

WCN NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND

On April 25 and May 12, 2015 earthquake of magnitude 7.6 and 6.8 richter scale struck Nepal with Gorkha and Dolakha districts as epicenter. Over 8,790 people died, 22,300 injured and many infrastructures and houses were lost in this mega earthquake. In order to support community hard hit by the earthquake, Wildlife Conservation Nepal established an Earthquake relief fund and commenced various relief activities to meet the crisis.

The relief activity was based on three strategic approaches.

- 1. Immediate Relief** - Provide essential materials such as tents, medicine, food, clean water
- 2. Midterm Relief** - Building Temporary Learning Center.
- 3. Long term preparedness**
 - Build community centers in schools for disaster preparedness which will stand against earthquakes. Support in infrastructure development, sanitation facilities and rain water harvesting to meet safe drinking water.
 - Provide scholarships for orphaned children hit by earthquake. These scholarships will support children till they graduate from high school.
 - Provide counselling to children who are traumatized by the earthquake ensuring that these children will lead normal life.

WCN focused its operation in four districts: Dhading, Rasuwa, Lalitpur and Kathmandu.

a. Dhading

WCN provided essential food supplies to 170 households in Chhatredeurali VDC, conducted a medical camp and distributed essential materials to women and children. WCN staff and volunteers along with friends supported the community in cleaning the rubble. WCN NPP team conducted interactive outdoor activity with the school students.

Similarly, in Jeewanpur, bamboo and galvanized tin roofs were distributed for temporary school construction. WCN is supporting four schools of Dhading.

b. Rasuwa

Basic food materials were provided to 2500 people of Gatlang VDC. Medical attention was also given to more than 100 patients in Laharepauwa VDC. Four medical practitioners with three nurses successfully organized the medical camp.

c. Lalitpur

Basic necessities for 110 infants and their mothers were distributed to Khokana, Lalitpur.

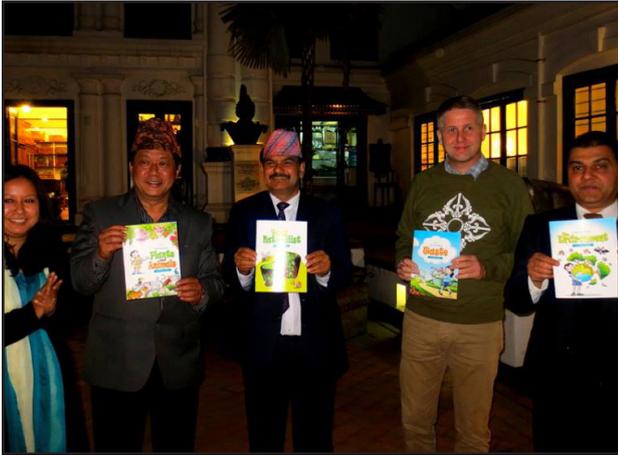
d. Kathmandu

WCN visited Trauma Centre at Bir Hospital and interacted with children affected by the Earthquake. The children despite of their pain participated in various activities like: painting, listening, stories, playing blocks and watching cartoons. WCN also supported children with full scholarship.



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LAUNCH OF FOUR (4) ACTIVITY GUIDE BOOKS



WCN Nepal Prakriti Pathshala (NPP) has launched four Activity Guide Books – “The Environment”, “Plants and Animals”, “Young Naturalist” and “Waste” with an aim to provide teachers of Grades V – VIII with tools to make the learning about our environment fun and interesting .

The activity Guide books are developed to help teachers encourage their students explore the natural world and help them to understand how each of us play a significant role in defining it. The books contain lessons, which are simple and easy to do and encourage students to utilize observation skills, problem-solving skills and develop analytical thinking.

The books has been tested and improved by NPP over many sessions with Teachers, Nature Interpreters an Environment Educators of Nepal and Denmark.

The Books were launched amidst a gathering on March 16, 2015 by Mr. Diwakar Dhungel, Executive Director, Curriculum Development Center, Mr. Tek Narayan Pandey, Director, Department of Education, Mr. Flemming Sehested, Managing Director, Danish Forestry Extension and Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, CEO, WCN.

TOOLBOX DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



WCN is developing Activity Tool Boxes for Teachers based on the manuals developed by Nepal Prakriti Pathshala. These Tool Boxes will include meaningful teaching aids and materials that will help the teachers make teaching more hands on and interactive. Thus, to develop a wholesome Teaching Tool Box, Activity Tool Box Development Workshops were conducted in Kathmandu, Rasuwa on February 20 and 27 and in Chitwan on May 20, 2015.

WCN NPP EDUCATION PROGRAM



WCN NPP had been conducting weekly classes at Shuvatara School on Environment Education for grade V students. To display the work of students an exhibition was organized that included vermicomposting model, reused products, recycled paper, etc. Student prepared all these during the weekly WCN classes in Shuvatara School.

MTOT ON HANDS-ON APPROACH IN ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION



WCN NPP conducted a two day Master Training of Trainers (MTOT) to the Training Instructors of 11 Education Training Center under National Center for Education Development (NCED), Ministry of Education at NCED training Hall (April 12 - 13, 2015). A total of 12 training instructors from Dang, Dipayal, Surkhet, Dhanusha, Chitwan, Kathmandu, Tanahu, Gorkha, Kavre, Nuwakot and Sunsari participated in the training. The objective of the training was to familiarize the instructors on WCN NPP's approach on hands on methodologies to environment education. Further, MTOT plans National Level Eco Teacher trainings to train atleast 1053 teachers from the resource centers of 5 development regions of Nepal.

The first day of training started with introduction on WCN NPP education program which later on proceeded with illustration on WCN NPP teaching methodologies on environment, biodiversity and waste by WCN Nature Interpreters. During the second half of the session the participant were divided into 4 groups for NPP activities, facilitated by two WCN Nature Interpreters in each group. The program concluded with group presentation and discussion on NPP hands on activities.

The second day of the training mainly focused on finalization of training packages and incorporation of the training component into formal training. Participants provided feedbacks on the improvement of the training packages. The program ended with certificate distribution and closing remarks by Mr. Khagaraj Baral, Executive Director, NCED.



WCN YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

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TRAINING ON BRIQUETTE MAKING



WCN conducted a two day training workshop on Briquette making from February 24-25, 2015 at Padampur Community Forest, Padampur, Chitwan. Forty Seven women from three women groups participated in the training program. Mr Mausam Khanal, trainer, provided the training on the methods of making the briquette and packaging. This training workshop is focused on producing briquettes using alien species like *Mikania micrantha*, *Eupatorium sp*, and other weeds that can be found in abundance inside the community forest and are causing a huge hindrance in the growth of the new saplings. Briquette making equipment was also handed over to the community after the training.



PSYCHOSOCIO SUPPORT TO ILLEGAL WILDLIFE INMATES

On June 19, 2015, 106 prisoners most of whom were detained due to wildlife crime cases were given special psychosocial support by Ms. Chetana Loksum and Dr. Chuda B. Shrestha at the Bharatpur Prison, Bharatpur. It was a one-day support outreach program at the prison. WCN senior project coordinator Ms. Ritu Gurung KC and field coordinator Mr. Mohan Bikram Shrestha personally interacted with the prisoners.

CARBON MANAGEMENT TRAINING



Two trainings were conducted to the Community Forest User Group (CFUG) Members of Chisapani Community Forest, Nawalparasi and Padampur Community Forest, Chitwan on Carbon Management from January 13 - 15, 2015. The objective of the training was to emphasize on the cause and effect of climate change and make them aware of pivotal role a community forest plays in minimizing climate change effect. WCN is working together with both the Community Forests on developing low cost community based innovative solutions to mitigate and adapt with climate change while creating viable local business solutions.

IUCN ONE PROGRAM CONCEPT APPROACH



WCN in collaboration with IUCN Nepal hosted an interaction meeting to discuss on IUCN One Program Concept Approach on February 6, 2015 at WCN office, Bafal. During the interaction program, WCN shared work experience on Illegal Wildlife Trade and Environment Education to all the IUCN intitutional members in Nepal. The meeting was attended by NEFEJ, SEARCH Nepal, ECCA, Save the Planet Nepal, APEC, NTNC, WE Nepal, Himalayan Nature and WCN.

WORLD WETLAND DAY 2015



World Wetland Day 2015 was celebrated worldwide on February 2, 2015. WCN also celebrated Wetland Day with an event at Sundarijal, Kathmandu with its conservation consortium partners, school students and the local communities. The theme for this year's wetland day celebration was "Wetland for our Future".

Wetland day was celebrated with the upstream cleaning campaign of the Bagmati River and ended with the formal closing program in which various distinguished experts on conservation highlighted the importance of wetlands for biodiversity conservation and their role on supporting livelihood of marginalized communities.

WILDLIFE WEEK 2072



Twentieth Wildlife Week themed "Wildlife for our Future" was celebrated in Nepal with various activities from Baishak 1st – 7th, 2072. About 150 bird watching enthusiasts participated in the bird watching program organized in Shivapuri National Park. Along with conservation stakeholder, students from different schools participated. An interaction program on protected area management and wildlife crime was also organized in Central Department of Environment Science. Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, CEO, WCN talked about Wildlife Crime while Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Under Secretary, DNPWC spoke about Protected Area Management.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2015



On June 5, 2015, WCN NPP celebrated World Environment Day 2015 with the students of ACE School with a series of outdoor activities on the theme "Butterfly". The students were taught about Butterfly and its importance on the environment. Every year first Saturday of June is also celebrated as Butterfly Education and Awareness Day (BEAD). A total of 54 students from grade I-VII participated in the education program. The program ended with the exhibition by the students. Ms. Sanjeevani Yonzon Shrestha, Program Manager, WCN and Ms. Milan KC, Principal of ACE school handed the certificates to the participants.

ECOSMART SCHOOLS PROGRAM



WCN through its education program NPP has successfully promoted environmental education and outdoor learning experience in numerous schools and in different parts of Nepal. As part of NPP program, WCN is now venturing in promoting greener and environmentally friendly schools through its Eco-Smart Schools Program.

The Eco-Smart Schools Program is a certification program designed by WCN under NPP. In order to be certified, the schools will participate in a set of hands-on environmental programs and year-round guidelines, assisted by a team of volunteers and professionals that will help them become an environmentally responsible model school. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the participating school and NPP/WCN will be signed for the Eco-Smart Schools Program to come into effect. This document will outline all major responsibilities and commitments for both parties.

The Eco-Smart Schools Program is guided by four important philosophies which must be fulfilled by the participating schools in order to receive the certification. After successfully completing the four cornerstones of the program for a year, the school will graduate as an Eco-Smart School. The foundations of the Program are:

1. Educate students and staff through outdoor learning
2. Commit to change & improve the school's practices to reduce the waste footprint
3. Innovate to improve the school's practices to reduce their waste footprints
4. Share the school's commitment and efforts with other schools and education centers.

Till date WCN/ NPP has signed MoU with John Dewey, ACE school, Creative Academy and Sunrise Boarding School. The cornerstone activities of the Eco Smart Schools Program are achieved by involving students from different grades. The Zero Waste School Program will however involve the entire school students, teaching and non-teaching staff for success.



WILDLIFE SEIZURES NEWS



Through the intelligence support from WCN, Nepal police seized a Red Panda skin, Palm Civet hide and Leopard skin from Dhalku, Kathmandu on April 1, 2015 and an Indian Flapshell Turtle from Bhandara, Chitwan on January 17, 2015. A total of six traders were arrested involved in the trade.

SEMINAR ON "WILDLIFE JUSTICE"



A seminar on "Wildlife Crime" was held at Nepal Judicial Academy, Hariharbhawan, Lalitpur on February 26, 2015. Former Chief Judge and personnel working on judicial sector attended the seminar. Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, CEO, WCN shared his experience and knowledge on wildlife trade and justice.

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Mangal Higher Secondary School



Evergreen School

WCN supported students hard hit by earthquake, seven (7) students from Mangal H.S. School, Kirtipur and eleven (11) students from Evergreen School, Sankhu with full annual scholarship.

WCN would like to thank all its friends and partners including SOS Malta, The Rufford Foundation, Danish Forestry Extension, NDRA, Run for Nepal, Priyanka Rana landoli and Liam landoli for their tremendous support during this time of crisis.



WCN NPP - Four Activity Guide Books

WILDLIFE TRAINING TO GRADUATES



Understanding the research gap in the field of wildlife conservation and enhancing the capacity of young graduates, Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) organized “Wildlife Training to the Graduates” from March 9 - 19, 2015 at Bardiya National Park. The training was supported by WCN along with other organizations like NTNC, WWF, BCN and RHF. The training was focused on three areas – innovative research and policy analysis, mentoring and capacity building of younger generation, and creating a platform for knowledge management and dissemination.



The first four days, intended for the theory classes, which accessed the varied wildlife topics from expertise in the field, Dr. Narendra Babu Pradhan, Dr. Tej Thapa, Dr. Jhamak B. Karki, Mr. Prasanna Yonzon, Dr. Puspa Acharya, Dr. Dinesh Bhaju. Mr. Robin Kadariya and Mr. Shailendra Yadav of NTNC – Bardia NP along with other NTNC field staffs and experts at National Park, facilitated practical classes and orientation. Practical session included birding, jungle walk, camera trapping technique, Bat trapping and handling, transect walk, turtle specimen identification and use of radio collaring. Practical session included birding, jungle walk, camera trapping technique, Bat trapping and handling, transect walk, turtle specimen identification and use of radio collaring.

APPRECIATION RECEIVED FROM CHISAPANI COMMUNITY FOREST



WCN in collaboration with its partner organization Danish Forestry Extension (DFE), Nordic Climate Facility (NCF) and Choudhary Biosys Nepal Private Limited (CBNL) have been supporting Chisapani Community Forest User Groups, Nawalparasi in developing community, based on local solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. During 12th General Assembly of Chisapani Community Forest, Bardaghat, Nawalparasi, held on February 12, 2015 WCN was presented with Token of Appreciation for the continuous support on sustainable Forest Management and Nursery Development.

A Species Protected is a Heritage Maintained - WCN

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