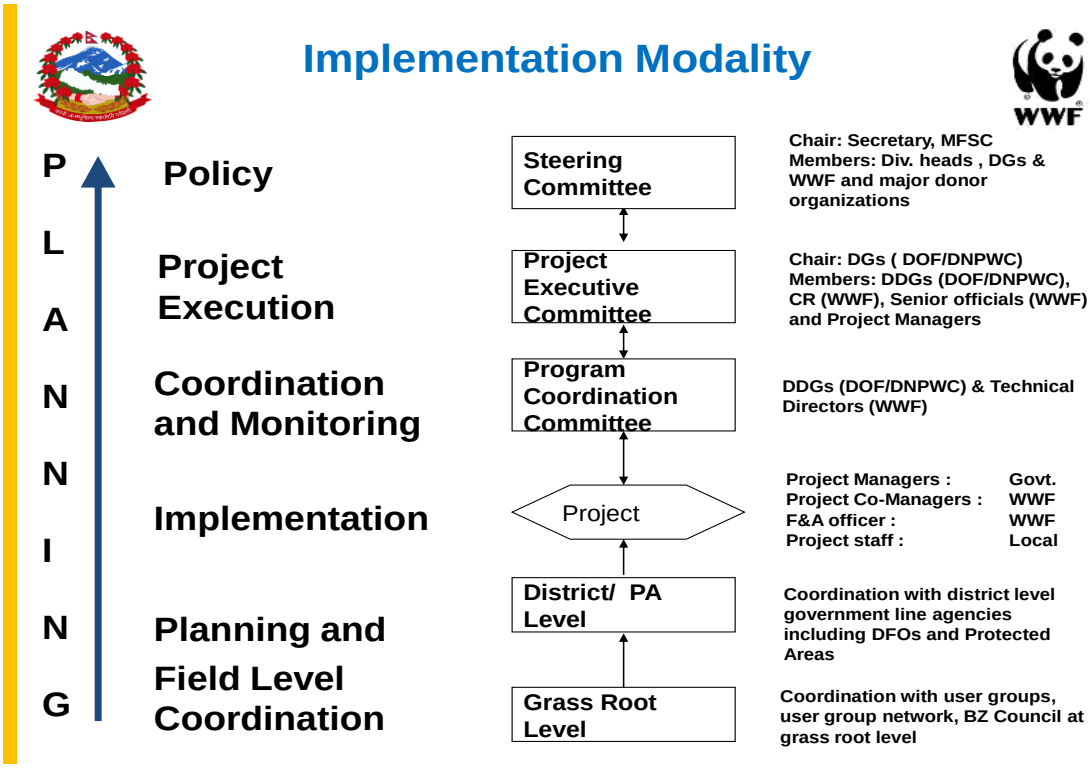
1.5 Project Composition

The project is being run under co-management system between Government of Nepal and WWF as agreed by scope of cooperation between Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and WWF every five year. The Field Operation Manual has been prepared for the implementation of the project as guidelines (see implementation modality below for detail).

The project has been implemented with the coordination of following major Government agencies and civil society organizations:

- Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC)
- Ministry of Land Reform and Management (MLRM)
- Ministry of Environment
- Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)
- Department of Forests (DoF)
- Tribhuvan/Kathmandu University
- Alternate Energy Promotion Center (AEPC)
- National Trust for Nature Conservation
- Lumbini Development Trust
- Family Planning Association
- NGOs /CBOs

The implementation modality of the programs has been presented below:



Source: WWF, 2017

1.6 Financing Arrangements

The funding for the program is arranged by WWF Nepal. All transactions are jointly administered by the signatures of managers and co-managers. The financing is done by WWF Nepal based on the "Cooperation Agreement" with Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation. There is no ready availability of funds with WWF Nepal. It has few committed funds and rest is arranged thorough bidding and pitching of proposals continuously thorough-out the budget period. The requirements of funds are estimated from the grass root organizations (CFCCs, CBOs, etc) and then the funds are sought then after.

The expenditures of WWF Nepal in TAL, SHL & NCPA were funded by a total of 78 projects during the period of mid-term evaluation. It raised a total of USD 11,471,748 out of which USD 10,783,776 was expended. The details of fund source and the funds raised are presented in (**Appendix 13).**

1.7 Objectives of the midterm evaluation

The objectives of the project midterm evaluation are to:

1. Explore the level of progress/changes made by the project and analyze the extent to which the achievements have supported the program goals and their objectives,

2. Evaluate the project effectiveness-longitudinal effect and community of the project activities/services as well as the scope and extent of the institutionalization of the project, explore the cost- effectiveness of the project activities,

3. Identify the target and level of achievements as specified in the project agreement,

4. Explore the coordination between the concerned line agencies in the project districts,

5. Find out the income and expenditure in compliance with the project agreement and proportion of programmatic and administrative cost incurred by the project.

6. Examine the financial regularities\disciplines in accordance with the prevailing Rules and Regulations and fix assets purchased in duty free privileges and locally, and.

7. Assess the financial management systems and implementation of projects with regards to financial regularities focusing on following aspects:

    - Assess the efficiency of the projects/cost effectiveness
    - Check the compliance with general agreements/project agreements
    - Compliance with Tax laws
    - Review of fixed assets records and physical verification along with control systems and disposals.
    - Evaluation of the internal control system
    - Financial reporting framework
    - Comparison of the budgets and actual with the committed project cost

8. Assess the good lessons to be replicated in other projects and aspects to be improved in the days ahead.

1.8 Scope of the midterm evaluation

The project components have covered in the evaluation and the major issues for the evaluation to examine. These issues normally reflect the issues in the appropriate evaluation framework suitably tailored to reflect the reasons for this evaluation. The midterm evaluation has covered key aspects of the program for the period of 15 August 2012 to June 2017.

1.9 Midterm Evaluation Research Questions

The following key research questions have been set for the midterm evaluation of the programs:

1. What significant changes did you observe based on objectives of TAL, SHL and NCPA?
2. What are the gaps identified during implementation of TAL, SHL and NCPA?
3. What are the challenges faced during execution of programs in TAL, SHL and NCPA?
4. What are your suggestions for further improvements of the program in the future?
5. What are the negative aspects observed during implementation of program?
6. Did you observe any failure cases? If yes, Please mentions.
7. What are the innovative actions introduced by the programs? Please list out with significant values and potentiality to scaling-up/replication in the future?
8. What have been changes observed in the lives of poor women and men, children, Dalits and marginalized groups of the people due to the TAL, SHL and NCPA programs?
9. What is the mechanism of coordination and linkage with district and central level to avoid duplication, clarity on policy and practice and efficiently delivery of program activities in the community?
10. What are the main challenges in case of coordination between Government (Ministry and Department level) and WWF?
11. What is the level of people participation particularly focusing to decision making in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation i.e. project cycle?
12. What is the mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion in the project cycle management?
13. What is the project performance in terms of budget utilization (per cent) during project period?
14. Is it compliance with Government financial policy and procedure or not? If yes or not, why?
15. What is the system of transparency and downward accountability? Pls. mention the process?
16. Is the money used for any terrorist activities or not?
17. What are your suggestions for further improvement towards sustainability of the program?
18. How you observed the interrelationship between plant, wildlife and people?
19. How you manage the conflict between wildlife and people living with buffer zone?

1.10 Midterm evaluation team composition

The midterm evaluation mission comprised of seven Members as presented below:

1. Prof. Nar Bikram Thapa – Team Leader, PhD (Program Expert)
2. Mr. Pasang Lama - Team member (Officer, Representative from SWC)
3. Mr. Subash Parajuli – Team Member (Officer, Ministry of Finance)
4. Mr. Kishor Chandra Gautam – Team Member (Regional Director, Eastern Region, Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation)
5. Ms. Madhuri Karki (Thapa) – Team Member (Under Secretary, Department of Forests)
6. Mr. Sher Singh Thagunna – Team Member (Joint Secretary, Depart of National Park & Wildlife Conservation)
7. CA Shankar Thapa - Team Member (Financial Expert)

1.11 Organization of the study report

The midterm evaluation report has been divided into four parts that include introduction, midterm evaluation methodology, midterm evaluation findings and summary, conclusion and recommendations. The introduction covers background of the programs, objectives, intended outcomes of the programs, project composition, evaluation team etc. The methodology covers the research design, approaches and methods of research. The chapter three midterm evaluation findings analyze the program's effectiveness/impacts, financial and program efficiency, sustainability of the programs, gaps, gender equality and social inclusion, coordination, lobbying and advocacy, organizational assessment, lessons learnt, future focus of the programs, financial management etc and the last chapter four covers the summary, conclusion and recommendations. The references have been cited and detail information related to midterm evaluation included in the appendix. The programs cumulative coverage i.e. targets vs achievement/progress of the last five years have been presented in the appendix.

2. METHODOLOGY OF MIDTERM EVALUATION

2.1 Design of the Study

This is a longitudinal study to the sampled population. A longitudinal study captures data over a period of time (days, week, months, or years) to understand the long-term effects of changes in products, processes, or environment. The study was carried out in the project areas by selecting a purposive sample of respondents from a defined population and administered a semi-structured questionnaire to them. In addition to review of project documents, direct observation, focus group discussion, key informant interview, case study and basket of Participatory tools and techniques were used to capture the quantitative and qualitative information from the respondents.

2.2 Approaches to the Study

The consultant followed a participatory approaches and methods by involving the project stakeholders primarily the direct rightholders in general using a combination of qualitative and quantitative tools for data collection. A greater focus however was put on the qualitative methods regarding primary data collection. The gender equality and social inclusion was also taken into account while carrying out the evaluation study. Appreciative inquiry was also adopted while discussing with marginalized people to dig out the positive and areas for improvement aspects of the project's outputs, outcome, impact and social status and position of marginalized group of the people in the society. The triangulation methods have been used to verify the information. The enabling environment was created in the community while discussing during interview that was non-threatening to the target people. The information has been analyzed based on trend over time and pattern over space. Midterm evaluation team has followed the Terms of Reference provided by SWC during study.

2.3 Selection of the Participants

The participants were selected purposively based on the ecological belt, representation from poor, women, Dalits, ethnic groups, conflict affected people and marginalized groups in the program areas.

2.4 Source of Data

The information was collected from both primary and secondary sources. WWF Nepal staffs, marginalized people (men and women), government officials and civil society organizations were the primary sources of information. The study also used information from secondary sources such as project periodic progress reports, strategies, policies, project agreement between WWF and Social Welfare Council, and other published and unpublished documents related to TAL, SHL and NCPA programs.

2.5 Methods of Data Collection

2.5.1 Review of Project Documents

Review of project proposal, agreement, annual plans, annual reports, process documents and other relevant documents was done.

2.5.2 Semi-structured Interviews

The semi-structured schedule was developed. The open ended questions were designed based on project indicators. From a review perspective, semi-structured interviews regarded as critical for developing an in-depth understanding of socio-economic and environmental issues in particular. These tools were used to collect the information during review process. In the interview a total of 121 community members and government staffs (Appendix 1) were involved during the midterm evaluation process.

2.5.3 Focus Group Discussion

FGDs and individual meetings were conducted with selected groups/right-holders relevant to the project to find out the issues and dig out the farmers' perceptions etc toward project processes, impact, and challenges (Appendix 2). These tools were used particularly to collect the information from Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Banke, Dang, Kathmandu, Morang and Rasuwa district.

2.5.4 Case Studies

Case studies were collected to map out the success stories of the project to figure out the changes in the life of the marginalized farmers (men and women). The community perceptions have been mapped out in their own voice and regarded as case lets as evidence of success and failure of the programs at grass root level.

2.5.5 Key Informant Interview

The selected knowledgeable persons were contacted as Key informant to map out the effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the project. The key informants regarded as WWF staff; key relevant people of program areas, and other relevant actors (Appendix 3).

2.5.6 Organizational Assessment

Organizational assessment of WWF (TAL Program Management) Programs was done particularly with the TAL program team based on certain parameters such as transparency, leadership development, financial management, networking, documentation, efficiency, policies, sustainability and advocacy.

2.5.7 People's Perception Mapping

Mood meter mapping tool was adopted to measure the happiness towards TAL, SHL and NCPA programs with direct rightholders, community members, government staff, civil society organizations functionaries etc. This is a unique method/tool to capture overall performance of program with bird's eye view.

2.5.8 Score Ranking

Preference/score ranking of Participatory learning and Action tool was used to find out the effective program activities of the project (Thapa, 2005). This was used massively to map out the before and after situation mapping as well (Fig. 1). This tool has been adopted to capture the information at grass root level using worm's eye view (grass root perspective).

Fig 1: Before and after situation mapping in Amaltari CBAPU, Nawalparashi, June 2017

2.5.9 Participant's Observation

The evaluator has done direct observation of smallholder farmers and ongoing activities during the field visit in the program sites to map out the project performance as mentioned in the program documents. A checklist was developed for the systematic observation of program activities, level of people's awareness, coverage of forest, wildlife conservation and linkage and coordination with government line agencies **(Appendix 4)**.

2.5.10 Before and After Situation Mapping

The before and after situation at impact level has been mapped out with the participation of local women and men. This exercise was done based on the direct observation and experience of the local community leaders using recall method.

2.6 Analysis of Data

The quantitative data was taken from project related documents and there was no need of high level of statistical analysis as these are presented in simple frequency tables. Qualitative data collected, using field information through interaction/group discussion/interview and observations were made ready in word processor. For the analysis purpose, different headings according to study inquiry were created and related information from the spreadsheet was put under the appropriate headings. All the information related to each heading reviewed critically and findings are presented in the report systematically.

2.7 Work Schedules of the Study

The work schedule was prepared during the evaluation study in discussion with WWF Nepal staff members. The evaluator initiated the fieldwork based on the work schedule **(Appendix 5)**. The program team and finance expert has separately visited the program areas in different schedule. However, there was done the coordination between Team Leader and Finance expert in order to share the information.

2.8 Limitation of the Study

There have been some limitations of the final evaluation that include:

- Not many of respondents from community participated due to busy rice plantation season; therefore, reflection on the impact of these may be taken as limited information.
- Rainy season and natural disaster like landslides, floods and road blockade that hampered the free flow of movement from one location to another.
- Evaluation team visited some sample districts only due to limited time and resources.
- Due to accompanying of midterm evaluation team by WWF staffs, the responses of the participants might be biased.

The program areas have shown in the following map of Nepal (Fig.2):

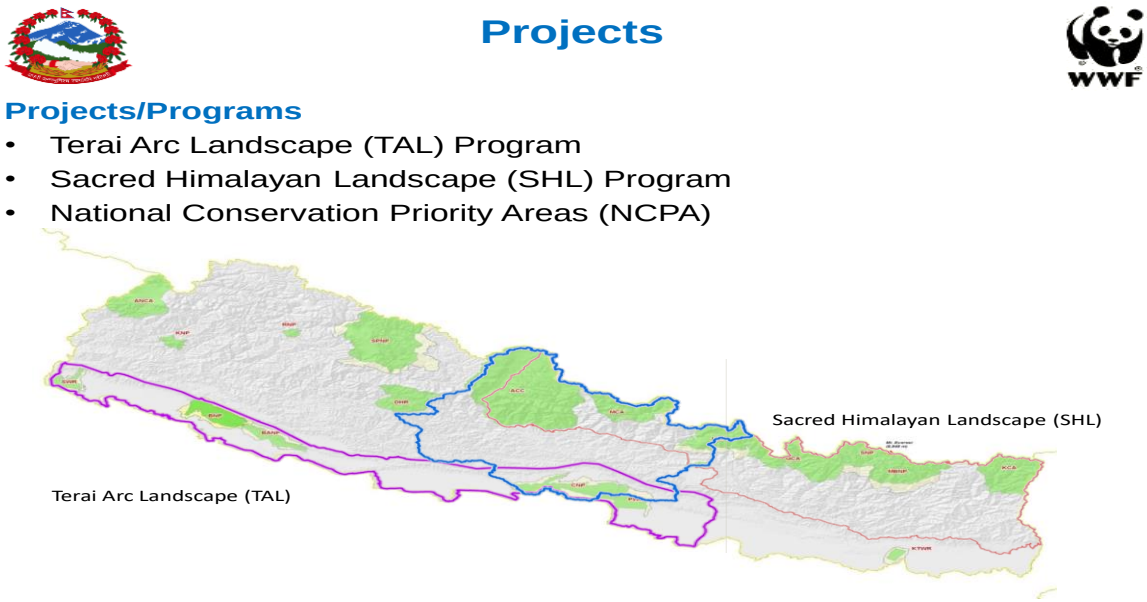


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Fig. 2: TAL, SHL and NCPA program Areas

3. MIDTERM EVALUATION FINDINGS

The midterm evaluation study is focused in SHL, NCPA and TAL including CBRP Program's outputs, outcomes and impact at different level. The program progress analysis and evaluation of various activities on the basis of target, achievements, review of literatures, program progress reports, mood meter mapping, score ranking, direct observations, case studies, focus group discussion, interview with key informants, organizational assessment etc have been presented below. The evaluation has focused on trend over time and pattern over space in order to map out the changes over the project period. This is a long-term program that overlaps the impact of program activities and multiple factors involved for the changes.

3.1 Effectiveness and Impact

The Terai Arc Landscape including Corridor and Bottleneck Restoration Project, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Program Area supported by WWF have been smoothly implemented in the program areas. These programs have brought positive changes in the lives of women, men, children, Dalits, ethnic groups, youths, and conflict affected people including marginalised communities. These are long-term programs as envisaged by WWF until 2050. However, this phase of programs is being mapped out or evaluated for the last five years. The above-mentioned programs have many similarities. However, TAL focused more on Rhino and Royal Bengal Tiger conservation whereas SHL has focused more on snow leopard and red panda conservation. They have been linked with sustainable lives and livelihoods of the local people particularly focusing to buffer zone area of national parks.

3.1.1 Mood Meter Mapping of Rightholders' Perception towards the TAL and SHL Programs

When asked about the perceptions towards TAL and SHL with respect to overall program performance, the respondents have responded and scored 1,654 (70.38 %), 664 (28.25 %) and 32 (1.36 %) for very happy, happy and unhappy (poor) parameter respectively. The large majority of the respondents (98.63 %) have rated very happy and happy with the programs because of the improvement of sustainable livelihoods of the poor people, conservation of species and ecosystem conservation, sustainable forest management, Climate Change Adaptation, alternative energy and conservation education and capacity building of women, men, youths, ethnic groups and conflict affected people. Few respondents (1.36 per cent) rated the program unhappy for not getting direct tangible benefits. The mood meter tool was used to map out the perceptions towards happiness of the people (Table 1).

A total of 50 corn seeds assumed as 100 per cent were given to every respondent. A total of 47 persons participated in the exercise in order to score the performance of TAL, SHL and NCPA project jointly implemented by WWF and GoN, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), Department of Forests (DoF) and Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) with the support of various funding agencies. The community perception was mapped out based on their direct observation, experience and best judgment of the respondents. This was measured in relative terms. The frequency represents the scoring of the respondents on set parameters.

Table 1: Perceptions Mapping of Stakeholders towards TAL, SHL and NCPA Programs

Parameters	Frequency	Percent
Very Happy	1654	70.38
Happy	664	28.25
Unhappy	32	1.36
Don't Know	00	00
No Response	00	00
Total score	**2350**	**100**

Source: Field Survey, July, 2017

The community perception mapped out during the midterm evaluation as follows:

"The Terai Arc Landscape program is good for buffer zone area because it has done biodiversity conservation work that directly impacted the lives of people. However, it has following gaps that include: better-off people more benefitted from the program; not enough monitoring and follow-up by the project staff and less participation of poor people in program planning, implementation and monitoring & evaluation "says Mr. Bikash Pathak Chhetri-30, Bharatpur Metropolitan City-30, Chitwan National Park.

"The TAL program seems to be useful because it has contributed to increase awareness, conservation of wildlife, livelihoods of the local people, controlled grazing, supported to commercial livestock farming and distributed the forage seeds. However, this program should continue focus on artificial insemination in cattle, award distribution to good commercial farmers, forage seed distribution and livestock insurance in the future" says Mr. Ishwor Prasad Acharya-34, in-charge of Buffer Zone Livestock Service Centre, Jagatpur, Chitwan National Park.

"There has been conflict between wildlife and human-being particularly caused by wild boar, tiger, rhino, elephant and deer species in our area. Chitwan National Park has provided 30-50 per cent amount of income to buffer zone community for the purpose of community development, conservation education, income generation program etc. In the last year, we have spent NPR 3.2 million including conflict resolution budget (NPR 2 million). We have done PCC wall construction, 10 KM road construction, received fund from GoN, Ministry of Finance (NPR 15 million) for 5,265 meter road construction. The mess wire PCC fencing has controlled about 100 per cent wild boar and 90 per cent rhino infestation into the private land. He further stressed that the relationship between wildlife and human-being will be improved if there is no damaged the crops by wildlife in private land" says Mr. Toya Nath Adhikari-40, Office Secretary, Buffer Zone Kerunga Forest Users Group, Chitwan National Park.

3.1.2 Score ranking of major project activities

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of three types of respondents that include community women, men and government staff members to measure the effectiveness of key program activities of TAL, SHL and NCPA in the communities (Table 2).When asked on which program activity

is most popular in the community that the respondents ranked first for species and ecosystem conservation and conservation education and capacity building, ranked second for sustainable livelihoods, ranked third for sustainable forest management, ranked fourth for climate change and energy, ranked fifth for planning, monitoring and development, ranked sixth for policy and advocacy, ranked seventh for fresh water, ranked eight for Churia Watershed conservation according to the direct observation, experience and judgment made by the respondents based on the increased forest coverage, conservation of endangered species (plant and wildlife) and ecosystem, improved income and resilient livelihoods, leadership development, increased social status of direct beneficiaries / rightholders and increased women self-esteem in the society.

A total of 10 seeds of corn were distributed to each respondent to judge the popularity of the key program activity at the grass root level. A total of 44 participants included women, men and government staffs in the score ranking exercise across the sample areas. It should be noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This was measured in relative terms.

Table 2: Score Ranking of Key Program Activities by Stakeholders

Key Program Outputs	Women	Men	NGOs/ Gov	Total Score	Avg. Score	Rank
1.Sustainable Forest Management	98	182	53	333	7.56	**III**
2.Species and Ecosystem Conservation	109	182	57	348	8.0	**I**
3.Climate Change Adaptation and Energy	109	172	51	332	7.5	**IV**
4.Freshwater	104	158	50	312	7.1	**VII**
5.Churia Watershed Conservation	24	73	19	116	7.0	**VIII**
6.Sustainable Livelihoods	112	166	57	335	7.61	**II**
7.Policy and Advocacy	107	158	52	317	7.2	**VI**
8.Planning, Monitoring and Development	106	161	59	326	7.40	**V**
9.Conservation Education and Capacity Building	112	176	60	348	8.0	**I**

Source: Focus Group Discussion, July 2017

3.1.3 Terai Arc Landscape

The Corridors and Bottlenecks Restoration Project (CBRP) and Protected Area and Buffer zone (PABZ) projects are being implemented under TAL program. Over time, the TAL programme has grown to serve the dual purpose of restoring habitat that facilitates wildlife movement. The protected areas in the Terai are an important foothold for many large mammals, like tigers, leopards, elephants, rhinos and sloth bears. Some of the protected areas, like Chitwan National Park, are considered to be among the best sites for wildlife viewing in Asia.

Forest and other Land Uses

Forests are the dominant land cover form in TAL-Nepal, followed by agricultural land and areas built up for settlements and infrastructure. Of the total land area, 53.95% is occupied by forest; 5.06% by shrub and grassland; 35.29% by agriculture; and 1.27% by water bodies. Average timber growing stock across Terai and Churia is estimated at 135 m3/ha and 115 m3/ha, respectively (FRA/DFRS 2014). Most of the natural grasslands in Terai have now been converted for settlement and agriculture expansion. Many grassland patches in protected areas (PAs) are being encroached by woody perennials in the absence of the annual monsoon floods that set back natural succession and maintain grasslands.

Forests in the TAL are managed under different management regimes: government managed forest, protection forest, protected areas and buffer zones, collaborative forest, community managed forest, and religious and private forest.

Over the past 13 years changes in land use and land cover (LULC) have been observed. Agricultural land increased by over 253 km2 whereas natural grasslands and shrub land decreased by over 884 km2 between 2000 and 2013. However, the analysis also revealed a recent trend where fertile agricultural land is being converted to settlements. Because of the local and national socio-economic implications associated with loss of prime agricultural land, the Government of Nepal introduced the National Land-use Policy (2012) to promote effective utilization and management of land (WWF, 2015). However, this policy has not been implemented due to political instability and lack of will power of the political leaders.

Species and Ecosystem Conservation:

Conservation of tiger, rhinoceros, gharial and vultures has a priority for interventions. Status and trends of major species are summarized below:

Tiger: A target to double the adult tiger population in TAL-Nepal by 2022 was set during this period as Nepal's commitment to the global tiger conservation goal. Between 2011 and 2014 the tiger numbers in TAL-Nepal protected areas increased by over 60%, to 198 adult animals, and Nepal is on track to achieve the 2022 target of at least 250 adult tigers managed in meta-populations in the landscape (DNPWC 2013b).

Rhinoceros: The rhino population increased to 645 animals in 2015 from a low of 372 in 2005 during a period of intense poaching. Functionality of the Khata corridor is being confirmed by tracking movement of satellite-collared rhinos to India's Katarniaghat WS.

Gharial: Over 800 captive bred gharials have been released into the Narayani, Rapti, Karnali, Babai and Koshi river systems to augment wild populations. A survey in 2013 estimated the wild gharial population at 124 animals, which is a 21% increased since the previous count in 2008. Evidently most of the gharial released move downriver and across the barrages along the Nepal-India border (or are

washed down during floods), but survive in India, contributing to the populations in the TAL rivers, albeit in India.

Dolphin: The Gangetic river dolphin is now confined to the lower reaches of the Koshi, Narayani and Karnali Rivers and the latter's tributaries in Nepal and India. The major threats to dolphin are floods that alter river flows and habitats; intensive, destructive fishing practices; infrastructure development; and intensive agricultural practices that withdraw water and release pollutants. The barrages established along the Nepal-India border prevent transboundary movement, isolating the small populations upstream in Nepal. It is important to have a transboundary dialogue with India on the future conservation strategy for dolphin.

Blackbuck: The establishment of a small subpopulation of blackbuck in its former range in Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve (WR) has been a milestone in species conservation. Previously the species occurred only in a small reserve in Khairapur, and in captivity. A number of animals (28) from various captive facilities were reintroduced in Shuklaphanta to establish a second population; they are in an enclosed area in Shuklaphanta WR's Hirapur grassland until their numbers increase to a level where they can be released. This is all the more important since the Khairapur population was badly affected by flooding in August 2014; the new Shuklaphanta population helps to hedge against this type of stochastic event.

Vultures: Six vulture species *(Gyps bengalensis, G. tenuirostris, G. himalayensis, Aegypius monachus, Neophron percnopterus* and *Sarcogyps calvus)* have been recorded from the TAL. In the early 2000s there was a precipitous decline in vulture populations across the northern Indian subcontinent due to Diclofenac poisoning. The vulture populations in the Nepal TAL underwent a similar decline (Prakash 2012) and felling of large trees in the TAL also resulted in the loss of nesting and roosting habitat. However, conservation interventions such as the Vulture Conservation Breeding Center, vulture restaurants, the ban on the use of Diclofenac, habitat conservation, and protection and monitoring of vulture nests with community engagement has increased the vulture populations by over 3-fold during the past decade.

Satisal and Bijaysal: In-situ conservation of satisal *(Dalbergia latifolia)* and bijaysal *(Pterocarpus marsupium)* has been initiated. Both species are rare, threatened, high-value timber trees of the subtropical Bhabar forests, and are protected in Nepal.

Community forest management has contributed to create additional habitats for focal and associated species. Khata has been the most successful of all the corridors. It confirms that maintaining corridors for tiger and rhinoceros can also provide a conservation umbrella for several other TAL species. Importantly, the corridor has gained support from local communities who have benefited from livelihood activities. A significant level of investment has been made in the Khata corridor to achieve these results over the last ten years.

With recovering wildlife populations, an increase in human-wildlife conflict (HWC) has been inevitable. Most conflicts in the TAL occur with elephant, rhino, tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild boar and ungulates. A range of mitigation measures (such as solar power fences, deep trenches, viewing towers and cultivation of unpalatable crops) have been employed to reduce conflict, with mixed results. Programs to establish community-based anti-poaching units (CBAPUs), Eco-Clubs, citizen scientists, and other education and awareness programs have been successful. Provision for relief funds at community level has been piloted aiming at quick response (MoFSC, 2015).

Under the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Carbon Fund, Nepal prepared an Emission Reduction Project Idea Note (ER-PIN) for a sub-national REDD+ project in TAL (REDD Forestry and Climate Change Cell 2014) which was approved in 2014. A more detailed Emission Reductions Program Document (ER-PD) has been prepared in 2015.

The Churia Rivers are the main sources of water for both people and wildlife in the TAL. The Churia range and its watersheds are geologically fragile and prone to severe environmental degradation, with soil erosion, landslides, and flash floods. Degradation of the Churia was flagged as a priority in the TAL strategic plan of 2004-2014, and an Integrated Soil and Watershed Management Programme was developed for priority sub-watersheds, micro watersheds and some hotspots to protect the fragile watersheds. It was implemented through the Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management (DSCWM), BISEP-ST and LFP Terai. The Rastrapati-Chure-Madhesh Program was launched with support from the highest levels of government with the recognition of the importance of the ecological role of the Churia range in sustaining and providing critical ecosystem services.

Several projects to reforest critical corridors in the Churia were initiated through community forestry. Many spring sources in the Churia foothills were restored as a result of grassland and forest restoration. Small reservoirs now provide sustainable water supplies for communities immediately downstream, while the restored source sites support wildlife.

In light of climate change, a TAL climate vulnerability assessment of socio-ecological systems was conducted, with recommendations for building resilience (WWF Nepal 2015). At sub-landscape scales, several Community Adaptation Plan of Action (CAPAs) and Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPAs) have been prepared and implemented (MoFSC, 2015).

Eco-Clubs

In Nepal, there are around 500+ Eco Clubs, with hundreds of thousands children participating in them. The majority of these are in the area covered by the TAL project. This area has 321 Eco Clubs with a total of more than 80,000 children. Almost half of the members are girls. Eco Clubs are led by schoolteachers: the Principal of the school is the Patron of the Eco Club, and one teacher, usually the one teaching Environment, Health and Population, is the Eco Teacher, having the main responsibility for guiding the Eco-Club members.

Biogas

As the need for firewood is a major cause of deforestation in Nepal, biogas helps conserve forest cover directly. Moreover, collecting firewood is one of the most toilsome tasks for rural women, often taking several hours per day. Replacing wood with biogas has enabled many women to learn how to read and write, as they have finally got enough spare time to attend literacy classes. Biogas is produced from cattle manure and toilet waste. Each household can produce their own biogas by installing a biogas plant. The technology is simple: the manure and toilet waste are mixed with water and dumped in an airtight underground pit of about 6 cubic meters (www.wwfnepal.org accessed on 7/22/2017).

There has been increasing trend of forest coverage over the period of time in program areas. There are two ways of bringing a forest back to life: collect seeds of native tree species for planting or to fence the forest to keep the grazing livestock out, to allow natural regeneration of the forest. Both ways have been successfully used by the TAL project. One example is the Khata area, which is located between Bardia National Park and the Katarniyaghat Wildlife Sanctuary across the Indian border. By

fencing forests to allow natural re- growth, and by planting trees, the local people have seen a drastic change in forests in just four years. What's more, two tigers have settled in the area, finding the newly appeared forests convenient enough to have settled permanently in.

Forest restoration also has an important role in saving some of the most endangered species like tigers and elephants. As the protected areas in Terai are far from each other, animals face the risk of being isolated in small populations, with no gene flow between different protected areas. In the long run, this can be fatal as small inbreeding colonies are often not viable. Thus, some kind of pathways for animal movement and gene flow have to exist, connecting the Nepal protected areas as well as those on the Indian side. The areas that are most critical in this sense have been identified. Called corridors and bottlenecks, they are especially focused on regenerating forests. The tigers and elephants have been observed to use some of these corridors.

Grasslands and forests are two main habitats of Terai. Lakes are small and scarce, but the area does have several wide, shallow rivers - ones that give birth to the mighty Ganges River. A typical species in grasslands is the elephant grass (Pennisetum Purpureum). Growing to an amazing height of four meters, it is the tallest grass species in the world. Forests of Terai vary from lush and dense jungles to open forests with more sunlight. In the lowland areas, the latter are often dominated by the sal tree (Shorea robusta).

WWF's Forest Strategy has an over-arching goal of 'zero net deforestation and forest degradation in WWF priority places by 2020'. It has identified work-streams based on two pillars; promoting forest conservation and sustainable use, and tackling drivers of deforestation. Government of Nepal, MoFSC has prepared the Terai Arc Landscape strategy and Action Plan (2015-2025) which is useful for biodiversity conservation and to make a difference in the lives of poor and vulnerable people in Terai Arc landscape as overall guiding document.

Under the first pillar, WWF Nepal has adopted the three complementary approaches to forest resources: protect, manage and restore, with the overall aim of ensuring conservation of biodiversity and environmental resources at the landscape level. WWF work across a network of protected areas of representative ecosystems in all the priority landscapes of Nepal while also ensuring the management and restoration of critical forests in corridors, bottlenecks, biodiversity hotspots and fragile ecosystems in the priority landscapes.

The Terai Arc landscape in the map of Nepal has been presented below (Fig. 3).

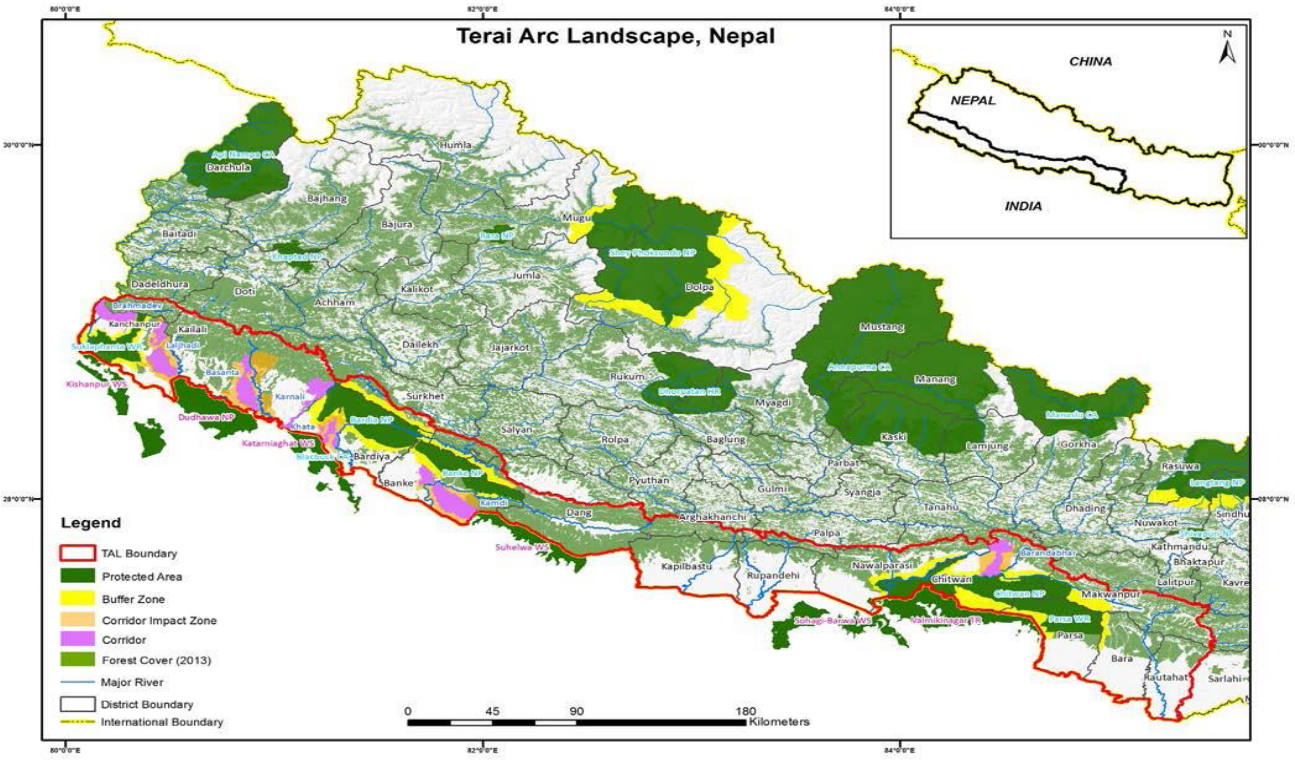

Fig. 3: Showing the Terai Arc landscape in the map of Nepal

3.1.4 Before and Now Situation Mapping in Amaltari, Nawalparashi

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of Community based Anti-Poaching Unit in Baghkhor village of Amaltari BZUC, Nawalparasi in Chitwan National Park which included community women and men to measure the effectiveness of key program activities of TAL and NCPA in the communities (Table 3). When asked on before and now situation mapping, what were the changes observed in the community, the respondents scored the main impacts of program in plant, people and wildlife.

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the leader of the group (respondent) to judge the changes. The focus group discussion was used that included women and men members of CBAPU in the scoring exercise. Every group members were allowed to participate in the discussion before scoring in the before and now situation. It was noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This was measured in relative terms.

Table 3: Before and After Situation Mapping in Amaltari Community-based Anti-Poaching Unit

Main Impacts	Before (August 2012)	Now (June 2017	Reasons
1.Forest conservation	6 (60 per cent)	9 (90 per cent)	• Increased conservation awareness • Organized grassland • Protection of wetland etc • Increased community patrolling

2.Wilflife Population	3 (30 per cent)	8 (80 per cent)	• Increased no. of Rhino from 5-35 • Increased no. of Tiger from 2-6 • Increased no. of deer from 10-100 • Observed new species of bird (Mottle wood Owl-a kind of *Latokosero*)
3.Life of Rivers (Narayani) around 6 KM distance	3 (30 per cent)	7 (70 per cent)	• No use of insecticides in River • Plastic free • Organized collection of stone, gravel etc • Controlled fishing
4.Interrelationship between Plant, Wildlife and Human-being	4 (40 per cent)	7(70 per cent)	• Increased Plantation • Rescued of injured wildlife • Zero poaching happened in this area • Wildlife closed by with community

Source: Focus Group Discussion in *Amaltari*, Nawalparashi, June 2017

The Amaltari, Nawalparashi Community based Anti-poaching Unit (CBAPU) was formed in 2071/11/08. There are a total of 300 members in the group where 40 per cent women and 60 per cent men have been organized. This is a volunteer value-led youth group. They are actively engaged in biodiversity conservation work in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. They have formed executive committee where a total of 15 members (40 % women and 60 % men) have been elected from the general members. They have own office building supported by WWF. They have done significant works in order to biodiversity conservation that include: Patrolling in day and night, Narayani River cleaning, plantation, awareness rising to school children, conservation campaign, ecotourism (homestay) etc. They have faced challenges as well that include direct conflict with wildlife. However, they became successful for zero poaching until eight years.

At the community level, the significant changes as perceived by respondents which are as follows:

- Development of self-reliant economy
- Economic prosperity happened among community members
- Diversification of enterprises
- Improved public health-health education, sanitation and personal hygiene
- Increased social harmony
- Reduced child and maternal mortality
- Increased self-esteem among women
- Developed local leadership and local institution
- Increased bargaining power among CBAPU members to influence policy and practice at local level.

Lesson learnt: The engagement of local youth (women and men) by organizing in Community Based Anti-Poaching Unit (CBAPU) significantly contributed to control poaching and illegal wildlife trade. The CBAPU roles needs to be recognized while sharing revenue received from national parks for economic development and build biodiversity conservation leadership as well. The CBAPU members are regarded as the pillar of biodiversity conservation campaign at grass root level. However, there is need to scaled- up because this has been ongoing since long time.

3.2 Sustainability

Sustainability is a major issue of the most of the development projects in Nepal due to high incidence of poverty, weak management capacity and poor governance system. In this project, the implementing partner organization Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Department of Forests, Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation and local civil society organizations has taken measures for the continuation of the Terai Arc landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation of Priority Area issues in the future. Furthermore, Nepal Army has been actively engaged using mobile-based technology (GPS), CC camera etc in 24 hour duty in order to promote and conserve the forest and wildlife particularly in TAL, SHL and NCPA programs.

Fig. 4: Colonel Mr. Thapa has presented the role of Nepal Army in Chitwan National Park, June 2017

Similarly, Forest Caretakers (*Ban Heralus-women and men*) are also actively working in conservation works using mobile based technology (Table 4). They have felt proud with getting limited incentives as well. There has been formed Buffer Zone Forest Committees, Buffer Zone Forest Users Groups, Eco-Clubs formation and Council level network in the program areas. Government of Nepal has provisioned the conservation of forest and wildlife in each priority areas (Fig.4). Similarly, Government has initiated number of long term programs particularly focusing to conserve the endangered species like Royal Bengal Tiger, Asian Rhinoceros, Asian Elephant, Snow leopard, Red Panda, River Dolphin, and Gharial etc. WWF has developed the linkage, coordination and collaborative woks with government line agencies and service providers for the continuation of the services as well.

Fig. 5: Ban Heralus are self-evaluating their work using score ranking tool in Chitwan, June 2017

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the respondent (*Ban Heralu*) to judge the changes observed in the forest and wildlife population. The focus group discussion was conducted that included women and men *Ban heralu* (Chitwan National Park) in the scoring exercise. Each group member was welcomed to participate in the discussion before scoring (Table 4). It was noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measure in relative terms.

Table 4: Before and now situation mapping of forest and wildlife in Chitwan National Park as perceived by Ban Heralu

Parameters	Before (2072)	Now (2074)	Reasons
1.Control deforestation	4 (40 %)	7 (70 %)	Mobile based technology Dedication of *Ban Heralu*
2.Control wildlife poaching	5 (50 %)	9 (90 %)	Dedicated effort of Nepal Army People awareness Actively engagement of CBAPU Coordination between stakeholders
3.People's awareness raising	4 (40 %)	9 (90 %)	Conservation education Mobile based technology

Source: Focus Group Discussion with *Ban Heralu* in Chitwan National Park Area, June, 2017

The midterm evaluation team discussed with *Ban Heralu* to map out their contribution in biodiversity conservation which is presented below:

"The program seems to be good enough in order to patrolling of forest, control poaching etc. However, government should more support on people's awareness raising, provide refresher training and increase incentives to ban heralu for the effectiveness of the programs" says Ms. Tika Devi Ghimire-38, Padmapur Kalika Municipality, Chitwan. The mobile based technology has contributed a lot to control deforestation, control poaching, easy monitoring and sending report to office as observed by Ban Heralu. There is a need of three monthly orientations to users and forest staff, launch

the intensive livelihoods improvement programs to community and increase the biogas program activity in buffer zone.

The high technology has been adopted by Department of Forest staff as well in Chitwan. "The high-tech devices have become useful in order to reduce accidents of wildlife, control wildlife poaching, and reduced haphazard solid waste disposal. There is a need of additional CC cameras, construction of one more post and repair and maintenance centre for equipment and high-tech devices should established here at Chitwan itself in order to increase efficiency" says Mr. Purna Bahadur BK-43, Department of Forest, Armed Forest Guard Training Centre, Tikauli, Chitwan.

3.2.1 Shramik Duna Tapari Small Industry

The laborers have organized and established the NTFP based Duna Tapari cottage industry in Kawashoti, Nawalparasi district in 2072 (Marg) and registered in Department of Small and Cottage Industry. A total of 700 members (540 women and 160 men) are organized in this cottage industry. It has reported the transaction of NPR 700,000.00 (seven hundred thousand) in last year. We have planned to increase transaction around NPR 2,000,000.00 (NPR two million) in the next year. In this industry, a total of 278 people are directly employed where a woman earned net NPR 84,000 per year. They sell their products in Narayanghat, Pokhara and Kathmandu valley. This industry has been led by Mr. Ram Prasad Pandey.

There have been changes observed in the life of members which are as follows:

- Children are enrolled in boarding school for education
- Leadership Development in politics as well as other social sector
- 12 months food security
- Constructed the RCC building as shelter
- Improved nutritional status of the poor people
- Improved secure livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable families
- Increased self-esteem among women and poor men due to self-employment generation.

"The program supported by WWF to establish NTFP based small industry has been instrumental in making a difference in the life of poor and vulnerable families. I am happy with this industry. I have earned NPR 450,000.00 last year. It has contributed a lot to run my livelihood. Now, I become an industrialist. My life has been transformed from landless laborer to industrialist. I am very proud from it. We have envisaged the future plans that include: extension of other NTFP based industry like broom grass, bamboo baskets, rope etc and increase direct self-employment for 700 people in the next year. However, we have needed NPR 1,000,000.00 (one million) and management training to expand our industry. We would like to request to WWF for further support in our plan" says Mr. Pandey, Ram Prasad-42 June 2017, chairperson, Jyoti Kunj Community Forestry, Kawashoti, Nawalparashi and leader of Shramik Duna Tapari Small industry, Kawashoti (Fig.5).

Fig. 6: Mr. Ram Prasad is in Duna Tapari Small industry, Kabasoti, Nawalaparasi, June 2017

Learning: The NTFP based small industry contributed to self-employment generation and increased income and secure livelihoods of women, poor and vulnerable families in the buffer zone areas. Simultaneously, local poor people have voluntarily organized for the conservation of forest and wildlife. Local women and men have realized that forest is the sustainable source of income and means of sustainable livelihoods. This is the motivating factor where poor people remained as conservators of the forest rather than destroyers. The forest and wildlife conservation works should always link with sustainable means of livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable people.

Shree Buffer Zone Dairy Cooperative Limited, Ratnanagar municipality supported by TAL program has done good work by organizing a total of 600 farmers and selling 1,500 liter milk per day in the market that generated the daily income for farmers. Around 10 per cent profit of dairy cooperative has been allocated for anti-poaching unit. They have done fodder development and other livestock improvement program in the community that impacted reduced grazing, increased household income, promotion of biogas, awareness rising to anti-poaching etc. This has remained the good example of linkage between biodiversity conservation and resilient livelihoods of the buffer zone communities. This sort of programs should be scaling-up in other parts of the country in the future.

Challenges:

The following challenges have been envisaged for the sustainability of the project:

The government authority and WWF should be smart and efficient to protect and promote the rights of the buffer zone community people link with sustainable livelihoods yet to be done more work. The social mobilization part need to be strengthening to promote, protect, and sustain the conservation of forest and wildlife. The wildlife poaching and illegal trading still remained the high risk in order to sustainable conservation of forest and wildlife. The climate change vulnerability is also becoming major challenge for the sustainable life of plants, wildlife and human-being that has threatened the food security and livelihoods of the communities.

In Nepal, the forest and grasslands are heavily converted, fragmented, and degraded, and many species and ecological communities are already under severe threat. Larger species such as tiger, Asian elephant, greater one-horned rhinoceros, clouded leopard, snow leopard, and wild dog that require continuous, extensive habitats and the habitat specialists with restricted distributions e.g. red panda, musk deer are particularly vulnerable. Forest loss also affects ecosystem function and ecological services that support human–being and national economic investments in agriculture and infrastructure (WWF, 2015).

3.2.2 Institutional Sustainability

Poudel (2016) has pointed out that Nepal Army is now providing security to nine National Parks and 3 Wildlife Reserves deploying 7,627 military officers and personnel. Since April 2015, Nepal Army has also deployed its 849 personnel in Dhorpatan wildlife reserve and Makalu Barun National Park. Nepal Army has established Nature Protection Institute to further strengthen nature conservation work. Due to its vigilance, Nepal has been able to mark Zero Poaching Years in 2011, 1013 and 2015. Nepal Army has been playing a key role in protection of wildlife and natural heritage. Out of 20 protected areas, Nepal Army has been protecting 12 areas (Poudel, 2016).

Nepal pioneered the use of Real-time SMART patrols in 83 guard posts in all tiger-bearing protected areas of TAL. This new patrol techniques developed by the Nepal Army in collaboration with WWF Nepal makes use of an android–based platform on mobile devices through which patrol teams record and update patrolling and location data in real-time. It has allowed for 24-hour monitoring of patrol teams together with providing immediate instructions on the ground, made the patrolling teams accountable, increased area coverage and frequency, and provided for paperless and prompt reporting to the headquarters. This is the latest technology to curb poaching and aid enforcement efforts within protected areas (WWF, 2015).

The midterm evaluation team conducted key informant interview with Colonel Mr. Thapa about the effectiveness of Chitwan National park conservation work particularly supported by Nepal Army that was interesting and amazing work in order to conserve the forest and wildlife. "The main weapon is the self-discipline and unity of efforts for wildlife conservation. This is a team work. Nepal Army is doing 24-hour patrolling in order to anti-poaching operation. We are using mobile based technology developed by Nepal Army which is very useful to monitoring the movement of army and others in any time and from any place. There have been faced challenges in order to wildlife conservation that include human-wildlife conflict, limited resources, transboundary movement and wildlife trade etc. There is a need of repair and maintenance of high tech equipment in the national park area" says Colonel Mr. Madhav Thapa, Nepal Army, Chitwan National Park, June 2017.

He has suggested the areas for improvement which are as follows:

- consistency of technology such as CC TV, optical fiber for sustainability
- maintenance/operation team need to be based in Kasara to repair the high-tech devices
- rapid response capacity need to be developed further by providing two vehicles for army
- environmental friendly motor boats should support
- communication facility through optical fiber should be continued
- additional three towers should be established to monitor wildlife
- 7 days long conservation training should be provided to army by WWF

- continue community awareness campaign in future as well

The local institution is an engine of community development including biodiversity conservation to make a difference in the life of poor women and men. WWF has initiated a *Digo Gaon* (sustainable village) concept where an integrated program has been launched. This is a pilot project supported by TAL program. It has gained momentum in positive trend towards resilient livelihoods and biodiversity conservation as well.

Similarly, the midterm evaluation team has carried out the key informant interview with Chief Conservation Officer Mr. Kanel about the effectiveness of Chitwan National Park conservation work over the last five years. During the interview, he pointed out the critical views on the conservation work supported by WWF Nepal in Chitwan National Park. "There has been increased conservation of wildlife species and forest, reduced dependency, increased fencing work to improve relationship between wildlife and buffer zone community, initiated self-employment generation schemes, fishery, capacity building training, celebration of world wildlife day, community incentive programs, reduced incidence due to people-park program, wetland conservation etc. National Park has allocated 30-50 per cent income to buffer zone community development works. He has identified as gaps that WWF should fully follow the participatory planning process; Chitwan National Park should lead and own the planning process. All conservation programs should be launched through Chitwan National Park whereas WWF should work as facilitator. There is a need of signing ceremony during contract agreement as perceived by Chief Conservation Officer. The current program does not contribute to sustainability and WWF should timely respond to Chitwan National Park" says Chief Conservation Officer, Chitwan National Park, June 2017.

He has suggested the following points in order to improve the conservation works in the future:

- sustain the introduced technology such as CCTV, optical fiber and real-time monitoring work
- coordination work to people awareness should go through national park
- the program activities like habitat management, pond maintenance, grassland and wetland management, and anti-poaching operation should continue
- construct ponds and culverts for internal mobility of wildlife
- infrastructure like building construction should be done with the facility of computer, water, electricity etc.
- program should be launched through GoN, national park and
- WWF should play the role of facilitator rather than direct implementer

However, there is co-management system existing between GoN and WWF in order to run the TAL, SHL and NCPA programs. There has been reported some coordination problem between CNP and TAL management team due to misunderstanding. It needs to be resolved through mutual respect and dialogical process between Chitwan National Park and WWF, TAL program.

The midterm evaluation team has conducted the key informant interview with Chief Conservation Officer Mr. Regmi about the performance of Langtang National Park conservation work over the last five years. During the interview he put forward his perception towards the conservation work in Langtang National Park supported by WWF Nepal.

"The overall program is good due to well coordination with National park. A total of 21 Users committees have been targeted in buffer zone of Langtang National Park. The programs should be scaled-up in the years to come. WWF supported SHL program should focus on income generation schemes, alternative energy, human-wildlife conflict resolution, climate change adaptation, replication of sustainable village activity, ecotourism, capacity development of local organizations and continue to conservation education at community level etc" says Chief Conservation Officer Mr. Regmi, Langtang National Park, July 2017.

Similarly, the midterm evaluation team has conducted the key informant interview with Regional Director Mr. Kafle about the biodiversity conservation works supported by WWF Nepal in eastern region of Nepal. During the interview, he has expressed the critical views on the conservation work in eastern region.

"In eastern region, SHL has been focusing biodiversity conservation and ecosystem resilience with livelihood support to the local communities particularly in Kanchenjunga, Makalu Barun and Sagarmatha PAs system. Although conservation is a challenging and costly initiative, this program has a significant contribution in technical and financial parts of the project areas. Local people and park staff has a positive response towards this program. The biodiversity conservation, ecosystem resilience and livelihood support activities carried out by SHL are leading toward sustainability and internalized by local people. SHL has made significant achievements as planned as stated in the project aims and objectives because of direct community participation and active role of project staff. However, there is a need of timely coordination with Regional Director based in Biratnagar. It has some challenges noted as well that include: transboundary coordination and control crime regarding Wildlife, herbs illegal trade/transit, conflict between wildlife and people in the areas. Others traditional challenges are forest fire, habitat fragmentation due to encroachment and poaching etc. The project has focused on transboundary issues on wildlife trade and transit control, intensive study and management of endangered species like snow leopard are regarded as innovative actions.

In the future, intensive monitoring, effective coordination and fund management with enabling policy formulation have been expected from the Government Sector. The project management unit should be effective and efficient in response to the need and priorities of the local people and park areas. The local authority should play the role of facilitator on conflict resolution, participation and benefit sharing in favour of local people. Local people's participation on biodiversity conservation, ecosystem resilience and livelihood initiatives are the major activities required for replication in other parts of the country" says Regional Director, Eastern Region Forestry Directorate, Mr. Kafle, June 2017.

3.2.3 Impact in Brabal village Rasuwa, Langtang National Park Buffer Zone

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of women and men of sustainable village in Brabal, Thuloshyaphru, Rasuwa to measure the impacts of key program activities of SHL and NCPA at the communities (Table 5) level. When asked on before and now situation mapping what was the changes observed in the community that the respondents scored the main impacts of program in plant, people and wildlife.

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the leader of the group to judge the changes. The focus group discussion was used that included women and men members of sustainable village in the scoring exercise. Each group member was allowed to participate in the discussion before scoring in the before and now situation (Fig.7). It was noted that higher the score

greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measure in relative terms.

Table 5: Impact on Brabal, Rasuwa, Langtang National Park Buffer Zone Users Groups

Parameters	Before (August 2012)	Now (June 2017)	Reasons
1.Forest Conservation	6 (60 %)	9 (90 %)	Increased dense forest Controlled grazing Mess wire fencing Followed working rules
2.Wildlife Poaching Control	2 (40 %)	9 (90 %)	Controlled wildlife poaching due to increased community awareness Declared as no go zone (red panda zone)
3.Sustainable Livelihoods	1 (20 %)	7(70 %)	Increased income generation Created self-employment Controlled crops damaged by wildlife
4.Interrelationship between Plant, Wildlife and Human-being	2 (40 %)	6 (60 %)	Established good relationship between wildlife and human-being
5.Leadership Development and local institutional development	2 (20 %)	8 (80 %)	Developed local leadership Increased women awareness Developed local institutions like Cooperatives and other groups
6.State of Poverty	9 (90 %)	3 (30 %)	Reduced direct poverty and suffering because of self employment creation within the community such as Chiraito trading, vegetable farming etc

Source: Focus Group Discussion, Brabal, Thuloshyaphru, Rasuwa, July, 2017

Fig. 7: Community members are scoring the performance of SHL Program in LNP, Rasuwa, July, 2017

Monkey and wild boar has not been controlled successfully through mess wire fencing due to weak base and open space in the rural road. There is a need of PCC in the base of mess wire to control wild boar entry in the farming areas (Fig.8 and 9). However, monkeys easily cross the mess wire.

Fig. 8: Mess wire fencing to control wildlife

Fig. 9: Stone wall fencing in Langtang National Park Area

The evaluation team has mapped out the view of Senior Agriculture Development Officer Mr. Humagain based in Dhunche, Rasuwa towards Sacred Himalayan Landscape program. He has expressed the critical perception on the program performance and suggestions for the future as well. "WWF supported Sacred Himalayan Landscape program is popular in the high hills community. However, the scale of program is focused only in limited places that do not cover wider range of people. In the future, stone wall fencing, plantation of apple, walnut, small irrigation schemes, cattle-shed improvement, commercial vegetable farming, livestock farming; cottage industries etc need to be scaled-up. The wildlife affected people should receive compensation in order to build the good

relationship between people and park" says Senior Agriculture Development Officer Mr. Ramesh Humagain, District Agriculture Development Office, Dhunche, Rasuwa, July 2017.

3. 2. 4 Prey-base populations of snow leopards in increasing trend

The population of blue sheep was found to increase in KCA by 16.8 % from 1,167 individuals in 2007 to 1,404 individuals in 2012. Similarly, the population of Himalayan tahrs increased by 48 % in Sagarmatha National Park (from 189 individuals in 2010 to 281 individuals in 2012), and by 19 % in Langtang National Park (from 331 individuals in 2009 to 394 individuals in 2012). Direct count method was employed to update the population status of the prey species. WWF Nepal has been supporting DNPWC to periodically update the status of priority species and species of special concerns within Protected Areas (WWF, 2013).

WWF, SHL program has initiated sustainable village (*Digo Gau*) pilot project in Thuloshyaphru, Rasuwa. It has following key achievements:

- reduced poaching
- red panda monitoring
- community building construction by mothers' group
- established red panda information center
- trail construction
- a total of 4 dumping site construction
- hotel training
- group formation
- construction of drinking water supply scheme
- construction of irrigation canal
- establishment of water mill
- kitchen construction in monastery
- iron pole distribution to all households for new year flag installation
- established gas depot
- established electrical water heater
- distribution of smokeless stove
- plantation of apple, walnut, kiwi etc
- plastic tunnel construction for tomato production
- establishment of multipurpose nursery
- filter water tank
- a total of 85 toilet construction
- total NPR one million scholarship fund for school children
- education tour in Chitwan National Park
- guide training for two persons

There has been motorable road facility in the village. Local people have constructing the RCC building for shelter as earthquake reconstruction. They have declared the no go zone (red panda conservation area) to nearby hill. The numbers of tourists have been increased in the village. There has been increased household income due to chiraito farming, potato cultivation in two seasons and vegetable farming etc.

Mr. Phinjo Tamang has expressed his positive views toward SHL program. "Now, our village has become like heaven due to increased bundle of facilities. Development has gained the momentum in our village. I earned NPR 250,000.00 (two hundred fifty thousand) last year. This money has been used for children education and other for household consumption. However, we have not yet received the proper market price of the agricultural produce. Government should provide marketing facility of our agricultural produce" says Phinjo Tamang-55, Chairperson of Sustainable Village Coordination Sub-Committee, Thuloshyaphru, Rasuwa, buffer zone, Langtang National Park, July, 2017.

In the Thuloshyaphru, there has been formed the anti-poaching committee to conserve the red panda, deer, snow leopard etc. They have done patrolling 4 times per year. WWF, SHL has provided tent, utensils, GPS, compass, sleeping bags to anti-poaching committee. The local youths have been organized for this job. This is good initiative taken by youths that lead to sustainable forest and wildlife conservation. WWF, SHL program should boost the spirit and morale of the local youths by providing incentives, award, skilled base training for livelihoods.

Mr. Tamang put forward his views on anti-poaching work supported by WWF Nepal. "I am enjoying in anti-poaching job to save red panda, and musk deer. The foreign tourists visit our village to see red panda. For me, wildlife conservation work is very important. I am doing volunteer job for the cause. However, we need skilled base training like guide training, carpentry, mansion work, and nursery raising training for livelihoods" says Mr. Nakpu Dorje Tamang-38, Thuloshyaphru, Rasuwa, Langtang National Park, July 2017.

Similarly, chairperson of agriculture cooperative, Timure, Rasuwa expressed her valuable response toward SHL. "we have received benefits from buffer zone programs particularly the vegetable farming, small irrigation scheme, drinking water supply in cooperative building, plantation, gas distribution to cooperative members (NPR 1800/cylinder). There has been changed the life style of villagers after the distribution of gas cylinder that include easy to cooking food, saved the time for not fetching the fuelwood, conserved the forest as well. Now, people have stopped the use of fuelwood for cooking purpose. We are organized in the cooperative with the support of buffer zone program. However, there is a need of office assistant to keep the proper book of account, scaling-up of gas cylinder distribution from 100-200 cylinders" says Ms. Pasang Tamang-33, Chairperson of Agriculture Cooperative, Gosaikund Rural Municipality-2, Rasuwa, July 2017.

3.2.5 Baghkhor Sustainable Village Nawalparashi

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of women and men of sustainable village in Baghkhor, Nawalparashi buffer zone of Chitwan National Park to measure the impacts of sustainable village of TAL and NCPA at the buffer zone community level. When asked on before and now situation mapping regarding the changes observed in the community, the respondents scored the main impacts of program in plant, people and wildlife using certain outcome indicators (Table 6).

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the leader of the group to judge the changes observed in the village. The focus group discussion was conducted that included women and men members of sustainable village in the scoring exercise. Each group member was welcome to participate in the discussion before scoring.

It should be noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measured in relative terms.

Table 6: Impact on Baghkhor Sustainable Village, Nawalparashi, Chitwan National Park Buffer Zone

Parameters	Before (Aug 2012)	Now (June 2017)	Reasons
1.Economic Development • Self-employment • Formation of Cooperative • Ecotourism (Homestay)	2 (20 %)	6 (60 %)	Ecotourism-75 HHs Skill Development Diversification in Agriculture Formation of Cooperative-220 members Increased economic prosperity Reduced poverty
2.Social Development • School Education • Improved in Public Health • Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene • Good Governance and Culture	2 (20 %)	7 (70 %)	Access to safe drinking water-100 % HHs Establishment of Community Health Clinic Protection of culture Increased social harmony Organized public auditing Organized regular meeting
3.Environmental Conservation • Forest • Wildlife • Climate Change Adaptation • Environmental Friendly Behavior • Zero Poaching	1 (10 %)	6 (60 %)	Zero-poaching until eight years Management of wetland and grassland Construction of forest trail Mess wire (5.5 KM area) Electric fence (8.5 KM area) Plantation

			Established nursery Construction of checkdam Regular patrolling etc
4.Interrelationship between Plant, Wildlife and Human-being	3 (30 %)	8 (80 %)	Forest conservation Wildlife conservation Established good relationship between wildlife and human-being due to awareness raising among women and men
5.Leadership Development/Local Institution Development	2 (20 %)	8 (80 %)	Developed local leadership Increased women awareness Increased self-esteem among the women Developed local institutions like Cooperatives and Buffer Zone Users groups and committees etc

Source: Focus Group Discussion, Baghkhor, Nawalparashi, June, 2017

3.2.6 Issues and Challenges

Human-wildlife conflict continues to be a major challenge in TAL. While conservation efforts have helped increase wildlife populations especially of tigers and rhinos, this in turn has escalated the level of such conflict in TAL. The incidence of a rhino entering the streets of *Hetauda* bazaar is a vivid example of how HWC (human wildlife conflict) might escalate in the future if appropriate mitigation measures are not in place (WWF, TAL, 2015).

3.2.7 Impact on Pairebeshi, Rasuwa, Buffer Zone of LNP

WWF Sacred Himalayan Landscape program was initiated in this community in 2006. The buffer zone program has been popular in the community. It has launched commercial vegetable farming through plastic tunnel; cattle shed improvement, biogas plant, water source protection, wildlife water pond construction, supported to rehabilitation program for earthquake affected people, construction of check dam to control landslide, fire control program, eco-club formation, environmental awareness etc. However, after Gorkha Earthquake 2015, the local people have demanding the infrastructure development program (shelter construction) in order to rehabilitation of earthquake affected people.

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of women and men of Pairebeshi, Laharepauwa, Rasuwa in the buffer zone of Langtang National Park to measure the outcome and impacts at community level. When asked on before and now situation mapping what were the changes observed in the community, the respondents scored based on the main impacts of program in plant, people and wildlife using certain socio-economic and environmental indicators (Table 7).

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the group leader to map out the changes observed in the community. The focus group discussion was done that included

women and men members of the Buffer zone Forest Users group in the exercise. Each group member was encouraged to participate in the discussion before scoring. It should be noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was mapped out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measured in relative terms.

Table 7: Impact on Pairebeshi Buffer Zone Forest Users Groups, Langtang National Park

Outcome Indicators	Before (August 2012)	Now (July 2017)	Reasons
1. Forest Conservation	4 (40 %)	9 (90 %)	Increased dense forest Constructed the checkdam Increased awareness Broom grass plantation in the landslide area Controlled grazing
2. Wildlife Poaching	9 (90 %)	1 (10 %)	Decreased wildlife poaching significantly Increased community awareness
3. State of Poverty	5 (50 %)	2 (20 %)	Increased self-employment Commercial vegetable farming Saving & credit schemes Reduced direct poverty
4. Interrelationship between Plant, Wildlife and Human-being	2 (20 %)	8 (80 %)	Increased awareness to forest conservation Wildlife conservation Established good relationship between wildlife and human-being
5. Leadership Development/ Local Institutional Development	2 (20 %)	8 (80 %)	Developed local leadership Increased women awareness Developed local institutions like Cooperatives Saving & Credit Schemes

Source: Focus Group Discussion, Pairebeshi, Uttarganga Rural Municipality, Rasuwa, July, 2017

"The buffer zone program is fully owned by the local community. This program is popular among the women and poor people because it has brought the changes in the lives of poor and vulnerable

groups of the community with the support of basket of program activities related to sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation. In the future, WWF, SHL program should focus on earthquake affected households reconstruction, homestay, 'sustainable village program', *Ghale Ghadhi, Kamare Gadhi* protection for ecotourism" says Mr. Uttam Thapa (July 2017), Chairperson, Laharepauwa Buffer Zone Forest Committee, Langtang National Park, Rasuwa.

Similarly, the perception of local women representative towards to SHL program has been mapped out that includes:

"The buffer zone program is useful for us because it has increased people awareness, conserved forest and wildlife, supported in livelihoods and income generation to make a difference in the life of women and poor men. However, we need further support on commercial vegetable farming, leadership development training, bamboo and broom grass plantation in landslide affected area" says Ms. Gyanu Thapa Magar-39 (July 2017) chairperson, Pairebeshi Community Forestry User Group, Uttarganga Rural Municipality-4, Rasuwa.

3.2. 8 Technical Sustainability

The technical sustainability is the intervention of farmers' managed technologies in order to increase income and resilient livelihoods of the local people by considering the species and ecosystem conservation. A case study has been presented below (box 1).

Box 1: Pipalbot Pond Irrigation users group, Dhaibung, Rasuwa

The Kalika Dharmik Forest group Dhaibung, Rasuwa was formed with the support of SHL program. It has a total of 500 members and eleven executive committee members to lead the group. A pond irrigation scheme was constructed in Pipalbot in the capacity of 102,000 lit water that supported by WWF, SHL program in response to climate change adaptation. A total of 30 HHs have received benefits from the pond irrigation scheme that irrigates 7.5 ha area. There has been changed in the productivity per unit area significantly after the pond irrigation completion. There has been increased income of NPR 35,000 per year per Ropani (now in 2017) area as compared to NPR 16, 500 income per Ropani per year (2013). There has been increased total NPR 2,775,000 (NPR 2.75 million) income per year from the same land. The small irrigation schemes can contribute a lot to increase income of the smallholder farmers that lead to food security and sustainable livelihoods (Table 8). This is regarded as good strategy in response to climate change adaptation measure. This program should be scaled-up in the years to come to make a difference in the lives of climate vulnerable community.

Table 8: Pipalbot Pond Irrigation users group, Dhaibung, Rasuwa

Cropping Intensity Per year	Before (2013)	Now (July 2017)
Potato Production/Ropani **(Price in NPR/Qtl)**	quintal/Ropani NPR 2000*3 = NPR 6000	10 quintal/Ropani NPR 2000*10 = NPR 20,000
Rice Production/Ropani **(Price in NPR/Qtl)**	3 quintal/Ropani NPR 3000*3 = 9000	3 quintal/Ropani NPR 3000*3 = 9,000

Maize Production/Ropani **(Price in NPR/Qtl)**	0.5 quintal/Ropani NPR 3000*0.5 = NPR 1500	quintal/Ropani NPR 3000*2 = NPR 6,000
Total income	NPR 16,500/Ropani	NPR 35,000/Ropani
Increased Income /Ropani **(NPR 35,000- NPR 16,500)**	-	NPR 18,500/Ropani

Source: Focus Group Discussion, Rasuwa, July, 2

The fish enterprises have becoming lucrative business for the people living in buffer zone areas (Box 2) particularly in Madi, Chitwan. An interesting case study has been presented below:

Box 2: Fishery Enterprises

Similarly, the fishery enterprise seems to be profitable as compared to traditional crop like rice. It produces 200 kg fish per *Katha* that cost around NPR 50,000 (fifty thousand) whereas rice produces 150 Kg per *Katha* that cost NPR 3,000 (three thousand) only. The fishery enterprise has becoming popular in Gopalnagar, Madi, Chitwan where a total of 800 ponds are being used for fish culture. Farmers sell their products in Narayanghat, Pokhara and Kathmandu valley. There is no major problem of marketing. However, there has been problem noted in order to repair and maintenance of old ponds and control of *magar gohi* as predator. Farmers from Gopalnagar sell the fish around NPR 70 million per year where a total of 102 households have been engaged in fish farming (Fig.10). They have formed fish cooperative as well in order to promote the fish enterprises. After fish farming, there has been controlled 90 per cent wildlife infestation in the village. Government of Nepal, Ministry of Agriculture has declared Madi as pocket area of fish. So that farmer will get more support from Government of Nepal. The *magar gohi* should be translocated from Gopalnagar to Narayani River.

Fig. 10: Fish Pond in Gopalnagar, Madi, Chitwan, June, 2017

"I have earned NPR 200,000 (two hundred thousand) from fish farming last year. Around 40 per cent remained production cost whereas 60 per cent profit earns in fish farming. I want to scale-up this business in the next year" says Mr. Kamal Bhujel-47, fishery farmer, Madi Municipality-7, Chitwan, June 2017.

An interesting case study (Box 3) on conservation of degraded areas of Indrawati and Duhkoshi has been presented below:

Box 3: Conservation of Degraded Areas

In Indrawati and Dudhkoshi sub-basins, 310 acres of degraded areas were conserved through micro-watershed management interventions such as plantation and bio-engineering benefiting 438 households. Likewise, 49 spring sources were conserved in Indrawati and Dudhkoshi sub-basins benefiting 960 households through improved drinking water and irrigation facilities (WWF, 2014).

The evaluation team has conducted key informant interview with Joint Secretary of MOFSC (Dr. Dhakal) about the overall performance of the TAL and SHL programs and figure out his perception which are as follows:

"Banke National Park has been established, Parsa national park is expanded, Krishnasar CA is established, tiger and rhino population has increased, rhino zero poaching is celebrated and community based conservation work has been enhanced in the support of WWF Nepal. The satellite radio monitoring of snow leopard has been carried out and established Gaurishankar Conservation Area are regarded as significant work supported by WWF Nepal. In case of SHL, conservation work together with local communities is facilitated, wildlife crime control unit (WCCB) was established, and capacity development of government staff and local communities is enhanced. There has been noted coordination problems, overlapping and duplications, domination of partner organizations, problems of credibility, no publications of the reports in case of TAL. Similarly, there has been budget gap and limited activities, less coordination, duplication and overlapping of program have been noted in case of SHL. There have been reported human-wildlife conflict, wildlife crime and encroachment of forest as challenges of program" says Dr. Dhakal-Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, June 2017.

Lessons learnt:

The following lessons learnt have been drawn:

Need for detail assessment prior to the investment in activities
During the last fiscal year, WWF supported for the post construction in Shivapur of Babai valley; this post got swept away by the flood largely because of the lack of a detailed site assessment. This resulted in both financial and programmatic loss for TAL program. Building upon the lessons learned from this, in fiscal year 2015, TAL has planned to do detail assessment before deciding to invest in all major constructions only after a detailed site assessment for the long-term sustainability of the program.

Application of android based technology in Rhino count
TAL piloted the use of a mobile-based platform developed by the Nepal Army in 2015 rhino count to ensure proper track alignments of elephants along the survey routes so as to avoid gaps and overlaps in the areas including double counting of rhinos. The use of this technology in combination with the conventional count method helped increase the scientific rigor of the rhino count in protected areas of mid and Western Terai, Nepal. During the past rhino counts, gaps were identified in methodology such as the elephant track alignments, which led to voids in 11 the area coverage and overlaps in several areas. Thus, the newly introduced android-based technology has proved to be effective given its precision in rhino count and avoiding duplication (WWF, 2015).

3.2.3 Financial Sustainability

The financial sustainability of the program and local institutions is crucial aspects for long lasting. In the project areas, there has been formed Buffer Zone Forest Users Groups, Buffer Zone Forest Users' Committees, agricultural cooperatives, saving & credit groups, commercial vegetable farming using plastic tunnel, livestock enterprises, poultry farming, dairy industries, NTFP based enterprises and ecotourism (homestay) program activities have been operated with the local leadership. The National Parks also allocated about 30-50 per cent income to buffer zone community development. The public hearing or public auditing events at Buffer Zone Forest Users groups and Buffer Zone Forest Users Committees organized in order to promote financial transparency and to control and prevention of misuse of resources. However, there is a need of capacity development of executive committee members in this regard. WWF should support for Office Assistant in Cooperatives to maintain the book of account as standard financial operating principles.

Financial sustainability is crucial in case of donor funded programs. The financial sustainability has to be analyzed at 3 different levels:

Institutional

WWF Nepal is operating as a project office of WWF US that is the headquarter of the WWF Nepal. There is operational and financial dependence of WWF Nepal on WWF US. Overhead amounting to USD 200,000.00 is assured by WWF US. The organization reports a cumulative reserve amounting to USD 200,000.00. Thus, its financial sustainability is contingent upon the strategic direction of WWF US, availability of funds for its programs and policies and strategies of GON.

Program

TAL and SHL are landscapes defined and prioritized by MoFSC. WWF Nepal is one of the partners of GoN investing in conservation activities in the said landscapes. WWF Nepal seeks funding after the requirement is fixed and budgets are prepared by partner organization (CFCCs, BZUCs, etc) at the grass root level. Although, there is sole funding of WWF under the project banner but multiple organizations both Government and Non-Governmental are working in the same region/landscapes. Thus, there will be continuity and financial investment in the activities and the program is fairly financially sustainable.

Partners' Sustainability

Community Forest Coordination Committees (CFCCs) and Buffer Zone User Committees (BZUCs) are major partners of WWF Nepal in the projects after MoFSC. Besides these many Cooperatives, private sectors and NGOs have partnered with WWF Nepal during the project implementation. The CFCCs are heavily dependent upon WWF Nepal for funding for the programs and activities. They are organized as NGOs and can seek for assistance from multiple donors. They have certain revolving funds but do not have any sustainable revenue sources. In case of BZUCs, they are formed by the directive issued by GoN. 30% to 50% of revenue of the NPs is distributed to them. Thus, they are more financially sustainable and can continue to operate even without support of WWF Nepal.

An interesting case study about Dhasinghare oil processing has been presented below (Box 4):

Box 4: Dhasinghare oil processing in Rasuwa

In *shyaubari*, Rasuwa, Dhasinghare oil processing center has been established that created the self-employment for local people. A total of two direct and 35 people indirectly employed. A person earns NPR 300 per day. A person gets employment around 120 days per year where 75 per cent women and 25 per cent men have been engaged in this business. There has been decreased by 50 per cent in liquor production after the establishment of this small industry. It has produced 75 liter oil last year. They sell the oil in Kathmandu. It cost NPR 3,700 per liter. However, the capacity of the processing plant should be increased to provide more employment to the local people (Field study, 2017).

3.3 Efficiency

The Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Area have been envisaged for long term program planning until 2050. However, the midterm evaluation has been focused for the period of August 2012 - June 2017. There has been completed most of the program activities as planned. The WWF program team, partner organizations and Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Department of Forests and Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation have done good performance.

Financial Efficiency:

Efficiency measures the productivity of the resources being invested. It can be measured through the ratio analysis of the acquisition of financial resources, spending of acquired financial resources for the mission, its usage in the Core Activity (Programs) and Support Activity (Administration) and finally the results that financial resources bring about from programmatic aspect.

Most of the activities have been successfully executed by the WWF Nepal and the financial resources channeling to the users has been properly done. It has very successful in acquisition of fund and was able to secure and spend 39% more funds than that proposed in Project Agreement. It fails to maintain balance between program cost and admin cost. Like explained in earlier paragraphs, the NCPA program has been spending more on the part of Administrative Cost consistently over the period of mid-term evaluation. Similarly, SHL has been heavier on admin cost side in FY 2013 and if we analyze individual project office wise i.e. SHL – LNPBZSP, it again is heavier on the admin cost.

At field level, few instances were noted where the activities seemed to follow more of supply push rather than demand pull system. For an instance, a support to Bagauda BZUC for Information Center was a complete waste as the space was used as Library was being used as Guard Room and Computer Room was used as store where materials were stacked over computer itself. Thus, WWF Nepal is fairly good on part of Financial Efficiency.

3.3.1 Impact of Gorkha Earthquake 2015

There has been challenged faced by the Program Management Team due to the Gorkha earthquake of 25 April 2015 and its aftershocks resulted in huge loss of life, injury, and economic damage in 31 districts (Central and Western Regions) of Nepal, affecting all sectors. The post disaster needs assessment (PDNA) estimated the value of damage and loss at $7,065 million, a large proportion of it

housing (NPC, 2015). While reconstruction will take many years and more investment, there is a great opportunity to ensure that building back is not only 'better and safer' but also greener, ensuring healthy ecosystems for disaster risk reduction and natural resources for resilient livelihoods and economic prosperity (GoN, MoSTE, 2015).

Geological and hydrological impacts

The earthquake induced at least 2,780 landslides and many ground crakes in 31 districts, significantly damaging settlements, infrastructure, agricultural land, forests and water resources; the frequency of landslides was three times greater than that before the earthquake. A large avalanche in Langtang valley destroyed Langtang village and flattened nearby forest. Water resources changed in some areas, with reduced or no flows in some, and new sources starting to flow in others. Freshwater ecosystems in the Koshi and Gandaki basins were affected by increased amounts of sediments, and a few rivers were temporarily blocked by landslides. Risk of downstream flooding is increased due to deposition of large amounts of sediment.

Impacts on forests and biodiversity

An estimated 20.2 per cent of forest cover in the affected areas was lost, mainly pine forest and sub-temperate forest (NPC, 2015), It will take many years for many sites to stabilize and vegetation to re-establish, and there is a risk of invasive species establishing. Seven protected areas were severely affected, and their management and that of community and government forests was disrupted, with risk of increased illegal extraction. Some wild animals are known to have been killed directly by the earthquake; others are likely to be affected by landslides restricting their ranges and the earthquake occurring during the main breeding season. Loss of NTFP or access to them has significant impacts on local livelihoods, as does the disruption to tourism (GoN, MoSTE, 2015). The WWF supported TAL, CBRP, SHL and NCPA limited resources have been diverted to relief, rehabilitation and reconstructions in response to recovery of Gorkha earthquake 2015.

Impacts of solid waste and hazardous materials

A huge amount of debris was generated from damaged buildings. Hazardous waste released into the environment included medical wastes that was haphazardly disposed of; electrical wastes; chemicals from laboratory spills; industrial chemicals; and petroleum products. Lead and mercury were released including lead in paint, posing long-term health hazards. Some toxic chemicals will end up in ground water or rivers; some are persistent pollutants (MoSTE, 2015).

3.4 Relevance

The project found to be relevant to address the need and priorities of the vulnerable and poor families particularly focusing on biodiversity conservation of Terai Arc Landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Areas that include sustainable forest management, species and ecosystem conservation, climate change and energy, freshwater, sustainable livelihoods, Churia Watershed conservation, policy and advocacy, conservation education, local institutional development like Forests users groups, farmers' cooperatives, anti-poaching campaign, linkage and coordination with district line agencies particularly with District Development Committees, National Parks in the project areas focusing the buffer zones of Nepal. The program's goal, objectives and activities were consistent with the Constitution of Nepal-2015, Forests and Wildlife Conservation Policies and programs, and the Thirteenth (Three Year) Plan (2013/14–2015/16) of the Government of

Nepal in terms of biodiversity conservation in partnership with MOFSC, DoF, DNPWC, Ministry of Land Reform and Management, civil society organizations in TAL, SHL and NCPA. This program seems to be more relevant in order to address the climatic variation. This programs has contributed to National Adaptation Plan of Activities (NAPA) and Local Adaptation Plan of Activities (LAPA) prepared by Government of Nepal.

3.5 Coordination, Compliance and Transparency

WWF Nepal closely works with community partner and government agencies from local to district and central levels in program planning, implementation and monitoring. Field project office has close coordination with DDC and other district level government agencies. WWF Nepal also intensively engaged at different central level mechanisms to work on policy formulation, national level coordination; and resource mobilization. WWF Nepal shares all the policy and research documents to the government agencies as well as other stakeholders. It has strong partnership with Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and its departments: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Department of Forests. Government of Nepal and conservation partners work closely with technical expertise and financial resources to achieve the conservation results. WWF Nepal has followed the terms and conditions provisioned in the general agreement and project agreement made with SWC.

Project implementations has been done under co-management system where government representatives deputized as a project lead and play critical role in ensuring co-ordination with local level authorities and partners on the ground whereas central level project steering committee and project executive committee provides policy guidance and support with strategic direction in implementations. The civil society organizations-project partners of WWF regularly organize the public hearing in order to promote the transparency and good governance in the program. The public hearing program is compulsory in Government Offices as well.

WWF has organized the transboundary meeting with China and India as well in order to solve the transboundary issues related to illegal trade of wildlife and fire control etc.
China-Nepal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation in the field of forestry and biodiversity conservation (2010) is under implementation through the support of WWF particularly in organizing local level transboundary meetings (Fig.11). A local level transboundary meeting between China (Tibet Autonomous Region-TAR) and Nepal was organized on 25th April 2015 in Dhunche, Rasuwa, Nepal. The meeting delegates discussed about the cross-border conservation issues particularly forest fire and illegal wildlife trade in the border areas (WWF, 2015).

Fig.11: Transboundary meeting with China, LNPBZ, 2015

An event of regional trans-boundary meeting between India (Sikkim) and Nepal organized on 17 February 2014 in Gangtok, India to enhance trans-boundary cooperation (Fig. 12). The meeting decided to continue cross-border joint monitoring to identify and address conservation issues; and strengthen information and communication systems between the two countries to stop poaching and illegal trade of wildlife and plant parts. Snow leopard research in Nepal and red panda research in India was shared in the meeting and agreed to collaborative research on flagship species through common understanding on methodologies and information sharing (WWF, 2014).

Fig. 12: Transboundary meeting with India, 2014

3.6 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

The WWF set a broad GESI goal as: "By the end of 2018, WWF's all program and projects practice will be more gender and social responsive and inclusive," taking the first step towards making the program more responsive and inclusive. This broader impact will be constantly supported, enriched and achieved through constant feedback from field project implementation, peer engagement in the planning process, and incorporation of national policy with its contemporary context. These would accelerate positive changes in conservation practices, making them more gender and socially

inclusive. The WWF team also aimed to develop a more comprehensive reference guideline; build CBOs' implementation capacity, enhance understanding on gender and conservation, and promote an enabling environment to achieve higher impact. WWF Nepal's future focus envisaged on building the capability of local natural resource management institutions by helping in their human resource Development and providing training and orientation to local resource persons, respective project staff, social Mobilizer and implementing partners in the landscapes programs, and performing periodic social and gender auditing of all targeted activities (WWF, 2015).

The Forest users Groups, Buffer Zone Forest Users Committee and agriculture cooperatives are the backbone of the TAL, CBRP, SHL and NCPA programs. There has been changed in the traditional gender roles of men and women where women farmers participate in the community meeting whereas men go to jungle to fetch fuel wood and fodder. At present, this has been a normal phenomenon in the society. The gender issue has been taken into account in the assessment-design-implementation-monitoring of TAL and SHL programs. The caste-based discrimination has also been weakened at the community level due to inclusion of Dalits women in the Forest Users Groups and agricultural Cooperatives. The practice of untouchability is weakening in the society. The morale of Dalits community seems to be high as compared to previous one because of increased participation of Dalits women in the conservation program. However, it is yet to be done in the days to come to eradicate caste-based discrimination in the society.

In the project areas, the participation of women (around 55 per cent) in the development process has significantly increased particularly in decision-making process at households, community and municipality level. There has been narrowing down the gap in traditional gender roles and division of work in women and men. However, women have still more engaged in domestic chores whereas men has focused more in seasonal migration and plough the land (Appendix 7). In case of access to and control over resources, women have also increasing greater influence within household and even in the community level resources due to the positive impacts of the conservation programs (Appendix 8). The Buffer Zone Forest Users Groups and Buffer Zone Forest Committee have greater roles to increase women awareness and organizing in the groups. There has been significantly increased an articulating and bargaining power among the women to claim the rights with duty bearers particularly with Village Development Committees/municipalities and district line agencies. There has been comparatively reduced gender-based violence in the community due to organized women action against discrimination. The work load of the women has been reduced due to access to drinking water; grain mills, road transportation facility and increased gender awareness etc (fig.13). However, the patriarchal social structure is still dominating in the society. The promoting gender equity and social inclusion in real sense is challenging work for civil society organisations at the community. There is a need of strong lobbying and advocacy work to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local and national level.

Fig. 13: Women and men are discussing about Gender division of work in Madi, Chitwan June 2017

An interesting case study on women empowerment has been presented below (Box 5):

Box 5: Women Empowerment in Buffer zone

"Terai Arc landscape program has done women empowerment work that include community forest management, goat rearing, homestay, fodder trees/forage production, environmental conservation, sanitation, fresh vegetable farming, tailoring training etc. The level of women empowerment seems to be satisfactory in Chitwan. However, TAL programs should more focus on secure livelihoods, community awareness for biodiversity conservation, women leadership development and legal literacy training in the future" says Ms. Sarita Mahota-25, Program Chief, Radio Madi, June, 2017.

The migration of youth to foreign countries for employment has become a major demographic phenomenon, affecting local level resource management. According to the 2011 census, there were 474,022 absentee people from the TAL districts; Nawalparasi district has the highest absentee population (63,220) and Parsa has the lowest (7,376). Males represent the overwhelming majority of the absentee population, skewing the gender balance in these districts and the TAL as a whole. These factors have forced a change in gender roles, increasing the number of women-headed households and compelling women to take on a greater role in natural resource governance (CBS, 2011).

According to the 2011 census there are more than 7.5 million people in the TAL (CBS, 2011). The average annual population growth rate is 2.1%, but ranges from 0.03% in Palpa to 2.78% in Banke. In general, the population growth rate is low in the hill districts and much higher in the Terai districts. The latter is partly due to migration of people from the hills and mountains to the highly productive lowlands. The 2011 census also indicated that most of the eastern and central hills and mountains have experienced a negative inter-decadal population growth, whereas the western hills and mountains have witnessed a higher population growth rate compared to the national average (CBS, 2011).

WWF (2015) has drawn some lessons on GESI which are as follows:

- Conservation and sustainable development is an opportunity to transform the traditional roles of women, vulnerable and small farmers from subsistence to productive, community management, and leadership.

- Conservation of wildlife does not always generate threats to livelihoods, it also adds value through generated revenue (e.g. 50% of National Park Revenue goes back to communities through BZUC) that could be used for most affected and excluded groups, support to narrow down the gender inequality.
- Richer biodiversity (e.g. increase in tigers and rhinos) affects the role, access, and use of services by women, farmers, children and most affected communities living in and around core area. For example, during a wild elephant scare, most of the women savings & credit organizations introduced indoor enterprises at *Madi* valley of Chitwan. Similarly, increasing numbers and movement of tigers have made parents of children in the *Khata* corridor anxious as their children have to go to school through the corridor jungle.
- Ensure sustainable conservation, priority should give to resources rather than services or a development wish list. For example, conservation of watersheds sustains life and increase land productivity, but direct services might generate disparity. Ensuring sustainable sources of water is more valuable to the community than construction and distribution of water taps. If water is available at the source, the community can figure out a way to use it themselves and develop their own distribution mechanism.
- Women's groups are more effective at mobilizing endowments and revolving funds to bringing changes in their subsistence dependency. The women leadership at the local level can bring changes in the entire landscape.
- Increased participation of women, affected communities, and smallholder farmers in conservation and sustainable development ensures higher community contribution, producing more leverage.
- Most of the budget allocated for biodiversity and wildlife indirectly benefits communities, and linkage analysis is required to reflect this in documentation.
- Most biodiversity budgets are either neutral and or benefit indirectly when it comes to gender equality and social inclusion issues (WWF, 2015, P 16).

The above-mentioned learning is important to make a difference in the lives of poor and marginalized groups of the society as a whole. However, it needs to be practiced in the real life situation during planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the conservation programs.

3.7 Organizational Assessment of TAL Program

For the organizational assessment, 0-4 score was used (see detail proxy indicators of parameters of organizational assessment in Appendix 6). The organizational assessment was done with Buffer Zone Forest Users Committee members in the focused group discussion. The organizational assessment processes have been done based on the direct experience and judgments of members of Buffer Zone Forest Users Committee and direct observation of evaluators. This is being measure in relative term with the help of certain organizational assessment tool.

The TAL program was found to be popular among the community. The transparency, leadership development, financial management and networking has found highly satisfactory whereas policies, sustainability and income generation appeared to be satisfactory as perceived by respondents. The efficiency and advocacy part pointed out the moderately satisfactory performance. There is an area for improvement in program efficiency and advocacy, publication of best practices and lessons learnt to influence policies and practices with Government and donor agencies at local, national and international level (Fig. 14). The overall performance has been rated as **Satisfactory**. This needs to be improved in the days to come. Advocacy and lobbying seems to be an area for improvement.

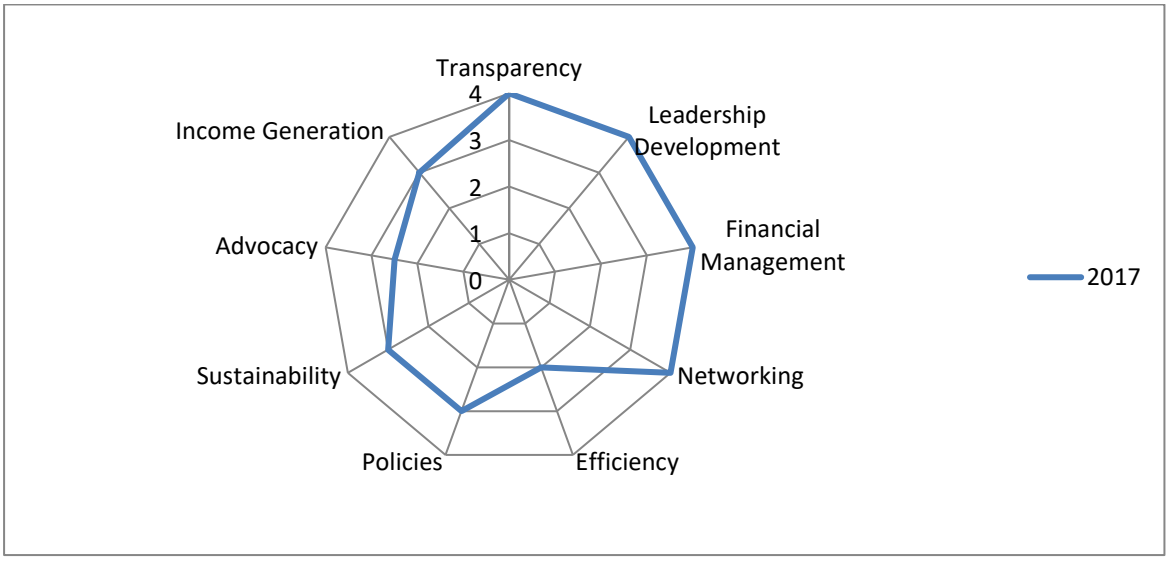

Fig. 14: Organizational Assessment of TAL Program Management, June 2017

Rating/Assessment Criteria (0-4 score):

4 - highly satisfactory

3 -3.5 satisfactory

2 -2.5 moderately satisfactory, and

0-1 unsatisfactory

It is assumed that higher the score greater the performance whereas lower the score poorer the organizational performance.

3.8 Lobbying and Advocacy

The lobbying and advocacy works to influence government and donors' policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level is important to make a difference in the life of women, children, poor and vulnerable people. WWF, TAL, CBRP, SHL and NCPA programs have done some policy influencing work at national level particularly in Hulaki road construction in Chitwan National Park. WWF have closely worked with Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Department of Forest, Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation in whole project cycle management. However, this is not strong enough to influence policy and practice with government, donors and private sector etc.

In addition to existing large infrastructures, several new large and linear infrastructure developments are being planned. These include highways, railways, airports, transmission lines, large-scale irrigation projects, and sand and gravel mining which are likely to have serious ecological and socio-economic implications (WWF Nepal, 2014). These projects, as planned now, will cut through protected areas and wildlife corridors, and encourage people to clear and settle critically important forest areas. Infrastructure development will also displace people, disrupting their livelihoods and social relationships if appropriate environmental, climate change and social safeguards are not considered. The large hydroelectricity projects and high dams planned upstream from the Terai will also have cascading impacts downstream, affecting flow regimes of major rivers and diminishing

environmental flows (MoFSC, 2015). These are the critical areas for lobbying and advocacy in the days to come.

Large, linear infrastructure such as roads, the railway and canals should, wherever possible, avoid important biodiversity conservation areas. But where this is unavoidable, engineering designs should be incorporated to accommodate ecological and conservation objectives. While future, planned infrastructure in the TAL should include eco-friendly and climate resilient engineering designs, existing infrastructure should be retro-fitted with the same. Being compliant with environmental regulations and conducting sound environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and initial environmental examinations (IEEs) is essential, and can address socio-ecological concerns during the early stages of planning. This will help ensure that the eventual economic and socio-ecological costs of development will be much lower, and result in greater overall benefits.

The Government of Nepal has introduced a number of regulations with the objective of mainstreaming environmental concerns into development planning processes. While these regulations have scope for addressing issues at local level, Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) at a regional level are still essential to address complex, large-scale issues; this is currently a policy gap which the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment is working to address (MoFSC, 2015). However, there is implementation as planned and programs in the real field in Nepal. There is a need of strong monitoring and evaluation system in place to achieve the targets as planned.

Some of the infrastructure developments implemented with little regard to conservation in TAL are given below:

Box 6: Sikta and Ranijamara Irrigation Canals:

Originating from the West Rapti River, the Sikta canal cuts across Banke National Park and prevents species movements, separating populations within the park (Fig. 15). Access to food and water may be prevented for some species, and drowning of wild animals has been observed. Construction of wildlife crossings could have maintained connectivity. Similarly, the Ranijamara irrigation canal originates from the Karnali River near Chisapani and cuts across the Karnali corridor which is frequently used by elephant, rhino and tiger. All of these infrastructures could have incorporated engineering designs to make them compatible with the conservation objectives of the TAL. It is more difficult to retrofit solutions after they have been constructed (MoFSC, 2015).

Fig. 15: Sikta Irrigation Canal, Source: WWF Nepal, Hariyo Ban Program

WWF has been engaged in policy and strategies formulation team of GoN, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation. Against the background of the country's elections for the second constituent assembly, WWF conducted pro-environment dialogues with key development actors including political parties, trade unions leaders, media persons and opinion builders (WWF, 2014). This is good practice to influence innovative ideas in the government policy documents. However, there is need of more learning documentation, baseline study, sound monitoring, reporting and evaluation system using result based participatory approaches and methodology. The evidence based advocacy should be in place to influence policy and practice at local, national and international level.

The significant changes should be mapped out over the period of time and disseminate with good reports to stakeholders for wider sharing. The community based monitoring system particularly in wildlife poaching control, control illegal logging, and marketing of NTFP based enterprises should be strengthen. There is need of local level lobbing and advocacy works as well in the change political context. The constitution of Nepal (2072) has provisioned many authorities to local level government particularly in integrated community development. There are opportunities and challenges for WWF in working with local government in the years to come. The capacity development of local government is an opportunity whereas proper linkage and coordination with local government from planning to monitoring and evaluation is another challenge in the years to come.

3.8.1 Before and Now Situation Mapping of TAL and NCPA Program

The score ranking tool was used with the participation of women and men of Buffer Zone Forest Users' Committee in Chitwan to measure the impacts of overall TAL and NCPA at the buffer zone community level. When asked on before and now situation mapping what was the changes observed in the community that the respondents scored the main impacts of programs in plant, people and wildlife using certain impact indicators (Table 9).

A total of 10 seeds of corn (assumed to be 100 per cent) were distributed to the leader of the committee to judge the changes observed in the area. The focus group discussion was conducted that included women and men members of sustainable village in the scoring exercise. Each group member was welcome to participate in the discussion before scoring.

It was noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by the respondents. The community perception was map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measure in relative terms.

There has been overall positive trend happened over the period of time due to the interventions of TAL, , SHL and NCPA programs in the buffer zone communities as whole. The overall performance of programs has been increased from 41 per cent to 75 per cent over the period of five years. However, 20 per cent (fifth quintile population) poor and vulnerable families still excluded from the programs. This situation is similar in Sacred Himalayan Landscape as well as perceived by local people. This is the challenge for the implementing partners. The poverty alleviation is the challenging job for conservation workers. It needs to be focused in the years to come. There is need of special programs and strategy in order to address the need and priorities of ultra poor and vulnerable groups of buffer zone communities.

Table 9: Before and Now Situation Mapping of TAL, SHL and NCPA Programs

Program Outputs	Before (August 2012)	Now (June 2017)	Reasons
Terai Arc Landscape			
Sustainable Forest Management	5 (50 %)	7 (70 %)	Plantation and mess wire fencing. Conservation education to community people. Active support of Community forestry Users group. Controlled grazing. Increased people awareness. Used of mobile based technology for monitoring. Distribution of improved cooking stoves. Increased use of gas for cooking purpose.
Species and Ecosystem Conservation	4 (40 %)	8 (80 %)	Increased no. of wildlife population due to increased real-time monitoring using mobile based technology. Increased positive relationship between park and people due to buffer zone program interventions. Active mobilization of youths (CBAPU) Decreased wildlife poaching etc. Done corridor bottleneck restoration. Organized transboundary meeting between China and Nepal and Nepal and India.
Climate Change and Energy	3 (30 %)	7 (70 %)	Increased use of biogas and solar power Use of spring water for irrigation and drinking purpose. Increased pond water collection for irrigation.
Freshwater	3 (30 %)	8 (80 %)	River cleaning and protection of water source. Increased access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene practice.
Churia Watershed Conservation	5 (50 %)	8 (80 %)	Controlled grazing and illegal logging harvesting. Increased awareness among the people

			to conserve Churia watershed.
Sustainable Livelihoods	5 (50 %)	8 (80 %)	Increased income of the buffer zone people due to NTFP based small enterprises, formation of agriculture cooperatives, ecotourism, commercial vegetable farming, fishery farming, dairy enterprises, skilled-based training etc.
Policy and Advocacy	3 (30 %)	5 (50 %)	Lobbying and advocacy works to protect national park and rights of the buffer zone community. Engaged in policy and strategies formulation with GoN and others. Local leadership development. Increased use of government budget by buffer zone people.
Planning, Monitoring and Development	4 (40 %)	8 (80 %)	Increased participatory planning and learning process.
Conservation Education and Capacity Building	4 (40 %)	8 (80 %)	Increased people's awareness through conservation education and capacity development of local institutions/cooperatives. Organized trainings and educational tour to local people.
Changes in lives of local People	5 (50 %)	8 (80 %)	Level of direct poverty and injustice among the poor people has been reduced because of integrated nature of program interventions, lobbying & advocacy works with Government of Nepal, political parties and donors.
Total Score	**41**	**75**	Satisfactory result
Average Score	**4.1 (41 %)**	**7.5 (75 %)**	**Satisfactory performance observed**

Source: Focus Group Discussion, June 2017

Note: Rating Score

8-10 highly satisfactory

5-7.5 satisfactory

3-4 moderately satisfactory

1-2 unsatisfactory

A case study has been presented on climate change adaption work below (Box 7):

Box 7. Resilient Community through local Adaptation Plans Implementation

A total of 1200 household in TAL SHL and CHAL benefitted from the implementation of community and local adaptation plans of action. These adaptation plans are key guiding documents that enable communities strengthen their adaptive capacity while enhancing ecosystem and community resilience to climate change. This helped enhance water, energy and food security for local community through small-scale drinking water and irrigation systems, improved cooking stoves, agro-forestry, and integrated pest management. Local households also benefitted from the reduction o f climate induced disasters through the construction of dykes and check dams, and bio-engineering while also engaging in forest and biodiversity conservation through nursery establishment, plantation and livestock grazing control (WWF, 2015, P 26).

3.9 Targets vs. Progress

There have been compiled the cumulative targets vs progress over the last five years in order to figure out the quantitative performance of the TAL, SHL and NCPA programs. Most of the targeted outputs have been achieved as planned (Appendix 9-11). However, some of the activities have not been achieved due to the less efficiency, large geographical coverage, poor time management, weak coordination, too many activities, weak logistic support, impact of Gorkha earthquake 2015, and limited resources etc.

3.10 Overall Learning

The following lessons learnt have been drawn during the midterm evaluation:

3.9.1 Forest and wildlife conservation program should go together for species and ecological sustainability. However, local people should be in the centre of biodiversity conservation.

3.9.2 Plant, animal and human inter-relationship is important factor for the ecosystem/ecological sustainability.

3.9.3 Commitment to action of Forest Care Takers (Ban Heralu) has remained praiseworthy in order to conserve the forest and wildlife with small incentives. The mobile based technology has become instrumental to increase their efficiency in terms of forest patrolling to control illegal activities works.

3.9.4 The ecotourism activities particularly the homestay has become the means of income generation of the local indigenous people. This is the good linkage between biodiversity conservation and economic development. The local people have realized that wildlife and forest are the good source of income through ecotourism. Now, the local indigenous people have established love and affection with wildlife, forest and river.

3.9.5 Regular trainings, review and reflections workshops and positive response from project staff is needed for the capacity development of Ban Heralu, community based anti-poaching unit, rapid response team members, youths in order to boost the morale for biodiversity conservation.

3.9.6 The sustainability is only possible where there is link the biodiversity conservation works with livelihoods of indigenous people. The forest and wildlife are closely linked with local people's livelihoods. So, we could not undermine the local people in order to forest and wildlife conservation.

3.9.7 The mobilization of local youths (women and men) for the conservation of forest and wildlife is instrumental. There is need of linkage between self-employment generation of youths and biodiversity conservation works in order to sustain the species and ecosystem.

3.9.8 The biodiversity conservation work is the fun rather than burden to the state, community and professionals. People can enjoy in biodiversity conservation works.

3.9.9 People, plant and wildlife should live together with co-existence and they should love each other if there is no threat for their life, livelihoods and habitat. People, plants and wildlife are the creation of Mother Nature. The conservation workers always should think as integrated approach not in isolation.

3.11 Gaps

The following gaps have been identified to have larger impacts in forest, wildlife, poor and marginalized people:

- Weak horizontal and vertical inter-sectoral coordination, leading to land use conflicts in case of TAL.
- Concentration of program and project activities in some areas resulting in geographic imbalance.
- The ultra-poor particularly landless and marginalized groups of people still excluded from the mainstream development process.
- Weak integration of climate change that resulted negative impacts in life and livelihoods of the people, plants and wildlife.
- Insufficient integration of conservation friendly infrastructures that restricted the free mobility of wildlife from one place to another.
- Weak governance in addressing forest and protected areas encroachment that there has not been effective anti-poaching campaign and illegal logging particularly in Terai Arc Landscape and Sacred Himalayan Landscape.
- Inability to up-scale livelihood options such as ecotourism and green enterprises in different part of the TAL, SHL and NCPA.
- Inability to launch any effective program around Sunkoshi River basin particularly in Ramechhap, Sindhuli, and Okhaldhunga district which are reported as drought prone areas.

3.12 Future Focus of the Programs

When asked on what should be the future focus of the major programs that the respondents ranked first for environmental development, ranked second for economic development, ranked third for local institutional development and ranked fourth for promotion of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage and ranked fifth for social development based on the needs and priority of the community (Table 10). However, there is linked with each other main activities due to integrated nature of the program.

A total of 25 seeds (assumed to be 100 per cent) of corn were distributed to each respondent to judge the main program activity. It was noted that higher the score greater the performance during the score ranking by respondents. A total of 12 community women, men, government staff, and NGOs workers including WWF staff members were participated in the exercise. The people perception was

map out based on the judgment of the respondents. This is being measure in relative terms. It is hoped that this information can be useful for the design of the program in the future.

Table 10: Prioritization of Programs for the Next Five Year

Main Programs	Women	Men	Total Score	Average Score	Rank
1.Environmental Development • Species and ecosystem conservation • Solid waste management • Control wildlife poaching • Protection of water sources and management • Sustainable forest management • Promotion of alternative energy • Empowerment and capacity development • Research and publications	75	213	288	24	**I**
2.Economic Development • Ecotourism (Homestay) • NTFP based high values crops enterprise development • Resilient livelihoods • Commercial vegetable farming • Value chain based marketing • Skilled based training • Climate Change Adaptation	64	184	248	21	**II**
3.Social Development • Support on school education • Health education • Gender equality & social Inclusion • Women leadership development	55	153	208	17.33	**V**
4.Local Institutional Development • Promotion of cooperative management • Empowerment and capacity development of poor & marginalized people • Coordination and collaboration with local government and NGOs • Lobbying & advocacy	56	172	228	19	**III**

5.Promotion of Indigenous Technical Knowledge and Cultural Heritage • Training to local institutions • Research & Publications • Support to cultural heritage promotion • Educational tour	55	159	214	18	**IV**

Source: Focus Group Discussion, July 2017

4. Financial Evaluation

4.1. Introduction and Overview

The projects

WWF Nepal is running multiple projects concerned with conservation and is working with various donors. The current Mid-Term Financial Evaluation of WWF Nepal is concerned with the project agreement of WWF with Social Welfare Council signed on 15th August 2012 for a period of 5 years. Within the purview of the project agreement, WWF Nepal has been running following programs:

1. Terai Arc Landscape (TAL)
    - Corridor and Bottleneck Restoration Project (CBRP)
    - Protected Area and Buffer Zone (PABZ)
2. Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL)
    - Langtang National Park Buffer Zone Support Project (LNPBZSP)
    - Kanchangunja Conservation Area Project (KCAP)
3. National Conservation Priority Areas (NCPA)

Scope, Objective and TOR of Mid-Term Financial Evaluation

The scope of the Mid-Term Financial Evaluation is within the Project Agreement signed on 15th August 2012 between Social Welfare Council (SWC) and WWF Nepal for a period of 5 years. The project is based on the Cooperation Agreement between Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) and WWF Nepal for a period of 5 years ranging from 2011 to 2016. The financial evaluation of project has included, but not limited to, the following areas:

i. Assess the efficiency of the projects/cost effectiveness
- Review of set standards of cost both for program and administration
- Review of actual and comparison with standards
- Identification of areas of cost reduction
- Economy in procuring goods and service

ii. Check the compliance with general agreements/project agreements
- Actual support vs committed support
- Actual level of activity vs committed level of activity
- Expenditure in non-budgeted areas, if any
- Volume of financial resource provided to partners as per project agreement.

iii. Compliance with Tax laws
- Tax registration and return filing
- Tax deduction at resource
- Compliance of tax laws in procurement of goods and service

iv. Fixed Assets
- Review of fixed assets records and physical verification
- Review of control system on utilization of fixed assets
- Review of Disposal of fixed assets

v. Evaluation of the internal control system
- Rules bye laws INGO/ Partners
- AGM and board meetings (Partners) / PAC and PMC meetings
- Delegation of authorities and responsibilities

vi. **Financial reporting framework**
- Periodic and annual reports preparations and submission
- Disclosure in the reports
- Uniformity in reports
- Overall Review of financial good governance

vii. **Comparison of the budgets and actual with the committed project cost**
- Review of budgeting procedure
- Comparison of budgets with agreed projects cost
- Comparisons of budgets with actual and variance thereon

Methodology and Approach of Financial Evaluation

The financial evaluation has evaluated the various stakeholders and parties involved in the implementation of the project. They have been evaluated separately and reported under separate head hereafter in the report.

- Review of reports and literature
- Interview and interaction with staffs, stakeholders and beneficiaries
- Random review of documents

Scope Limitation

The evaluation was conducted with focus to the Project Agreement of WWF Nepal with SWC on 15th August 2012. The project agreement covers 3 projects viz TAL, SHL and NCPA within which mid-term financial evaluation was limited and other projects/operations were left out unless relevant. Although, partner and beneficiaries' visits were made as comprehensive and objective as possible but the location of the project sites might have had impairing effect on the coverage.

Field Visit

As part of mid-term financial evaluation and for first had verification of impacts, field visits were done to the project sites to observe project office, partners and CBOs. The timings and project sites visited are as follows:

a. TAL-CBRP, Kohalpur, Banke: July 14 – 17 , 2017
   - Khata CFCC – July 15, 2017
   - Narti CFCC – July 16, 2017
   - Mahadevpuri CFCC – July 17, 2017

b. TAL-PABZ, Bharatpur, Chitwan: July 19 – 21, 2017
   - Baghauda CFCC – July 20, 2017
   - Amaltari CFCC – July 21, 2017

c. SHL – LNPBZSP, Dhunche, Rasuwa: July 23 – 25, 2017
   - Laharepauwa CFCC – July 24, 2017

4.2. DETAILED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND, INC., NEPAL PROGRAM (WWF NEPAL)

World Wildlife Fund, Inc. is an INGO and a part of Global Network of World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF). WWF Nepal is the program office of WWF US. The Nepal office is headed by Mr. Anil Manandhar.

Other ongoing projects of WWF Nepal are:

S. No.	Project Name	Duration	Budget (in USD)
1	Koshi River Basin Management Program	June 2011 – June 2016	3,196,692.00
2	Sustainable Land Management in Churia Range Nepal	January 2014- September 2017	917,431.00
3	Hariyo Ban Program	August 2011-December 2016	14,605,110.00

Compliance with General Agreement (GA) and Project Agreement (PA)

The general agreement between SWC and WWF Nepal was renewed on 10th June 2011 with a validity for 5 years. The project agreement was signed on 15th August 2012 also with the validity of 5 years. A checklist was designed with the major compliance conditions in GA and PA which is presented below:

1. Compliance with Major Clauses in General Agreement (GA)

S. No.	Conditions in General Agreement	Status	Remarks
1	Carry out the project/programs in the district(s) as per the directives stipulated in National Plan and Policies of Government of Nepal in partnership with Ministries, Departments, Agencies of Government of Nepal, and with local non-governmental organization (NGOs), registered Community Based Organizations (CBOs) affiliated with SWC, with prior approval of Council.	Partly Complied	The project is designed and implemented in line with the Cooperation Agreement with Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation. The project is co-managed by GON. At district level, District Forest Office and Office of National Parks are coordinated with and implementation is also done through DFO and NPs along with CFCCs and BZUCs as specified by the MoFSC in the Scope of Cooperation. **However, prior approval of SWC is not sought before selection of partners i.e. CFCCs, BZUCs & NGOs.**

S. No.	Conditions in General Agreement	Status	Remarks
2	Provide funds in the amount of minimum USD 1 Million per annum excluding commodity assistance which is approximately 2% of the total grant. The exact amount of support will be reflected in the project/program agreement(s).	Complied	The project agreement is done for 150 Million USD.
3	Submit the project proposal(s) to the Council within 3 months from the date of signing of General Agreement and start implementation of the project soon after the Project agreement is signed.	Complied	The general agreement in consideration for the mid-term evaluation is a renewal of previous Grant Agreement. As such there were projects running at the time of renewal also and thus WWF is in compliance with this clause.
4	Design the project in close coordination with the concerned District Development Committee, National Parks/Reserves, District Forest Offices, other concerned government agencies and work in close coordination with the concerned District Development Committee, National Parks/Reserves, District Forest Offices, Village Development Committee/municipalities and District Administration Office in the project area.	Partly Complied	The project was designed in coordination with MoFSC in line with Cooperation Agreement with MoFSC. Thus, it has closely worked with MoFSC and its line agencies. However, coordination with other Local Government Agencies viz. DDC, DAO, etc must be strengthened.
5	Report its activities; once in every six months and submit an annual report citing administrative and program costs, in the form prescribed by the Council.	Partly Complied	Annual prepared but not we could not verify its submission to SWC.
6	Have the accounts audited annually by an auditor, registered with the Institution of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN); at the cost of the project/program and submit the audit report to the Council within three months of each forthcoming Nepalese fiscal year.	Complied	WWF Nepal has had its accounts audited by an independent Chartered Accountant Firm viz. TR Upadhaya and Co. Further, it has timely submitted the audit report to SWC.
7	Exclude the remunerations and other allowances of the expatriate(s) or foreign country representative from the total project/program cost.	Complied	WWF Nepal does not have an expatriate employee for the project. The Country Representative is Nepali and other staffs are also Nepalese National.

S. No.	Conditions in General Agreement	Status	Remarks
8	Disposal of any items imported on duty free basis shall take place only upon prior approval of the Council; which will make necessary arrangement in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and other relevant agencies.	Complied	**It was notified to the financial evaluation team that there have been no imports of items purchased for the projects on duty free basis Further, the overall fixed asset records are maintained in Tally however, the items could not be tracked on the project basis and also disposals if any could not be verified.**
9	Refrain from access to Official Development Assistance (ODA) and any other sources of fund (Loan, Grant, Technical Assistance or Commodity Assistance) that have been provided or committed or earmarked to Government of Nepal from Multilateral or Bilateral donors by an agreement or minutes/records or any other form of committed documents to implement project activities in Nepal.		
10	Declare the sources of fund and the name of the donor agencies intended implementing the project in Nepal.	Complied	The names of the prospective donors are presented in the Project Agreement.
14	Prior approval will be needed by WWF from the Council to import vehicles, equipment and other supplies as per project agreement.	Complied	As informed, there has been no any imports and all the equipment and supplies has been procured from local market.
15	At the termination, withdrawal of support, failure in service delivery, cease of support, completion of or closure of the project all assets of WWF imported and purchased under the duty-free allowance or privileges, shall become the property of Council or any organization as per the decision made by Government of Nepal.	Complied	The project is still ongoing and no case as such as arose.

2. Compliance with Major Clauses in Project Agreement (PA)

S. No.	Conditions in Project Agreement	Status	Remarks
1	List of districts to be covered	Partly Complied	The project is landscape based projects and multiple districts are covered as per the priority and budget availability.
2	WWF shall subject to availability of fund endeavor to make available the implementing agencies US$ 15 Million over a period of 5 years to undertake activities in TAL, SHL and NCPA.	Complied	For the period concerned to Mid-term evaluation, WWF Nepal has complied with the clause. **The project agreement is done in the US Dollars. It is desirable to do the**

S. No.	Conditions in Project Agreement	Status	Remarks
			same in Nepalese Rupees.
3	Project Implementation: Steering Committee will meet at least once a year. CPAC will be held twice a year PEC will meet twice a year PCC meeting will meet as per need but it should meet atleast quarterly DPAC meeting will be done twice a year	Partly Complied	The meetings prescribed in the project agreements are held but not as agreed. The meetings involving the project parties i.e. Steering Committee, PEC and PCC are held regularly, as agreed in the PA, and the CPAC and DPAC meetings are sporadically held.
4	Project Agreement (Programmatic and Budgetary Provisions may be modified only by written amendment executed by SWC & WWF in consultation with MFSC.	Not Complied	Multiple revisions are done in the budgets but same have not been approved by SWC as required by PA. **It is recommended that WWF should get the revisions in the Project Agreement approved by SWC. Further, targets for the project should be clearly mentioned.**
5	Reporting Schedule: Projects will produce half yearly and yearly progress report sent to MoFSC, DOF, DNPWC, SWC, WWF Networks, donors and other concerned agencies i.e. DDCs/VDC's. **Deadlines for Reports** Half yearly report - 15th February and Annual Report - 31st August	Partly Complied	Yearly reports are generated and submitted to MoFSC but half-yearly progress reports are not prepared. The reports are required to be disseminated to the various stakeholders including SWC which could not be verified.
6	Incase of termination, withdrawal of support, failure in service delivery, cease of support, completion or closure of the project all the assets of the project including those imported and purchased under the duty free allowances or privileges shall become the property of SWC or any organization as per the decision made by Government of Nepal.	Complied	The projects are still ongoing and thus WWF has complied with this clause.

Budget and Budgetary Analysis

1. **Budgeting Process**

   The overall budget for five years has been coined in the Cooperation Agreement done with MoFSC. The annual budget is prepared by Project Coordination Committee (PCC) in coordination with Project Offices (TAL – CBRP, TAL – PABZ and SHL) which is approved by Project Executive Committee (PEC). WWF Nepal continuously seeks for funding from various donor funded projects that work in the sector of Conservation.

2. Proposed Budget Vs Expenditure

WWF has committed to raise USD 15,000,000.00 for the TAL, SHL and NCPA project for the project period of 5 years. For the period concerned to the Mid-Term evaluation, the amount to be raised is USD 7,745,700.00 out of WWF Nepal has been able raise and spend USD 10,783,776 which is 39% more than proposed. However, it has also been noted that there has been overrun in the allowed limit of 20% of total spending in admin cost in case of SHL and NCPA program while overall spending was within limit. The detailed program-wise breakdown of the budget and expenditure is presented below:

(Note: The yearly breakdown of Program & Admin Cost in Clause 5.9 of Project Agreement and its details in Annex 8 of the same agreement do not match. For the following analysis, Detailed Budget Breakdown in Annex 8 is taken as reference.)

Terai Arc Landscape Program *(Amount in USD):)*

Areas	FY2013		FY2014		FY2015		Total Amount	
	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense
Program Cost	1,118,000	2,305,220	1,237,300	1,588,203	1,435,500	2,456,502	3,790,800	6,349,925
Administrative Cost	271,700	247,724	311,800	320,446	358,300	335,006	941,800	903,175
Total	**1,389,700**	**2,552,944**	**1,549,100**	**1,908,650**	**1,793,800**	**2,791,507**	**4,732,600**	**7,253,100**
Program %	80%	90%	80%	83%	80%	88%	80%	88%
Admin %	20%	10%	20%	17%	20%	12%	20%	12%

Sacred Himalayan Landscape Program *(Amount in USD):*

Areas	FY2013		FY2014		FY2015		Total Amount	
	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense
Program Cost	463,000	615,174	532,000	700,020	614,000	709,974	1,609,000	2,025,168
Administrative Cost	116,000	160,697	133,500	150,466	153,500	133,274	403,000	444,436
Total	**579,000**	**775,870**	**665,500**	**850,486**	**767,500**	**843,248**	**2,012,000**	**2,469,604**
Program %	80%	79%	80%	82%	80%	84%	80%	82%
Admin %	20%	21%	20%	18%	20%	16%	20%	18%

National Conservation Priority Areas *(Amount in USD):*

Thematic Areas	FY2013		FY2014		FY2015		Total Amount	
	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense
Program Cost	231,200	85,644	265,400	189,842	305,100	382,413	801,700	657,899
Admin. Cost	58,200	159,348	66,000	73,018	75,200	170,808	199,400	403,173
Total	**289,400**	**244,992**	**331,400**	**262,860**	**380,300**	**553,220**	**1,001,100**	**1,061,072**
Program %	80%	35%	80%	72%	80%	69%	80%	62%
Admin %	20%	65%	20%	28%	20%	31%	20%	38%

Total Summary (*Amount in USD*)

Thematic Areas	FY2013		FY2014		FY2015		Total Amount	
	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense	Budget	Expense
Program Cost	1,812,200	3,006,038	2,034,700	2,478,066	2,354,600	3,548,888	6,201,500	9,032,992
Administrative Cost	445,900	567,768	511,300	543,930	587,000	639,087	1,544,200	1,750,785
Total	**2,258,100**	**3,573,806**	**2,546,000**	**3,021,996**	**2,941,600**	**4,187,975**	**7,745,700**	**10,783,776**
Program %	80%	84%	80%	82%	80%	85%	80%	84%
Admin %	20%	16%	20%	18%	20%	15%	20%	16%

Comments:

It can be observed from above table that the proportion of admin cost in case of TAL program has stayed well below the allowed limit of 20%. In case of SHL it has exceeded by 1% in year 2013 while in case of NCPA it has consistently gone over the limit (65% in Year 2013, 28% in Year 2014 and 31% in Year 2015) resulting in an overall overrun of 38%. The overall proportion has stayed within the limit i.e. 16%.

Recommendation:

WWF Nepal should look to keep the administration cost within 20% of total cost. Contrary can result in weak financial efficiency of the program.

Financing Arrangement

The funding for the program is arranged by WWF Nepal. All transactions are jointly administered by the signatures of managers and co-managers. The financing is done by WWF Nepal based on the "Scope of Cooperation ~~Agreement~~" with Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. There is no ready availability of funds with WWF Nepal. Largely, WWF Nepal raises funding through its network offices, while rest of the funding is arranged through bidding and pitching of proposals continuously thorough-out the budget period. The requirements of funds are estimated based on annual planning from the National Parks, DFO offices, BZUCs, CFCCs and other grass root organizations (CFCCs, CBOs, etc) and then the funds are sought then after.

The expenditures of WWF Nepal in TAL, SHL & NCPA was funded by a total of 77 projects during the period of mid-term evaluation. It raised a total of USD 11,471,748 out of which USD 10,783,776 was expended. The details of fund source and the funds raised are presented in ***Appendix 14.***

Financial Efficiency:

Efficiency measures the productivity of the resources being invested. It can be measured through the ratio analysis of the acquisition of financial resources, spending of acquired financial resources for the mission, its usage in the Core Activity (Programs) and Support Activity (Administration) and finally the results that financial resources bring about from programmatic aspect.

Most of the activities has been successfully executed by the WWF Nepal and the financial resources channeling to the users has been properly done. It has very successful in acquisition of fund and was able to secure and spend 39% more funds than that proposed in Project Agreement. It fails to maintain balance between program cost and admin cost. Like explained in earlier paragraphs, the NCPA program has been spending more on the part of Administrative Cost consistently over the period of mid-term evaluation. Similarly, SHL has been heavier on admin cost side in FY 2013 and if we analyze individual project office wise i.e. SHL – LNPBZSP, it again is heavier on the admin cost. However, the total administrative cost is within the agreed limit i.e. around 16%.

At field level, few instances were noted where the activities seemed to follow more of supply push rather than demand pull system. For an instance, a support to Bagauda BZUC for Information Center was misutilized as the space for Library was being used as Guard Room and Computer Room was used as store where materials were stacked over computer itself. Thus, WWF Nepal is fairly good on part of Financial Efficiency.

Financial Sustainability:

Financial sustainability is crucial in case of donor funded programs. The financial sustainability has to be analyzed at 3 different levels:

Institutional

"WWF Nepal is operating as a program office of WWF US which is the headquarter of the WWF Nepal .As a program office of WWF US, Nepal office complies with HQ policy and procedures. WWF International (WWF Secretariat) provides Levy to all its program offices, WWF Nepal receives PO Levy approximate USD 200,000 per annum through WWF US. As of June 2015, WWF Nepal has PO levy reserve of USD 451,777.00. Thus, its financial sustainability is contingent upon the strategic direction of WWF US, availability of funds for its programs and policies and strategies of GON."

Program

TAL and SHL are landscapes defined and prioritized by MoFSC backed up with periodic landscape strategies. WWF Nepal is one of the partners of GoN investing in conservation activities in the said landscapes. WWF Nepal raises funding after the annual requirement is fixed and budgets are prepared by partner organizations (National Parks, DFOs, CFCCs, BZUCs, etc.) at the grass root level. Although, there is sole funding of WWF under the project banner but multiple organizations both Government and Non-Governmental are working in the same region/landscapes. Thus, there will be continuity and financial investment in the activities and the program is fairly financially sustainable.

Partners' Sustainability

Community Forest Coordination Committees (CFCCs) and Buffer Zone User Committees (BZUCs) are major partners of WWF Nepal in the projects after MoFSC. Besides these many Cooperatives, private sectors and NGOs have partnered with WWF Nepal during the project implementation. The CFCCs are heavily dependent upon WWF Nepal for funding for the programs and activities. They are organized as NGOs and can seek for assistance from multiple

donors. They have certain revolving funds but do not have any sustainable revenue sources. In case of BZUCs, they are formed by the directive issued by GoN. 30% to 50% of revenue of the National Parks are distributed to them. Thus, they are more financially sustainable and can continue to operate even without support of WWF Nepal.

Financial Transparency

The amounts that are mobilized by the partners are financially transparent. Regular public hearings are done by the partners. Besides which, as part of visibility the amount spent in individual projects are publicly displayed.

On part of WWF Nepal, it was observed that the annual audit was done for all the years concerned. Separate report for the Annual Audit of WWF Nepal as a whole and the project specific report for each project were being prepared. Further, WWF Nepal submitted the audit reports to SWC on timely basis.

Financial Management

The implementation of Project by the project office is guided by "Project Operation Manual". Project Operation Manual 2008.The Project Operation Manual 2008 was revised as Project Operation Manual 2015 and endorsed by PEC. The said manual came into effect for latter part of 2015 and is relevant partly for the evaluation purposes. The financial management systems are computerized. WWF Nepal uses Sage 300 ERP which is a software integrated with WWF US for recording of financial transactions.

Comment/Recommendation

- **Finance Department:** The finance department is well shaped with layered structure. A full-fledged finance department is placed at WWF Nepal which handles all the transactions till the time budget is disbursed to field. Further, an Finance & Admin Officer is placed in each Project Office who is also provided with local assistant to handle the field level financial transactions, capacitate CBOs and support project's compliance.
- **Budgeting Process:** The budgeting process of the organization is mature. It uses both top down and bottom up approach. A certain level of planning is done by the local partners and certain level of planning is done by DNPWC, DOF and WWF Nepal at the central level, while budgeting the annual plan which is reviewed by PCC and endorsed by PEC. in coordination with the MoFSC and its departments – DNPWC and DoF,
- **Reporting:** The finance function of the organization is proactive and is well aware of the reporting requirements in most of the cases. Reports as per the donor requirements are generated generally within time frame. However following lapses have been observed in reporting system:
  a. WWF Nepal has a practice of taking quarterly report from the project offices and also preparing an annual report. However, Project Agreement requires it to produce half yearly report within 15th February and Annual Report within 31st August. ***It prepares annual report but half yearly report is not prepared and reported to the concerned authorities. Further, the annual reports are not submitted to SWC.***
- WWF Nepal uses Sage 300 ERP for accounting of its transactions. It was noted that the system is a GL Based system which either due to strict control by HQ or due to shortcoming in the

system, is unable to generate reports to the program/activity level. This causes the finance team to use considerable amount of judgement while generating program & activity based reports. This process besides being time taking also creates a doubt on the reports actually generated. As the system only provides activity-wise report this involves high level of manual intervention and judgement which can cause errors in report and different report generated by different individual generating the report. For instance, the financial evaluation team was provided with different reports of financial summary of TAL, SHL & NCPA programs on different occasions, in which the amounts had been updated. Further, it was also noted that the figures cannot be reconciled with audited financial statements.

- **Financial Controls:** Financial Controls are generally in place. **However, the generalized policies for WWF Network enforced by WWF US has resulted in principle/practice based controls rather than standardized policy based controls that would fit Nepalese context.**
- **Transaction Recording System:** The accounting and transaction recording system is computerized and is maintained in ERP software Sage 300 ERP integrated with WWF US. The software is GL based and lacks capabilities in certain cases to derive Project and Activity Level Reports and manual work is required which is time taking.

Specific Comments/Recommendation:

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1	**Policies and procedures** The organization is operating under the best practices available and the guidance of the Head Quarter i.e. WWF US. There are no separate policies and procedures to guide the Nepal office. Tailored policies that address the contextual environment of Nepal can help in effective and efficient operation of the organization. It can also be helpful in maintaining consistency/uniformity and avoid confusion in operation	It is advised that WWF Nepal should formulate policies and guidelines to guide its operation and management in Nepalese context.
2	**Accounting and record keeping** The accounting system is Computerized and is maintained in SAGE 300 ERP. WWF Nepal is treated as a project office and thus 2 Department Codes viz. 579, 581 are allocated to Nepal Office and all the recording of transactions are done based on General Ledgers (GL) allocated/opened by HQ. This has resulted in difficulty in tracking the expenses to program / project	Either the system should be updated to meet the requirements of Nepal and Nepalese regulatory environment or separate accounting/reporting systems should be used.

	level. Further, activity level tracking of the expenses is not possible.	

Foreign Exchange Gain/Loss

WWF Nepal receives grants and funds in foreign currency which is deposited in the USD Account. The amounts are transferred to NPR account for spending in project activities. At this point the amounts are converted at existing spot rate. All the expenditure is done in Nepalese Rupees and same is converted using average rate. Any surplus or deficit of amount at the time of reporting is done as per Donor approval. The surplus/deficit if any caused by conversion in NPR and actual amount of spending is transferred to core fund.

Comment/Recommendation

All the surplus/deficit should be reported to the Donors. Further, any surplus should be used in program itself rather than transferring it to core fund.

Expenditure

The expenditures in the projects are made at two different levels. Certain managerial and specialized expenditures are done at the central level which are added on the total cost of the projects. The budgeted expenditures of the project of the field offices are done by the field offices and recorded by the field office itself. The summary of **total expense (admin plus program)** as per the audit report is as below:

Description	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		Grand Total (USD)
	NPR	USD	NPR	USD	NPR	USD	
TAL	156,548,072	1,565,481	129,133,909	1,291,339	145,478,981	1,454,790	4,311,610
SHL	104,587,917	1,045,879	122,259,127	1,222,591	81,658,331	816,583	3,085,054
NCPA	138,808,097	1,388,081	178,412,026	1,784,120	292,040,360	2,920,404	6,092,605
Total	**399,944,085**	**3,999,441**	**429,805,062**	**4,298,051**	**519,177,672**	**5,191,777**	**13,489,268**

Note: USD 1 = NPR 100 used for conversion.

The audited figures above provide an indicative view of the expenditure by WWF in the projects committed to Social Welfare Council (SWC). However, program expenses reported to the evaluation team by WWF Nepal show lower spending as presented below:

Description	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		Grand Total
	NPR	USD	NPR	USD	NPR	USD	
TAL		2,552,944		1,908,650		2,791,507	7,253,100
SHL		775,870		850,486		843,248	2,469,604

NCPA		244,992		262,860		553,220	1,061,072
Total	**-**	**3,573,806**	**-**	**3,021,996**	**-**	**4,187,975**	**10,783,776**

Point to be noted is that the amount of expenditure reported in audit report is **USD 13,489,268** while reported to the evaluation team is **USD 10,783,776.** The amount expended is well over the amount budgeted and agreed with SWC which is **USD 7,745,700** but such difference in reporting of amounts which might have been caused by other programs in operation in the same landscape and manual adjustments at the time of project reporting, creates a doubt on the actual spending as well as on the overall reporting of WWF Nepal. It is recommended that WWF Nepal should reconcile the amounts reported in audited financial statements and project/program reporting.

Specific findings regarding expenditure

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Amounts wrongly booked as expenditure upon disbursement** Nepal Financial Reporting Standards requires any amount to be recognized as expenditure if: 1. It can be measured reliably 2. It can be matched simultaneously with associated revenue It was noted that WWF Nepal had a practice of recognizing the amounts disbursed to Grantees and Consultants as expenditure immediately upon entering into agreement although the costs cannot be measured reliably until the grant agreement is executed, at which point of time the revenue associated to the agreement is also secured.	It is recommended that WWF Nepal should book the amount disbursed to partners/project offices as advance and book expenditures only upon the execution/reporting of the activities/expenditures.

Procurement – Economy and Efficiency

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Blanket procurement policies** WWF Nepal does not have its own procurement policies. It has been making the procurements based on the practice and guidance of WWF US.	Procurement policy that promotes fair and transparent procurement methods which allows for wider circulation of procurement opportunities, fair competition is necessary for value for money procurements. It is

		recommended that WWF Nepal should formulate its own Procurement Polices which should be at par or stricter than national standards which is Public Procurement Act and Rules of Nepal.
2.	**Procurement limits and modes not specified** Procurements to be done by the organization should prescribed and procurement with higher volume should allow for open competitive methods.	WWF Nepal should prepare procurement policies and incorporate limits of procurement and modes for each procurement limit.
3.	**Excess use of "Sole Source Method" of procurement.** Sole source method is a non-competitive method of procurement used in cases while only a single supplier is capable of supplying the required goods/services. The use of sole source method should be done only in cases while competitive procurement is not possible or would not be favorable to the organization. Further, it should be noted that "brands" do not automatically qualify to be categorized as sole source. It was observed that, WWF Nepalused Sole Source Method rather judiciously and in many of the instances based upon the brands of the products rather than specifications of the products.	It is highly recommended WWF Nepal should opt for competitive procurement methods and sole source method should be used only as a last resort.

Fixed Asset Management

Non-expendable

Non-expendable assets are expensed off at the time of its procurement. The assets above NRs. 10,000.00 are recoded in the memorandum record. The memorandum records of the fixed assets are kept in Tally. It can generate the records regarding the location and custody of the assets. Physical verification of the asset is not done internally but an independent firm is sub-contracted on yearly basis for fixed asset audit.

A list of non-expendable materials to be procured as per the Project Agreement and the list of items procured against the same till for the period of mid-term evaluation has been presented in ***Appendix 14***.

Expendable

No any records have been maintained for the expendable and consumable items. There is no system of stock management and bulk procurements. All the procurements are done on the need basis by the program with required approval and the records are kept.

Comment/Recommendation

- The records of fixed asset should be managed as per the project contributing those so as to be able to track the assets back to their contribution source.
- The physical verification of the inventory (Fixed Assets) which should identify the condition and location of fixed assets. The independent consultant's report is more directed towards audit of fixed assets rather than its physical count and recording of its condition which should be the prime objective of the physical verification.

Major Points reported in Previous years' audit.

Year of Audit		
2012/13	**2013/14**	**2014/15**
Advances and Payables - Outstanding advances for closed consultancy files - Other receivables and payables Employee related issues - Serverance payable	Grant and consultancies related issues Advances and payables - Irrecoverable receivables from the donors - Ambigous balances in source and functional currency - Balances in source currencies only Employee related - Gratuity fund - Serverance payable Procurement related issues Carbon offset - Inconsistent rate for carbon offset Improper Account Head	Grant and consultancies related issues Advances and payables - Overstatement of "other receivables" - Irrecoverable receivables from the donors - Ambigous balances in source and functional currency - Balances in source currencies only - Excess payable booked VAT Related issues - Negative balance in VAT receivable account

TERAI ARC LANDSCAPE

CORRIDOR AND BOTTLENECK RESTORATION PROJECT (CBRP)

Background

Terai Arc Landscape – Corridor and Bottleneck Restoration Project (TAL-CBRP) is the project set up by WWF Nepal in coordination with Department of Forest under Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) for restoration of corridor and bottlenecks with an objective of assisting mobility of wildlife. The project office of TAL – CBRP is located in Kohalpur, Banke. The project basically deals with community forest that are out of Protected Areas and Buffer Zone. It majorly works with District Forest Office (DFO) and Community Forest Coordination Committee (CFCC). The office is jointly management by MoFSC and WWF Nepal as below:

1. Manager, Under Secretary, Department of Forest, GoN (Currently Mr. Buddhi Rijal)
2. Co-Manager, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Gautam Paudyal) and
3. Finance and Admin Officer, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Chaturman Mahato)
4. Other staffs hired locally

Budget and Budgetary Analysis

1. **Budgeting Process**
   The budgeting process is participatory. CFCCs take the input from the member CFUGs. Once they are assimilated same compiled and workshops are held by TAL – CBRP. TAL-CBRP compiles the needs and sends the same to the Project Coordination Committee (PCC) which further revised and endorsed by the PEC. WWF Nepal raises funding from its network and other potential donors to support with the resources. .
2. **Budget Variance Analysis**
   The financial evaluation team conducted an activity level variance analysis of the program expense mobilized by TAL – CBRP. A summary of the same is presented in ***Appendix 15***. Positive figures indicate underutilization while negative figures indicate over utilization. Only the figures with variations higher than 10% have been presented in the Appendit.

   We noted that there are high variances in the utilization of the allocated budged. Multiple cases were noted when upto 100% non-utilization occurred which means the activities were entirely dropped. Further, cases have been noted where although the activities and budgets were revised and added to the work plan but were entirely dropped.

   Comments/Recommendation

   - Budgeting should be done based on the requirement and capability of the Project Offices to implement those. The instances of non-utilization of 100% budget on different case indicates improper planning as well as overburdening of the project offices.
   - It was noted that there are instances of dropping of the activities even against the revised budget. This may indicate that the activity was designed mid-way based on the availability of the budgets with WWF rather than the need/requirement of the field/community. WWF

Nepal should follow demand -pull system of program/activity design rather than supply – push approach.

Accounting and recording

The records of WWF Nepal and Project Office is kept separately. The project office maintains a separate accounting for its transaction in licensed version of Tally 9 ERP. The accounting is maintained as per the instruction of WWF Nepal in line with POM 2008 and 2015. The project office follows accrual basis of accounting.

Income

The project recognizes income upon receipt of the funds from HQ.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded upon commitment by the project. The summary of actual expenditure done by the project through Field Office during the period of mid-term evaluation are as below:

Particulars	FY13	FY14	FY15
Program Cost	32,148,602	36,827,789	45,703,336
Admin Cost	7,316,785	8,845,587	9,718,789
Total Expenses	**39,465,387**	**45,673,377**	**55,422,125**
% of Program Cost	81%	81%	82%
% of Admin Cost	19%	19%	18%

It can be observed that the amount of administrative cost is within the limit allowed by the SWC. Upon random verification of supporting documents and the policies and practice following point was noted:

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Recording of Sub-Grant** The amount disbursed to the sub-grantees are expensed off immediately and payable is created against the sub-grantee. Same is diminished upon payment of subsequent installments. Nepal Financial Reporting Standards requires that the expenses should only be recognized if 1) It is reliably measurable and 2) Should be matched simultaneously with the respective income. However, at the time	It is recommended that TAL – CBRP should record the amount disbursed to the sub-grantees should be recorded as advance and write them to expenditure at the time of settlement.

	of agreement, the quantum of expenditure cannot be measured till the final reports are submitted by the sub-grantees. Further, such a practice can result in over-statement of the expenditure and the reporting to Donors/other authorities can be misleading.	

Project Assets

The assets procured by the project office is listed in the annual report and is submitted to the WWF Nepal on annual basis. Following issues were noted:

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Discrepancies in Physical Verification of Project Assets** • On verification of Physical Verification Report of 2014, it was noted that the asset listing of items less than NRs. 5,000.00 was approved but the listing of material items i.e. more than 5,000.00 was not approved. • On verification of Physical Verification Report of 2015 multiple discrepancies were noted. The asset listing of items less than 5000.00 were prepared in two copies but one had name of 2 team members and other had 3 team members. The report with 2 team members had signatures of all the team members while the report with 3 team members was not signed at all. The asset listing of items over 5,000.00 had name of 3 team members but was not signed by anyone.	• Physical verification of projects should be duly carried out in line with POM to ensure proper condition, location and safeguarding of the assets. • Multiple Physical Verification Report with different team composition and different team members not signing off the reports clearly indicates circumvention of the control system. The organization should look to strongly implement the control systems.

Reporting

The project office reports quarterly to the Head Quarter and an annual report is prepared for closing and submitted.

Evaluation of Internal Control System

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Documents not dated** Many of the documents were not dated which makes it hard in tracking the flow of documents and get complete assurance about the process.	It is necessary that the officials of the organization should affix the date on the documents as well as by the signature so as to ensure that the process of authorization is duly followed and the flow of document is proper.
2	**Non-compliance with the Project operation manual** Different instances were noted where the field operation manual was not complied with.	The project implementation manual should be strictly followed.

Compliance with Tax Laws

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Delay in filing of Tax Return** It was noted that there are delays in submission of e-TDS return while deposit of tax withheld was generally on time (On random check 1 instance was noted where tax withheld was deposited late.)	Under section 90 (1) and 90 (2) of Income Tax Act 2058, the return of Tax Withheld during a month should be submitted within 25 days of subsequent month and the amount withheld should also be deposited.

Partner and Beneficiaries Visit

Refer ***Appendix 18***

Major points noted in past years' audit report

Year of Audit		
2012/13	**2013/14**	**2014/15**
• Under-utilization of budget and in few cases expenses exceeded the budget. • Details of Community Contribution not maintained although they are being budgeted and reported. • Under achievement of target set in the agreement. Further reclassification of expenses program/Activities made. • Issues related to non-compliance of Income Tax Act and provisions of the Project Operation Manual (POM) were noted. • In few cases authorization in bills and invoices from project coordinator was not obtained for accounting of expenses. • Damaged fixed asset as per physical verification had not been reported.	• Expenditure exceeds budget. • Underutilization of budget. • Delay in settlement of Advance. • Physical verification of consumable items not done. • Receivable outstanding with long ageing. • Female tax credit not claimed. • Timely recording of transaction not done.	• Program end date and reporting deadline same as disclosed in IOA and grantee agreement. • Under-utilization of budget • Deliverables not submitted by the sub grantee timely • Non-compliance with provisions of Project Operation Manual (POM) • Loss of TAL CBRP properly not addressed properly • Damaged fixed asset items of TAL CBRP not disposed. • Advance provided to grantee in previous year not implemented and recovered. • Underperformance of activities. • Receivables balance brought forward since 2005/6 • Excess payment made to grantee.

PROTECTED AREA AND BUFFER ZONE (PABZ)

Background

Terai Arc Landscape – Protected Area and Buffer Zone (TAL-PABZ) is the joint project set up by WWF Nepal in coordination with Department of National Parks (DNP) under Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) to look after Protected Areas and Buffer Zone. It majorly works with National Parks and Buffer Zone User Committees (BZUC). The office is jointly management by MoFSC and WWF Nepal as below:

1. Manager, Under Secretary, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, GoN (Currently Mr Kishor Mehta)
2. Co-Manager, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Tilak Dhakal) and
3. Finance and Admin Officer, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Rajan Rijal)
4. Other staffs hired locally

Budget and Budgetary Analysis

1. **Budgeting Process**

   National Parks, and BZUC carry out project planning exercise through consultative process and finalize the detailed annual plan for the year. National Parks and BZUCs send their annual unfunded project activities to the PABZ office. PABZ office collates, review and finalize the annual project plan and forward it to PCC for needful review and endorsement from PEC. As endorsed, WWF Nepal raises funding from its network and other potential donors to support with the resources.

2. **Budget Variance**

   Appendix 16 presents the activity level analysis of Budget Variance Analysis. High variances in the utilization were noted. Multiple instances were noted where non - utilization of budget were up to 100%.

   Comments/Recommendation

   Non utilization of budgets upto 100 % and in some cases in revised budgets/activities may indicate imposed activities, inefficiency in budgeting or incapability of the partners to utilize the same. Such situations should be avoided and the budget should be as realistic as possible. It should be demand pulled rather than supply pushed so as to bring about the desired results.

Accounting and Recording

The records of WWF Nepal and Project Office is kept separately. The project office maintains a separate accounting for its transaction in licensed version of Tally 9 ERP. A separate chart of account is used for recording which is approved by WWF Nepal.

Expenditure

Summary of the expenditure by TAL – PABZ project office are as below:

Particulars	FY13	FY14	FY15
Program Cost	50,017,998	51,355,667	85,854,142
Admin Cost	8,093,973	8,455,192	9,341,432
Total Expenses	**58,111,971**	**59,810,859**	**95,195,574**
% of Program Cost	86%	86%	90%
% of Admin Cost	14%	14%	10%

Fixed Asset Management

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Physical Verification of Project Assets not done** Paragraph 4.5.4 and 4.7.15 of POM 2008 respectively requires Consumable and Equipment to be physically verified once every year after the end of fiscal year. However, it was noted that the such physical verification was not properly conducted.	Physical verification of Project Assets should be done to ensure the safeguarding of the assets in line to the POM.

Internal Control System

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Documents not dated.** It was noted that many of the documents generated were not dated making it difficult to identify the timing and flow of the process.	It is necessary that the officials of the organization should affix the date on the documents as well as by the signature so as to ensure that the process of authorization is duly followed and the flow of document is proper.
2.	**Multiple instances of non-compliance with POM was noted.**	POM should be strictly complied with for implementation of the project.

	Project Operation Manual 2008 (now 2015) is the major document guiding the operation of the project offices. Compliance with the same is necessary without any exceptions. However, there were many instances where POM were bypassed or partly applied.	
3.	**Time sheets not approved by Supervisor** All the timesheets are required to be approved by the supervisors before payments are made to the concerned staffs. However, it was noted on different occasions that some time sheets were not approved even when they were submitted physically.	Authorization of responsible supervisor/authority should be obtained before booking any expenditure.

Compliance with Tax Laws

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Delay in filing of Tax Return** It was noted that there are delays in submission of e-TDS return while deposit of tax withheld was generally on time (On random check 1 instance was noted where tax withheld was deposited late.)	Under section 90 (1) and 90 (2) of Income Tax Act 2058, the return of Tax Withheld during a month should be submitted within 25 days of subsequent month and the amount withheld should also be deposited.

Procurement

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Purchase requisition not prepared** Paragraph 4.4.1.4 of POM 2008 requires that the project employee requiring goods and services should prepare purchase requisition and submit to the Finance and Administration Officer, who must ensure	POM should be strictly followed to ensure smooth operation of the project office and ensure only required materials are procured at right time at the right price.

	that items to be purchased are not already in the project's inventory. If same is confirmed, procurement process should be initiated. It was noted that, purchase requisition was not being prepared by the project.	
2.	**Inappropriate use of Sole Source Method of Procurement** Paragraph 4.4.2.8. of POM allows procurement without tender in case of immediate need through sealed quotation with justification. Sealed quotation and tender will not be necessary in case of any proprietary goods or any specified standardized goods **mentioned in the Grant Agreement** and approved by the Project Manager at the fixed price from the manufacturer or its authorized agent. But paragraph 4.4.2.10 further clarifies that at least three quotations are required if the goods of same quality and specification are being produced by more than one manufacture and there is chances of price competition, procurement is to be done on the basis of at least three quotations or quotations from the available manufacturers. On sample verification it was noted that, two motorbikes were procured by only obtaining quotation from single brands (Honda & Hero), while infact there are multiple brands available at the same time with the similar quality and standard products.	Sole source procurement is a non-competitive form of procurement and should be used only in case of extreme need within the guideline provided by POM.
3.	**Discrepancies in procurement documents and process.** Multiple discrepancies were noted in the	Procurement documents should be duly prepared to reflect the procurement process.

	procurement documents as follows: • Quotations obtained were found not dated. In one of the instances the quotation date was found tampered to change the date (changed to 2015/06/02 from 2014/02/21) • Normal quotations obtained while POM required sealed quotations. • VAT bill not obtained from VAT registered party (instance FY 2015 – VN 750 – Party: Resource and Research Center Pvt. Ltd.)	

Partner and Beneficiary visit

Refer ***Appendix 19***

Major points reported in past years' audit report

Year of Audit		
2012/13	**2013/14**	**2014/15**
• Delay in deposit of TDS • Leave Encashment not included during calculation of Employment TDS • Few documents were not supported with complete and authentic documents • Long outstanding liabilities not settled • Travel advances ageing more than one year not settled • Approval for disposal of damaged fixed assets not provided to Project Office by WWF Nepal	• Long outstanding liabilities not settled	• Long outstanding liabilities not settled • Consultancy contract agreement not drafted properly.

SACRED HIMALAYAN LANDSCAPE (SHL)

Background

Sacred Himalayan Landscape – Langtang National Park Buffer Zone Support Project (SHL-LNPBZSP) is the project jointly operated by WWF Nepal and Department of National Parks (DNP) under Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC) to look after the Protected Areas and Buffer Zone within/around Langtang National Park, Rasuwa. It majorly works with the National Park and Buffer Zone User Committees (BZUC). The office is jointly management by MoFSC and WWF Nepal as below:

1. Project Co-ordinator, Chief Warden, Under Secretary, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, GoN (Currently Mr. Yubaraj Regmi)
2. Co-Manager, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Rai Bahadur Rai) and
3. Finance and Admin Officer, Staff of WWF Nepal (Currently Mr. Rajaram Parajuli)
4. Other staffs hired locally

Budget and Budgetary Analysis

1. **Budgeting Process**

   30-50% of the revenue of the BZUCs that SHL – LNPBZSP works with is provided by National Parks. The planning of the activities and requirements are prepared by the BZUCs out of which few are funded by LNP and those not funded are pitched to SHL-LNPBZSP. Then SHL – LNPBZSP collates and review the plan and forwarded to PCC for PEC's endorsement.

2. **Budget Variance**

   Appendix 17 presents the activity level analysis of Budget Variance Analysis. High variances in the utilization were noted. Multiple instances were noted where non - utilization of budget were up to 100%.

   Comments/Recommendation

   The budget should be as realistic as possible. It should be demand pulled rather than supply pushed so as to bring about the desired results.

Accounting and Recording

The records of WWF Nepal and Project Office is kept separately. The project office maintains a separate accounting for its transaction in licensed version of Tally 9 ERP. A separate chart of account is used for recording which is approved by the Kathmandu Office.

Expenditure

Following is the summary of the expenditure by SHL – LNPBZSP for the period concerned to mid-term evaluation:

Particulars	FY13	FY14	FY15
Program Cost	18,831,333	18,272,173	11,828,067
Admin Cost	4,493,490	4,792,568	5,086,748
Total Expenses	**23,324,822**	**23,064,741**	**16,914,815**
% of Program Cost	81%	79%	70%
% of Admin Cost	19%	21%	30%

Fixed Asset Management

Records of the project assets that are held at the project offices purchased from the donor funds should be duly maintained. In case of movable assets, project office should maintain custody register of the movable asset to identify the assets held by specified staff. They should be physically verified at the end of the fiscal year.

Comments/Recommendation

- It was noted that SHL – LNPBZSP has not carried out the physical verification of the project assets that are in its custody.
- SHL – LNPBZSP has not maintained the movable asset register. It is recommended that it should maintain the custody register with required details.

Procurement

Finding No.	Findings	Recommendation
1.	**Inappropriate use of Sole Source Method of Procurement** Paragraph 4.4.2.8. of POM allows procurement without tender in case of immediate need through sealed quotation with justification. Sealed quotation and tender will not be necessary in case of any proprietary goods or any specified standardized goods **mentioned in the Grant Agreement** and approved by the Project Manager at the fixed price from the manufacturer or its authorized agent. But paragraph 4.4.2.10 further clarifies that at least three quotations are required if the goods of same quality and specification are being produced by more than one manufacture and there is chances of price	Sole source procurement is a non-competitive form of procurement and should be used only in case of extreme need within the guideline provided by POM.

	competition, procurement is to be done on the basis of at least three quotations or quotations from the available manufacturers. On sample verification it was noted that, two motorbikes were procured by only obtaining quotation from single brand Morang Auto Works (MAW), while infact there are multiple brands available at the same time with the same quality and standard products.	
2.	**Discrepancies in procurement documents and process.** Multiple discrepancies were noted in the procurement documents as follows: • Purchase requisition required as per POM were found not prepared. • Normal quotations obtained while POM required sealed quotations. • Comparison chart were found not prepared/approved.	Procurement documents should be duly prepared to reflect the procurement process.

Partner and Beneficiary Visit

Refer ***Appendix 20***

Major points reported in past years' audit report

Year of Audit		
2012/13	**2013/14**	**2014/15**
• Employee Program and Travel Advances - Non - compliance with project operation manual regarding timely settlement of advances and refund of unspent, if any - Partial Settlement of advances and settlement under various heads other than approved. - Multiple advance account ledger in the name of single employee • Non-preparation of monthly bank reconciliation statement • Contribution of employees (other than core staffs) not deposited in PF	• Leave without approval • Non-compliance with operation manual.	• Bank reconciliation statement not prepared on monthly basis. • Equipments (non expendable items) register not updated. Delay in deposit of TDS. • Submission of technical and financial report clause not provided in sub grantee agreement. • Significant budget variance in program activities.

4.3 FINANCIAL EVALUATION CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The midterm evaluation was conducted within the purview of Project Agreement signed between SWC and WWF on 15th August 2012. The project agreement covered Terai Arc Landscape (TAL), Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) and National Conservation Priority Areas (NCPA) in which a total of 15,000,000 United States Dollars were committed. 80% of the committed amount were intended to be spent on Program Cost while remaining 20% were set aside for administrative cost. WWF Nepal has been successful in acquisition of funds. In the years concerned to the mid-term evaluation, it has raised and expended 39% more funds. The co-management model of project management is functioning well and there is a sense of co-ownership. WWF Nepal is mature when it comes to financial management. However, some areas of improvements were noted and our overall recommendations are as below:

- WWF Nepal should work on balancing the administrative cost and program cost and should contain the administrative cost within the limit allowed by project agreement i.e. 20% of total cost.
- The project agreement is done in US dollars, it desirable to be done in Nepalese Rupees (NPR).
- The annual budgets of the projects should be as realistic as possible. Only the activities that are required/demanded by the community/users should be budgeted. The field office should be encouraged to fully utilize the budgeted amounts. Any variance in the budget should be notified to SWC and approval should be sought.
- All the periodic reports agreed in the Project Agreement should be generated and submitted to all the concerned stakeholders and regulators.
- WWF Nepal should formulate policies and procedures to fit Nepalese context and endorse the same. Usage of generalized, practice based policies/guidelines can promote excess use of judgement and confusions in the operation.
- The financial management system should be able to generate the reports that are required by the mandate and agreements.
- The annual financial statements that are audited should be prepared such that they can be reconciled with program/project wise financial reports.
- The expenditures should be booked only when same has been incurred. At the time of disbursement, it should be shown as advance.
- WWF Nepal should formulate and endorse its own procurement policy. The policy so prepared should clearly identify procurement methods, limits of each procurement method, process to followed at the time of procurement and exceptions to the rules of procurement.
- Use of soles source procurement method should be limited.

The records of fixed asset should be managed as per the project contributing those so as to be able to track the assets back to their contribution source. It should ensure that the fixed assets of project offices are duly recorded and physical counting are done.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

The midterm evaluation aims to map out the outputs, outcome and impacts of the Terai Arc landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Areas over the last five years. The participatory approaches and methods was adopted to collect the information from field to Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation including other government line agencies and partner organizations to capture the quantitative and qualitative information and analysis of information using appropriate techniques. The people's perception towards the programs as stated in the plan have been figure out and conducted the comprehensive analysis from different perspective.

The large majority of the respondents (98.63 %) are being happy with the programs because of the improvement of sustainable livelihoods of the poor people, conservation of species and ecosystem conservation, sustainable forest management, Climate Change Adaptation, alternative energy and conservation education and capacity building of women, men, youths, ethnic groups and conflict affected people. The women, poor men, Dalits and marginalized groups of the society particularly the buffer zone community, corridor and bottleneck restoration project areas are positive and cooperative towards the programs due to getting direct benefits from the programs. However, it is yet to be strong enough and large coverage to make a difference in the life of poor and marginalized people.

As far as the popularity of the program outputs in the community is concerned that the respondents ranked first for species and ecosystem conservation and conservation education and capacity building, ranked second for sustainable livelihoods, ranked third for sustainable forest management, ranked fourth for climate change adaptation and alternative energy, ranked fifth for planning, monitoring and development, ranked sixth for policy and advocacy, ranked seventh for fresh water, ranked eight for Churia watershed conservation based on the direct observation, experience and best judgment because of conservation of forest and endangered species and ecosystem, increased income and resilient livelihoods, leadership development, increased social status of direct rightholders and increased women self-esteem in the community. However, there has been a still 20 per cent ultra poor and marginalized group of people excluded from the benefit sharing of mainstream development process. There is a need of special plan and programs in order to address the real needs and priorities of the ultra poor and marginalized groups to make a difference in their lives. This is very challenging jobs for the government and social development agencies including biodiversity conservation workers.

In the areas, the participation of women (around 55 per cent) in the development process has increased particularly in decision-making process at households, community and municipal level. There has been narrowing down the gap in traditional gender roles and division of work in women and men. However, women have still more engaged in domestic chores whereas men have focused more in seasonal migration. The migration of youth to foreign countries for employment has become a major demographic phenomenon, affecting local level resource management. Men represent the overwhelming majority of the absentee population, skewing the gender balance as a whole. These factors have forced a change in gender roles, increasing the number of women-headed households and compelling women to take on a greater role in natural resource governance.

Most of the natural grasslands in Terai have now been converted for housing and agriculture farming. Many grassland patches in protected areas are being encroached by woody perennials in the absence of the annual monsoon floods that set back natural succession and maintain grasslands. However, There has been increased tiger and rhino population, rhino zero poaching is celebrated and community based conservation work has been enhanced in the last couple of years. The satellite radio monitoring of snow leopard has been carried out and established Gaurishankar Conservation Area are regarded as significant work supported by WWF Nepal. In case of SHL, conservation work together with local communities is facilitated, wildlife crime control unit was established, and capacity building of government staff and local communities has been enhanced. There has been reported some coordination problems, overlapping and duplications, domination of partner organizations, problems of credibility among the partner organizations in case of TAL. Similarly, there has been budget gap and limited activities, poor coordination, duplication and overlapping of program have been noted in case of SHL. In the program areas, human-wildlife conflict, wildlife crime and encroachment of forest are the challenges faced by the implementing agencies.

The lobbying and advocacy works particularly focusing to large infrastructure construction has identified as gap. The large infrastructure such as roads, the railway and irrigation canals should, wherever possible, avoid important biodiversity conservation areas. But where this is unavoidable, engineering designs should be incorporated to accommodate ecological and conservation point of views. While future, planned infrastructure in the TAL should include eco-friendly and climate resilient engineering designs, existing infrastructure should be retro-fitted. Being compliant with environmental regulations and conducting sound environmental impact assessments and initial environmental examinations is essential, and can address socio-ecological concerns during the early stages of planning and project designing.

It is better to figure out the significant changes over the period of time and disseminate with comprehensive reports to stakeholders for wider sharing. The community based monitoring system particularly in wildlife poaching control, control illegal logging, and marketing of NTFP based enterprises need to be strengthening. There is need of local level lobbing and advocacy works as well in the changed political context. There are opportunities and challenges for WWF in working with local government in the years to come. The capacity development of local government is an opportunity whereas proper linkage and coordination with local government from planning to monitoring and evaluation is another challenge in the future.

There has been focused local institution development such as agriculture cooperatives; supported to dairy cooperatives, non-timber forest products based small industries; community based anti-poaching units, community forestry users groups, buffer zone forestry users committees, supported to build community buildings, eco-clubs in order to link the biodiversity conservation with resilient livelihoods towards sustainability of programs. There is a need of capacity development of local institutions through support of office assistant in order to maintain book of account, regular training, exposure visits, and result based monitoring and evaluation etc. There has been support in the promotion of culture and indigenous knowledge in order to facilitate the ecotourism in conservation sites.

The overall program progress against planned have been satisfactory in TAL, CBRP, SHL and NCPA programs as mentioned in the cumulative coverage. However, some of the activities have not been completed as planned.

In conclusion the programs have been rated as **satisfactory**.

5.2 Recommendations

The following recommendations have been put forward to improve the policy and programs in the future:

5.2.1 Expand the program coverage to address the need and priorities of vulnerable, poor and marginalized people living with direct poverty and injustice.

- Design special policy and programs focusing to ultra-poor, vulnerable and marginalized people.
- Aware, organize and mobilize the vulnerable group of people to take an action against abject poverty and injustice.
- Focus to Dalits, indigenous nationalities, vulnerable women and men in program planning, implementation, result based monitoring, reporting and evaluation system.

5.2.2 Increase capacity of lobbying and advocacy works to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level.

- Organize local and national level registered people's organizations to lobbying and advocacy works with government, political parties, policy makers and decision takers.
- Train them and build the capacity to carry out lobbying and advocacy works to influence policy and practice at local, national and international level.
- Develop the critical mass as social activists to mobilize the people suffering from injustice and inequality regarding biodiversity conservation.
- Use of print and electronic media to disseminate information at wider audience
- Organize regular review and reflection meetings and document the lesson learnt and circulate it to wider audience.

5.2.3 Improve the capacity in an inter-sectoral coordination to solve land use conflict

- Special focus to inter-sectoral coordination to implement land use planning
- Organize lobbying and advocacy groups using people's organizations to influence policy and practice
- Carry out research on current land use practice and its implication in fertile land, forest, wildlife, ecosystem, food security and sustainable livelihoods.
- Publish the research report and carry out dialogue with political leaders, planners and decision takers to influence policy and practice in favor of environmental justice.

5.2.4 Mainstream the gender equality and social inclusion policy into practice effectively in project cycle management.

- Aware and organize the community through training and orientation in gender equality and social inclusion policy into practice.
- Develop the organizational commitment to action to internalize the policy into practice.
- Organize review and reflection workshop at organizational and community level to map out the progress against plan.
- Focus to strategic gender needs to make a difference in the life of women and vulnerable population.

5.2.5 Improve integration of climate change adaptation to the life and livelihoods of people, plants and wildlife.

- Aware and organize the local people about climate change adaptation works.
- Lobby and advocacy works to influence policy and practice at local and national level.
- Scale-up of small irrigation schemes through pond water collection using drip and sprinkle irrigation system to judicial use of water.
- Protect the water sources through mess wire fencing, stone wall and live fencing.
- Promote perennial high value crops like apple, walnut, almond and NTFPs in high hills and mountain.
- Promote soil water conservation techniques like mulching, minimum tillage in agriculture farming, system of rice intensification (SRI) terracing, intercropping, bio-intensive gardening, pine apple, broom grass and bamboo plantation, and checkdam construction etc.

5.2.6 Focus lobbying and advocacy to conservation friendly infrastructures building like roads, railways, big irrigation canals, hydro-power plants, education and health institutions constructions etc.

- Conduct research and disseminate information among political leaders, policy makers and decision takers regarding conservation friendly infrastructure building.
- Conduct lobbying and advocacy work during planning and designing phase of the infrastructures building projects.
- Conduct lobbying and advocacy to retrofit based on conservation friendly structures in case of already built infrastructures like roads, irrigation canals, high dams etc.

5.2.7 Improve governance in addressing forest and protected areas encroachment.

- Lobbying and advocacy works to implement acts and to take action against forest and protected areas encroachment.
- Create local pressure using people's organizations to take action against illegal agents.
- Use print and electronic media to disseminate information at wider audience.

5.2.8 Scaling-up of resilient livelihood options to improve the socio-economic status of poor and marginalized people.

- Increase access to economic development activities like skilled base training; establish NRFP based small industries, homestay, vegetable farming in plastic tunnel, and formation of cooperatives, small ruminants rearing with stall feeding, and off-farm business for the poor and marginalized people.
- Create revolving fund to address the need and priorities of poor and vulnerable families.
- Coordinate and collaborate with local government and other development agencies to support poor and marginalized people.
- Scale -up of livelihood options to poor and marginalized families.

5.2.9 Launch the climate change adaptation programs in Sunkoshi River basin drought prone areas.

- Design the special program in Sunkoshi River basin drought prone areas like Sindhuli, Ramechhap and Okhaldhunga districts to address climate change adaptation including livelihoods and biodiversity conservation works.
- Use lift irrigation from Sunkoshi River to nearby drought prone areas in order to resilient livelihoods and biodiversity conservation.
- Introduce commercial vegetable farming, dairy cattle, agro-forestry, NTFP based enterprises, marketing of agricultural produce, water, sanitation and hygiene schemes etc.
- Formation of producer and marketing cooperatives focusing to vegetable, pine apple, mango, guava, litchi, banana, papaya, NTFP and dairy.

5.2.10 Strengthening the capacity of local institutions likes agricultural cooperatives and other local institutions.

- Provide management and book keeping training to agricultural cooperative members.
- Support one Office Assistant to each cooperative to maintain book of account and other services.
- Regular monitoring and follow-up to improve the capacity of local institutions likes buffer zone forest users committees and groups, eco-clubs, CBAPUs, homestay etc .

5.2.11 Increase support for the marketing of high value crops like NTFP and agricultural produce.

- Support for market linkage in case of Chiraito, vegetables, fruits, potato and the like.
- Prepare the business plan before start-up of the business like NTFP and agricultural produce.
- Encourage to establish processing plant at local level to increase to sell the products in high price.
- Focus to values chain based marketing in order to reduce the exploitation from traders to producers.

5.2.12 Improve the pasture lands/grass lands and construction of wildlife drinking water ponds.

- Improve the pasture lands in high hills and mountains for livestock grazing
- Increase the number of construction of drinking water ponds for wildlife and livestock.
- Put the mineral blocks nearby ponds as well to supply minerals to wildlife and livestock.

5.2.13 Increase the frequency of coordination meeting between Nepal, China and India to resolve transboundary issues related to wildlife poaching and illegal trade of NTFP.

- Organize regular meeting with china and India in order to resolve the transboundary issues.
- Proactively follow-up the decision of meeting to take the action timely.

5.2.14 Maintain the wildlife population as per the carrying capacity of landscape and habitat.

- Initiate the lobbying and advocacy work with Government authority for culling the over populated species particularly wild boar and monkeys that damaged the crops in private land.
- Trans-locate the endangered species from one place to another by following the international standards.

5.2.15 Scale-up of the real time monitoring mobile based technology in different parts of Nepal.

- Scale –up of high tech GPS technology in other National Parks to control wildlife poaching and illegal trade.
- Increase number of CC TV camera, wildlife guard posts etc
- Establish the Center for the repair and maintenance of high tech equipments based in *Kasara*, Chitwan National Park.
- Organized the 7 days long biodiversity training to Nepal Army based in Chitwan National Park.
- Increase the incentives to Ban Heralu in order to boost the morale.

5.2.16 Increase the capacity on research, documentation, publications, reporting and result based monitoring and evaluation system.

- Improve the capacity of participatory research, documentation of lessons learnt and publications of materials.
- Focus research on indigenous technical knowledge, local cultural in order to biodiversity conservation.
- Establish the robust result based monitoring, reporting and evaluation system by clearly developing the outcome and impact indicators of the programs.
- Improve the frequency of field monitoring visits and prepare a field monitoring reports and circulate it to concerned mangers and stakeholders as downwards and upward accountability.
- Publish project completion report with qualitative and quantitative figures and disseminate it for wider audience.
- Regular update the website of WWF to promote transparency and good governance as well.

5.2.17 Focus on linkage and coordination with local government in the changed political context.

- Increase linkage and coordination with local government (rural municipalities and municipalities) from the very beginning from planning, implementation and monitoring, reporting and evaluation.
- Support on capacity development of elected people's representatives and staff members of local government in terms of planning, resource mobilization, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of programs.
- Increase collaborative works in biodiversity conservation and resilient livelihoods of the poor and marginalized groups etc.

5.2.18. Increase coordination with National Parks, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Department of Forest, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and others.

- Increase meaningful coordination with government departments, MoFSC, National Parks to avoid duplication, and overlapping of programs.
- Proactive response to National Parks, DoF, DNPWC and MoFSC and the like.
- Increase support to strengthening the Government line agencies through trainings, policy dialogue and collaborative works.
- Increase efficiency to timely logistic support to National Parks and Department of Forests.

5.2.19. Financial Management, Reporting and Internal Control Systems

- WWF Nepal should work on balancing the administrative cost and program cost and should contain the administrative cost within the limit allowed by project agreement i.e. 20% of total cost.
- The project agreement should be done in Nepalese Rupees (NPR).
- The annual budgets of the projects should be as realistic as possible. Only the activities that are demanded by the community/users should be budgeted. The field office should be encouraged to fully utilize the budgeted amounts. Any variance in the budget should be notified to SWC and approval should be sought.
- All the periodic reports agreed in the Project Agreement should be generated and submitted to all the concerned stakeholders and regulators.
- WWF Nepal should formulate policies and procedures to fit Nepalese context and endorse the same. Usage of generalized, practice based policies/guidelines can promote excess use of judgment and confusions in the operation.
- The financial management system should be able to generate the reports that are required by the mandate and agreements.
- The annual financial statements that are audited should be prepared such that they can be reconciled with program/project wise financial reports.
- The expenditures should be booked only when same has been incurred. At the time of disbursement, it should be shown as advance.
- WWF Nepal should formulate and endorse its own procurement policy. The policy so prepared should clearly identify procurement methods, limits of each procurement method, process to follow at the time of procurement and exceptions to the rules of procurement.
- Use of soles source procurement method should be limited.

- The records of fixed asset should be managed as per the project contributing those so as to be able to track the assets back to their contribution source. It should ensure that the fixed assets of project offices are duly recorded and physical counting is done.

5.2.20. Project targets and log frame.

- The project agreement should clearly mention the quantitative targets for the project period.
- The log frame should be prepared for all the projects based on the project agreements.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: List of Persons Contacted during Midterm Evaluation

SN	Name of persons	Organization	Address
1	Ram Prasad Pande	Duna Tapari Udhog	Kabasoti Municipality-9
2	Nama kant Bhusal	Duna Tapari Udhog	Kabasoti Municipality
3	Ram kailash Thakur	Duna Tapari Udhog	Kabasoti Municipality-7
4	Parbati BK	Duna Tapari Udhog	Kabasoti Municipality-3
5	Anita BK	Duna Tapari Udhog	Do
6	Kishowar Kumar Mahato	Amaltari CBAPU	Kabasoti Municipality-15
7	Bal Kumari Mahato	Amaltari CBAPU	Kabasoti Municipality-15
8	Shanti Mahato	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
9	Asha Mahato	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
10	Sagar BK	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
11	Dipak Sibhit Basnet	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
12	Siman Mahato	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
13	Govinda Prasad Thanet	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
14	Yub Raj Thanet	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
15	Dhani Ram Gurau	Amaltari CBAPU	Do
16	Yub Raj Dhatane	CCF,TAL Program	Chitwan, Madhi
17	Chhanu Ram Mahato	Amaltari Homestay	Kabasoti Municipality-15
18	Nar Bahadur Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15
19	Hema Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15
20	Shanti Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15
21	Dhana Maya Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15

22	Pinki Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15
23	Jog Maya Mahato	Amaltari	Kabasoti Municipality-15
24	Suk Dev Bhattarai	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
25	Bikash Pathak	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
26	Arjun Tamang	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
27	Toya Nath Adhikari	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
28	Ishwari Prd Acharya	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
29	Harka Bahadur Luba	CBAPU	Bharatpur-23,Chitwan
30	Ram Chandra Kanel	Chief Conservation Officer	Chitwan National Park
31	Ram Prit Yadav	TRC Coordinator	Chitwan National Park
32	Madhav Thapa	Colonel, Nepal Army	Chitwan National Park
33	Ambika Sunar	Dharapani User Group	Madhi-5, Chitwan
34	Sumitra BK	Do	Do
35	Purna Bahadur Sunar	Do	Do
36	Kul Bahadur BK	Do	Do
37	Mangal Sunar	Do	Do
38	Som Bahadur BK	Do	Do
39	Aita Ram BK	Do	Do
40	Chitra Bahadur Rana	Do	Do
41	Tika Devi Ghimire (Ban Heralu)	Padampur CFUG	Kalika,Chitwan
42	Kumari Bamjan	Chaturmukhi CFUG	Kalika-1, Chitwan
43	Rita Kumal	Do	Ratnanagar Municipality-11
44	Sankar Dumrakoti	Pancha kanya CFUG	Bharatpur Municipality-6
45	Kamala Poudel	Nabjyoti CFUG	Bharatpur Municipality-6
46	Ram Chandra Ghimire	Thangkhola CFUG	Kalika Municipality-2
47	Bed Hari Dahal CCF,	WWF, TAL	Ratnanagar-1

48	Hari Prasad Sapkota, LRP	WWF, TAL	Kalika -2
49	Devendra Shrestha	Ban Heralu	Bharatpur Municipality-12
50	Dipak Prasad Adhikari, Jamdar	Tikauli, Trg, Center	Do
51	Chuda Mani Regmi	Padampur Ka.Ba.	Kabasoti Municipalit
52	Saha Senani Dhan Bahadur Thapa	Arm Forest Guard Trg Center	Tikauli, Chitwan
53	Tilak Dhakal	TAL-PABL	Ratnanagar Municipality-1
54	Rajan Kumar Aryal	Dairy Cooperative	Ratnanagar Municipality-5
55	Tika Prasad Kanel	Mirga User Committee	Ratnanagar Municipality-9
56	Manoj Chaudhari	CBAPU	Ratnanagar Municipality-6
57	Sita Rijal	CBAPU	Ratnanagar Municipality-6
58	Doj Raj Mahato	CBAPU	Ratnanagar Municipality-6
59	Yauban Kumar Parajuli	Mirgakunj CFUG	Ratnanagar Municipality-6
60	Dharma Tamang	Brabal BZFUG, Rasuwa	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
61	Dindup Tamang	Brabal BZFUG	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
62	Nima Dorje Tamang	Brabal BZFUG	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
63	Kanchha Serpa	Brabal BZFUG	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
64	BB Tamangni	Brabal BZFUG	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
65	Yangri Tamangni	Brabal BZFUG	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
66	Phinjo Tamang	Thuloshyaphru Digo Gaon	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
67	Nakpu Dorje Lama	Thuloshyaphru Digo Gaon	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
68	Chheden Dolma Tamang	Thuloshyaphru Digo Gaon	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2

69	Sonam Dharke Lama	Thuloshyaphru Digo Gaon	Gosaikunda rural Municipality-2
70	Tharpa Gyalpu Ghale	Timure BZUC, Rasuwa	Timure,Rasuwa
71	Pasang Tamangni	Timure BZUC, Rasuwa	Timure,Rasuwa
72	Kami Sitar Ghale	Timure BZUC, Rasuwa	Timure,Rasuwa
73	Uttam Bahadur Thapa, Chairman	Laharepauwa BZFUC	Uttargaya rural municiaplity,Rasuwa
74	Som Lal Labat	Do	Do
75	Gyanu Thapa Magar	Pairebeshi BZCF	Do
76	Purna Bahadur Ghale	Do	Do
77	Rabi Thapa Magar	Do	Do
78	Ajit Thapa Magar	Do	Do
79	Gangadhar Neupane	Pipalbot DWS	Kalikasthan, Rasuwa
80	Khuwa Prasad Ghimire	Do	Do
81	Khuwa Prasad Neupane	Do	Do
82	Bhubaneshowari Lamichhane	Do	Do
83	Deuti Neupane	Do	Do
84	Dip Kumari Neupane	Do	Do
85	Chitra Kumari Neupane	Do	Do
86	Chun Prasad Lamichhane	Do	Do
87	Krishna Prasad Ghimire	Do	Do
88	Tashi Lama	Shyaubari BZCFUG	Kalika rural municipality
89	Pasang Shyangba	Do	Do
90	Yub Raj Regmi CCO	Langtang National Park	Dhunche, Rasuwa
91	Pramod Kumar Titung	GYTPS	Rasuwa
92	Tashi Chhiring Tamang	Langtang, BZUC	Rasuwa
93	Karsang Tamang	Langtang, BZUC	Rasuwa

94	Sarita Thapa Magar	LNPBZSP	Rasuwa
95	Rai Bahadur Rai	LNPBZSP	Rasuwa
96	Binod Tamang	LNPBZSP	Rasuwa
97	Sabita Thapa Magar	LNPBZSP	Rasuwa
98	Dhan P.Rai	WWF DD Field Program	Kathmandu
99	Bharat Gotame,SPO-TAL	WWF	Kathmandu
100	Muna Thapa,PA	WWF	Kathmandu
101	Shruti Dhungel G&CO	WWF	Kathmandu
102	Ramesh Humagai,SADO	Dist Agriculture Development Office	Rasuwa
103	Dr. Maheshwor Dhakal	MoFSC	Kathmandu
104	Mr. Rajendra Kafle	Regional Director, ERRD	Biratnagar
105	Baliram Chaudhary	Chairman, Khata CFCC	Bardiya
106	Jitendra Chaudhary	Accountant, Khata CFCC	Bardiya
107	Maya Yogi	Sr. Community Mobilizer	Bardiya
108	Tank Nath Chaudhary	Chairman, Narti CFCC	Lamahi
109	Dharma Raj Adhikari	Member	Lamahi
110	Jib Lal Khanal	Staff	Lamahi
111	Pushpa Pandey	Member	Lamahi
112	Goma Luitel	Member	Lamahi
113	Laxmi Chaudhary	Community Mobilizer – TAL-CBRP	Lamahi
114	Hem Raj Pun	Member	Lamahi
115	Bhakta Bdr. Thapa	Sub Treasurer	Lamahi
116	Tara Ghimire	Secretary	Lamahi
117	Laxman Pawan Sharma	Vice – Chairman	Lamahi

118	Lal Bahadur Tiruwa	Beneficiary	Bardiya
119	Raj Kumari Chaudhary	Beneficiary	Bardiya
120	Mr. Baliram Chaudhary	Baghauda BZUC	Madi
121	Mr. Prabhu Pd. Mahato	Baghauda BZUC	Madi

Appendix 2: Checklist for Focus Group Discussion

Name of Group: ……	
Address: District/VDC / Ward No. /Village ……	
Name of Interviewer:	
Date of Interview: ……	
TAL, SHL and NCPA Program	
1	**Effectiveness/Impact (Output-Outcome-Impact and find Gaps)** 1. What significant changes did you observe based on objectives of TAL, SHL and NCPA? 2. What are the gaps identified during implementation of TAL, SHL and NCPA? 3. What are the challenges faced during execution of programs in TAL, SHL and NCPA? 4. What do you recommends for further improvements of the program in the future? 5. What are the negative aspects observed during implementation of program? 6. Did you observe any failure cases? If yes, Pls mentions. 7. What are the innovative actions introduced by the programs? Pls list out with significant values and potentiality to scaling-up/ replication in the future?
2	**Efficiency (Input-Activities and Target VS Achievements: Correlation and sufficiency)** 1. What are the achievements against original program plan with percentile? 2. Is it sufficient or not in your observation? 3. What is commitment of staff members in order to response to targeted people in terms of program, timely delivery of inputs and conducting meeting with community based organizations regularly? 4. What is the process of timely release of budget in project area to community based organizations? 5. Are the people happy or not with the program delivery?
3	**Coordination and Linkages (District level and Central level based on General and Project Agreement)** 1. What is the mechanism of coordination and linkage with district and central level to avoid duplication, clarity on policy and practice and efficiently delivery of program activities in the community? 2. What are the gaps identified? 3. What are the main challenges in case of coordination between Government (Ministry and Department level) and WWF? 4. Do you have any suggestions for further improvements in the future?

	5. What were the lobbying and advocacy issues to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level? 6. What are the successful advocacy issues noted during program period to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level?
4	**Sustainability (Institutional, Technical, environmental and financial sustainability: transparency, public auditing, people participation/Gender equality and social Inclusion and identify Gaps)** 1. The current program can be long lasting in terms of institutional, technical, environmentally and financially? 2. What process and strategies have been adopted for the sustainability of the program? Is it enough or not towards sustainability of the program? Why? 3. What is the level of people participation particularly focusing to decision making in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation i.e. project cycle? 4. What is the mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion in the project cycle management? 5. What are the gaps identified in the sustainability of program? 6.What are the challenges faced during implementation of program 7. What are your suggestions for further improvement towards sustainability of the program? 8. How you observed the interrelationship between plant, wildlife and people? 9. How you manage the conflict between wildlife and people living with buffer zone?
5	**Financial Analysis (Actual VS Expenditure as of budget line, partnerwise and compliance to Government)** 1. What is the project performance in terms of budget utilization (per cent) during project period? 2. Is it compliance with Government financial policy and procedure or not? If yes or not, why? 3. What is the system of transparency and downward accountability? Pls mention the process? 4. Is the money used for any terrorist activities or not? 5. What is the best practice of financial management? 6. Did you note the fraud cases during project implementation? If yes, pls mention the cases with evidences? 7. What was the gap identified in financial management? 8. Do you have any suggestions for the further improvement? 9. Are you happy with the financial management of WWF during program implementation? Why? Do you have any questions with us? If yes, you are welcome for your queries?

Appendix 3: Checklist for Key Informant Interview

Name of Key Informant: …….

Position: ……..	
Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐	
Address: District/VDC / Ward No. /Village: …… Name of Interviewer:	
Date of Interview: …….	
	TAL, SHL and NCPA Program
	Effectiveness/Impact (Output-Outcome-Impact and find Gaps) 1. What significant changes did you observe based on objectives of TAL, SHL and NCPA? 2. What are the gaps identified during implementation of TAL, SHL and NCPA? 3. What are the challenges faced during execution of programs in TAL, SHL and NCPA? 4. What do you recommends for further improvements of the program in the future? 5. What are the negative aspects observed during implementation of program? 6. Did you observe any failure cases? If yes, Pls mentions. 7. What are the innovative actions introduced by the programs? Pls list out with significant values and potentiality to scaling-up/ replication in the future?
	Efficiency (Input-Activities and Target VS Achievements: Correlation and sufficiency) 1. What are the achievements against original program plan with percentile? 2. Is it sufficient or not in your observation? 3. What is commitment of staff members in order to response to targeted people in terms of program, timely delivery of inputs and conducting meeting with community based organizations regularly? 4. What is the process of timely release of budget in project area to community based organizations? 5. Are the people happy or not with the program delivery? Why?
	Coordination and Linkages (District level and Central level based on General and Project Agreement) 1. What is the mechanism of coordination and linkage with district and central level to avoid duplication, clarity on policy and practice and efficiently delivery of program activities in the community? 2. What are the gaps identified? 3. What are the main challenges in case of coordination between Government (Ministry and Department level) and WWF? 4. Do you have any suggestions for further improvements in the future? 5. What were the lobbying and advocacy issues to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level? **6.** What are the successful advocacy issues noted during program period to influence policy, practice, ideas and beliefs at local, national and international level?
	Sustainability (Institutional, Technical, environmental and financial sustainability: transparency, public auditing, people participation/Gender equality and social Inclusion and identify Gaps)

	1. The current program can be long lasting in terms of institutional, technical, environmentally and financially? 2. What process and strategies have been adopted for the sustainability of the program? Is it enough or not towards sustainability of the program? Why? 3. What is the level of people participation particularly focusing to decision making in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation i.e. project cycle? 4. What is the mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion in the project cycle management? 5. What are the gaps identified in the sustainability of program? 6. What are the challenges faced during implementation of program 7. What are your suggestions for further improvement towards sustainability of the program? 8. How you observed the interrelationship between plant, wildlife and people? 9. How you manage the conflict between wildlife and people living with buffer zone?
	Financial Analysis (Actual VS Expenditure as of budget line, partnerwise and compliance to Government) 1. What is the project performance in terms of budget utilization (per cent) during project period? 2. Is it compliance with Government financial policy and procedure or not? If yes or not, why? 3. What is the system of transparency and downward accountability? Pls mention the process? 4. Is the money used for any terrorist activities or not? 5. What is the best practice of financial management? 6. Did you note the fraud cases during project implementation? If yes, pls mention the cases with evidences? 7. What was the gap identified in financial management? 8. Do you have any suggestions for the further improvement? 9. Are you happy with the financial management of WWF during program implementation? Why? Do you have any questions with us? If yes, you are welcome for your queries?

Appendix 4: Checklist for Direct observation on Terai Arc landscape, Sacred Himalayan Landscape and National Conservation Priority Area Program

1. Level of women, poor people participation in group meeting(articulating power, bargaining power, influencing power)
2. Status of women leadership in families, community level
3. Participation of women and ethnic groups in Village Council meeting
4. Social status of women and ethnic groups in the community
5. Social prestige of women and ethnic groups in the household
6. Access to economic opportunities at household, community etc
7. Forest enterprises, home stay tourism, Vegetable farming, cash crops, livestock (goat, buffaloes, cows, chicken etc)
8. Self employment at household
9. Involvement in the cooperatives (Total saving amount, duration, main economic activities etc)
10. Linkages & coordination with Government line agencies, Rural Municipality/Municipality and NGOs etc)
11. Access to Government resources for social development of the women farmers
12. Lobbying and advocacy with Rural Municipalities and DDCs to influence policy, practice, ideas and belief to make a difference in the lives of women
13. Access to water, sanitation and hygiene among women farmers
14. Access to communication
15. Access to mobility
16. Access to and control over household resources (land, forest, capital, livestock, money, food etc)
17. What are the innovative actions have been done in the program areas
18. What are the significant changes observe in the program area based on the following objectives:

A.TAL Program

- Sustainable Forest Management
- Species and Ecosystem Conservation
- Climate Change and Energy
- Freshwater
- Churia Watershed Conservation
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Policy and Advocacy
- Planning, Monitoring and Development
- Conservation Education and Capacity Building

B. Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) Program

- Sustainable Forest Management
- Species and Ecosystem Conservation
- Climate Change and Energy
- Freshwater
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Policy and Advocacy

- Planning, Monitoring and Development
- Conservation Education and Capacity Building
- Institutional Strengthening and Coordination

C. National Conservation Priority Areas (NCPA) Program

- Sustainable Forest Management
- Species and Ecosystem Conservation
- Climate Change and Energy
- Freshwater
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Policy and Advocacy
- Planning, Monitoring and Development
- Conservation Education and Capacity Building

Appendix 5: Terai Arc Landscape (TAL), Protected Area and Buffer zone (PABZ) and Corridor and bottleneck restoration (CBRP)

Day	Itinerary	Details	Activities to Observe	Responsible Person
27 Jun 2017	Fly to Bharatpur, airport time 5:30 AM	Visit to Amaltari Night stay at Bharatpur	• Green enterprises -Kawasoti • Community based anti-poaching unit (CBAPU) work, Community based Tourism	Tilak Dhakal, 9851089994
Meeting with Regional Director, Regional Forest Directorate, Biratnagar by Mr. Kishor C. Gautam about SHL works in Kanchanjungha conservation area				
28 Jun 2017	Drive to Kasara, CNP headquarter, & Madi	Kerunga BZUC Interaction meeting & Observation-CNP	• HWC Mitigation measures(Fencing) • Real time SMART technology, Sniffer Dog, Interaction with PA and Army, HWC mitigation fencing • Climate change adaptation activities (1 site), Chharchhare, Bagaudha	Tilak Dhakal, 9851089994 Ram Chandra Kandel CNP Army Madhav Thapa-Army Prabhu Mahato, BZUC

		Night stay at Ayodhyapuri Home Stay		CNP
29 Jun 2017	Drive to Thori, Subarnapur	Observe Gopal Nagar-Madi , Drive to Barandavar Observe CCTV & meeting with Tikauli Visit Sauraha- Observe IGA – Milk cooperative Nigh stay at Sauraha	• Observe fish farming - Gopalnagar • Observe CCTV, Meeting with Tikauli • Meeting with Ban Heralu enroid mobile patrolling • Observe & interaction meeting with local communities	Tilak Dhakal, 9851089994 Yubaraj Ghatane
30 Jun 2017	Fly to Kathmandu, First flight			Tilak Dhakal, 9851089994

Sacred Himalayan Landscape – Langtang NP Buffer Zone support program:

Date	**Itinerary**	**Details**	**Activities to Observe**	**Responsible Person**
1 Jul 2017	Travel to Dhunche	Visit to Dhaibung, Bhorle, Laharepauwa Night stay at	Climate change adaptation activities	Rai Bahadur Rai Sarita Thapa Magar
2 Jul 2017	Travel to Thulosyafru	Visit to Brabal, Thulosyafru, Night stay at	HWC fencing, Community building, multiple use of water, trail,	Rai Bahadur Rai Sarita Thapa Magar

3 Jul 2017	timureSyafrubesi-dhunce	Visit to Syafrubesi, Timure Night stay at	Community building in Timure, green economic corridor, meeting at LNPBZSP office, interaction with Chief warden and team	Rai Bahadur Rai Sarita Thapa Magar
4 Jul 2017	Drive to Ktm			Rai Bahadur Rai

Evaluation will be focus on:

1) Significant change
2) Gaps in implementation
3) Challenges
4) Recommendation for further improvement
5) New innovation introduced

Annex 6: Organizational Performance Assessment of WWF, TAL Program Management

District: Chitwan

Assessment Parameters	Range of Score	Obtained Score	Rating
1.Transparency • Social Audit/Public hearing • Annual Review & Reflections • Participatory Planning & Budgeting • Governance system/structures • Website updates	0-4	4	Highly Satisfactory
2.Leadership Development • Participatory decision making • Authority Delegation • Visionary • Situational	0-4	4	Highly Satisfactory
3. Financial Management • Compliance with Financial Policies • Compliance with the income tax laws & Regulations • Fixed Assets Records and physical Verification • Internal Auditing & Control • External Auditing • Financial Reporting	0-4	4	Highly Satisfactory

Assessment Parameters	Range of Score	Obtained Score	Rating
4.Networking • Member of Alliance • Establishment of Network with other organizations • Linkage and coordination with Government line agencies	0-4	4	Highly Satisfactory
5.Efficiency • Committed staff • Efficiently use of resources • Performance of Program Activities (%)	0-4	2	Moderately Satisfactory
6.Policies • Formulation of policies and strategies • Amendment of policies as per the context • Available current policies/strategies	0-4	3	Satisfactory
7.Sustainability • Organizational sustainability • Members' ownership • Financial Sustainability • Environmental Sustainability • Local institutional development/Cooperatives	0-4	3	Satisfactory
8.Advocacy • Lobbying & Advocacy to influence policy & practices • Conducted research and publications • Dissemination of information	0-4	2.5	Moderately Satisfactory
9. Sustainable Livelihoods/Income Generation • Increased income from agri enterprises • Increased income from NTFP resources	0-4	3	Satisfactory
Total Score	**-**	**29.5**	**-**
Average Score		**3.27**	Satisfactory

Note: Organizational Assessment was done based on the judgment of Buffer Zone Forest Users Committee members, Chitwan

Rating/Assessment Criteria (0-4 score):

4 - Highly Satisfactory

3 -3.5 Satisfactory

2 -2.5 Moderately Satisfactory, and

0-1 Unsatisfactory

It is assumed that higher the score greater the performance whereas lower the score poorer the organizational performance.

Appendix 7: Gender Division of Work

Particulars	Divisions of work	
	Women	Men
Agricultural Activities		
Plough Land	_	M
Seed Storage	W	M
Buying of seed and fertilizers	W	M
Composting	W	M
Manuring in land	W	M
Spraying of insecticide	W	M
Weeding	W	M
Grain harvesting	W	M
Grain winnowing (rice, wheat, maize, Pulses etc)	W	M
Grain storage	W	M
Grain selling	W	M
Crop husbandry	W	M
Buying of tillage implements (plough and spade)	W	M
Sowing and transplanting of crops	W	M
Irrigating the land	W	M
Transportation of rice and it's by products	W	M
Social Functions		
Attending delivery case	W	M
Attending funeral ceremony	-	M
Attending marriage ceremony	W	M
Attending religious ceremony	W	M
Participation in village group meeting	W	M
Opening of Bank account	W	M
Signature on credit bills	W	M
Involved in cultural ceremony	W	M
Animal Husbandry		
Cleaning of cow shed	W	M
Providing fodder and water to animals	W	M
Grazing cattle	W	M
Grazing goats	W	M
Milking of cattle and buffalo	W	M
Veterinary service	W	M
Collection of fodder	W	M

Management of water to animals	W	M
Buying of animals	W	M
Compost making	W	M
Caring of breeding stock (bull, buck etc)	W	M
Poultry and Pigeon Rearing		
Preparation of poultry feeding	W	M
Care and management of poultry	W	M
Cleaning of poultry house	W	M
Cleaning of poultry and pigeon	W	M
Selling of poultry and pigeon	W	M
Selling of eggs	W	M
Use of income from poultry	W	M
Employment		
Agricultural Labor	W	M
Constructing of work (house, school)	W	M
Working in mines	W	M
Government service	W	M
Plantation (forest)	W	M
Industrial labor	W	M
Food Management		
Grain milling	W	M
Fetching fuel wood	W	M
Arranging cooking materials	W	M
Caring of food items	W	M
Cooking foods	W	M
Serving food to household members	W	M
Cleaning utensils	W	M
Cleanliness of kitchen	W	M
Fetching drinking water	W	M
Care and Management of Household		
Birth of child	W	-
Caring children	**W**	M
Washing, bathing, and putting clothes on children	**W**	M
Clothes on children	W	M
Medical care to children	W	M
Medical care of other household members	W	**M**
Serving food to children	W	M
Sending children to school daily	W	M
Main responsibility in educating children	W	M
Sanitation of Housing Premises		
Cleanliness of house yard	W	M
Repairing of house	W	**M**
House washing	**W**	M

Fetching water	W	M
Marketing of consumable goods	W	M

Source: Key Informant Interview, 2017

Appendix 8: Accesses to and Control over Resources by Sex

Particulars	Access		Control	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Equipment/property				
Land	W	M	W	M
Equipment	W	M	W	M
House	W	M	W	M
Ornaments	W	M	W	M
Livestock	W	M	W	M
Cash	W	M	W	M
Labor	W	M	W	M
Production (income generation work)	W	M	W	M
Reproduction (domestic work)	W	M	W	M
Income				
External income	W	M	W	M
Right to equipment	W	M	W	M
Main Needs				
Food	W	M	W	M
Cloth	W	M	W	M
House	W	M	W	M
Political power	W	M	W	M
Participation in Decision Making				
Buying and selling of land	W	M	W	M
Buying and selling of Livestock	W	M	W	M
Buying and selling of fowl	W	M	W	M
Grain selling	W	M	W	M
Borrow money without interest Rate(*sapati Line)*	W	M	W	M
Credit (give and take)	W	M	W	M
Marketing	W	M	W	M
Invitation to guests	W	M	W	M
Growing crops	W	M	W	M
Marriage of son and daughter	W	M	W	M
Schooling of son and daughter	W	M	W	M
Celebration of festivals	W	M	W	M

Pilgrims	W	M	W	M
Medical care	W	M	W	M
Candidate in political election	W	M	W	M
Right to vote	W	M	W	M
Choosing political party	W	M	W	M
Involved in social organization	W	M	W	M
Agricultural Labor	W	M	W	M
Outside employment	W	M	W	M
Hiring servants	W	M	W	M
Deployment of Labor	W	M	W	M

Source: Key Informant Interview, 2017

Appendix 9: TAL – PABZ Program

	Major Activities	Unit	Cumulative Annual Target (FY13-FY17)	Cumulative Annual Progress (FY 13- FY 17)	Progress (%)
	FORESTS				
1.1	Support preparation of management plans of PAs	No	6	9	150%
1.2	Survey and demarcation of management zone in PAs	Kg	435	265.5	61%
1.3	Support for fire line construction/maintenance	Km	840	621	74%
	Support for fire line construction	Km	104	87.5	84%
1.4	Open new fire lines (including foot trail) at strategic locations	Km	2	0	0%
1.5	Support PAs for construction/ maintenance of wooden bridge	No	6	9	150%
1.6	Support watchtower construction for wildlife monitoring	No	1	2	200%
1.7	Support PA s for construction of fire lines at strategic locations	Km	7	25	357%
2.1	Form and legalize BZCFUGs	No	79	47	59%
2.2	Revise CFOPs of BZCFs	No	44	73	166%
2.3	Office management support to newly formed BZCFUGs / BZUC	No	18	45	250%
2.4	Habitat management supports to BZCFUGs	Ha	33	5.5	17%
2.5	Strengthen Leasehold Forestry	No	0	0	0
3.1	Toilet support for biogas promotion through CFCCs/BZUCs	HH	0	0	0

3.2	Promote biogas installation through micro-finance	HH	410	1297	316%
3.3	Support revolving fund for solar Tuki / Revolving fund support to enhance alternative energy use	HH	111	72	65%
3.4	Promote ICS	HH	490	362	74%
5.1	Strengthen CFUGs (Form and legalize CFOP and office management supports)	No	54	60	111%
5.2	Support revision of CFOPs	No	0	0	0
5.3	Conduct interaction workshop with stakeholders on biodiversity conservation and TAL vision	Time	0	0	0
5.4	Support and strengthen BZUCs	No	35	19	54%
6.1	Mobilize, Institutionalize and strengthen CBAPOs	No	218	265	122%
6.2	Coordination with PAs and enforcement agencies on CBAPO mobilizations	Time	10	8	80%
6.4	Support CBAPOs with endowment fund	Group	4	6	150%
7.1	Capacity building of staff of PAs/DFOs (Forest management, EIA, IEE, wildlife management / monitoring, etc.)	Person	96	206	215%
7.2	Partial Support for higher studies for staff of DFO and DNPWC	Person	15	4	27%
7.3	Conduct CBO capacity assessment including government and Implement (CBAPOs, REDD+)	No	0	0	0
7.5	Capacity building of CBOs members (including BZUCs)	Person	485	591	122%
7.6	CBO institutionalization (Technical backups, orientation and facilitation for linkages development)	Time	106	0	0%
7.7	Orientation and capacity building support to CFUGs/BZCFs	Person	792	1639	207%
7.8	Orientation and capacity building training to BZUCs/CFCCs/CFUGs / BZCFUGs/Health worker/wood workers	Person	540	729	135%
7.9	Sharing of CFCC/BZUC achievements to stakeholders for exploring partnership opportunities	Time	2	0	0%
7.10	Support CFUGs and BZ CFUG in identifying and targeting PVSE groups	Group	306	244	80%
7.12	Support CFCCs/CFUGs and BZUCs / BZUGs to conduct public hearing and public auditing (PHPA)	Group	190	622	327%
7.13	Conduct public awareness campaigns on resources rights and responsibilities	Time	3	0	0%
8.1	Conduct coordination meetings/ workshops with DFOs/Pas, trade unions and relevant stakeholders for on biodiversity conservation, water resource protection etc.	Time	34	37	109%
8.3	Prepare grassland restoration plans in coordination with DFOs	Ha	1100	91.53	8%
8.4	Support for habitat / grassland management in corridors, bottlenecks and buffer zones	Ha	56	332	593%

8.5	Support to restore wetlands	No	26	23	88%
8.6	Support to restore/manage grassland	Ha	462	514.8	111%
9.1	Restore and rehabilitate encroached forest areas	Ha	40	0	0%
9.2	Promote improved livestock management practices/ sustainable grazing management	HH	807	1846	229%
9.3	Support vulture conservation	Site	0	0	0
	Nursery construction/maintenance	Site	3	2	67%
9.4	Support seedling production, purchase and restoration	Seedling	180557	206280	114%
9.5	Support plantation management (trench, fencing, watch man)	Ha	265	164.2	62%
10.1	Create enabling environment for controlling encroachment, poaching and law enforcement	Time	0	0	0
	Corridor and buffer zone restoration	Ha	440	1587.96	361%
	Train and develop forest fire squads	Group	2	3	150%
	Strengthen and office management support to BZMC/BZUC	No	257	223	87%
	Open grazing control measures/ Zero grazing at VDC level	Site	2	5	250%
	Bamboo/Rattan seedling production and plantation	Ha	6	7.53	126%
	Grassland Management in CF	Ha	87	137	157%
	Post-formation support to CFUG	Group	1	1	100%
	Fire line management/Forest fire Management	Site	3	3	100%
	Private Forestry Promotion	Ha	4	4.33	108%
	Sub-Total		**189594**	**218575.85**	**115%**
	SPECIES CONSERVATION				
12.1	Tiger and prey population monitoring (habitat occupancy surveys and camera-trapping)	Time	16	5	31%
12.2	Conduct tiger prey-base survey in PAs, corridors and bottlenecks (including hog deer)	Lumpsum	2	2	100%
	Corridor functionality of Someswor hill forest	Lumpsum	1	1	100%
	Tiger monitoring in CNP (Kamrita)	Time	3	3	100%
12.4	Feasibility study/translocation of Rhino	Time	3	2	67%
	Support enforcement agencies for ID based rhino and tiger tracking and patrolling	Lumpsum	1	1	100%
12.5	Population management of Gharial (including telemetric study)	Time	12	63	525%
12.6	Habitat management for Gharial	Time	12	4	33%
12.7	Develop ex-situ conservation measures for Gharial	Site	2	2	100%

12.8	Training to rangers and mobilization for Gharial monitoring and awareness	Person	20	28	140%
14.1	Support protected area offices for intelligence collection against poachers and wildlife part traders	Time	124	135	109%
14.2	Support protected area offices for mobility and patrolling	Time	130	187	144%
14.3	Support protected area offices for regular sweeping and camping operations	Time	112	136	121%
14.4	Support PAs for construction/maintenance of posts (accessory requirements)	Site	8	8	100%
14.5	Support PAs for construction of posts (also to accommodate protection unit staff)	No	8	22	275%
14.6	Support APO post maintenance	No	18	16	89%
14.7	Conduct APO orientation to protection unit and Hattisar staff	Person	131	10	8%
14.9	Support PAs/DFOs for anti-poaching operations, post construction / maintenance	No	26	16	62%
	Post maintenance	No	10	10	100%
14.10	Support enforcement agencies/CBAPOs/youth for anti-poaching operations (coordination meeting, field gears, awareness programs, operations, etc.)	Set	611	58	9%
14.11	Dog squad construction to increase APO effectiveness	No	26	26	100%
14.12	Strengthen communication system	Site	3	1	33%
14.13	Provide training/orientation to park staff on wildlife management/monitoring /Capacity Building	Person	32	494	1544%
14.14	Construction/maintenance of all-weather road	Km	30	13	43%
16.2	Orientation to and coordination with political parties, indigenous groups, youth multi stakeholders in conservation	Event	6	1	17%
18.1	Provide health check up and treatment facilities for domestic elephants and elephant handlers	Site	1	1	100%
	Food for tiger	Times	1	1	100%
	Award to deserving post	Site	1	1	100%
	Predator resistant pen for domestic livestock	No	90	64	71%
	Train park and protection staff in SMART patrolling/	Site	54	64	119%
	Conduct SMAPRT patrolling operation (SMART implementation)	Guard post	72	46	64%
	Review reflection on SMART	Time	10	9	90%
21.1	Support PAs to restore/manage grasslands	Ha	190	91.53	48%
	Support for the rescue and management of tigers and other wildlife	Site/Lumsum	6	2	33%
22.1	Support PAs to restore waterholes	No	6	8	133%
	Wetland mapping and status survey/ Develop and implement wetland monitoring	Study	6	6	100%

	Develop and implement grassland monitoring	Study	10	10	100%
23.1	Support establishment of Human-wildlife conflict victim endowment/relief fund	Site	18	19	106%
23.2	Support revolving fund for livestock insurance scheme	Site	3	1	33%
23.3	Implement human wildlife conflict mitigation measures/ scholarship support	Site	27	33.18	123%
	HWC resilience building supports	HHs	205	182	89%
24.1	Support communities for installation of electric/solar fencing/Solar Recharger	Km	18	78.7	437%
25.1	Conduct sensitization workshops and training for enforcement staff and judiciary on legal policies and procedures (CITES, wildlife trade issues)	Person	21	30	143%
26.1	Form and strengthen watch groups in strategic areas (including support to TRCCC)	Group	32	42	131%
27.1	Support trans-boundary cooperation meeting (local and landscape level)	Time	21	9	43%
	Strengthen park and CBAPO as "Rapid Response Squad" to address HWC cases	Cluster	24	57	238%
	Emergency rescue handling equipment and service	Site	1	1	100%
	WCCB- institutional strengthening	Event	10	3	30%
	Sub-Total		**2174**	**2003.41**	**92%**
	CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY				
28.3	Ecosystem restoration in TAL	Study	2	0	0%
29.1	Implement Climate Risk Reduction plans at vulnerable sites	Site	3	1	33%
29.2	Promote early warning system in flood prone areas	Site	1	1	100%
29.3	Promote efficient and multiple use of water	Site	2	3	150%
29.4	Bio engineering, plantation, check dams etc. to protect springs and landslides (Early action project)	Site	4	5	125%
29.5	Support community seed bank	Group	2	2	100%
29.6	Test local innovations for building communities' resilience	Group	4	5	125%
29.7	Support local level fund mobilization for climate related disaster	Group	2	3	150%
29.9	Capacity enhancement on climate change ad DRR(orientation, meeting, training, visits)	Person	438	404	92%
	Support for preparation and implementation of Climate Change Adaptation Plan (LAPA/CAPA)	Site	18	19	106%
	Strengthen climate information and knowledge-base (information centres)	No	1	0	0%
	Support dissemination and implementation of Environment friendly Local Governance Framework (EFLGF)	Site	2	2	100%
	Sub-Total		**479**	**445**	**93%**
	FRESH WATER				

30.1	Increased awareness on Fresh water Dolphin/Gharial	Time	5	0	0%
	Sub-Total		**5**	**0**	**0%**
	SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS				
31.1	Support cooperatives for revolving fund for IGA opportunities	HH	186	857	461%
31.2	Provide technical and financial support to cooperatives to upgrade their skills and expand businesses	No	55	37	67%
31.3	Support for One Cooperative One enterprises	Coop	8	13	163%
	Partial support to communities to enhance micro finance (matching fund)	HHs	10	9	90%
31.4	Support forest-based enterprises (private and community partnership)	No	13	12	92%
31.5	Support farm-based community enterprises (fisheries, horticulture, food processing)	HH	178	243	137%
31.6	Support skill development training for off-farm IGAs including CBAPOs	HHs	111	621	559%
31.7	Skill development on sustainable harvesting, cultivation, value addition and marketing of NTFP and high value crops	Person	191	94	49%
31.9	Support promotion of green tourism and green jobs (nature guide training, cook training, hotel management training, home stay, etc.)	Site	57	161	282%
31.10	Implement reaching the poorest of poor program	Group	86	142	165%
31.11	Implement WICAS(women in conservation and sustainable development)	Site	4	2	50%
33.2	Improve sanitation of target communities	HH	340	311	91%
33.3	Strengthen, replicate and expand PHE activities (BCC, NFE, health camps, monthly meetings)	Pkg	17	203	1194%
	IGA support to river dependent communities	HH	12	0	0%
	Support to develop sustainable village	Site	1	1	100%
	Monitoring and tracking of community based interventions	Time	6	6	100%
	Strengthen community clinic/service centers	Site	10	7	70%
	Product based village promotion	HH	48	48	100%
	Sub-Total		**1333**	**2767**	**208%**
	POLICY AND ADVOCACY				
34.1	Implement Forest Fire strategy/Plan	Event	4	2	50%
34.2	Implement REDD+ strategy (institutional strengthen, advocacy, tools and standards, benefit sharing)	Time	1	0	0%
34.6	Support development of policy on natural resource management (protection forest, benefit sharing mechanism and environmental services)/ Management plan preparation support to PAs and DFOs	No	3	3	100%
	Coordination meeting relevant stakeholders (for conservation friendly infrastructure)	Person	28	35	125%

	Coordination meeting between Banke and Kamdi corridor	Time	4	1	25%
	Partial support for BNP Management plan preparation	Time	1	1	100%
	Issue based sensitization to local leaders	Time	1	1	100%
	Sub-Total		**42**	**43**	**102%**
	CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING				
35.1	Support and mobilize eco clubs	No	166	343	207%
35.3	Support School Teaching Program	School	4	0	0%
35.4	Institutional development support to SENSE Nepal	Time	4	4	100%
	Support capacity enhancement activities to eco clubs/teachers (orientation, training, visit)	Event	12	6	50%
36.2	Support and mobilize students/ youth groups/trade unions in conservation awareness campaigns	Event	22	16	73%
36.4	Conduct issue-based awareness campaigns	Event	74	126	170%
36.5	Conservation education and awareness program/interaction (multi-stakeholders/youth/student)	Time	8	8	100%
36.6	Support to disseminate and raise conservation awareness messages (events/celebration)	Event	26	18	69%
36.8	Raise awareness to CFUGs local stakeholders and wood workers on green jobs, incentives of forest resource conservation in the international carbon market etc	Event	4	3	75%
	Model eco club development	Site	3	2	67%
37.1	Conduct NFE classes on specific conservation issues	Person	668	1208	181%
37.2	Streamline conservation education in formal school curriculum	Site	1	1	100%
37.3	Support capacity enhancement activities to eco clubs/teachers (orientation, training, visit)	Package	3	0	0%
	Support youth learning centres/information centre/MPRC	Lumpsum	7	5	71%
	Sub-Total		**1002**	**1740**	**174%**
	COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING				
38.2	Produce and broadcast radio bulletins on conservation issues and achievements	Time	21	3	14%
38.3	Prepare and disseminate extension materials (hoarding board, brochure, pamphlets etc)	Volume	12.5	11	88%
38.4	Produce issue based video documentary	Volume	0	0	0
38.5	Orient and train local journalists on conservation issues	Person	54	76	141%
38.6	Mobilize media for advocacy on conservation issues and disseminate information on successes	Time	31	12	39%

38.8	Develop and publish communication materials (success stories)	No	6	6	100%
38.11	Support for biodiversity information center (endowment fund for Tikauli)	Time	2	1	50%
	Sensitize community/school about sanitation	Pkg	1	1	100%
	Sub-Total		**128.5**	**110**	**86%**
	PLANNING, MONITORING, DEVELOPMENT & COORDINATION				
39.1	Staff capacity building (planning, monitoring and program development standard)	Person	13	0	0%
39.2	Conduct regular programmatic and financial monitoring	Time	27	18	67%
39.3	Conduct regular review and planning meetings	Time	21	8	38%
39.4	Conduct lesson learned, reflection and sharing workshops	Time	19	5	26%
39.5	Conduct GIS analysis and database management (Forest cover change, spatial distribution of CF, threat assessment)	Time	1	0	0%
39.6	Support to institutionalize community based livelihood and governance changes monitoring in piloted CFCC	Group	2	0	0%
39.8	Support Program development	Time	1	1	100%
40.1	Partnership with DNPWC and DOF, MoF for joint planning, review and monitoring	Time	8	2	25%
40.2	Conduct regional and district level planning, review, monitoring and coordination with government and non government partners and stakeholders	Time	10	5	50%
40.3	Provide central level logistic supports to DOF and DNPWC	Unit	9	0	0%
40.4	Support the Landscape support unit	Time	28	1	4%
40.5	Support MFSC/DNPWC to institutionalize Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) and National Tiger Conservation Committee (NTCC)	No	2	2	100%
40.6	Partnership for implementation of WTLCP	Person	1	0	0%
40.7	Field program planning, monitoring and development (Project level)	Quarter	32	22	69%
	Sub-Total		**201**	**69**	**34%**
	Grand Total		**194958.5**	**225753.26**	**116%**

Appendix 10: TAL – CBRP Program

GL Act #	FORESTS	Unit	Cumulative Annual Target (FY13-FY17)	Cumulative Annual Progress (FY 13- FY 17)	Progress (%)
52	**CONSERVATION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**				
	FORESTS				
1.3	Support for fire-line construction/maintenance	Km	61	374	613%
3.2	Promote biogas installation through micro-finance	HH	815	1637	201%
3.3	Support revolving fund for solar Tuki	HH	50	0	0%
3.4	Promote ICS	HH	1315	1679	128%
5.1	Strengthen CFUGs (Form and legalize CFOP and office management supports)	No	79	19	24%
5.2	Support revision of CFOPs	No	141	123	87%
5.4	Support and strengthen CFCCs	No	65	100	154%
6.1	Mobilize, Institutionalize and strengthen CBAPOs	No	204	289	142%
7.1	Capacity building of staff of PAs/DFOs (Forest management, EIA, IEE, wildlife management / monitoring, etc.)	Person	102	311	305%
7.2	Partial Support for higher studies for staff of DFO and DNPWC	Person	8	1	13%
7.5	Capacity building of CBOs members (including BZUCs)	Person	1075	1097	102%
7.6	CBO institutionalization (Technical backups, orientation and facilitation for linkages development)	Time	57	597	1047%
7.7	Orientation and capacity building support to CFUGs/BZCFs	Person	401	784	196%

7.8	Orientation and capacity building training to BZUCs/CFCCs/CFUGs/BZCFUGs/Health worker/wood workers	Person	428	802	187%
7.9	Sharing of CFCC/BZUC achievements to stakeholders for exploring partnership opportunities	Event	8	0	0%
7.10	Support CFUGs and BZ CFUG in identifying and targeting PVSE groups/ Support CFUGs and BZ CFUG in conducting PWBR	Group	145	82	57%
7.12	Support CFCCs/CFUGs and BZUCs / BZUGs to conduct public hearing and public auditing (PHPA)	CBOs/ Group	464	314	68%
7.13	Conduct public awareness campaigns on resources rights and responsibilities/ Promote Good Governance Practices (PWBR, PHPA, CFD Guidelines)	Time	67	88	131%
8.1	Conduct coordination meetings/ workshops with DFOs/Pas, trade unions and relevant stakeholders for on biodiversity conservation, water resource protection etc.	Event	50	843	1686%
8.3	Prepare grassland restoration plans in coordination with DFOs	Ha	1000	0	0%
8.4	Support for habitat / grassland management in corridors, bottlenecks and buffer zones	Ha	233	596	256%
8.5	Support to restore wetlands	No	21	48	229%
8.6	Support to restore/manage grassland	Ha	155	423	273%
9.1	Restore and rehabilitate encroached forest areas	Ha	263	665.35	253%
9.2	Promote improved livestock management practices/ sustainable grazing management	HH	4587	9721	212%
9.3	Support vulture conservation	Site	2	2	100%
9.4	Support seedling production, purchase and restoration	Seedling	927250	1437530	155%
9.5	Support plantation management (trench, fencing, watch man)	Ha	826	2831.5	343%
9.6	Corridor Restoration/ Strategic restoration of corridors	Ha	515	1058	205%

10.1	Create enabling environment for controlling encroachment, poaching and law enforcement	Time	5	14	280%
	Bamboo Seedling production and plantation	Seedling	5281	2732	52%
	Support forest fire control	Site	19	55	289%
	Support for Scientific Forest Management	Times	1	1	100%
	Protection Forest Support	No.	1	1	100%
	Private Plantation	Ha	34	22.2	65%
	Train and develop forest fire squads	Group	2	2	100%
	Post-formation support to CFUG	Group	6	22	367%
	Nursery construction/maintenance	Site	1	3	300%
	Sub-Total		**945737**	**1464867.05**	**155%**
	SPECIES CONSERVATION				
12.1	Tiger and prey population monitoring (habitat occupancy surveys and camera-trapping)	Site	19	21	111%
12.2	Conduct tiger prey-base survey in PAs, corridors and bottlenecks (including hog deer)	Site	4	6	150%
13.1	Conduct population monitoring and mapping of rhino movement (ID based monitoring of rhino) in protected areas, corridors and bottlenecks	Site	1	0	0%
14.1	Support protected area offices for intelligence collection against poachers and wildlife part traders	Site	75	78	104%
14.2	Support protected area offices for mobility and patrolling / Support DFO for mobility and patrolling	Site	80	80	100%
14.7	Conduct APO orientation to protection unit and Hattisar staff	0	120	0	0%
14.9	Support PAs/DFOs for anti-poaching operations, post construction / maintenance	No	19	13	68%
14.10	Support enforcement agencies for anti-poaching operations (coordination meeting, field gears, awareness programs, operations, etc.)	Site	12	11	92%
	Support park/DFO/CBAPOs/youth with field gears (Equipment and accessories)	Site	45	39	87%

16.2	Orientation to and coordination with political parties, indigenous groups, youth multi stakeholders in conservation	Event	4	7	175%
20.5	Predator resistant pen for domestic livestock	No	200	205	103%
23.1	Support establishment of Human-wildlife conflict victim endowment/relief fund	Site	12	12	100%
23.2	Support revolving fund for livestock insurance scheme	Site	1	1	100%
23.3	Implement human wildlife conflict mitigation measures/Scholarship support	Site	17	13.5	79%
24.1	Support communities for installation of electric/solar fencing	Km	5	17.2	344%
27.1	Support trans-boundary cooperation meeting (local and landscape level)	Event	14	19	136%
	Develop and implement grassland monitoring	Study	4	2	50%
	Develop and implement wetland monitoring	Study	2	2	100%
	Strengthen park and CBAPO as "Rapid Response Squad" to address HWC cases/ Rapid Response Team formation, strengthening and mobilization	Site	11	49	445%
	Support for the rescue and management of tigers and other wildlife	Site	23	14	61%
	Capacity building PA/DFO	Site	21	1	5%
	Waterhole construction and maintenance in corridors	No.	2	2	100%
	Corridor ecological functionality survey	Time	6	6	100%
	Form and strengthen watch groups in strategic areas (support to Ban heralu/TRCCC)	Site	7	3	43%
	HWC resilience building supports	HH	132	50	38%
	Information dissemination and awareness on conflict prone zones	Site	5	5	100%
	Sub-Total		**841**	**656.7**	**78%**
	CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY				

28.3	Ecosystem restoration in TAL	Site	3	1	33%
29.1	Implement Climate Risk Reduction plans at vulnerable sites (Mainstream climate change in local development plans)	Site	10	2	20%
29.2	Promote early warning system in flood prone areas	Site	1	0	0%
29.3	Promote efficient and multiple use of water	Site	5	9	180%
29.4	Bio engineering, plantation, check dams etc. to protect springs and landslides (Early action project)	Site	9	0	0%
29.5	Support community seed bank	Group	3	2	67%
29.6	Test local innovations for building communities' resilience	Group	4	2	50%
29.9	Capacity enhancement on climate change (orientation, meeting, training, visits)	Person	504	817	162%
	PES mechanism development	Site	4	4	100%
	Support for preparation and implementation of Climate Change Adaptation Plan (CAPA/LAPA)	No	24	29	121%
	Support dissemination and implementation of Environment friendly Local Governance Framework (EFLGF)	Site	2	2	100%
	Sub-Total		571	870	152%
	FRESH WATER				
	SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS				
31.1	Support cooperatives for revolving fund for IGA opportunities	HH	450	10729	2384%
31.2	Provide technical and financial support to cooperatives to upgrade their skills and expand businesses	No	119	111	93%
31.3	Support for One Cooperative One enterprises	Coop	1	4	400%
33.8	Sustainable livelihood strategy publication	Time	12	8	67%

31.5	Support farm-based community enterprises (fisheries, horticulture, food processing)/ Strengthen community service centers	HH	468	515	110%
31.6	Support skill development training for off-farm IGAs including CBAPOs	Person	205	144	70%
31.7	Skill development on sustainable harvesting, cultivation, value addition and marketing of NTFP and high value crops	Person	299	203	68%
31.8	Provide value addition supports for NTFP and high value crops farms	No	2	4	200%
31.9	Support promotion of green tourism and green jobs (nature guide training, cook training, hotel management training, home stay, etc.)	Site	38	60	158%
31.10	Implement reaching the poorest of poor program	Group	11	3	27%
31.11	Implement WICAS(women in conservation and sustainable development)/ Support to community to enhance capacity of women/youth for skill based training	Person	30	22	73%
33.1	Provide safe drinking (arsenic free) water facilities to local communities	No	20	126	630%
33.2	Improve sanitation of target communities	HH	50	57	114%
33.3	Strengthen, replicate and expand PHE activities (BCC, NFE, health camps, monthly meetings, clinic strengthening)	Site	13	13	100%
33.4	Support for small scale infrastructure (irrigation support, culture museum)	Site	1	2	200%
33.6	Documentation of successful cases	No	2	0	0%
33.7	Documentary on cooperative and livelihood	No	1	0	0%
	Interaction meeting on ERPD/ERPIN at local level	0	0	0	0
33.9	Support to develop sustainable village	Site	7	8	114%
	IGA support to river dependent communities	HHs	33	11	33%
	Revise cooperative guide line to make it pro poor oriented	Event	10	8	80%

	Sub-Total		**1774**	**12028**	**678%**
	POLICY AND ADVOCACY				
34.1	Implement Forest Fire strategy/Plan	Event	9	74	822%
34.2	Implement REDD+ strategy (institutional strengthen, advocacy, tools and standards, benefit sharing)	Time	8	10	125%
34.4	Advocacy for special portfolio of corridor forests and other issues (PES)/ Issue based sensitization to local leaders	Site	7	5	71%
34.5	Support planning and implementation of protection forest management plans*(included in activity 4.5)/ Management plan preparation support to PAs and DFOs	Site	7	8	114%
34.10	Strengthen Landscape Level NGO network on advocacy and lobbying	Time	4	5	125%
	Coordination meeting with relevant stakeholders (for maintaining tiger habitat)	Lumpsum	4	4	100%
	Coordination meeting between Banke and Kamdi corridor	Event	4	4	100%
36.7	Churia conservation initiatives (Awareness, etc.)	Event	5	4	80%
	Coordination meeting relevant stakeholders (for conservation friendly infrastructure)	Time	4	6	150%
	Sub-Total		**52**	**120**	**231%**
	CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING				
35.1	Support and mobilize eco clubs	No	186	174	94%
35.2	Produce extension materials for eco clubs	Time	4	0	0%
35.3	Support School Teaching Program	School	0	0	0
35.4	Institutional development support to SENSE Nepal	Lumsum	6	7	117%
35.5	The Generation Green (TGG) Campaign in TAL	No	0	0	0
35.6	Organize Eco Summit 2013	No	0	0	0

35.7	Periodic meeting of eco clubs	Site	0	0	0
36.2	Support and mobilize students/ youth groups/trade unions in conservation awareness campaigns	Event	76	96	126%
36.3	Conduct peer education classes among youth focusing on conservation issues/Support youth learning centres/information centre/MPRC	Lumpsum	17	6	35%
36.4	Conduct issue-based awareness campaigns, youth meet	Event	100	158	158%
36.5	Conservation education and awareness program/interaction (multi-stakeholders/youth/student)	Time	47	19	40%
36.6	Support to disseminate and raise conservation awareness messages (events/celebration)	Event	22	42	191%
38.12	Support for biodiversity information center (endowment fund for Tikauli)	Event	2	7	350%
36.8	Raise awareness to CFUGs local stakeholders and wood workers on green jobs, incentives of forest resource conservation in the international carbon market etc	Event	2	0	0%
37.1	Conduct NFE classes on specific conservation issues	Person	889	1002	113%
37.2	Streamline conservation education in formal school curriculum/ Local curriculum development for school education	Site	16	10	63%
37.3	Support capacity enhancement activities to eco clubs/teachers (orientation, training, visit)	Package	5	2	40%
	Sub-Total		**1372**	**1523**	**111%**
	COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING				
38.2	Produce and broadcast radio bulletins on conservation issues and achievements	Time	5	4	80%
38.3	Prepare and disseminate extension materials (hoarding board, brochure, pamphlets etc)	Volume	9	6	67%
38.5	Orient and train local journalists on conservation issues	Event	26	39	150%
38.6	Mobilize media for advocacy on conservation issues and disseminate information on successes	Time	32	39	122%
38.9	Develop and publish communication materials (success stories)/ IEC material preparation and distribution	No	12	10	83%
	Sub-Total		**84**	**98**	**117%**

	PLANNING, MONITORING, DEVELOPMENT & COORDINATION				
39.1	Staff capacity building (planning, monitoring and program development standard)	Person	32	44	138%
39.2	Conduct regular programmatic and financial monitoring	Time	13	9	69%
39.3	Conduct regular review and planning meetings	Time	30	23	77%
39.4	Conduct lesson learned, reflection and sharing workshops	Time	18	12	67%
39.6	Support to institutionalize community based livelihood and governance changes monitoring in piloted CFCC	Group	2	2	100%
39.8	Support Program development/ Program Support Facilitation	Time	12	6	50%
40.1	Partnership with DNPWC and DOF, MoF for joint planning, review and monitoring	Time	7	2	29%
40.2	Conduct regional and district level planning, review, monitoring and coordination with government and non government partners and stakeholders	Time	8	6	75%
40.3	Provide central level logistic supports to DOF and DNPWC	Unit	2	0	0%
40.4	Support the Landscape support unit / Support landscape level cross learning and sharing/capacity building	Time	14	12	86%
		0	2	3	150%
40.6	Partnership for implementation of WTLCP	Time	6	0	0%
40.7		Time	20	20	100%
	Partial support for research grants at local level	Person	8	2	25%
	Inter-agency coordination and collaboration meetings	Time	5	10	200%
	Sub-Total		197	151	77%
	Grand Total		950628	1480313.75	156%

Appendix 11: SHL – LNPBZ Program

SN	Activity	Unit	Cumulative Annual Target (FY13- FY17)	Cumulative Annual Progress (FY 13- FY 17)	Progress (%)
1	**FORESTS**				
1.1	Form CFUGs and prepare and revise forest operational plans	No	75	85	113%
1.2	Support CFUGs to implement FOPs (post formation support)	No	35	35	100%
1.3	Form and capacitate pastureland user groups	No	6	6	100%
1.4	Support to control grazing and implement pastureland management initiatives	No	26	33	127%
1.5	Prepare and review management plans of protected areas	Event	2	2	100%
1.6	Strengthen BZMC institutions	No	25	26	104%
1.7	Capacitate communities and woodworkers (trade unions) on sustainable forest management (sustainable harvesting, minimizing wastes, carbon friendly, REDD, legal provisions, etc.)	No	30	48	160%
1.8	Support for community based forest-fire prevention and control initiatives	No	7	10	143%
1.9	Restore forests and critical habitats (nursery, plantation and natural regenerations)	Ha	15,162	15,072	99%
1.10	Reduce/stop deforestation and forest degradation (iron lingos)	HHs	1,910	2,530	132%
1.11	Promote green economic corridor initiatives in major link roads/highways	Site	5	7	140%
	Prepare and implement sustainable harvesting plan of NTFPs and high value products	No	1	1	100%
	Initiate community based biodiversity monitoring, documentation and registration / Institutionalize community based change monitoring in BZ institutions	Site	47	45	96%
	Capacity development of BZMC members on PA management (reformation/training/exposure)	Event	25	25	100%

	Refurbish park posts and BZ office cum community centers	No	2	2	100%
	Develop capacity of local communities on forest and natural resource management (training/exposure)	Event	10	10	100%
	Support plantation and tree growth along road sides and in public lands	Seedling	5,000	23,000	460%
	Support to promote alternatives to fuelwood (community LP gas depot)	No	1	1	100%
	Institutionalize PHPA and social audits in BZ institutions	No	21	21	100%
	Sub-Total		**22,390**	**40,959**	**183%**
2	**SPECIES**				
2.1	Strengthen and mobilize SLCCs for community-based snow leopard and prey species monitoring	Group	8	8	100%
2.2	Establish community based red panda monitoring mechanism	Site	2	2	100%
2.3	Strengthen community based participatory biodiversity monitoring	Site	2	2	100%
2.4	Sensitize/train enforcement officials on biodiversity, anti-poaching and anti-trafficking	No	15	11	73%
2.5	Support PA for renovating posts/stations to increase monitoring of poaching and illegal trade	No	7	8	114%
2.6	Support PA authority and stakeholders for anti-poaching and wildlife trade control	No	9	6	67%
2.7	Establish and strengthen local level WCCB cells/ Strengthen WCCB and enforcement agencies to control wildlife crimes (meetings, equipment, facilities, mobility)	No	5	5	100%
2.8	Strengthen and mobilize CBAPO teams for community based anti-poaching operations	Group	54	56	104%
2.9	Organize trans boundary meetings for cross-border conservation cooperation	Event	5	3	60%
2.10	Establish and update baseline data of livestock depredation, crop damage, property loss and human casualty	Site	1	1	100%
2.19	Support for wildlife preventive infrastructures (electric fences, bio-fences and other appropriate measures)	Site	7	11	157%
	Conduct need based patrolling/squad mobilization	No	12	12	100%

	Support enforcement agencies for ground surveillance of wildlife crime at strategic locations	Site	1	1	100%
	Sub-Total		128	126	98%
3	**CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY**				
3.1	Conduct vulnerability assessment and vulnerability mapping (including water use assessment in the catchments)	Site	2	2	100%
3.2	Implement local adaptation plans and integrated climate adaptation initiatives	No	29	32	110%
3.3	Conduct climate awareness activities (including early warning systems)	No	5	5	100%
3.4	Establish and strengthen mechanism to collect, analyze and disseminate climate information and knowledge base (Climate Stations)	Event	12	12	100%
3.5	Assess and modeling of climate impacts on biodiversity (focal species)	Species	1	1	100%
3.6	Install biogas plants and establish biogas villages	No	650	467	72%
3.7	Install solar home systems and promote solar energy use	No	197	328	166%
3.8	Install ICS for energy efficiency	No	580	883	152%
3.9	Support communities for energy depots	No	1	10	1000%
	Prepare community based local adaptation plans	No	9	10	111%
	Support matching fund for micro-hydro establishment	No	1	2	200%
	Revive community services and improve preparedness against climatic and non-climatic disasters	Site	5	5	100%
	Restore and build ecosystem resiliency	Site	1	1	100%
	Enhance capacity on climate change adaptation (training/learning visits)	Event	1	1	100%
	Sub-Total		**1,494**	**1,759**	**118%**
4	**FRESHWATER**				
4.1	Prepare/revise management plans/RIS for Ramsar sites	Site	5	5	100%
4.2	Implement site management plans of Ramsar sites and critical wetlands	Site	5	4	80%
4.3	Restore and conserve degraded water spring sources to regulate water regime	No	24	26	108%
4.05	Conduct awareness on pollution and mining	Event	1	1	100%

	Sub-Total		**35**	**36**	**103%**
5	**POLICY AND ADVOCACY**				
5.1	Facilitate PAs, local government and line agencies to formulate local level policies (and guidelines)	No	25	24	96%
	Sub-Total		25	24	96%
6	**SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS**				
6.1	Improve tourism infrastructures and establish eco-tourism based enterprises / Promote ecotourism improving tourism services, cultural heritage and community facilities (including waste management, plans)	Site	517	746	144%
6.2	Establish and strengthen forest-based, off-farm and agro-based IGAs	HHs	1,051	1,856	177%
6.3	Form and capacitate cooperatives to promote conservation focus micro-financing form and office support	No	13	13	100%
6.4	Implement green job initiatives	No	3	4	133%
6.5	Renovate community small infrastructures / Protect/renovate cultural heritages and sacred sites	No	29	47	162%
6.6	Pilot sustainable communities to ensure conservation and livelihoods assets	Site	9	10	111%
6.7	Support to implement SL strategies and gender auditing	Site	2	2	100%
6.8	Ensure inclusion and good governance in resource management and mobilization	Groups	77	82	106%
	Trail reconstruction and improvement to revive tourism / Maintain trails, camp sites and signage to increase tourism services and facilities	Km	37	38	101%
	Promote homestay tourism (cook/house-keeping training; sanitation, trekking/nature guide training)	No	2	2	100%
	Water purification towards achieving 'Zero Bottle' in PA / Promote community managed water purification systems to eliminate plastic/bottle	No	14	13	93%
	Energy efficient cooking/heating devices/stoves	HHs	88	80	91%
	Support cultivation of NTFPs and high value crops (seedlings, off farm technology, irrigation)	HHs	345	5,154	1494%

	Provide skill and entrepreneurship development training (Small hotel/ lodge/homestay management training)	Event	1	1	100%
	Construct dumping sites for waste management	Site	1	1	100%
	Support to construct toilet for targeted households to improve sanitation	HHs	85	85	100%
	Capacitate girls/women to develop leadership and access to social services (endowment fund for girl's stipend)	Group	1	1	100%
	Sub-Total		**2,275**	**8,135**	**358%**
7	**CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**				
7.1	Strengthen and mobilize eco-clubs to engage youths in conservation awareness (including support to eco-club campaigns)	Groups	68	68	100%
7.2	Implement mass awareness initiatives (events, campaigns, contemporary issues, recognition of conservation leaders)	Event	19	23	121%
7.3	Organize conservation coaching/literacy classes to forest based labors and their unions IRBM,SASK	Group	3	4	133%
7.4	Capacitate and mobilize local resource persons for conservation and management (SM/LRP)	No	4	4	100%
7.5	Conduct exchange visits for cross-learning and sharing	No	3	3	100%
7.6	Build capacity of government staffs and partners	No	4	7	175%
7.7	Build capacity of program/projects staffs	Event	73	51	70%
	Establish and upgrade information centers and information corners	No	8	7	88%
	Sub-Total		**182**	**167**	**92%**
8	**COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING**				
8.1	Mobilize journalist and media (print and electronic) for coverage and wider dissemination	Time	17	18	106%
8.2	Develop special marketing materials (documentaries, story cycles, photo essays etc)	No	11	13	118%

8.3	Publications (conservation initiatives, study results, newsletter, brochure, success stories, IEC materials)	No	16	18	113%
	Sub-Total		**44**	**49**	**111%**
9.0	**PLANNING, DEV., MONITORING AND COORDINATION**				
9.01	Conduct activity level monitoring for better results (project level)	Event	16	16	100%
9.02	Conduct central level programmatic and financial monitoring	Event	7	6	86%
9.03	Conduct joint monitoring with central level partners at output and impact levels	No	3	3	100%
9.04	Organize periodic planning, review and reflection meetings, learning and sharing	No	10	11	110%
9.05	Organize coordination meetings with stakeholders and partners	Event	5	4	80%
	Field technical support for implementation	Qtr	4	4	100%
	Capacity building of program/project staffs and partners	Event	4	4	100%
	Sub-Total		**49**	**48**	**98%**
	Grand-Total		**26,622**	**51,303**	**193%**

Appendix 12: Log Frame

Intervention Logic	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions /Risks
Goal: By 2016, WWF Nepal shall conserve at least 2 priority landscapes within the Global 200 Ecoregions and other national conservation priority areas by reducing anthropogenic and climatic threats to species, habitat and ecological processes while addressing the livelihoods of natural resource dependent people.			
Objective 1: To conserve the biodiversity, soils, and watersheds of the Terai and Chure (Siwalik) hills in order to ensure the ecological, economic and socio-cultural integrity of the region	319,421 ha of representative forests in Pas systems (PWR, CNP, BaNP, BNP & SWR) under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DNPWC reports	
	80,864 ha forests in priority corridors (Laljhadi, Basanta, Khata & Barandabhar) under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DoF reports	
	598,443 ha of Chure forests under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DoF reports	

Objective 2: To conserve the rich biodiversity, enhance local livelihoods needs and sustain diverse cultures and traditions in the Sacred Himalayan Landscape	ha of representative forests in PAs systems (KCA, SNP & LNP) under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DNPWC reports	
	188,530 ha of alpine meadows (KCA, SNP & LNP) under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DNPWC reports, WWF Nepal technical reports	
Objective 3: To conserve critical ecosystems and habitats and promote sustainable development in the national priority areas	10,000 ha of representative forests under effective management	Biophysical measurement, DNPWC/DoF/WWF Nepal reports	
Result 1.1: Forests areas in the identified critical areas of TAL are restored and effectively managed	At least 15,000 ha of degraded areas restored and handed over to community	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 1.2: Viable populations and habitats of tiger, elephant, rhino and other species of special concern are established and maintained	Tiger population increased by 50% of 2009 baseline	DNPWC reports, camera trap	
	Rhino population maintained as meta-population in CNP (600+) and BNP (100+)	DNPWC reports	
Result 1.3: Vulnerabilities of biodiversity, ecosystems and people to climate change impacts is reduced by implementing adaptation strategies and plans	Climate change adaptation plan implemented in at least 5 sites including Chure	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 1.4: Freshwater resources are conserved and managed so as to maintain their integrity/biodiversity and ecological processes and functions and to bring livelihoods benefits to the communities in the TAL	5 critical river stretches are conserved for priority species	DNPWC reports, WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 1.5: Soil and water resources in Chure hills are conserved through integrated soil conservation and watershed management programs to reduce the livelihoods vulnerability	Similar to Result 1.3		
Intervention Logic	**Objectively Verifiable Indicators**	**Means of Verification**	**Assumptions /Risks**

Result 1.6: Livelihood benefits are obtained by the local communities in critical areas in TAL, particularly poor and marginalized households and at the same time pressure on forests and biodiversity is reduced	More than 10,000 HHs directly benefitted from IGAs (at least 30% are poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups) At least 1,000 HHs directly benefitted from eco-tourism	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Improved livelihoods lead to diversification of income generation*
	More than 20,000 members in cooperatives	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
	7,500 HHs benefitted from biogas 3,000 HHs benefitted from ICS	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 1.7: Good governance is established and institutionalized at all levels through support to policy and advocacy, institutional capacity enhancement and improved coordination among TAL implementing partners	Good governance approaches and tools practiced in at least 60% of CSOs	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Good governance garners meaningful participation of all stakeholders*
Result 1.8: Conservation awareness among the local communities in TAL is increased, leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes that support conservation, and to document best practices and lessons learning at the local, and national level	At least 20 conservation awareness campaign/event/celebration conducted annually	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 2.1: Forest cover maintained, habitat quality improved and local livelihoods sustained through community forestry, alternative energy and forest restoration, including natural regeneration and plantation in the SHL	At least 5,000 ha of forests handed over and managed by community	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 2.2: Threats to key species, their habitats and prey species reduced in the SHL through scientific research and monitoring, community-based conservation, including anti-poaching and illegal wildlife-trade control, human-wildlife conflict mitigation and conservation awareness	Snow leopard population increased by 20% of its 2009 baseline	DNPWC reports, camera trap	*Species cope with climatic extremes and variability*
	At least 40 CBAPO units functional	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	

Result 2.3: Vulnerabilities of biodiversity, ecosystems and people to climate change impacts reduced by implementing adaptation strategies and plans	Climate change adaptation plan implemented in at least 5 sites	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 2.4: Freshwater resources conserved and managed so as to maintain their integrity/biodiversity and ecological processes and functions and to bring livelihoods benefits to the communities in the SHL	Improved status of at least 15 critical watersheds in 3 sub-basins	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 2.5: Livelihood benefits obtained by local communities in focal sites in SHL, particularly poor and marginalized households	More than 5,000 HHs directly benefitted from IGAs and eco-tourism (at least 30% of them are poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups)	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Improved livelihoods lead to diversification of income generation*
Intervention Logic	**Objectively Verifiable Indicators**	**Means of Verification**	**Assumptions/Risks**
Result 2.6: Enabling policy environment created that supports the linkages between sustainable livelihoods and landscape level conservation in the SHL	PA management plans and species action plans are in place	DNPWC/DoF reports	*Policy instruments are internalized at all levels*
Result 2.7: Capacity of key stakeholders in landscape level conservation strengthened for effective management of the SHL and to improve coordination among the key partners for smooth implementation of the SHL program	At least 500 people capacitated in conservation	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Improved capacity leads to improved delivery*
Result 2.8: Conservation awareness among the local communities in the SHL increased, leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes that support conservation, and to document best practices and lessons learning at the local, national and global level	At least 10 conservation awarenss campaign/event/celebration conducted annually	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 3.1: Forest resources restored and effectively managed	At least 1,000 ha of forests restored and under effective management	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	

Result 3.2: Priority species and species of special concern conserved, wildlife crime controlled and human-wildlife conflict minimized	Illegal wildlife trade routes are identified and trade controlled	DNPWC reports, WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 3.3: Resilience of ecosystem and communities against climate change is increased	Alternative energy technologies promoted in at least 100 HHs	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 3.4: Freshwater ecosystems restored, protected and sustainably used for the benefit of biodiversity and people	Site management plan implemented in at least 1 Ramsar site	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Result 3.5: Livelihoods of the local communities particularly natural resources dependent people improved and in turn, pressure on natural resources reduced	At least 500 HHs directly benefitted from IGAs and eco-tourism (at least 30% of them are poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups)	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Improved livelihoods lead to diversification of income generation*
Result 3.6: Mechanisms and instruments at all levels with respect to environment and sustainable development established and institutionalized	Environment friendly and climate smart large infrastructure supported	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	*Policy instruments are internalized at all levels*
Result 3.7: Conservation awareness among the local communities increased leading to positive attitudinal and behavioral changes at all levels	At least 10 conservation awarenss campaign/event/celebration conducted annually	WWF Nepal Annual Technical Reports	
Indicative Activites:	**Means**	**Cost**	
Support preparation, revision and implementation of management plans and FOPs			
Support forest-based, agro-based and off-farm based IGAs (including NTFPs/MAPs)			
Promote eco-tourism			
Conduct regular monitoring of forest resources (including indicator plant species)			
Pilot *in situ* conservation of plant species			
Support for community based biodiversity registration and ensure the access to benefits of the indigenous people			

Strengthen law enforcement to control illegal trade and extraction of forest products	
Promote alternate energy and energy efficient technologies	
Initiate REDD+ readiness addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation	
Establish sustainable financing mechanism to manage forests (REDD+, tiger premium)	
Conduct regular monitoring of priority species and species of special concern	
Support to stabilize and/or increase the population of priority species	
Develop and implement habitat (grassland) management plans	
Prepare and revise species conservation plans	
Prepare conservation action plans for critical river stretches	
Conduct research studies using state-of-art technologies (genetics, satellite telemetry)	
Strengthen anti-poaching efforts in and outside PAs	
Support to establish and strengthen institutional mechanisms against wildlife crime including regional cooperation	
Develop human-wildlife conflict mitigation strategies for PAs	
Replicate and scale up community-based human-wildlife conflict mitigation/compensation mechanisms	
Conduct research studies on climate change impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem and people's livelihood	
Indicative Activites:	**Means** **Cost**

Develop and implement integrated community-based and ecosystem-based adaptation plans	
Improve capacity at all levels on conservation, water and climate related issues	
Integrate climate adaptation in plans at all levels	
Conserve critical watersheds and improve the livelihoods of wetland-dependent communities	
Conserve critical habitats (rivers stretches and wetlands) for freshwater indicator species	
Develop and implement community-based integrated water resource management plan incorporating water adaptation strategies	
Support local entrepreneurship development	
Mainstream gender and social inclusion policy/strategy in plans	
Promote traditional knowledge and practices in biodiversity conservation	
Promote 'one cooperative, one enterprise' and 'one biogas village, one enterprise'	
Diversify income generation activities	
Support to prepare and review policies and necessary instruments	
Support Government to endorse and implement CITES bill	
Support trans-boundary coordination and cooperation at all levels	
Conduct issue-based advocacy and raise profile of the landscapes	
Raise awareness on conservation and climate-related issues through campaign/event/celebration	

Raise local women's awareness and increase participation of women, IPs, poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups in conservation	
Strengthen and institutionalize eco-clubs and their networks	
Strengthen and institutionalize The Generation Green	
Disseminate success stories, good practices and branding	

Appendix 13: Funding Arrangements

S. No	Project Name	Fund Source	Receipts			
			FY13	FY14	FY15	Total
1	Bardia, Banke & Babai valley project	4210	313,049	237,124	-	550,173
2	Tiger Monitoring, Haris Foundation	4211	54,300	-	-	54,300
3	Ghunsa Exploration, Forrest	4215	82,716	14,624	-	97,340
4	Securing Tiger Recovery across Nepal's TAL	4271	-	62,529	807,595	870,124
5	Abhram Conservation Award	4801	10,000	14,479	18,133	42,612
6	Scholarship budget	4820	35,515	26,038	-	61,553
7	Rebuilding Second Home for Nepalese Rhino	5069	25,000	-	-	25,000
8	Monitoring Tiger and Prey Populations	5090	51,854	-	-	51,854
9	Capacitating Local Communities to monitor tiger and prey popn in Nepal	5118	-	47,977	20,890	68,867
10	Livestock Insurance Scheme	5747	3,030	-	-	3,030
11	Saving Wetlands Sky-High Nepal (Exhibited under NCPA)	5835	22,473	24,220	-	46,693
12	LHNI Core Fund	5852	-	3,359	-	3,359
13	Conserving Tigers and Rhino in Nepal (Exhibited under NCPA)	5853	355,822	518,004	28,735	902,560
14	Conserving Tigers and Rhino in Nepal (Exhibited under NCPA)	5792			623,998	623,998
15	SCAPES	6055	172,655	120,840	111,916	405,411
16	Asia High Mountains	6067	55,106	219,613	126,881	401,600
17	Tiger Monitoring	6262	42,268	4,542	6,500	53,310
18	Tracking Rhinoceros in Khata	6267	-	9,312	39,254	48,566
19	Mitigation Human Elephant Conflict in BZBNP	6272	-	-	38,738	38,738
20	Rhino Translocation from Chitwan to Bardia	6277	-	-	47,168	47,168
21	Achieving Climate smart Landscape Level Conservation through empowered communities in EH	8006	923,379	894,099	28,790	1,846,267
22	People in Participatory Action in Life-TAL	8015	-	-	613,930	613,930
23	The Gharial Conservation Program	8372	107,079	-	-	107,079
24	Enabling Sustainable Development in Nepal (PHE)	8490	-	7,254	132,644	139,898
25	REDD II	8693	287,009	168,940	91,914	547,863
26	Integrating Sexual & Reproductive Health & Bio-diversity Conservation	8696	344,282	112,926	-	457,208
27	Biogas Project support from HQ My climate	9644	336,141	-	521,889	858,029
28	Lumbini Project	0001	39,984	-	17,816	57,800

S. No	Project Name	Fund Source	Receipts			
			FY13	FY14	FY15	Total
29	Forest Carbon Officer	0021	-	15,129	22,185	37,314
30	Tiger Monitoring, Di Stefano fund	0022	5,700	-	-	5,700
31	Girls Scholarship	0103	5,994	-	-	5,994
32	Sustainable Financing Scoping Study for Tiger Conservation in Nepal (Exhibited under NCPA)	0320	8,184	4,510	4,029	16,722
33	Micro Hydro Project	0720	8,501	30,424	47,886	86,810
34	Tiger Collaring and Antipoaching support	0727	37,016	19,737	53,996	110,749
35	One voice for US Leadership on IRH & FP	1909	-	1,748	-	1,748
36	Site based crime tech implementation (Exhibited under NCPA)	3342	-	-	47,083	47,083
37	Addressing Illegal trade in Nepal (Rev. Recog.) (Exhibited under NCPA)	4211	250	-	-	250
38	Music for Relief -Saving Wildlife & People in the land of Mt. Everest	4257	-	85,000	-	85,000
39	Snow Leopard Conservation in Nepal	5053	-	12,634	5,577	18,211
40	Living Himalaya Initiative-Nepal Support	5074	-	-	33,527	33,527
41	Framing National Adaptation Plan	5085	14,565	13,080	-	27,645
42	Human Tiger Conflict Workshop (Exhibited under NCPA)	5263	-	-	30,082	30,082
43	Guarding God's Pet in The Himalayas	5795	-	-	266,223	266,223
44	Sniffer Dogs (Exhibited under NCPA)	5847	19,982	-	-	19,982
45	Conserving Snow leopard in the Himalaya	5867	-	111,140	19,870	131,009
46	TNI- Towards Zero Poaching Symposium	5938	-	-	148,848	148,848
47	Return of The King (ROTK) (Exhibited under NCPA)	5953	-	13,066	59,241	72,308
48	Energy Access in Nepal-GCEI (Exhibited under NCPA)	5984	-	-	20,821	20,821
49	Support to SAWEN (Exhibited under NCPA)	6533	3,669	-	-	3,669
50	SAWEN Support	6540	-	-	18,215	18,215
51	HICAP (Exhibited under NCPA)	7504	2,368	18,456	20,965	41,789
52	People in Participatory Action in Life-SHL	8015	-	-	385,603	385,603
53	Energy Access Workshop	8389	11,385	9,792	-	21,177
54	Enhancing Civil Society Engagemnent in Energy Sector	8406	-	-	14,132	14,132

S. No	Project Name	Fund Source	Receipts			
			FY13	FY14	FY15	Total
	Transformation					
55	136172.575	8433	194,532	142,531	155,183	492,247
56	Enabling SustainableDevelopment in Nepal (D & D)	8490	-	58,869	232,972	291,840
57	A Flame Called Hopes & Puppy Project (Exhibited under NCPA)	9754	-	-	4,960	4,960
58	A Flame of Hopes project (Exhibited under NCPA)	9759	-	-	7,759	7,759
	Grand Total		17,993,747	32,965,498	207,410,786	11,471,748

Appendix 14: List of Assets Purchased

Items	Planned	Purchased
1. Vehicles (Local purchase)		
4-Wheel Vehicle	2	2
Motorbike	8	4
2. Office equipment		
Laptop computer	20	17
Scanners	6	2
Xerox machine (photo copiers)	6	0
Laser printer	8	1
Camera (digital)	20	7
Projector	6	4
Generator	0	1
3. Images/software		
Satellite images and software	-	1
Accounting and database software	-	-
4. Wildlife monitoring and management equipment		
Darting equipment's for rhino translocation and problem animals' management	0	0
Infrared cameras for camera trapping of tigers	300	0
Radio/GPS collars	30	0
GPS	100	51
Manual/Automatic Weather Station	10	6
Fish Eye Lens	15	0
Vertex	10	0

Appendix 15: Activity-level TAL-CBRP Variance Analysis

GL/Act.#	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
	From 16 June, 2014 To 15 June, 2015					
5255	**Conservation Activities**	**9,616,550.00**	**49,964,550.00**	**45,175,740.74**	**4,788,809.26**	**10%**
1	**Forest**	**4,951,500.00**	**21,656,000.00**	**21,551,661.00**	**104,339.00**	**0%**
	1.31 Form and Legalize CFOPs		198,000.00	150,000.00	48,000.00	24%
	1.52 Support CFCCs/CFUGs to Conduct PHPA	120,000.00	606,000.00	664,912.00	(58,912.00)	-10%
2	**Species**	**1,706,300.00**	**8,978,800.00**	**7,192,794.00**	**1,786,006.00**	**20%**
	2.108 Coordination with DFO & Enforcement Agencies		407,500.00	304,503.00	102,997.00	25%
	2.15 Support Transboundary Cooperation Meeting	100,000.00	277,500.00	175,850.00	101,650.00	37%
	2.910 Support DFO for Post Construction		2,500,000.00	984,012.00	**1,515,988.00**	**61%**
3	**Climate Change**	**910,000.00**	**4,404,500.00**	**3,521,857.00**	**882,643.00**	**20%**
	3.1610 Implement LAPA/CAPA		1,842,000.00	1,657,692.00	184,308.00	10%
	3.1611 Capacity Enhancement on Climate Change	150,000.00	450,000.00	115,223.00	334,777.00	74%
	3.1612 Strengthen Climate Information & Knowledge		380,000.00	72,662.00	307,338.00	81%
	3.161 Promote Biogas Installation Through Micro-Finance	660,000.00	897,500.00	983,280.00	(85,780.00)	-10%
	3.164 Mainstream Climate Change in Local Dev.Plan		150,000.00		150,000.00	100%
5	**Policy and Advocacy**	**-**	**200,000.00**	**-**	**200,000.00**	**100%**
	5.174 Strengthen Landscape Level NGO Network		200,000.00		200,000.00	100%
6	**Livelihoods**	**465,000.00**	**6,785,000.00**	**5,835,144.50**	**949,855.50**	**14%**
	6.1820 Implement REPOP		1,190,000.00	1,001,510.00	188,490.00	16%
	6.184 Support Forest-Based Enterprises		1,000,000.00	95,425.00	904,575.00	90%
7	**Education and Capacity Building**	**860,000.00**	**5,312,500.00**	**4,942,217.24**	**370,282.76**	**7%**
	7.2011 Support Youth Learning Centers/information Centre/MPRC	55,000.00	692,500.00	492,200.00	200,300.00	29%

GL/Act.#	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
	7.203 Institutional Dev. Support to SENSE Nepal		250,000.00	219,030.00	30,970.00	12%
8	**Communication & Marketing**	**150,000.00**	**500,000.00**	**500,000.00**	**-**	**0%**
9	**Planning, Monitoring, Dev. & Coordination**	**573,750.00**	**2,127,750.00**	**1,632,067.00**	**495,683.00**	**23%**
	9.221 Staff Capacity Building (Planning, Monitoring		490,000.00	312,045.00	177,955.00	36%
	9.232 Conduct Regional/district Level Planning/review/monitoring	127,500.00	427,500.00	285,642.00	141,858.00	33%
	9.234 Support Landscape Level Cross Learning & Shar		120,000.00		120,000.00	100%
5256	**Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC**	**3,951,362.00**	**10,462,773.00**	**10,246,384.19**	**216,388.81**	**2%**
	Grand Total	**13,567,912.00**	**60,427,323.00**	**55,422,124.93**	**5,005,198.07**	**8%**
From 16 June, 2013 To 15 June, 2014						
5255	**Conservation Activities**	**24,701,200.00**	**40,814,871.00**	**36,514,794.44**	**4,300,076.56**	**11%**
1	**Forest**	**8,214,000.00**	**13,410,773.00**	**13,150,675.00**	**260,098.00**	**2%**
	1.41 Form and Legalize CFOPs	198,000.00	198,000.00	163,914.00	34,086.00	17%
	1.42 Support Revision of CFOPs	396,000.00	344,773.00	191,000.00	153,773.00	45%
	1.51 Mobilize, Institutionalize and Strengthen CBAPOs	530,000.00	530,000.00	582,560.00	(52,560.00)	-10%
	1.81 Conduct Coordination Meeting/W/S with Relevant Stakeholder	320,000.00	350,000.00	291,995.00	58,005.00	17%
2	**Species**	**5,337,200.00**	**9,295,550.00**	**6,199,314.10**	**3,096,235.90**	**33%**
	2.111 Conduct Tiger & Prey Population Monitoring	1,800,000.00	3,600,000.00	2,334,110.10	1,265,889.90	35%
	2.112 Community Based Tiger Pre Base Monitoring	857,200.00	857,200.00	631,151.00	226,049.00	26%
	2.121 Conduct Population Monitoring and Mapping of Rhino Movement		1,437,350.00		1,437,350.00	100%
	2.136 Support DFO/range Posts for Post Maintenance	300,000.00	300,000.00	270,889.00	29,111.00	10%
	2.137 Provide Training/orientation to DFO	75,000.00	75,000.00		75,000.00	100%
3	**Climate Change**	**2,975,000.00**	**3,257,500.00**	**3,017,766.00**	**239,734.00**	**7%**

GL/Act.#	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
	3.2412 Capacity Enhancement on Climate Change	250,000.00	400,000.00	329,914.00	70,086.00	18%
	3.242 Mainstream Climate Change in Local Dev.Plan	300,000.00	230,000.00	34,150.00	195,850.00	85%
5	**Policy and Advocacy**	**1,100,000.00**	**1,907,000.00**	**1,649,496.00**	**257,504.00**	**14%**
	5.261 Implement Forest Fire Strategy/Plan	150,000.00	1,057,000.00	911,812.00	145,188.00	14%
	5.269 Strengthen Landscape Level NGO Network on Adv. & Lobbying	200,000.00	100,000.00		100,000.00	100%
6	**Livelihood**	**2,880,000.00**	**6,733,248.00**	**6,632,449.00**	**100,799.00**	**1%**
	6.282 Support Farm-Based Community Enterprises	150,000.00	150,000.00	164,496.00	(14,496.00)	-10%
	6.286 Support Promotion of Green Tourism and Green Jobs	300,000.00	375,000.00	317,335.00	57,665.00	15%
7	**Education and Capacity Building**	**2,360,000.00**	**4,131,800.00**	**4,060,586.00**	**71,214.00**	**2%**
	7.317 Model Eco Club Development	300,000.00	200,000.00	127,060.00	72,940.00	36%
8	**Communication & Marketing**	**910,000.00**	**802,000.00**	**727,403.00**	**74,597.00**	**9%**
	8.346 Mobilize Media for Advocacy on Conservation Issues	200,000.00	252,000.00	182,786.00	69,214.00	27%
9	**Planning, Monitoring, Dev. & Coordination**	**925,000.00**	**1,277,000.00**	**1,077,105.34**	**199,894.66**	**16%**
	9.352 Conduct Regular Programmatic and Financial Monitoring		102,000.00	54,179.00	47,821.00	47%
	9.362 Conduct Regional/district Level Planning/review/monitoring	300,000.00	300,000.00	202,840.00	97,160.00	32%
5256	**Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC**	**5,259,132.00**	**9,424,132.00**	**9,158,582.46**	265,549.54	3%
	Grand Total	**29,960,332.00**	**50,239,003.00**	**45,673,376.90**	4,565,626.10	9%
From 16 June 2012 To 15 June 2013						
5255	**Conservation Activities**	**14,404,196.00**	**32,203,196.00**	**31,913,602.00**	**289,594.00**	**1%**

GL/Act.#	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
1	**Forest**	**4,967,162.00**	**13,614,162.00**	**13,491,433.52**	**122,728.48**	**1%**
	1.13 Support for Fireline Construction/maintenance		100,000.00	41,800.00	58,200.00	58%
	1.33 Support Revolving Fund for Solar Tuki		125,000.00	-	125,000.00	100%
	1.34 Promote ICS		150,000.00	211,940.00	(61,940.00)	-41%
	1.71 Capacity Building of Staff of PAs/DFOs	150,000.00	270,000.00	299,411.00	(29,411.00)	-11%
2	**Species**	**945,000.00**	**1,520,000.00**	**1,517,100.00**	2,900.00	0%
3	**Climate Change**	**2,047,820.00**	**2,807,820.00**	**2,807,820.00**	**-**	**0%**
4	**Fresh Water**	**150,000.00**	**-**	**-**	-	#DIV/0!
5	**Policy and Advocacy**	**660,000.00**	**1,707,500.00**	**1,693,438.11**	**14,061.89**	**1%**
6	**Livelihoods**	**3,235,334.00**	**8,367,834.00**	**8,367,834.00**	**-**	**0%**
7	**Education and Capacity Building**	**1,370,000.00**	**2,525,000.00**	**2,393,359.37**	**131,640.63**	**5%**
	7.364 Conduct Issue-Based Awareness Campaigns, Youth Meet		270,000.00	169,584.00	100,416.00	37%
8	**Communication & Marketing**	**330,000.00**	**486,000.00**	**467,737.00**	**18,263.00**	**4%**
	8.382 Produce and Broadcast Radio Bulletins on Cons.Issues & Achie	100,000.00	100,000.00	85,855.00	14,145.00	14%
9	**Planning, Monitoring, Dev. & Coordination**	**698,880.00**	**1,174,880.00**	**1,174,880.00**	**-**	**0%**
5256	**Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC**	**4,876,960.00**	**7,673,886.00**	**7,551,784.96**	**122,101.04**	**2%**
	5701 Vehicle and Equipment Running Cost	94,000.00	318,103.00	359,120.13	(41,017.13)	-13%
	5706 Field Supplies	56,000.00	71,000.00	53,800.00	17,200.00	24%
10.6	**Cost of Assets Non Capitalized**	**210,000.00**	**276,000.00**	**235,000.00**	**41,000.00**	**15%**
	5820 Vehicle and Equipment Purchases	210,000.00	276,000.00	235,000.00	41,000.00	15%
	Grand Total	**19,281,156.00**	**39,877,082.00**	**39,465,386.96**	411,695.04	1%

Appendix 16: Activity-level TAL-PABZ Variance Analysis

GL/ Act. #	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
	From 16 June, 2014 To 15 June, 2015					
	5255. Conservation Program Activities	**43,576,515**	**87,661,715**	**84,720,528**	**2,941,187**	**3%**
	1. Forest	**9,201,500**	**23,888,500**	**22,124,465**	**1,764,035**	**7%**
1.3	Support for fireline maintenance	1,394,000	3,704,500	2,572,923	1,131,577	31%
2.1	Form and legalize BZ CFOPs	-	154,000	132,500	21,500	14%
2.4	Strengthen and office management support to BZMC/BZUC	-	865,000	665,000	200,000	23%
5.1	Support CFUGs and BZ CFUG in identifying and targeting PVSE groups	-	220,000	198,440	21,560	10%
5.2	Support CFCCs/CFUGs and BZUCs / BZUGs to conduct public hearing and public auditing (PHPA)	90,000	315,000	239,700	75,300	24%
	2. Species	**27,278,175**	**44,639,275**	**44,121,095**	**518,180**	**1%**
9.9	Support PAs/ DFOs/range posts/ for post maintenance	892,500	1,704,100	1,449,029	255,071	15%
15	Support trans-boundary cooperation meeting (local and landscape level)		250,000	150,000	100,000	40%
	3. Climate Change and Energy	**150,000**	**3,240,000**	**2,867,725**	**372,275**	**11%**
16.13	Strengthen climate information and knowledge-base (information centers)	-	380,000	-	380,000	100%
	5. Policy and Advocacy	**-**	**-**	-	-	#DIV/0!
	6. Sustainable Livelihoods	**5,235,000**	**10,690,000**	**10,277,000**	**413,000**	**4%**
18.4	Support forest-based enterprises (private and community partnership)	-	450,000	180,000	270,000	60%

GL/ Act. #	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
19.5	Monitoring and tracking of community based interventions	85,000	85,000	-	85,000	100%
	7. Conservation Education and Capacity Building	**892,500**	**2,892,100**	**2,787,270**	**104,830**	**4%**
20.1	Support and mobilize eco clubs	-	440,000	394,250	45,750	10%
20.2	Support and mobilize students, youth groups, trade unions in conservation and awareness campaigns	297,500	497,500	449,500	48,000	10%
	8. Communication and Marketing	**100,000**	**895,000**	**894,934**	**66**	**0%**
21.2	Prepare and disseminate extension materials/publications (hoarding board, brochure, calendar, pamphlets etc)		525,000	524,934	66	0%
	9. Planning, Monitoring, Development & Coordination	**719,340**	**1,416,840**	**1,648,039**	**(231,199)**	**-16%**
23.2	Conduct regional and district level planning, review, monitoring and coordination with government and non government partners and stakeholders	127,500	127,500	97,568	29,932	23%
23.7	Field Program planning, programmatic and financial monitoring (project level)	432,465	432,465	693,596	(261,131)	-60%
	5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	**6,730,746**	**10,689,062**	**10,475,046**	**214,016**	**2%**
	5820 Vehicle and Equipment Purchases	260,000	1,264,475	1,133,614	130,861	10%
	Grand Total	**50,307,261**	**98,350,777**	**95,195,573.73**	**3,155,203**	**3%**
	From 16 June, 2013 To 15 June, 2014					
	5255. Conservation Program Activities	**27,336,000**	**52,859,289**	**51,101,772**	**1,757,517**	**3%**
	1. Forest	**6,531,000**	**15,624,460**	**15,420,013**	**204,447**	**1%**

GL/ Act. #	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
2.2	Support Revision of BZ CFOPs	198,000	198,000	63,555	134,445	68%
	2. Species	**13,295,000**	**24,524,539**	**22,940,737**	**1,583,802**	**6%**
11.1	Tiger and prey population monitoring (habitat occupancy surveys and camera-trapping)		1,952,250	810,936	1,141,314	58%
12.1	Conduct population monitoring and mapping of rhino movement (ID based monitoring of rhino) in protected areas, corridors and bottlenecks		453,625	-	453,625	100%
	3. Climate Change and Energy	**1,750,000**	**1,750,000**	**1,750,000**	**-**	**0%**
	5. Policy and Advocacy	**150,000**	**1,247,860**	**1,247,860**	**-**	**0%**
	6. Sustainable Livelihoods	**2,020,000**	**4,390,930**	**4,400,918**	**(9,988)**	**0%**
	7. Conservation Education and Capacity Building	**2,090,000**	**3,115,000**	**3,135,785**	**(20,785)**	**-1%**
	8. Communication and Marketing	**690,000**	**741,000**	**741,140**	**(140)**	**0%**
	5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	**6,694,397**	**8,711,147**	**8,709,086.89**	**2,060**	**0%**
	5020 Admin Staffs Salaries	**720,000**	**1,032,500**	**1,019,313.90**	**13,186**	**1%**
	Grand Total	**34,030,397.00**	**61,570,436.00**	**59,810,859.12**	**1,759,577**	**3%**
	From 16 June 2012 To 15 June 2013					
	5255. Conservation Program Activities	**33,481,112**	**49,680,121**	**49,676,904**	**3,217**	**0%**
	1. Forest	**7,133,452**	**11,547,202**	**11,546,372**	**830**	**0%**
	2. Species	**17,989,840**	**22,379,566**	**22,379,034**	**532**	**0%**
	3. Climate Change and Energy	**1,904,400**	**4,454,400**	**4,454,399**	**1**	**0%**
	4. Fresh Water	**180,000**	**130,000**	**130,000**	**-**	**0%**
	5. Sustainable Livelihoods	**2,745,000**	**6,266,006**	**6,265,987**	**19**	**0%**
	6. Policy and Advocacy	**-**	**457,500**	**457,500**	**-**	**0%**
	7. Conservation Education and Capacity Building	**1,601,480**	**2,126,507**	**2,125,204**	**1,303**	**0%**

GL/ Act. #	Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
	8. Communication and Marketing	**707,160**	**1,033,160**	**1,032,870**	**290**	**0%**
	9. Planning, Monitoring, Development & Coordination	**1,219,780**	**1,285,780**	**1,285,538**	**242**	**0%**
	5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	**6,528,500.00**	**8,435,473.00**	**8,435,067.27**	**406**	**0%**
	5820 Vehicle and Equipment Purchases	220,000.00	420,000.00	341,094	**78,906**	**19%**
	Grand Total	**40,009,612.00**	**58,115,594.00**	**58,111,971.26**	**3,623**	**0%**

Appendix 17: Activity-level SHL-LNPBZSP Variance Analysis

Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
From 16 June, 2014 To 15 June, 2015					
5255. Conservation Activities	**3,819,000.00**	**17,221,810.00**	**11,556,919.91**	**5,664,890.09**	**33%**
1. Forest	**1,735,000.00**	**5,433,000.00**	**4,653,458.91**	**779,541.09**	**14%**
1.04 Strengthen BZ/CA Institutions	400,000.00	1,488,000.00	785,000.00	703,000.00	47%
2.Species	**490,000.00**	**2,663,810.00**	**1,304,197.00**	1,359,613.00	51%
2.08 Undertake Habitat Quality Assessment of P.Species		60,000.00	-	60,000.00	100%
2.09 Strengthen WCCB and Enforcement		921,810.00	671,810.00	250,000.00	27%
2.10 Strengthen CBAPU Teams for Patrolling	490,000.00	682,000.00	532,387.00	149,613.00	22%
2.14 Support for Wildlife Preventive Infrastructure		1,000,000.00	100,000.00	900,000.00	90%
3. Climate Change	**62,000.00**	**3,250,000.00**	**2,295,355.00**	954,645.00	29%
3.02 Prepare Community Based Climate Adaptation Plan		1,800,000.00	1,312,355.00	487,645.00	27%
3.03 Implement Local Adaptation Plan & Integrated Pl		250,000.00	210,000.00	40,000.00	16%
3.04 Conduct Climate Awareness		1,050,000.00	623,000.00	427,000.00	41%
4. Fresh Water	**150,000.00**	**400,000.00**	**208,000.00**	192,000.00	48%
4.01 Prepare/Revise Management Plan/RIS for Ramsar		250,000.00	58,000.00	192,000.00	77%
5 Policy and Advocacy	**-**	**500,000.00**	**460,000.00**	40,000.00	8%
6. Livelihoods	**691,000.00**	**2,200,000.00**	**1,047,283.00**	1,152,717.00	52%
6.01 Support Communities for Forest Off Farm Agro Based IGA	291,000.00	600,000.00	366,828.00	233,172.00	39%
6.02 Establish and Strengthen Forest Based Off Farm and Agro Base IGAs to Improve Local in		800,000.00	150,000.00	650,000.00	81%

Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
6.03 Promote Eco-Tourism Improving Tourism Service	300,000.00	500,000.00	442,955.00	57,045.00	11%
6.04 Ensure Gender and Social Inclusion and Good Go	100,000.00	300,000.00	87,500.00	212,500.00	71%
7 Education and Capacity Building	**260,000.00**	**870,000.00**	**696,956.00**	173,044.00	20%
7.02 Implement Conservation Awareness	200,000.00	250,000.00	188,956.00	61,044.00	24%
7.04 Establish and Upgrade Information Centers and Information Corners		200,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	50%
8 Communication & Marketing	**26,000.00**	**660,000.00**	**140,189.00**	519,811.00	79%
8.01 Mobilize Journalist and Media (Print and Electronic) for Coverage and Wider Dissemination	26,000.00	182,000.00	70,499.00	111,501.00	61%
8.02 Develop Special Marketing Materials (Documentaries, Story Cycles, Photo Essays, Etc.)		318,000.00	-	318,000.00	100%
8.03 Organize Special Marketing Events (Green Hiker, Eco-Trekking, Mountain Day)		160,000.00	69,690.00	90,310.00	56%
9 Planning Monitoring & Development	**405,000.00**	**1,245,000.00**	**751,481.00**	493,519.00	40%
9.01 Field Technical Support and Monitoring	340,000.00	1,180,000.00	686,481.00	493,519.00	42%
5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	**1,000,000.00**	**5,420,000.00**	**5,357,895.47**	62,104.53	1%
Grand Total	**4,819,000.00**	**22,641,810.00**	**16,914,815.38**	5,726,994.62	25%
From 16 June, 2013 To 15 June, 2014					
5255. Conservation Activities	**14,605,000.00**	**18,095,000.00**	**18,034,397.00**	**60,603.00**	**0%**
1. Forest	**2,335,000.00**	**3,115,000.00**	**3,094,955.00**	**20,045.00**	**1%**
1.07 Initiate Comm. Based Biodiversity Monitoring	40,000.00	40,000.00	33,382.00	6,618.00	17%

Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
1.12 Promote Green Economic Corridor Initiatives	100,000.00	100,000.00	86,580.00	13,420.00	13%
2.Species	**2,410,000.00**	**2,540,000.00**	**2,496,685.00**	43,315.00	2%
2.09 Sensitize/train Enforcement Official on Biodiversity	75,000.00	110,000.00	85,750.00	24,250.00	22%
2.12 Strengthen Local Level WCCB Cells to Control W	100,000.00	100,000.00	86,000.00	14,000.00	14%
3. Climate Change	**2,820,000.00**	**3,580,000.00**	**3,579,655.00**	345.00	0%
4. Fresh Water	**730,000.00**	**830,000.00**	**834,235.00**	(4,235.00)	-1%
5 Policy and Advocacy	**200,000.00**	**180,000.00**	**151,300.00**	28,700.00	16%
5.01 Facilitate PAs, Local Government and Line Agencies to Formulate Local Level Policies (and Guidelines)	200,000.00	180,000.00	151,300.00	28,700.00	16%
6. Livelihoods	**2,465,000.00**	**3,065,000.00**	**3,037,168.00**	27,832.00	1%
7 Education and Capacity Building	**1,965,000.00**	**3,425,000.00**	**3,447,948.00**	(22,948.00)	-1%
7.09 Capacity Building of Partners/project Staff	150,000.00	150,000.00	177,762.00	(27,762.00)	-19%
8 Communication & Marketing	**450,000.00**	**450,000.00**	**446,256.00**	3,744.00	1%
9 Planning Monitoring & Development	**1,230,000.00**	**910,000.00**	**946,195.00**	(36,195.00)	-4%
5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	**3,658,540.00**	**4,980,540.00**	**5,030,344.02**	(49,804.02)	-1%
Grand Total	**18,263,540.00**	**23,075,540.00**	**23,064,741.02**	10,798.98	0%
From 16 June 2012 To 15 June 2013					
5255. Conservation Activities	**13,375,000.00**	**18,927,718.00**	**18,637,461.20**	**290,256.80**	**2%**
1. Forest	1,820,000.00	3,480,000.00	3,362,472.65	117,527.35	3%
1.20 Restore Forest Critical Habitat	100,000.00	100,000.00	88,000.00	12,000.00	12%
2.Species	2,590,000.00	3,210,485.00	3,209,585.03	899.97	0%
3. Climate Change	3,250,000.00	5,940,000.00	5,907,241.97	32,758.03	1%

Purpose/Outputs/Activities	Reporting Budget	Revised Reporting Budget	Cumulative Expenses Year-to-Date	Budget Vs. Actual	Variance %
4. Fresh Water	420,000.00	580,000.00	580,000.00	-	0%
5 Policy and Advocacy	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	-	0%
6. Livelihoods	1,915,000.00	2,165,000.00	2,175,824.00	(10,824.00)	0%
6.06 Implement Green Job Initiatives	40,000.00	90,000.00	70,000.00	20,000.00	22%
7 Education and Capacity Building	1,755,000.00	1,827,233.00	1,760,565.55	66,667.45	4%
8 Communication & Marketing	300,000.00	400,000.00	379,508.00	20,492.00	5%
8.04 Publications (Conservation Initiatives, Study)	150,000.00	150,000.00	130,880.00	19,120.00	13%
9 Planning Monitoring & Development	1,125,000.00	1,125,000.00	1,062,264.00	62,736.00	6%
5256. Staff Salary, Travels & ORC/FRC	4,583,743.00	4,836,510.00	4,687,361.12	149,148.88	3%
Grand Total	**17,958,743.00**	**23,764,228.00**	**23,324,822.32**	439,405.68	2%

Appendix 18: TAL – CBRP – Partner & Beneficiary Visit Report

Partner & Beneficiary Visit at TAL – CBRP Site

Partner Visit

1. Khata CFCC

Name of Partner:	Khata Community Forest Coordination Committee
Location:	Khata, Bardiya
Legal Status:	Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
Person Met:	Baliram Chaudhary (Chairman), Jitendra Chaudhary (Accountant), Maya Yogi (Sr. Community Mobilizer – TAL-CBRP)

Description:

- Khata CFCC was organized in 2057 but was officially registered in 2065/02/27 with DAO as NGO.
- It currently has 42 members out of which 40 is Community Forest and 2 are Religious forest.
- The Executive committee has 15 members, Accounts committee has 3 members and advisory committee has 5 members.
- Khata CFCC receives financial support from TAL – CBRP and technical support from District Forest Office.
- Khata CFCC has accumulated internal funds amounting to NRs. 74,030,080.00
- The accounting system is manual. Journal Vouchers and Ledgers are prepared.

Comment:

- Khata CFCC is fully dependent upon TAL – CBRP. Being an NGO, it should actively look to channel other sources of fund as well for longer term sustainability.
- On random check of books of accounts, it was noted that there are delays in deposit of TDS. The organization should make sure that they comply with Tax Laws and deposit TDS on time.
- It is recommended that the organization should use computerized accounting system for proper accounting systems.
- It was noted that the multiple procurement documents were not dated. Further, the signatories also signed it without putting date of signing. The organization should properly put date on all the documents.

2. Narti CFCC

Name of Partner:	Narti Community Forest Coordination Committee
Location:	Lamahi, Dang
Legal Status:	Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
Person Met:	Tanka Nath Chaudhary (Chairman), Dharma Raj Adhikari (Member), Jib Lal Khanal (Staff), Pushpa Pandey (Member), Goma Luitel (Member), Laxmi Chaudhary (Community Mobilizer –TAL-CBRP), Hem Raj Pun (Member), Bhakta Bdr. Thapa (Sub Treasurer), Tara Ghimire (Secretary), Laxman Pawan Sharma (Vice – Chairman)

Description:

- Narti CFCC was registered as NGO on 2057 and got the affiliation of SWC in the same year.
- Narti CFCC has 41 Community Forest registered with it and 2 within its area are yet to be registered.
- Its executive committee has 15 members out of which 4 are nominated and 11 are elected. The EC has 5 office bearers and 10 Members. It has 4 female and 11 male members in the board. The board meetings are held on 4th of every month.
- The accounts department has 2 staffs. Accounting is kept manually.
- Narti CFCC has an accumulated reserve amounting to NRs. 95,27,200.00. It has own building which is also a source of income.

Comment:

- TAL – CBRP is sole source of funding to the organization. It should look to diversify funding source.
- Documentation and document retention is poor. For the concerned year of Mid-term review, documents of FY 2069/70 could not be found. Similarly, supporting documents of a random voucher of FY 2070/71 was not in file and could not be found. The organization should prepare and retain documents for the project period, at least for 5 years.
- Under Income Tax Act 2058 the return of TDS should be filed and tax should be duly paid within 25th of subsequent month of deduction. However, the organization had practice of depositing the TDS in bulk amount. The organization should make sure it complies with tax laws.

Beneficiary Visit

1. Lal Bahadur Tiruwa

Name of Beneficiary:	Lal Bahadur Tirwa		
Description of Support:	Support was provided for Goat Shed		
Thematic Area of Support:	Species		
Budget Line:	Support Construction of Predator Resistant Pen		
Support Amount:	8,000.00	Year of Support:	2016

Observation:

- The beneficiary was provided with goat shed.

Comment:

- The beneficiary responded that there were no risks to animals even before the wired houses for goat were given.
- Rather than treating all the households in a blanket, need assessment should be done before any support. Selective distribution targeting only the ones requiring the support might be a good option in such cases.

2. Rajkumari Chaudhary

Name of Beneficiary:	Rajkumari Chaudhary		
Description of Support:	IGA Support		
Thematic Area of Support:	Livelihoods		
Budget Line:	Support Promotion of Green Tourism & Green Jobs		
Support Amount:	10,000.00	Year of Support:	Fiscal Year: 2014

Observation:

- The beneficiary was provided with skills training for preparation of sweets. She was further supported with revolving fund for startup of the business.

Comment:

- The beneficiary has done well to support her family and reports high progress in living standards.

Support Visit

1. Bel Juice Factory

User Group:	Khata CFCC		
Location:	Khata,		
Description of Support:	Machinery provided to cooperative for IG activities		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:	Multiple	Amount of Support	Multiple

Description:

- The Bel Juice Factory was supported with machineries for the production of Bel Juice.
- The Factory is being run by Cooperative society with 25 members in the group.

Comments:

- The factory has played good role in income generation for the members of the cooperative society and created opportunity for the locals to sell Bel to the factory.
- The community has contracted out the factory. Although, the community is deriving indirect benefit but they can benefit more by using it themselves.
- Support for standardization and quality control is necessary. It was observed that the pulp for juice was already prepared and stored in haphazard condition.

2. Pond – Kalapani

User Group:	Kalapani Community Forest		
Location:	Ward 5, Rapti *Gaunpalika*, Dang		
Description of Support:	Support was provided for construction and maintenance of the pond. (Multiple Donors)		
Thematic Area of Support:	Climate Change & Adaptation		
Budget Line:	Support for preparation and implement LAPA/CAPA		
Year of Support:	Fiscal Year 2014	Amount of Support	NRs. 143,500

Description:

- Dev Prasad Chaudhary, secretary of Kalapani Community Forest briefed the use and need of the pond.
- Pond was developed in the dry area which has positive impact on the water conservation. It has assisted in the irrigation to 30 family.

Comments:

- The intervention has positive impact.

3. Plantation and check dam – Rapti

User Group:	Sagrapur Bagrapur Community Forest		
Location:	Ward 8 & 9, Rapti *Gaunpalika*, Dang		
Description of Support:	Tree plantation at the bank of Rapti River within Community Forest		
Thematic Area of Support:	Plantation and Climate Change & Adaptation		
Budget Line:	Support for preparation and implement LAPA/CAPA		
Year of Support:	FY 2014/2015	Amount of Support	NRs. 61000+ 406000

Description:

- Prem Lal Chaudhary briefed the activities conducted with the help of TAL – CBRP and regarding the use and need of plantation in the area.
- Plantation was done in 8.5 Ha of land. Further, retention wall was built on Rapti River to stop *Katan* and save the plantation.
- Other support in the beneficiary community include distribution of *dund,* BCC training, Krishi Pathshala, Biogas Support, etc.

Comments:

- The intervention has positive impact and the plantation is growing well.

4. Pond construction

User Group:	Teliya Hariyali Community Forest User Group		
Location:	Ward 9, Lamahi Municipality, Dang		
Description of Support:	Pond upscaling (Excavator and Out-late Construction)		
Thematic Area of Support	Forest		
Budget Line:	Support to Restore Wetland in Corridors		
Year of Support:	Fiscal Year 2016	Amount of Support	NRs. 150,000

Description:

- Support for building pond for conservation of water.

Comments:

- The intervention has positive impact.

5. Nursery

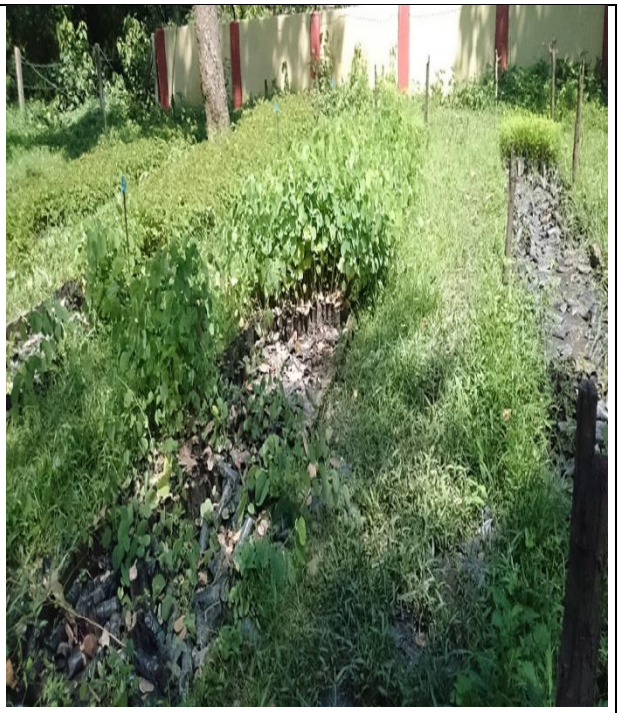
User Group:	Mahadevpuri Community Forest Coordination Committee		
Location:	Ward 7, Mahadevpuri, Banke		
Description of Support:	Support for the management and operation of Nursery		
Thematic Area of Support	Forest		
Year of Support:	Fiscal Year 2015	Amount of Support	NRs. 450,000

Description:

- TAL-CBRP has supported the Mahadevpuri CFCC for the operation and management of a nursery to grow seedlings of trees and other plants.

Comments:

- The management of the nursery was not done properly. Unwanted plants were all around the nursery and cleaning of the same was not done.
- The area allocated for the nursery was not fully utilized at the time of visit and many of the carries were damaged.



Appendix 19: TAL – PABZ – Partner & Beneficiary Visit Report

Partner & Beneficiary Visit at TAL – PABZ Site

Background

The Financial Expert designated for the evaluation of Terai Arc Landsacape (TAL), Protected Area and Buffer Zone (PABZ) conducted field visit of **Bagauda BZUC and Amaltari BZUC.**

Partner Visit

1. Baghauda BZUC

Name of Partner:	Bagauda Buffer Zone User Committee
Location:	Madi, Chitwan
Legal Status:	BZUC registered with Chitwan National Park
Person Met:	Mr. Baliram Chaudhary, Mr. Prabhu Prasad Mahato

Description:

- Baghauda BZUC has been formed under the rules formulated by Government of Nepal. It is managed by a board of 13 members who are selected though election from among the Buffer Zone User Groups (BZUGs). The president or secretary of BZUG can contest for election of Unit from which one can contest for the board of BZUC. The elections are held in every 5 year.
- Baghauda BZUC has conducted wide range of activities in partnership with WWF PABZ some of which include solar fencing, plantations, construction of ponds in the dry areas.
- President of Baghauda Increase in awareness, no poaching, land use improvement - major focus Conservation & Biodiversity
- The BZUC is allocated 30-50% of funds for different activities by the Chitwan National Park (CNP).
- Baghauda BZUC has prepared a 5-year action plan. It prepares annual budget and plan are approved by CS Meeting.
- Baghauda BZUC has manual accounting system of accounting. It has maintained its accounts following cash basis of accounting. Amount received from WWF PABZ as income upon receipt.
- Most of the activities are conducted through BZUG through grant. BZUG do the settlement of the amount upon completion of the activities.
- There are delays in the submission of returns and deposit of tax amount.

Comment:

- It is recommended that the organization should start using computerized accounting system for better recording and reporting of its activities.

- Baghauda BZUC does not have its own administrative and financial policies for operation. It was reported that it is in process of preparation of the same. It should speed up the process of preparation and implement it as soon as possible.
- The partner has not maintained Fixed Asset Register (FAR) and annual physical verification report was not prepared.
- The activities of construction are done through Nirman Upabhokta Samiti. It was noted that the process of procurement of materials and work of construction are not documented properly.
- It was notified that there was a fire due to riot in the FY 2012/13 and the accounting records were burnt but the police record (*Muchulka*) of the same could not be verified. Same case was also observed in case of recent theft. The BZUC should ensure that all the legal documents are prepared and available for review.

2. Amaltari BZUC

Name of Partner:	Amaltari Buffer Zone User Committee
Location:	Amaltari, Nawalparsi
Legal Status:	BZUC registered with Chitwan National Park
Person Met:	Mr. Prem Shankar Mardaniya

Description:

- Amaltari BZUC is in the periphery of Chitwan National Park (CNP). It has a coverage of 2397.9 Ha and a total of 1783 household fall in its region.
- The president is of the view that there has been massive change in the region due to its activities and support of WWF PABZ. Previously there were high poaching, heavy deforestation and no awareness about the conservation. The scenario has changed and it has celebrated zero poaching of rhino, minimized grazing, minimum pressure on the National Park forest.
- Amaltari BZUC is working in the concept of sustainable village. It has been running Homestay through which 124 HH are directly and indirectly benefitting.
- Amaltari BZUC has maintained its records manually. It follows cash basis of accounting. The income is booked upon receipt of cash.

Comment:

- The organization should move towards computerized accounting system to ensure proper accounting and reporting.
- The organization should prepare and implement its own administrative and financial byrules to guide its operation.
- Multiple instance was noted where TDS has not been deducted. It has also not submitted returns of TDS and deposited TDS on timely basis. It is recommended to comply with the legal provisions.
- Multiple invoices did not bear the name of the organization. It is important to record the name of the organization in the invoices.
- Physical verification of the asset has not been done. It has not maintained Fixed Asset Register. Personal Custody register for the tracking of movable assets held by staffs not maintained. It is recommended that the organization should devise proper controls systems to ensure safeguards of its assets.

Support Visit

1. Support for information center

User Group:	Baghauda Buffer Zone User Committee		
Location:	Madi, Nawalparasi		
Description of Support:	Support for the establishment of Information System & Other		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:	2013, 2014, 2015	Amount of Support	Multiple

Description:

- The information center was established at the office of Baghauda BZUC. Library room and Computer room were made.

Comments:

- The library and computer room were not maintained at all and were in pitiful condition.
- The library was being used as a guard room while the computer room was used as store where materials were stacked over the computer itself.
- It is a waste of resources and WWF PABZ should ensure that it supports in the areas of need and that its supports are being utilized properly.

2. Support to the nursery

User Group:	Madi Samudayik Bahuuddesiya Nursery		
Location:	Madi, Chitwan		
Description of Support:	Support for Nursery		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:	Multiple	Amount of Support	Multiple

Description:

- Multiple support has been done to Baghauda BZUC for the operation and management of Nursery.

Comments:

- The nursery is comparatively well managed. However, it requires more attention as to cleaning of the nursery area and destroying of weeds.

3. Drinking water project

User Group:	Amaltari Buffer Zone User Committee		
Location:	Amaltari Nawalparasi		
Description of Support:	Drinking Water Project		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:	2013, 2014, 2015	Amount of Support	

Description:

- The Clean Drinking Water project is multiyear project funded by WWF Nepal in Amalatari, Chitwan.
- It received NPR 800,000 in FY 2014 and 3,590,000 in FY 2015.
- Works were still in progress at the time of field visit and project is heading towards completion.
- The drinking water project is being constructed by a separate committee formed for the purpose. The project will be handed over to the district drinking water office after completion for the management.

Comments:

- The drinking water project is partly under operation and water supply is being done to the communities with pipelines. But the water plant had cleanliness issue as faeces could be seen around main pump.
- It was also noted that the property was unguarded which could result in loss or damage to the property.

Appendix 20: SHL – LNPBZSP – Partner & Beneficiary Visit Report

Partner & Beneficiary Visit at SHL – LNPBZSP Site

Background

The Financial Expert designated for the evaluation of Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) visited various project sites of the Langtang National Park Buffer Zone Support Project (LNPBZSP) on random basis.

Partner Visit

1. Laharepauwa BZUC

Name of Partner:	Laharepauwa Buffer Zone User Committee
Location:	Laharepauwa, Rasuwa
Legal Status:	BZUC registered with Langtang National Park
Person Met:	Mr.Som Lal Lawat (Secretary)

Description:

- Laharepauwa BZUC has been formed under the rules formulated by Government of Nepal. It is managed by a board of 9 members who are selected though election from among the Buffer Zone User Groups (BZUGs). Each ward is treated as one BZUG from which 18 members are elected for Unit from which 9 members are elected for BZUC. The president or secretary of BZUG can contest for election of Unit from which one can contest for the board of BZUC. The elections are held in every 5 year. The LNP assigns the election officer and sets up the election office. Last election was held in 2071.
- Laharepawa BZUC has conducted wide range of activities in partnership with WWF LNPBZSP some of which includes tunnel construction, biogas construction, income generating and climate change activities, etc.
- The LNP allocates 30-50% of funds for different activities to be performed by the BZUC. The major and only sources of funds are thus LNP and WWF Nepal. They do not have internally generated funds. They maintain revolving funds supported by WWF LNPBZSP.
- Manual accounting system is in place at Laharepauwa BZUC. It has maintained its accounts following cash basis of accounting. Amount received from WWF LNPBZSP as income upon receipt.
- There are delays in the submission of returns and deposit of tax amount.

Comment:

- Laharepauwa BZUC does not have its own administrative and financial policies for operation. It should prepare the same and enforce it to standardize the processes and assist in smooth functioning of the organization.
- The BZUC has maintained accounts in single entry system without complete accounting of the transaction. It should look to enforce and follow proper accounting methods and processes.

Appendix 20: SHL – LNPBZSP – Partner & Beneficiary Visit Report

- The partner has not maintained Fixed Asset Register (FAR) and annual physical verification report was not prepared.
- The procurement processes are not documented properly. The organization should look to promote fair and transparent procurement process to get best value for money and same should be duly documented.

Support Visit

2. Dhasingre Processing Plant

User Group:	Syaubari Buffer Zone User Committee		
Location:	Syaubari, Rasuwa		
Description of Support:	Dhasingre Oil Processing Unit		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:	2013, 2014, 2015	Amount of Support	339,200

Description:

- The processing unit is constructed with the support of multiple donors and contribution from the community.
- Dhasingre processing unit has processed upto 60 Ltr. of oil in last season. The market price of oil is NPR. 3,300.00 per ltr.

Comments:

- The information board at the processing unit claims that it can process 500 Ltr. per year, in which case it is heavily under utilized given only 60 Ltrs are processed annually.

Appendix 20: SHL – LNPBZSP – Partner & Beneficiary Visit Report

3. Pond

User Group:	Syaubari Buffer Zone User Committee		
Location:	Syaubari, Rasuwa		
Description of Support:	Support for pond		
Thematic Area of Support			
Year of Support:		Amount of Support	338,000

Description:

- Pond with 130,000 Ltr. holding capacity and 15 M x 4 M x 2 M was constructed with sole support of WWF LNPBZSP.
- The purpose of construction was to assist in irrigation, firefighting and promote biodiversity.

Comments:

- The pond was dried out at the time of field visit.