



ECO SMART SCHOOL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



WCN Nepal Prakriti Pathshala (NPP) launched its Eco-Smart School Certification Program two years ago with an objective to share knowledge about environment and wildlife through interactive approach. Eco-Smart School Program is a five-year, five-star program where the school and students participate in different interactive outdoor activities while learning about environment science. They have to achieve four cornerstone principles (Educate, Commit, Innovate and Share) before they qualify for the certification. NPP facilitates, guides and gives technical support to the participating school throughout the year.

The member school was met for a project steering committee (PSC) on May 5, 2017 at WCN Office to discuss about its future programs. The principal and coordinators from each member schools, namely-Ace School, Creative Academy, John Dewey school along with Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, CEO, Ms. Sanjeevani Y Shrestha, Program Manager and Ms. Ritu Gurung KC, Senior Nature Interpreter, from WCN attended the meeting.

Mr. Mohan Bikram Shrestha, Field Coordinator, WCN updated the PSC about the activities that were conducted with the member schools and briefed about the upcoming theme and activities for the academic year 2074. The PSC also welcomed its new members, Triyog High school, Bina's Keta Keta Bari and Kaastamandap Vidhayala.

Our three member schools, Ace School, Creative Academy and John Dewey, successfully completed their two years and were certified with a second star. The second star was awarded to each school for successfully implementing the Curriculum based Interactive Environmental Education (CbIEE) and for the continuation of Towards Zero Waste Program. A special occasion was organized on June 2017 where different competitions such as Art Competition, Public Speaking and Story Writing Competition were also held at school.

PROMOTING GREEN ENTERPRISE IN COMMUNITY FORESTS

WCN has been working on sustainable management of forest by improving, restoring and protecting forest and simultaneously building capacity enhancing the livelihood of community depending on forest for their livelihood. WCN together with Danish Forestry Extension, DFE, Himalayan Bio Trade Pvt. Ltd, HBTL, Skovyderne, and Biosynergy, Denmark is working towards contributing to climate change adaptation and mitigation through responsible use of natural resources that promotes environmental, economic, and social resilience in Nepal in Nawalparasi District. The second phase of the program was launched on March 2017 which aims in reducing the vulnerability to climate change by supporting local business development focussed on forest land management and renewable initiatives. The project will work with 10 community forests of Nawalparasi district. To strengthen the women, ten women groups were formed from 10 community forests of Nawalparasi district. These women groups will be mobilized as cultivation groups who will be responsible for cultivation of Lemongrass, Citronella and Palamarosa, cash crops such as Kachur (Wild Turmeric), Ashwagandha, Broom grass and Bamboo and for the plantation of Patchouli, multipurpose species and fodder species.



HIGH ALTITUDE WET LAND INVENTORY

WCN successfully completed a high altitude wetland baseline study in Parbati Kunda which was initiated in 2016. The wetland is located near Gatlang, Rasuwa which is a major water source for Gatlang Village. Recently WCN team members visited the lake area to study the seasonal changes and also to create awareness to the local community of Gatlang Village about the conservation of Parbati Kunda. The team also conducted classes to school students where they were taught about biodiversity assessment and measuring water quality.



WORKSHOP ON TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WCN NPP is currently working with National Center For Education Development, NCED, on developing a training material for Teachers' Professional Development training package for Health Population and Environment subject teachers. A finalization workshop was held on June 16-17, 2017 where training contents were presented, discussed and finalized. The workshop was attended by respective teachers, specialists and representative of NCED and facilitated by Mr. Baudha Raj Niraula, Deputy Director, NCED.



REVIEW AND EVALUATION WORKSHOP

WCN NPP designed and developed the Local Curriculum on Environment Conservation Education with Jhuwani Resource Center, Chitwan and Shyamewangfel Resource Center, Rasuwa. The curriculum are being implemented in the schools under both the resource centers since 2012. Two workshops were held separately at Jhuwani Resource Center, Chitwan and Shyamewangfel Resource center, Rasuwa to review and evaluate the Local Curriculum on Environment Conservation Education for Classes 4 and 5. The workshop was chaired by Mr. Sukhdev Sapkota, District Education Officer (DEO), Rasuwa and Mr. Govinda Prasad Aryal, DEO, Chitwan.



TEACHERS TRAINING ON INTERACTIVE EDUCATION

As a part of WCN's Nepal Prakriti Pathshala's Eco Smart School Program, a two day teachers training was conducted in Sunrise Boarding School, Chapali, Budhanilkantha on interactive outdoor education on January 16-17, 2017. The training was focused on how to make our teaching more engaging and meaningful for students and educators inside and outside classrooms. The Training is the first of its series for the member Eco-Smart Schools.



LET'S LEARN ABOUT DECOMPOSERS "CREEPY CRAWLIES"



For the first time WCN's NPP introduced its 5 Years - 5 Stars Eco-Smart School Certification Program at Bina's Keta Keta Bari; Montessori based kindergarden school in Kathmandu. WCN/NPP will be working on waste management theme for the academic session 2017-2018 with the pre school students. On June 29, 2017 Nepal Prakriti Pathsala (NPP) kicked off its Eco Smart Certification Program at Bina's Keta Keta Bari. The introductory session was on decomposers "Creepy Crawlies" that help us clean our environment. The children learnt about different Creepy Crawlies such as Earthworm, Snail, Slug, Ants, Millipede, Termite and their role in the environment.

WCN is looking forward to its first collaboration with the Pre School.



ECO-SMART SCHOOL CORNER

Vermicomposting at home : Children take back home what they learn at school. Sarina of Creative Academy practice vermicomposting at home under "child to hometocommunity" model.Letsbepartofthesolution!



Know about your waste : Students of Grade 4 and Grade 5, together 194 students of Triyog High School learning about waste management and are working towards managing their waste in school.



Students learnt different methods in understanding the waste. A waste audit of the school was conducted by the students. The results of the waste audit was computed and presented in a 3 D model using different waste materials.



ECO-TEACHERS



WCN NPP conducted an award distribution ceremony to the teachers who have been successful in completing their assigned task to become the Eco-Teacher. During the program six teachers; Mr. Hemraj Bhattarai, Mahendra Adarsha Higher Secondary School, Lalitpur, Mr. Dambaru Prasad Pokhrel, Adarsha Higher Secondary School, Kathmandu, Ms. Rabina Maharjan, Saraswati Niketan Secondary School, Mr. Eswar Kumar Ghimire, Shree Padma Higher Secondary School, Bhaktapur, Mr. Navin Singh Dhimi, Gupteswar Secondary School, Nallu, Lalitpur, Ms. Chandreshwari Singh Maharjan, Jansewa Higher Secondary School were awarded with the title Eco-Teacher for successfully completing their assigned task to become the Eco Teacher. The above mentioned teachers attended the three days training at Kathmandu on February 2016 jointly organized by NCED and WCN. The teachers have created their local network and have been actively involved in implementing various hands on activities while teaching environment science in their schools. The Fifth National Teachers Training was conducted from March 7-9, 2017 where 70 teachers from six districts (Acham, Doti, Baitadi, Bajura, Dadeldhura and Kailali) participated. So far 317 teachers from all across Nepal have participated in the training since December 2015 and are actively involved in implementing hands on activities for environment education in their respective schools.

TOT ON JAM MAKING



WCN attended a 10 day TOT on Jam Making from Ms. Corinne Lavabre in cooperation with Planete Urgence. The training was attended by WCN staffs and a representative from the women group of Karunabhumi Community Forest , KCF, Makwanpur. The training focused on jam making, its storage, tasting and hygiene. During our baseline study in KCF, Makwanpur it was found that most of the plums go into waste since it could not find a market. WCN is working towards creating a viable solution for fruit wastage by developing different alternative option.

22 WILDLIFE WEEK CELEBRATION

Twenty second wildlife week led by Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation was being celebrated across Nepal with various activities from Baishak 1-7, 2074. (April 14 - 20, 2017). As a part of the celebration WCN and Natural History Museum also hosted a talk program entitled "Contemporary knowledge on Wildlife Species, 2017" at Natural History Museum on April 18, 2017. The talk program featured distinguished speakers Mr. Laxman Paudel from Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Dr. Nirmala Joshi from Department of Plant Resources, Mr. Damber Bandari from Department of Forest and Prof. Dr. Bhaiya Khanal and Prof Dr. Nirmala Pradhan from Natural History Museum spoke on various themes under CITES implementation in Nepal. The Talk program was attended by conservation stakeholders and students.



CONTEMPORARY KNOWLEDGE 2017 - SERIES II

The second series of contemporary knowledge took place on January 6, 2017 which focused on Bengal Florican and Mistletoe. Dr. Narendra Babu Pradhan, CEO, Bird Conservation Nepal, spoke about the challenges and opportunities of Bengal Florican conservation while Dr. Mohan Devkota, Associate Professor from Tribhuvan University highlighted the significance of Mistletoe and its conservation. Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, CEO, WCN spoke about protecting wildlife and what next. This series was organized by WCN in cooperation with EGH and Resources Himalaya Foundation

ECOTOURISM COOKING AND HOSPITALITY TRAINING



WCN with the support of SOS Malta organized a 10 day training on Eco Tourism, Cooking and Hospitality where 9 participants from Gatlang Village, Rasuwa participated. The training was organized to strengthen the capacity of the local community in Eco Tourism of Gatlang. Gatlang Village is among the worst hit village during the April 2015 earthquake. Mr. Sandeep Khatri, Culinary Art Research and Developer, Chef, Writer and Hospitality Project Consultant, Mr. Alok Das, Ecotourism and Homestay Expert and Mr. Sunil Sharma, Director, Nepal Tourism Board were amongst the Experts who facilitated the training while the participants learnt about cooking and culinary skills in Agaman Hotel Training Center.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT 2017



Students of Golden Gate International College participating in the Volunteer Recruitment Program on June 9, 2017.

EXPERIENCE SHARING PROGRAM

On June 20, 2017, WCN intern and Luce scholar Ms. Jessie Moravek, presented an update to the WCN's research study on Parvati Kunda, Rasuwa that she has been playing a major role in. She also shared her experiences of her stay at WCN. Present during the event were WCN Chair and Board Members, representatives from The Asia Foundation, students, volunteers and representative from Gatlang VDC, Rasuwa. The event was organized on the successful completion of her year long internship program at WCN through The Asia Foundation. Ms. Moravek is a US Citizen and a Luce Fellow 2016 of the Henry Luce Foundation.



A Species Protected is a Heritage Maintained - WCN

Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN)

PO Box: 13781

Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: 977 01 4289818

Email: mail@wcn.org.np

Log on to www.wcn.org.np for news, updates and information on conservation issues.