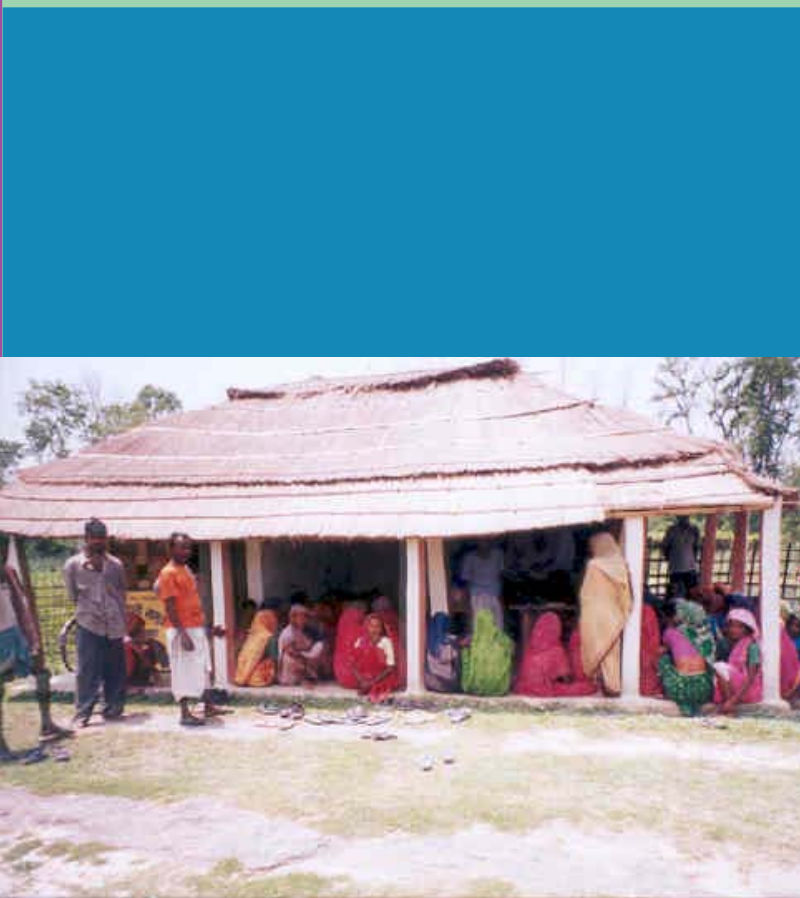


**COMMUNITY INCENTIVES TO REDUCE LAND USE
CONFLICT AND CONSERVE BIODIVERSITY IN NEPAL**



**Final
Community
Evaluation**

May-June 2005

COMMUNITY INCENTIVES TO REDUCE LAND USE CONFLICT AND CONSERVE BIODIVERSITY IN NEPAL

FINAL COMMUNITY EVALUATION

May – June 2005

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

IUCN Nepal and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation have been implementing the Development Marketplace 2003 winning project entitled “Community Incentives to Reduce Land Use Conflict and Conserve Biodiversity in Nepal” since June 2004 in the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve’s Buffer Zone in Eastern Nepal. The project will end in July 2005. The goal of the project is to enhance biodiversity by reducing land conflicts through strengthening livelihood security for poor communities in Eastern Nepal and the specific project objective is to demonstrate a system for reducing the number of livestock in the Koshi Tappu Area by providing livelihood-based incentives for poor farmers.

At the start of the project, a detailed Logframe was developed, which identified the following four key project outputs:

1. Fodder and forage biomass increased in BZ through agroforestry and forestry plantations (private and communal)
2. Sustainable services for domestic animal health artificial insemination services/facility established
3. Alternatives livelihoods to livestock rearing promoted
4. Reserve supported for effective project management, governance, learning and strengthening Park People relation for conservation of KTWR.

The full logframe is attached as Annex 1.

This report presents on the process and findings of community evaluation of the project. This evaluation had been proposed by the project proponents to identify the extent to which the project was considered to be successful in meeting its objectives.

Community evaluations had been identified in the original project design as a part of on-going project implementation to ensure transparency of project activities amongst stakeholders and to solicit feedback to strengthen project approach, activities and partnerships. Though several small scale local consultations were organised, one formal district level consultations was organised one on 10 January 2005.

This report presents the feedback from local communities and other key stakeholders on the project activities as a part of final project evaluation process. The local facilitators had prepared and submitted the report in Nepali language and the translation below into English language was done by IUCN.

2. EVALUATION OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The community evaluation took place from 14 May to 8 June 2005. The Mr. Pushpa Bhattarai, Chairperson of NGO Coordination Committee of Sunsari District and Chairperson of Save the Earth (a local NGO), led the evaluation team to facilitate local feedback and documentation. Other members of the evaluation team included the following:



- Mr. Rabin Ghimire, Chairperson, Union for Culture, Human, Environment Protection, Sunsari
- Ms. Chandrakala Adhikari, Secretary, Save the Earth, Sunsari
- Mr. Puspa Adhikari, Member, Save the Earth, Sunsari

The full term of reference for the evaluators is attached as Annex 2.

The overall objective of the evaluation was to obtain feedback from local communities on the project's methods, actions and impacts; in order to document the key lessons so that they can become a positive feedback for future initiatives of DNPWC/KTWR and IUCN and its other partners.

2.1 Objectives

The specific objectives of the evaluation were to assess:

- The *efficiency* and *effectiveness* of project's mechanisms and activities
- The *Relevance* (including local acceptance) and *impacts* through the key activities supported by the project. In examining the impact, it will examine both the current impacts (including who benefited) and potential future impacts
- Local perceptions on sustainability of the project activities and methods to ensure sustainability
- Local self replication (on-going, planned or local ideas on possible replication) of project activities
- Whether communities feel that the project has contributed to better relationship and partnership between them and the KTWR and feel that the project has reduced or has the potential to reduce conflicts in the area

2.2 Methodology

The evaluation was done through a participatory process adopting appreciative inquiry method. The evaluation team organised group meetings, individual meetings with local people, and focus group discussions. They also visited farmers' fields and observed activities supported by the project.

The evaluation team organised several group meetings. They included:

- i. Separate group meetings with three groups involved in three fishpond construction in Haripur, West Kushaha and Madhuban– including 31 men and 37 women
- ii. Five community Forestry users groups - total 41 men and 17 women from 5 CFs
- iii. One group meeting with Community Animal Services Centre ad hoc committee members- 4 men and 2 women
- iv. Three group meetings with people involved in community nurseries: total 15 men and 20 women from 3 community nurseries
- v. One group meeting with Community Animal Health Workers - total 7 men and 1 women

Additionally, the team met 5 men from Madhuban User Group; the chairperson, and secretary of the community animal services centre building construction committee; Chairperson and members of Jan Jagaran Users' group; and also Village Animal Health Workers individually to obtain feedback. They also met several leader farmers involved in agroforestry promotion and involved in improved vegetable farming. The evaluation team visited 50 Farmers' fields (home nurseries), the community animal services centre, 5 Community forests, 3 community nurseries, and 3 community fish ponds. A detail of the evaluation teams' itinerary is attached as Annex 3.

The team was unable to visit Tapeswori VDC in Udayapur district in north-western part of the Reserve due to security concerns.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND ISSUES FOR PROJECT SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

3.1. Community Animal Services Centre

Achievements:

- ❖ Community Animal Health Workers have started providing services in the community. They have started small medicine shop from which they make income of Rs. 2000 to 2500 per month.
- ❖ Ad hoc committee has been formed
- ❖ Land provided by VDC
- ❖ Construction work at the last stage
- ❖ Started vaccination with the help of District Animal health office in West Kusaha and Madhuban.
- ❖ Coordinate with District Livestock and provide service at minimum rate
- ❖ Meeting held 10 times
- ❖ Constitution being developed
- ❖ People have developed positive attitude towards the project and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve
- ❖ People have started stall feeding and raising cross bred animals

Challenges

- ❖ Difficult to provide equal services to surrounding 6 VDCs
- ❖ Should provide refresher training and new skills as and when required to community animal health workers

- ❖ Necessary training should be provided for efficient leadership and mobilization
- ❖ Need to look for additional financial resources

Community ideas for Sustainable Development of CASC

- ❖ Membership card will be distributed charging minimum amount with the help of committee's decisions. These membership holders will get special discount if they are interested for AI.
- ❖ Coordinate with VDC/KTWR for barren land to provide to users group for fodder and forage plantation. Plants will be sold to with the decision of community in minimum price. The income will be kept in AHC fund.
- ❖ To motivate village animal health workers, different training will be provided in coordination with AHC.
- ❖ Planning to construct a room in the front part of the AHC building for extra income that helps in fund raising.
- ❖ Planning to do animal insurance
- ❖ Make AHC resourceful: Look for technology and resources, skilled technical person
- ❖ Sell medicines in community
- ❖ VDC felt its responsibility and thoughts of developing as cooperative
- ❖ Manage and provide AI services widely
- ❖ People will develop concept of cross breed
- ❖ Programme will be succeed if implemented in democratic way
- ❖ If the coordination between the organisations working in the buffer zone area, PCP/KTWR/VDC would be good, it would be helpful to coordinate the programme
- ❖ Provide refresher training and new skills to community animal health workers

Impact on Reserve

- ❖ Developed positive attitude of community people towards Reserve
- ❖ People have become motivated to keep improved breed by stall feeding them which has led to reduction in grazing problem inside the Reserve
- ❖ Prevention from diseases brought by the cattle and conservation of wild buffalo
- ❖ Reduction in cross breed of wild buffalo and domestic animals and support to conservation of forest

3.2. Agroforestry and vegetable farming training

Activities

- ❖ Selection of leader farmers
- ❖ Training provided to leader farmers
- ❖ Training to other farmers by lead farmers (extension)
- ❖ Selection of disadvantage groups
- ❖ Seed and poly bag distribution
- ❖ Establish nursery for:
 - Fodder grass
 - Forage
 - Medicinal plants
 - Bamboo cutting
- ❖ Weeding and watering plants
- ❖ Plants management



Achievements

- ❖ Skill imparted to other group members and established nurseries
- ❖ Farmers have produced saplings of local plants
- ❖ Well managed nurseries
- ❖ Established medicinal plants nurseries

Community ideas for Sustainable Development

- ❖ Produced saplings will be planted in own farmland and surplus or those who don't own land will be planted in community forest
- ❖ Priority will be given to produce species of local plants
- ❖ Timely production of the plants

Challenges

- ❖ Some seeds did not germinate because of low quality
- ❖ Some species were not suitable to local climate and weather
- ❖ Nurseries were not fenced well
- ❖ No land to plant saplings produced by landless people
- ❖ Possible marketing problems in vegetable production if too many produce
- ❖ Some people have seen the income from vegetables but are not giving continuity
- ❖ Technical suggestion will not be available on time after project ends

Impact on Reserve

- ❖ Less encroachment if grass available in own land
- ❖ Cattle do not enter into the reserve

Box 1: Mr. Rudra Khanal, an exemplary leader farmer



Mr. Rudra Khanal, residing in Madhuban ward no. 8 is a leader farmer. He is a Secretary of Jana Jagaran Madhyawarti Upabhokta Samity. He received training on vegetable farming as well as nursery management. After the training he trained other 10 farmers on nursery management and vegetable farming and established nurseries in their own land.

He started vegetable farming and home nursery of fodder and forage which is an example in the community. He has also started vegetable farming where he has planted 'oal', a type of yam which has very high production and has good price in terai market. He made income of Rs. 2500 in one season. He has a plan to increase vegetable farming in the next season. Other community members have also been impressed by his work so they are also planning to do vegetable farming and plant fodder trees on their land. Mr. Khanal also distributed saplings to his neighbours.

He has a feeling that the DM project has just started to change people's attitude. There are other organisations working for a long time in this area but they only provided training to the people but didn't follow-up for implementation. But the DM project had helped them to initiate income generating activities right after the training. So he suggested that DM project should not to end at this initial phase and should continue to provide support for some more years to see its impact.

Box 2: Mr. Tika Ram Raut – an enthusiastic leader farmer and conservationist

Mr. Tika Ram Raut, residing in Prakashpur VDC ward no. 9 participated in leader farmers' agroforestry training conducted by the project. After the training he called a meeting in his community and they developed future vision for their groups. They would like to study local herbal plants, collect them and develop an exhibition, and also start off-season vegetable farming and fish farming.

Mr. Raut had participated in vegetable farming training which was also organised by IUCN and KTWR. After the training, he used his skills to produce vegetables on his own land including potatoes, cauliflower, radish and tomatoes in around 1 ½ kattha of land. He was able to make Rs. 2000 in one season from this farming. Seeing this, his neighbours are also planning to start vegetable farming from next year.

Mr. Raut is very enthusiastic about conservation activities. He says that there are five "J" in Nepali language, which are the most important things. They include- *Jungle* (forest), *Jal* (water), *Jeev* (living things), *Jadibuti* (herbals plants) and Laborious *Janata* (hard working people). He stressed that these things are interrelated with each other and in absence of one thing others do not survive.

The group members have done home agro-forestry and kitchen gardening on their own fields and also planted /protected community land as Community Forests (CF). Mostly they have planted fodder trees; under the fodder tree they further planted herbal plants like, lemon grass, and citronella. Other plant species are also planted in their CF.

This group has also formed the following committees for well functioning of conservation activities in their area:

- Natural environment conservation group;
- Community forest conservation group;
- Birds conservation group;
- Wetland area conservation group; and
- Monitoring and evaluation group

They have also formed an adolescent group for conservation activities thinking that the conservation activities would be effective through their participation.

Box 3: Ms. Ms. Geeta Devi Sardar, a poor farmer trained by leader farmer wants to contribute to conservation efforts

Ms. Geeta Devi Sardar, residing in West Kusaha, ward no. 8 received training from leader farmers through farmer to farmer extension programme. After the training she received 500 polythene pots and seeds to establish home nursery. She does not have land to plant the saplings produced but she is doing this to plant them in the CFs from where she is getting

fodders and fuel woods. Her nursery is an exemplary one almighty the surrounding nurseries. She has nurtured and cared it very well. She has fenced it to protect from chicken and animals. She is convinced about the protection of reserve. She has a feeling that if reserve is protected, they can get some benefits from the reserve.

3.3. Fish Pond

Activities:

- ❖ Selection of disadvantage group through participatory approach
- ❖ Selection criteria was based on land holding size
- ❖ Selection was done through meeting held between KTWR, IUCN and users group
- ❖ Land provided by KTWR and community (within Community Forest)
- ❖ Allocated Nr. 50,000.00 for 3 ponds each
 - Simsar Madhyawarti Community Forest User Group - West Kusaha: 10 kattha
 - Siddhakali Madhyawarti Community Forest User Group - Madhuwan : 7 kattha
 - Shiva Madhyawarti Community Forest User Group - Haripur: 5 kattha
- ❖ People from poor groups are working in constructing fish pond taking 80% wages only. 20% is their contribution.
- ❖ Out of allocated 50,000.00, Rs. 10,000.00 is allocated for fingerling and their food
- ❖ 1 fish pond is constructed within the wetland area
- ❖ 2 ponds are under construction in Siddhakali and Shiva community forests



Achievements

- ❖ Active women's participation in construction and implementation of fish ponds
- ❖ 3 ponds being constructed
- ❖ Women got opportunity to take responsibility
- ❖ Work being done in group
- ❖ Developed ownership feeling
- ❖ Developed positive thinking towards KTWR
- ❖ Increased interest of poor towards the ponds
- ❖ Sustainable livelihood
- ❖

Efforts to make it more effective

- ❖ Money allocated for fingerlings and their food
- ❖ Meetings ongoing for implementation policy
- ❖ Plantation around the pond
- ❖ Women seems to be very enthusiastic

Community ideas for Sustainable Development

- ❖ Provision of guard (men at night and women at daytime)

- ❖ Improved breed of fish will be put in the ponds
- ❖ Ponds will be managed through cooperatives
- ❖ Coordination between community forest and women group
- ❖ Specific income source available
- ❖ Support to wetland management
- ❖ The fishpond management group will have MOU with CF and develop the guidelines for equal benefit sharing.
- ❖ They have planned to produce improved species of fish and income will be kept in revolving fund maintaining their fishpond. Only 75% of the total income will be shared within the groups as their benefit and 25% will be kept in the fund.
- ❖ Make provision of guard, men during night and women during daytime.
- ❖ The fishpond group has an understanding that these types of activities will stop illegal fishing inside the reserve and develop harmonious relationship between park and community. This will also help to conserve wetlands.

Learning

- ❖ Women are capable in group work
- ❖ Good participation of dalit women in pond construction
- ❖ The fishing community will reduce the pressure in KTWR

Challenges:

- ❖ Birds could compete for fish in the ponds
- ❖ Possibility of extinction of local fish species
- ❖ Should have knowledge of fish farming
- ❖ Fund not released on time
- ❖ Big group
- ❖ Pond is constructed in CF land. No MOU signed. Problems may arise in future

4. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION FINDINGS BASED ON LOCAL PERCEPTIONS

1. Local community members themselves used to encroach forest, undertake illegal hunting and collection of timbers from inside the Reserve. Now they have changed and themselves are actively participating in conservation activities. They have developed positive attitude towards the Reserve.
2. People are aware of importance of stall-feeding and how to raise improved breed animals that do not require illegal grazing in the reserve. This has also helped to build good relationship with the reserve.
3. Members of disadvantage community are involved in fishpond construction. 127 women from disadvantage community are the beneficiaries of the fish pond. These members were selected through wellbeing ranking and the major criterion for the selection was land-holding size. Land for fishponds was provided by KTWR and community forest. Three ponds are being constructed in the CFs. Women are taking responsibilities for pond management.
4. At least 11 persons are applying their skills for vegetable production and made income of Rs. 2000 to 5000 from the sale of vegetables. This is done without using any pesticides and chemical fertilizers, based on learning from the training received from the project. Some have started producing a new type of yam, which was

- introduced during the training. This is a high production species and gets more income.
5. Very good coordination among KTWR, IUCN and Participatory Conservation Project (a UNDP/DNPWC project) and local community.
 6. The project has maintained transparency in disbursing funds to the groups and community.
 7. Excellent participatory monitoring and evaluation process at institutional level
 8. Good relationship with VDC in Madhuban but relationship not strong with other VDCs.
 9. Good relationship with line agencies (e.g. DAO, DAHO, DDC, etc.) as well as local NGOs.
 10. Perceptions on positive impacts on Reserve (current or likely) include:
 - Reduction in illegal fishing inside the reserve
 - Reduction on over use of natural resources
 - Motivated to keep improved breed by stall feeding, which has lead to reduction in grazing problem
 - Prevention from viral diseases brought by the cattle and conservation of wild buffalo
 - Reduction in cross breed of wild buffalo and support to conservation of forest
 - Less encroachment if grass available in own land
 - Cattle do not enter into the reserve

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONSULTANTS

1. Programme implemented in participatory approach, and good participant selection process with priority given to dalit and women. However dalit women and adolescents' participation was low, as work was concentrated in selected pocket areas. It is easier to work if we get support and participation from all.
2. Most affected community around the reserve were included in the programme. But community from closer to reserve headquarters are getting benefits. IUCN should develop mechanism to include all areas of BZ.
3. Training must be provided by the professionals/specialists for good results
4. Locals are more interest in CF and Reserve conservation than before
5. Ownership feeling is developed in the community on project supported activities
6. Trained farmers do not seem to share their knowledge and skills outside their groups or even within their family in some cases.
7. Most disadvantaged people are still not able to develop their own plans. Necessary training should be provided for efficient leadership and resource mobilization otherwise local people will still be dependent on others.
8. Very good transparency maintained by the project but would be better if it could be strengthened to all levels of local communities and not just with community representatives or sub-groups. Project maintained good transparency within District level partners like LDO, DADO, DAHO, etc. There should be some kind of regular public auditing so that community people will be aware of programmes in detail.
9. It would have been better if stronger coordination could be done with VDCs and DDCs.
10. Some people are confused on the identity of the DM programme – who is running it PCP, KTWR or IUCN?

11. Working strategy should be flexible. E.g. Delegation of authority to take decision by field staff.
12. Overall project period is very short to see the real impacts of the project.
13. Project is ending now and people seem to be worried. IUCN should continue its programme. Communities have seen some results but have not seen the real impacts yet. However, they are influenced by the IUCN programme and enthusiastic to continue it.

Annex 1: PROJECT LOGFRAME

Name of project: Community Incentives to reduce land use conflict and conserve biodiversity in Nepal

Implementer: IUCN Nepal and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation

Project duration: 12 months (starting from August 04- July 05)

Narrative Summary	Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Goal: To enhance biodiversity by reducing land conflicts through strengthening livelihood security for poor communities in Eastern Nepal.	By 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70% reduction in dependence on Reserve Resource for domestic animal 's food 50% Increase in wild buffalo (<i>arna</i>) population in KTWR 	<u>Impact study</u> livelihood security survey: BZ data [Arna population survey (baseline of 2004)]	
Purpose: To establish livelihood incentive services for local communities to reduce threats to the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve's biodiversity	By the End of the Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local people more supportive to the Reserve Animal health centre and agroforestry services being operated by Buffer Zone Committee (BZC) 	<u>Outcome study</u> Survey / Discussion Joint action of park and people MOU between BZC, IUCN and KTWR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic livestock are the major threat to <i>arna</i> population Agroforestry can provide adequate fodder and forage supply Reserve in position of implementing its activities related to reducing livestock in KTA Support from DLSO, DDC, VDC and community (other than participating farmer) support this initiative
Narrative Summary	Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
<u>Incentive Related</u>			
1. Fodder and forage biomass increased in BZ through agroforestry and forestry plantations (private and communal)	by EOP unless specified: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least 80 farmers (poor and/or DAG) participating in establishment of nurseries 200 trees planted/farmer farmer by 80 farmers Fodder and forage development in two community plantations 	<u>Semi-annual monitoring (output to purpose review) and annual review</u> 1.1 Nurseries at farmers field / observation 1.2 Plantation site visit / observation 1.3 Plantation site visit / observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidize fee for AI will be payable by farmers. KTWR provides reserve land for community for income generation activities. Security situation will not be further deteriorating. Effective AHC management committee formed. The costs of an AI system can be borne from semen sales, & subsidies provided to poor, local farmers

2. Sustainable services for domestic animal health artificial insemination services/facility established	2.1 2 AHC functional 2.2 200 hhs received services from AHC 2.3 Business plan developed and operationalized for sustainable management of AHCs	2.1 observation and discussion 2.2 AHC daily service register 2.3 General Assembly minutes / discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating/support from LAs/Reserve • AI technical skill/training facility available
3. Alternatives livelihoods to livestock rearing promoted	3.1 10 farmers benefited by fish pond and /or fishing permit 3.2 20 farmers participate with at least 2 kattha each farmer under vegetable cultivation	3.1 Group, reserve and project records 3.2 Group records	
	3.3 Agreement between 1 DAG and community forest to manage pond	3.3 MoU signed between CF and DAG	
Capacity Building			
4. Reserve supported for effective project management, governance, learning and strengthening Park People relation for conservation of KTWR.	4.1 Involvement of all stakeholders d in monitoring process 4.2 Incorporate learning (findings) from monitoring & study for improvement and planning	4.1 Monitoring records 4.2 Review records/ discussion	

Activities			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate technical expertise is available in a timely manner • Continued support of national authorities • Security does not prevent access to field sites • Timely fund disbursement from WB to IUCN Nepal and IUCN Nepal to project area
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- 1.1 Study on constraints and opportunity for forage and fodder development in the BZ of KTWR
- 1.2 Community consultations to identify interest and leader farmer selection for training
- 1.3 First Agroforestry Training
- 1.4 Set-up on-farm agroforestry demonstration by trainee farmers
- 1.5 Farmer-to-farmer training and expansion in community
- 1.6 Refresher agroforestry training (December)
- 1.7 Refresher agroforestry training (May-June)
- 1.8 Finalise Mechanisms for sustaining this activity beyond project end
- 1.9 Identification and support to two community plantations for fodder and forage
- 1.10 Community evaluation

- 2.1 Study to identify constraints and opportunities for domestic animal rearing in BZ
- 2.2 Study to identify options for animal health centre establishment and artificial insemination service provision
- 2.3 Development of partnership with local District Livestock Offices to provide artificial insemination services before AHC establishment
- 2.4 Barefoot vet training for local trainers
- 2.5 Cross visit to local leaders and KTWR staff to Royal Chitwan National Park to observe AHCs there
- 2.6 AHC establishment (including equipment purchase)
- 2.7 Business plan development for AHC's financial and social sustainability, including partnerships with local authorities
- 3.1 Support establishment of community fish pond
- 3.2 Training on vegetable farming
- 3.3 Local scholarships to students from poor households
- 4.1 Periodic project review
- 4.2 Monitoring by farmer on project activities (AHC, nurseries, fish pond)
- 4.3 Quarterly monitoring visit by DNPWC/IUCN
- 4.4 Training to Reserve staff on BZ and CF management
- 4.5 Orientation training for Army commanders on BZ management
- 4.6 Orientation training to elephant camp staff on bio- diversity conservation
- 4.7 External evaluation

ANNEX 2: TOR OF COMMUNITY EVALUATORS

Community Incentives to Reduce Land Use Conflict and Conserve Biodiversity in Nepal

Terms of Reference

Background

IUCN Nepal has won a one-year grant from the World Bank's Development Marketplace 2003 competition to implement a project entitled "Community Incentives to Reduce Land Use Conflict and Conserve Biodiversity in Nepal". This project proposes an innovative use of wild genetic resource to increase local income of poor communities, improve relationships between a protected area authority and local communities, and in the longer term change local domestic livestock composition that is better for local livelihoods and biodiversity conservation in Nepal. The resource being proposed for use is wild Asiatic buffalo semen from the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in Eastern Nepal to produce a hardier and more valuable cross with domestic buffaloes. Additionally, the project will explore and demonstrate alternative fodder development/ provision and produce a Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) locally.

The project has been implemented in Koshi Tappu Buffer Zone area since 15 July 2004. A number of activities such as establishment of on-farm fodder and forage demonstration nursery, community fodder and grass nursery, construction of Animal Health Centre (AHC), construction of community fish pond for poorest of the poor users of 3 community forests and training on fodder and grass demonstration, vegetable farming, and VAHW, CF orientation workshop and exposure visits have been completed. Approximately 50000 saplings of fodder tree species have been grown in 196 private nurseries. Similarly one community nursery has produced 20000 saplings of fodder trees and grasses. The poorest of the poor people from Special Target Group (STG) have established NB-21 grass and NTFP (Citronella and Lemon grass) nurseries in three community forests. Respective CF has allocated small patches of CF land to 127 poorest of the poor people.

In order to assess the performance of the above mentioned activities, IUCN wishes to facilitate a participatory community evaluation through local consultants.

Objectives of the community evaluation

The overall objective of this work is to obtain feedback from local communities on the project's methods, actions and impacts; in order to document the key lessons so that they can become a positive feedback for future initiatives of DNPWC/KTER and IUCN and its other partners.

The specific objective of the evaluation is as follows is to facilitate the project's evaluation, using participatory approaches, by local communities on the following:

- The *efficiency* and *effectiveness* of project's mechanisms and activities
- *Relevance* (including local acceptance) and *impacts* through the key activities supported by the project. In examining the impact, it will examine both the current impacts (including who benefited) an potential future impacts

- Local perceptions on sustainability of the project activities and methods to ensure sustainability
- Local self replication (on-going, planned or local ideas on possible replication) of project activities
- Whether communities feel that the project has contributed to better relationship and partnership between them and the KTWR and feel that the project has reduced or has the potential to reduce conflicts in the area

Scope of the evaluation

The evaluation will be done with community stakeholders residing within the Buffer Zone of the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. In particular, it will focus on the following key stakeholder groups:

- Direct beneficiaries (people involved in training, etc.)
- Community representatives in the Buffer Zone Committee
- Other community representatives
- Others

The evaluation will focus on the activities supported by the project in the last 9 months period, including the following:

1. On-farm fodder and forage demonstration (Fodder and grass nurseries and training)
2. Community nursery and plantation (Fodder and grass nursery and plantation)
3. Livestock management (Artificial Insemination, AHC construction and VAHW training)
4. Livelihood alternatives (fish pond and NTFP growing in community land).

Methodology:

The evaluation will include the following methodology:

1. Familiarization with project objectives and activities through reading reports, interacting with project staff, KTWR staff and other staff
2. In-depth participatory discussions with local stakeholders on the objectives identified above, in the field, and using the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Framework for community Evaluation

Project Activities	Indicators	Outcome level change to assess	Methodology
On-farm fodder and forage development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agroforestry training - Private fodder and grass nursery - Fodder and grass plantation in private land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # existing private nursery maintained # training participants # sapling produced # sapling planted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is benefited? to what extent? People perception on reduced pressure to reserve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group's record - nursery record - Discussion/consultation - FGD - Observation - meeting minutes
Community nursery and plantation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fodder and grass nursery - NTFP nursery - Fodder and bamboo plantation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # community nurseries # sapling and slips produced # sapling planted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who benefited and what extent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CFUG records - FGD - Observation - Meeting minutes
Livestock Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of AHC - Artificial insemination - VAHW Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - completion of AHC - No of AI services - No of participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perception of people on Infrastructure development - Who has access to genetic resources - Service provided - Willingness to pay fee to the VAHW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AHC records - FGD - Meeting minute - Observation
Livelihood Alternatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community fish pond - NTFP plantation - NB-21 grass plantation - Vegetable farming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of STG farmers benefiting from fish pond, NTFP and NB-21 grass plantation - vegetable productions (Food security, nutrition, health, income) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who is benefited? (group composition: caste, class and ethnicity from well being ranking) - Process documentation as to how poor people are getting benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FGD - Meeting minute - Observation - interview with STG about their perceptions

3. Direct observations of the activities
4. Focus group discussions
5. Draft Report preparation: Based upon the observations, discussions and reflections, the consultant will produce a draft report in line with the outlined objectives and incorporating the issues outlined in the scope of works.
6. Finalization of the report: The consultant will share the draft report with IUCN and KTWR. Based upon the comments received, the consultant may refine the draft report
7. Sharing the outcomes with local community stakeholders: a workshop will be organized, where the consultants will share the findings with the stakeholders.

The Study Team

The team will be led by the Consultant and his/ her tea, and will include an IUCN monitoring section staff, and a local communities' representative. The local consultant will play a lead role in the study process whereas IUCN and the KTWR will play a supporting role in facilitating the consultant in their study process.

The Consultant

IUCN in consultation with the KTWR will appoint local consultant, preferably an institution or a team of individuals with adequate experiences in monitoring and evaluation. The consultant will consist of two person team.

Time Frame: A total of 10 to 15 days time, at least 5 days each person is envisaged (May 10 to 21)

<u>S.N.</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
1	Consultant identification	5 May 05
2	Contract Signing	7 May 05
3	Finalization of evaluation checklist	10 May 05
4	Orientation in the team	12 May 05
5	Secondary information collection	13-15 May 05
6	Field assessment and discussion with stakeholders	15-16 May 05
7	Sharing of field assessment with IUCN/KTWR/DNPWC team	18 May 2005
8	Sharing findings with the district stakeholders	20 May 2005
9	Final report writing	21 May 2005

The Community Evaluation consultant will report to IUCN Nepal's Programme Coordinator, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Unit 2 and will work closely with the Field Project Coordinator based in Koshi Tappu Area, and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation KTWR Reserve staff as well. *The consultant should submit a proposal within 5 days of the receipt of this TOR to IUCN with proposed methodology to undertake the assessment.*

Key duties and responsibilities of the consultants

- Lead the evaluation team to produce a report as per the objectives and methodologies described in previous sections through a participatory process
- Present the findings to the district stakeholders workshop
- Share lessons with final external project evaluation team if requested

Qualifications

- At least a Bachelor degree in social science, preferably linked with project's focus areas of animal husbandry, agroforestry or community conservation incentives development
- At least 5 years experience in implementing community development activities
- Relevant experience and qualification in community resource assessment and evaluation
- Ability to/experience of coordinating and working with a multidisciplinary project team
- A fairly good understanding of natural resource related policy of Nepal

- Experience with participatory approaches to project planning , implementation and monitoring
- Proven English language skills (reading and writing)
- Excellent computer skills
- Person affiliated with NGOs or any civil societies is preferred

Annex 3: Community Evaluators' Itinerary

S. N.	Activities	Place/VDC	Date	Process	Responsibility
1.	Preparation	KTWR office	May 14	- sharing - secondary data collection	Dr. Jha/Puspa
2.	Visit to Agro forestry - Herbal plantation - Fodder plan - Fish pond	- West Kusaha - Haripur - Prakashpur	May 21-23	- Group discussion - small meeting - field visit - FGD - Question/answer	Dr. Jha Puspa Robin
3.	AHC - Mgmt committee - AHW - Group	Madhuban	May 23-24	- Group discussion - small meeting - field visit - questions/answer	Puspa
4.	Agro Forestry	Tapeshwari	May 27	Not visited due to security concerns	
5.	Kitchen Garden	Tapeshwari	May 27	Not visited to security concerns	
6.	Sharing	KTWR office	May 28	- Impression sharing and meeting	Puspa
7.	Linkage - PCP - KTWR - BZMCC	KTWR Office	May 28	Impression sharing	Puspa/Robin/ Chandrakala
8.	Cross checking	- Haripur - Prakashpur - West Kusaha - Madhuwan	May 31-Jun 2	- Field visit - Community beneficiaries meeting	Puspa/Robin/ Chandrakala
9.	Report sending	IUCN	June 2-5		Chandrakala
10.	Final report	IUCN/KTWR/DDC	June 5-8		Chandrakala