About IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world’s largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,300 Member organisations and some 16,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people’s well-being.

The IUCN Nepal Country Office was officially opened on 23 February 1995 in association with the Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal. Over the decades, IUCN Nepal has partnered with various government line agencies as well as non-governmental organizations to implement projects aimed at conserving Nepal’s biodiversity while ensuring improved and secure livelihoods for people.

Our Vision:
A just world that values and conserves nature

Our Mission:
To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world;
To conserve the integrity and diversity of nature; and,
To ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

Our Programme Objective:
To promote biodiversity conservation, environmental justice and sustainable livelihoods in Nepal

www.iucn.org/nepal

Cover: Phewa Lake Cluster, Pokhara, Nepal
Credit: Cover Photo, Racchya Shah, IUCN Nepal
Other Photos: IUCN Nepal
Contents

02 Partnerships for Change
04 Nepal by the Numbers
05 The IUCN Programme
06 Looking Forward: Building Back Better and Greener
07 Conserving Nepal’s Unique Natural Assets
10 Ensuring Fair and Just Use of Nature
12 Our Work in Nepal
14 Nature-Based Solutions
18 Moving Forward
19 Joining Hands for a Sustainable Future
21 IUCN Commissions
22 Our Partners in Nepal
24 Resource Centre

Abbreviations/ Acronyms
Nature has bestowed Nepal with incredible topography and floral and faunal diversities. However, due to increasing demand for physical infrastructures and settlements stemming mainly from rapidly growing human population, there has been significant encroachment in the natural habitats of both floral and faunal species. As development is indispensable to meet anthropological demands, it is imperative to ensure that it is sustainable in the long-run. The compromise, therefore, between development and nature conservation, would be to balance development with conservation through new innovations. At IUCN Nepal, we work to take new ideas in this regard and make them a reality.

Under our 2013-2016 Programmatic Framework, IUCN Nepal works in three thematic areas that intersect in all of our projects. These broad thematic areas are valuing and conserving nature, effective and equitable governance of nature’s use, and deploying nature based solutions to climate, food and development. IUCN Nepal’s current project portfolio and new and continuing partnerships reflect these broad themes in ways that are both contemporary and innovative. We have tried to provide in this review report our efforts and successes over the past year on these themes.

It must be noted that the successes outlined in this Annual Review could not have been possible without the extensive collaborations in Nepal and elsewhere that have been built by IUCN. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Government of Nepal, all of our Members, partners, associates and donors for their encouragement and support. We would like to urge all valued readers of this report to kindly suggest us for further improvements in the future.
IUCN is almost completing its 2013-2016 Programmatic Frameworks. As an international union, its new Programmatic Framework for 2017-20 will be approved by its members in the forthcoming World Conservation Congress that will be held in September 2016 in Hawaii. IUCN works under the principle that nature conservation and human progress are not mutually exclusive and believes that there should be a balance between development and nature conservation. Facing tremendous demand for development, oftentimes nature is overlooked. We as IUCN NNC members are striving to raise awareness of the communities and the concerned stakeholders to incorporate nature conservation into all development efforts. Along with the several changes that took place in the recent past in the country, conservation has also advanced in the arena of valuing nature, addressing climate change impacts through ecosystem-based adaptation, and enhancing productivity of the environment to support human well-being.

The IUCN Nepal country office serves as a secretariat of IUCN Nepal National Committee. As of 2016, there are 19 IUCN Members and 6 Commissions in Nepal representing the government, INGO and NGO sectors. IUCN Nepal works closely with all its members and over the years has actively participated and contributed to the efforts on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources put in by all its members, which in turn has contributed not only in conserving Nepal's biodiversity but also in improving and securing livelihoods over the past decades. The newly promulgated Constitution of Nepal 2015 has guaranteed “every citizen the right to live in a clean and healthy environment”. It has adopted the policy of conservation; promotion and sustainable use of natural resources. It has clearly indicated that nature conservation will get more impetus in the years to come. There are, therefore, definitely exciting events to look forward to in the coming years from the IUCN Network as well.

As the chair of the Nepal National Committee of IUCN Members, I feel greatly honoured to opine that this union will continue to serve as a NNC Members’ platform to move forward in valuing and conserving nature, deploying nature-based solutions to development needs and achieving effective and equitable governance of nature’s use. Finally, I would like to urge everyone to contribute to conserve Mother Nature and her creation.

Yogendra Chitrakar
Chairperson
IUCN Nepal National Committee
## Nepal by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td>Protected areas including 10 National parks, 3 wildlife reserves, 1 hunting reserve, and 6 conservation areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>23.2%</strong></td>
<td>23.2% of the total land area of Nepal is protected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>5 physiographic zones, including High Himal (23%), High Mountains (19%), Middle Mountains (29%), Siwalik (15%) and Terai (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>Ramsar sites (4 in the High Himal, 2 in the Middle Mountain and 4 in Terai region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>44.7%</strong></td>
<td>44.7% of the country is forested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>118</strong></td>
<td>Identified ecosystem types (38 in High Himal, 52 in high hills and Middle Mountain, and 28 in Siwalik-Chure and plain/Terai), of which 80 ecosystem types are in protected areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.3%</strong></td>
<td>9.3% of birds (874 species) are found in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>World Heritage Sites are in Nepal, of which two are natural and eight are cultural World Heritage Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4%</strong></td>
<td>4% of butterfly species are found in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>18,133</strong></td>
<td>Community forest user groups are managing 1,700,048 hectares of forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>68%</strong></td>
<td>68% of the energy in Nepal comes from fuel wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.3%</strong></td>
<td>9.3% of birds (874 species) are found in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.6%</strong></td>
<td>1.6% of reptiles species are found in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1%</strong></td>
<td>1% of amphibians and fresh water species are found in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>145th</strong></td>
<td>145th of 187 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI) in 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Environment Statistics of Nepal (CBS, 2014) and including updates*
IUCN is one of the leading providers of biodiversity knowledge, tools and standards used to influence policy, undertake conservation planning and guide action on the ground. As a Union, IUCN brings together the key actors at all levels.

IUCN Global Programme Framework 2013-2016 was endorsed by the World Conservation Congress, the global meeting of all IUCN Members, held in September 2012 in Jeju, South Korea.

The IUCN Nepal 2013-2016 Programme Framework addresses Nepal’s specific environmental and development needs. The Programme aims to mobilise communities working for biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and poverty reduction, work towards halting biodiversity loss and applying nature-based solutions to conserve biodiversity and enhance resilience, strengthen equity and reduce poverty, consequently improving the wellbeing of the Nepalese people. The Programme Areas include:

- **Valuing and Conserving Nature**, which enhances IUCN’s heartland, work on biodiversity conservation, emphasizing both tangible and intangible values of nature.

- **Effective and Equitable Governance of Nature’s Use**, which consolidates IUCN’s work on people-nature relations, rights and responsibilities, and the political economy of nature.

- **Deploying Nature-based Solutions to Global Challenges in Climate, Food and Development**, which expands IUCN’s work on nature’s contribution to tackling problems of sustainable development, particularly in climate change, food security and social and economic development.

The ultimate aim of IUCN’s Programme is to achieve impact on the ground in the form of biodiversity conservation and use of nature-based solutions for the benefit of people and nature. IUCN Nepal achieves results by influencing policies and institutions at all levels. It works closely with Institutional and Commission Members and other partners operating at national, sub-national and community levels, and draws on its extensive regional and global networks of its Membership.

This report provides an update on progress in Nepal on each of the three Programme Areas.
Looking Forward: Building back Better, and Greener

While two decades have now passed since IUCN officially established a country office in Nepal in 1995, during which time many achievements were made, 2015 marked a year during which many people collectively realised the importance of looking forward. On 25 April, 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal, devastating both the built and natural environment, taking the lives of over 8,500 people and impacting tens of thousands of others. On May 12th a second earthquake (and hundreds of tremors) further devastated Nepal and shifted the focus of organizations, the government and donors. What has been recognised since this time is not only what it means to be resilient – realizing the imperative need to build back better, and greener – but also what it means to endure. Things have not become much easier, and change is slow to come. Still, Nepal moves forward. During those trying times, IUCN immediately donated funds to the Patan Academy of Health Services for emergency medical equipment for Patan Hospital. This was followed by the initiation of an earthquake relief fund, working with community members in some of the most affected districts to assess damage and meet immediate needs.

It is through long-term partnerships that Nepal will be carried into the future to rebuild better. IUCN helped to ensure lasting change by contributing to the strategic rehabilitation document of the Government of Nepal.

At IUCN, it is believed that as the nation moves forward, new solutions can emerge from existing evidence so that the endurance tested from this travesty will not be in vein. IUCN has paved many paths in conservation work and nature-based solutions in the past. Looking forward, these same ideas can continue to transform lives and protect the natural world. Whether it is looking at Eco – disaster risk reduction techniques, or helping people become resilient through ecosystem based adaptations, there are many ways in which new possibilities can be envisioned, and how help can be given to the people and nature that has been devastated by these tragic natural events. Indeed, within Nepal’s new Constitution, it is stated that every citizen shall have the right to live in a clean and healthy environment. This, among other things, guides us into a new future.

Nature Conservation National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (NCNSFSD) 2015-2030

The framework intends to promote nature responsive development and thereby contribute to achieving the sustainable development goals. The framework serves as an umbrella strategic framework to guide sectoral agencies on nature-responsive development along with improving accountability on nature conservation. The framework has five strategic pillars: 1) Mainstream nature conservation in development efforts, 2) Harmonize sectoral policies and strategies, 3) Strengthen coordination among sectoral bodies, 4) Valuing and accounting ecosystem goods and services on investment decision, and 5) Improving accountability on conservation.

The Government of Nepal will implement the framework through a short-term implementation plan (1-3 years), mid-term implementation plan (4-8 years) and long-term implementation plan (9-15 years) during the period of 2015-2030. Different coordination committees have also been formed in the central, district and community level to ensure implementation of the framework in an effective manner.
Helping Nepal’s government and communities protect and manage biodiversity is IUCN’s main area of expertise. In Nepal - where 75 percent of people directly depend on natural resources for their survival - pressures on the natural environment are particularly intense and rates of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation are increasing. In 2015, IUCN Nepal has worked on a number of initiatives designed to slow this loss while also ensuring benefits to local communities.

International Knowledge Sharing

Held once every four years, the IUCN World Conservation Congress brings together thousands of leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, indigenous peoples, business, and academia, with the goal of conserving the environment and harnessing the solutions nature offers to global challenges. The Congress aims to improve how we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development, but this cannot be achieved by conservationists alone. The IUCN Congress is the place to put aside differences and work together to create good environmental governance, engaging all parts of society to share both the responsibilities and the benefits of conservation.

At the Congress, IUCN’s more than 1,300 Member organisations exercise their rights, influence the global conservation agenda and guide IUCN’s work plan for the four years to follow. The next Congress will take place 1-10 September, 2016 in the Hawai’i Convention Center, in the Hawaiian capital, Honolulu.
Furthermore, 2015 was an important year for global cooperation. In 2015, the 2015 Paris Climate Conference, also known as COP21, will, for the first time in over 20 years of UN negotiations, aim to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2 degrees Celsius. Lessons learned from the Nepal context during the implementation of the global “Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystems (EbA)” project was shared at a side event of the conference. The platform which EbA provides will be critical in addressing a variety of problems, not only in mountainous regions such as Nepal, but in all parts of the world which are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the direct impacts of climate change.

Within the region, IUCN works to ensure the commitment of Governments and NGOs in conserving nature at various levels. In 2015, the fifth Regional Steering Committee meeting for the South Asia Vulture Recovery Programme was held in Nepal, chaired both by the IUCN Regional Director of the Asia Regional Office as well as the Secretary of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. This event complimented the Saving Asia’s Vultures from Extinction (SAVE) annual meeting.

Similar regional efforts were also coordinated, such as the IUCN Regional Conservation Forum held in September of 2015 in Bangkok Thailand. This provided an opportunity for all IUCN members in the Asia Region to come together in order to provide input on the joint programme of action for addressing Asia’s conservation challenges over the next four years. This event brings people together to solve transboundary issues, layout priority areas for conservation of species and landscapes and for sharing best practices.

Supporting National Commitments

Guiding the Government of Nepal (GoN) in developing comprehensive environmental policy and management plans is a specialization of IUCN Nepal. Most recently, IUCN Nepal has supported GoN in developing the Nature Conservation National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development 2015-2030 (NCNSFSD), which will integrate nature conservation across sectoral plans and policies to promote sustainable development. The NCNSFSD document was approved by the GoN in July 2015 and in December of 2015, NCNSFSD was formally endorsed. This document paved the way to better ensure that the rapid development of Nepal considers the needs of the natural environment, as the country works to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and graduate from a Least Developed Country by 2022.

In addition to the success of this initiative, the Ministry of Forestry and Soil Conservation requested that IUCN Nepal help implement the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) 2014-2020, especially in management of the country’s natural resources and in the updating of the IUCN National Red-List of Endemic Species. With the support of IUCN, the Government of Nepal (GoN) will be guided in implementing national commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and will strengthen systems of governance of nature as a whole.

Protecting Vital Habitats

The well-being of people all over the world depends on the various goods and services provided by ecosystems. However, ecosystems are under increasing pressure from unsustainable use and other threats including outright conversion. In 2015, IUCN worked to improve livelihoods and enhance biodiversity restoration and management of the Jagadishpur Ramsar site of Kapilvastu district by mobilizing grassroots-level organizations as well as local household members who are directly dependent on the wetland resources for their livelihoods. This involves supporting income-generating activities and income diversification for local people, and gaining community support and assistance in promoting eco-tourism, establishing a ‘green belt’ of trees, shrubs and grass to aid habitat

“We must ensure the nature responsiveness for sustainable development. We cannot separate nature from development.”

- Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada, Vice-chairman of the National Planning Commission
restoration. Overall, local government offices and communities’ will increase their capacity in order to ensure sustained conservation of the Ramsar site, as well as ensure the equitable sharing of benefits among all relevant stakeholders. Information will be gathered throughout the life of the project and after its completion to expand the knowledge base of this Ramsar site, informing future conservation interventions and monitoring efforts.

Furthermore, IUCN worked in close collaboration with Bird Conservation Nepal to conduct ornithological research in the Panchase region of Nepal and based on the research findings, BCN proposed the Panchase region as an Important Bird Area (IBA), helping better ensure the continued conservation of many bird species. To help conserve several endangered vulture species, IUCN and BCN worked to declare Diclofenac free zones (an antibiotic commonly given to cattle which is toxic to the bird species), vulture feeding sites and providing policy guidance.

In addition, in 2015 IUCN began working within the Karnali-Mohana Watershed in Kailali District in order to enhance conservation of the endemic and endangered Ganges river dolphin (*Platanista Gangetica*) through the engagement of local, socio-economically marginalised groups of students and fishing communities in citizen science-based data collection using a tailored mobile phone application and livelihood enhancement and diversification for local fishers. Data collected using the app will be used as a baseline for further species and aquatic ecosystem conservation in the Karnali-Mohana river system. Furthermore, by capacitating young conservationists the future generation of fishers in the region, further conservation is better ensured.

Overall, by bringing stakeholders and the Government of Nepal together, IUCN has worked to help ensure that future conservation is coordinated and that action is taken swiftly.
Improved governance over natural resources and their management strengthens rights and delivers equitable conservation with tangible human benefits. In 2015, IUCN Nepal has worked to develop processes, initiatives and policies that ensure that local communities – and in particular, marginalised members of those communities – have access to and receive benefits from natural resources.

**Sustainable enterprise development for livelihood enhancement**

In partnership with FAO, Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and the World Bank, IUCN has continued to engage local producer organizations in livelihood enhancing agricultural and forest resource management practices and has been developing market linkages for those products. Through the global Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) programme, IUCN has used the Market Analysis and Development (MA&D) approach to inspire local producers to imagine and implement sustainable businesses. Additionally, in 2015 IUCN worked to administer small grants to qualified candidates in order to further develop
the forest and farm production sector. By working with small producer groups which are most often comprised of women and disadvantaged groups, many people have been given the opportunity to generate income through the development of products from forest materials. By establishing this incentive for maintaining a supply of materials, the progress made towards conservation of these resources will be better sustained into the future.

Furthermore, in 2015 IUCN worked to enhance the livelihoods of fishers and others near the Jagadishpur Ramsar Site. By providing opportunities for alternative livelihoods through activities such as fish farming and organic farming less stress is put upon the Ramsar site, further promoting the overall ecological integrity of the area. A steady stream of revenue through a new system to capitalize upon the Ramsar site in a sustainable manner through ecotourism provides new forms of income and better incentives for further conservation of the area.

Promoting gender integration

The Government of Nepal, Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) is in the process of reviewing and approving the Climate Change Gender Strategy and Action Plan (CCGSAP), which was prepared with technical support from IUCN and funding from the Government of Finland through Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA). The document seeks to mainstream gender in climate change action as outlined in the Climate Change Policy of Nepal. Six priority sectors are identified in the CCGSAP (Agriculture and Food Security, Forest and REDD, Water, Energy, Health, and Urbanization).

In addition, IUCN gave the priority for gender consideration in all the project activities such as in participation, implementation and benefit sharing aspects.
Our Work in Nepal

**Developing a Model of Green Municipality**
Integrating solid waste management with natural resource management to build the foundations for healthy urban communities and environment

Project Duration: January 2014 to December 2017

Project Site: Panauti Municipality, Kavrepalanchok District, Central Development Region

**Enhancing Livelihoods & Food Security from Agroforestry and Community Forestry (EnLift)**
Revitalizing abandoned land for livelihood and the environment

Project Duration: April 2013 to March 2018

Project Site: Kavrepalanchok, Lamjung, Sindhupalchok and Kaski Districts, Central and Western Development Regions

**Up-scaling the Production and Consumption of Bio-energy to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Enhance Local Employment (Bio-energy)**
Reducing carbon emissions and enhancing local employment

January 2014 to December 2017

Project Site: 16 Districts in Central, Mid-Western and Far Western Development Regions (Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Nuwakot, Dhading, Kavrepalanchok, Sindhupalchok, Chitwan, Bara, Makawanpur, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali and Kanchanpur)

**Wetlands For Our Future**
Improving livelihoods and enhancing biodiversity through participatory restoration and management of Jagadishpur Ramsar Site in Nepal

Project Duration: January 2015 to December 2016

Project Site: Jagadishpur Ramsar Site, Western Development Region (Kapilvastu District)

**Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Adaptation**
Strengthening the evidence and informing policy (EbA)

Project Duration: November 2015 to July 2019
Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Mountain Ecosystems
A global initiative to enhance resilience in mountain ecosystem and communities
Project Duration: January 2011 to December 2015
Project Site: Panchase Area, Western Development Region (Kaski, Parbat and Syangja Districts)

Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities (EPIC)
Working together to find nature-based solutions
Project Duration: September 2012 to August 2017
Project Site: Kaski, Parbat and Syangja Districts, Western Development Region

Forest and Farm Facility (FFF)
A multi-stakeholder approach to improve livelihoods and decision making on forest and farm landscapes of the smallholders, communities and indigenous people’s producer organizations
Programme Duration: January 2014 to December 2016
Programme Sites: Kavrepalanchok and Nawalparasi Districts, Central and Western Development Regions

Nature Conservation National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (NCNSFSD)
Renewing and revitalizing the direction for nature conservation in Nepal for sustainable development

Saving the Ganges River Dolphin
Engaging citizen-scientists and trans-boundary policy-makers in the conservation of the endangered Ganges River Dolphin (Plantanista gangetica)
Project Duration: November 2015 to October 2016
Project Site: Kailali District, Far Western Development Region

Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Adaptation
Strengthening the evidence and informing policy (EbA) activities
Project Duration: November 2015 to July 2019
A core focus of IUCN’s current programme is exploring the ways in which nature itself can provide solutions to our development challenges -- enabling societies to adapt to climate change, manage food, water and energy needs, and to reduce risks and impacts of disasters. In Nepal, this ranges from actively promoting resilient and diversified livelihoods to exploring ways to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

**Ecosystem based Adaptation strategies**

As a nation, Nepal faces challenges of unstable land and flooding. It is important to be adaptive to these challenges. This proved especially true in 2015, as the earthquake which struck Nepal on April 25th destabilised large areas of land, leading to devastating landslides. IUCN has continued to work on establishing bioengineering demonstration sites which address the concept of Eco DRR. The “Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities (EPIC): Living with Nature to Avert Future Disaster” project began in 2012 and has since continued in Kaski, Parbat and Syangja districts of Western Nepal. This project worked to integrate the concept of Eco DRR and Bioengineering into the Forestry Sector Strategy, sharing best practices such as planting stabilizing grass species into sloped ridges, managing water along roadways to prevent erosion, and many other innovative techniques that have been adopted and internalised by the local demonstration communities. Lessons have also been shared at the IUCN Asia Regional Conservation Forum and other forums, and an Eco-DRR Handbook has been developed and disseminated to other stakeholders who can use the lessons learned so that such approaches can be widely implemented.

IUCN also continued its work in a global program i.e. Ecosystem based Adaptation program which aims to help manage ecosystems and
ecosystem services, reducing the vulnerability of communities to the impacts of climate change. This Ecosystems based Adaptation (EbA) project has been implemented in the Panchase Area of Syangja, Parbat and Kaski districts. As the project has been in action since 2011, project partners have conducted several field activities aimed at restoring the ecosystem of the Panchase region. Some activities addressed direct ecosystem restoration, such as restoring forests, planting broom grass, restoring natural water springs, restoring water ponds, restoring community farms, controlling invasive species, conservation of indigenous species, promotion of bioengineering and many other approaches, while other activities worked for enhance the resilience of ecosystem and directly or indirectly to improve livelihoods in ecologically sensitive ways, such as promoting bee-keeping, organic farming, integrated soil nutrient management system, bio gas promotion, improved smokeless cook-stove promotion, establishment of an information center, promotion of eco-tourism, sensitization to eco club members, school teachers, mothers groups and other

“To make a cup of tea, I would have to bear a lot of hassles - from collecting fuel wood to wasting too much time in the kitchen room. After I installed a biogas stove, I stopped going to jungle for fuel wood and it is also well preserved now.”

- Pushpa Gurung, a housewife in Damdame village of Kaski district of Western Nepal.
village level local leaders on the issue of climate change, vulnerability impact assessment as well as Ecosystem based Adaptation and waste management. All of these initiatives aim to link the lowland and high Himalayas of the Annapurna Himalaya range with its characteristically rich natural and socio-cultural values.

In 2015, the EbA project worked to encapsulate much of the progress that had been made and to better understand the Panchase area ecosystem through studies, such as mapping the region’s freshwater ecosystems, landslides and adaptation measures as well as conducting an ornithological study of the area. Knowledge gained through these and other studies feed back into conservation education as well as planning for the area. Building capacity of local communities to protect ecosystems is also pivotal and is accomplished through activities such as promoting improved dish washing stations and improved livestock sheds, creating garbage pits, and developing plans for solid waste management.

**Enhancing livelihoods and food security**

In Nepal, more than three-fourths of the workforce is engaged in agriculture. However, many parts of the country are still food insecure, and the sector’s contribution to Nepal’s GDP has been steadily declining.

IUCN has been working to combat these issues in order to improve the quality and sustainability of rural livelihoods under the project “Enhancing livelihoods and food security from agroforestry and community forestry in Nepal (EnLIFT)”, which has been implemented since 2013 and is funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). In 2015, the project continued to expand upon its Action Research base, working in the thematic groups related to community forestry, agroforestry, and underutilised land. By having a basis of understanding the dynamics and drivers of change, future planning can occur. Innovative means of engaging decision-makers and stakeholders, such as organizing Policy Labs, speeds up the integration of lessons which have been learned so they may translate into practical action for the improvement of livelihoods. This high-level work is done concomitantly with field level activities related to silviculture, agroforestry, training, and business plan development. As a whole, IUCN works to maintain an un-biased perspective, seeking solutions through greater understanding and coordination.

“Members of our group gain knowledge in business development planning, market analysis and development, technical and policy advocacy from the training conducted by the FFF programme.”

- Amrika Tharuni, member of the Srijana Babiyo Rope Micro Entrepreneurs Group, Nawalparasi
Reducing carbon emissions

Reducing carbon emissions must be done through a multi-faceted approach. Recognizing this fact, IUCN works in several ways in order to reduce total carbon emissions. Worldwide, deforestation can account for between 18%-25% of total greenhouse gas emissions. In 2015, IUCN strengthened community forestry through several channels, such as through the promotion of land utilisation, alternative forestry techniques, business development, and sustainable consumption.

In 2015 IUCN has continued to implement the “Up-scaling Production and Consumption of Bio-energy to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Enhance Local Employment” project which aims to contribute significantly to sustain the production and supply chain of bio-energy. This has the dual goals of decreasing carbon emissions and increasing enterprise and business potential. Through the promotion of green businesses, such as charcoal production, IUCN was able to link incentives, such as income generation, with ecologically sound outcomes.

Integrating solid waste management with natural resource management

In many municipalities in Nepal, the evolution of systems for solid waste management have been slow to adapt to growing population sizes, often having adverse impacts on the environment and human health. In 2015, IUCN continued to implement a project in Panauti Municipality to address this issue through nature-based solutions. The project aims to demonstrate a way for integrating solid waste management and natural resource management for improved waste as well as environmental management, taking into account the biodiversity, aesthetic, historic and cultural factors while developing a model of green municipality. A green belt has been developed in the town along the roadside, temple, river and cultural heritage sites, and local governing bodies have been trained to implement sustainable management practices.
Since its beginnings, IUCN Nepal has endeavored to contribute to the conservation of Nepal’s natural resources through synergies with Members, Commissions, secretariat and partners, delivering significant policy achievements and research results.

In addition, IUCN Nepal will increasingly focus on implementing IUCN Global’s ‘One Programme Concept,’ which aims to promote collaborations among IUCN’s State, government and NGO Members of the union, with the vision to conserve and enhance Nepal’s valuable biodiversity and improve the management of natural resources and enhance the livelihoods of the local communities.

**Forthcoming projects**

IUCN always works to be both innovative in its focus and approach – adapting to ever-changing needs for the conservation of natural resources in Nepal – while still maintaining a vision based on the institution’s core strengths. As such, there are several exciting programmes that IUCN will undertake in the near future.

IUCN will work to support the development of a common methodology to conduct research on project sites to make a better case for EbA, integrating the principles into national climate adaptation policy and planning processes through advocacy, institutional strengthening and community-based learning. In addition to these climate change adaptation programmes, IUCN will work in collaboration with the European Union to hold a seminar on approaches to adaptation, bringing together experts and journalists from around the South Asian region to discuss different perspectives and approaches.

Moving forward, IUCN’s core programming will look specifically to assisting the Government of Nepal in the implementation of the recently developed NBSAP 2014-2020 and Nature Conservation National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development (NCNSFSD) 2015-2030, with particular focus on management planning and implementation and capacity building related to endangered species and wetland conservation. This broad approach will take shape in several ways. For example, IUCN will work with the international Ramsar Secretariat to declare the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley an official Ramsar site. This will bring international importance to the biodiversity and habitat of the lake cluster, providing a solid ground for future conservation planning and activities in the area. IUCN will also provide guidance on future infrastructure developments, such as plans for development through Chitwan National Park, helping explain the impacts of such changes on wildlife.

Fostering connections globally, IUCN will play a key role in International World Wood Day 2016, bringing together wood enthusiasts and professionals from around the world.

Furthermore, IUCN envisions working with the Government of Nepal in the broad areas of IUCN’s expertise, such as biodiversity conservation and governance. By addressing areas which require improvement in Nepal, such as the implementation of stronger systems for Access and Benefit Sharing, as well as understanding trends of climate change and its impacts on biodiversity. Additionally, focusing on the better utilization of agricultural land will lead to greater food security and income generation for many populations. IUCN will pave a way for future innovations and long-lasting changes. IUCN’s core strength comes from its ability to collaborate with the Government of Nepal to better institutionalise change. Looking forward, IUCN hopes to help the Government of Nepal to tackle difficult problems, such as air pollution and environmental governance, as well as reconstructing areas of Nepal devastated by the 2015 earthquake in ways that are sustainable, safer, and more inclusive.
As part of enhancing IUCN in Nepal, the IUCN Nepal Country Office strengthens the links between the three groups of IUCN constituency: Institutional members, Commission members and other partners. This in turn strengthens the collective influence and effectiveness of the broader IUCN family to our shared common vision of environmental conservation and sustainable utilization of natural resources in Nepal.

There are 18 IUCN Members and 6 Commissions in Nepal representing the government, INGO and NGO sectors. IUCN Nepal works closely with its members, and over the years they have actively participated and contributed to the efforts on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in Nepal.

Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)
Babarmahal, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 860, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 4220850
Fax: +977 (1) 4227675
Email: info@dnpc.gov.np
URL: www.dnpwc.gov.np
Date Admitted: 1974

National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
Satdobato, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 3712, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 5526571
Fax: +977 (1) 5526570
Email: info@ntnc.org.np
URL: www.ntnc.org.np
Date Admitted: 1990

Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ)
Bhanimandal Ring-road, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 5143, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 5542245
Fax: +977 (1) 5532033
Email: nefej@mos.com.np
URL: www.nefej.org
Date Admitted: 1990

Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA)
Jwagal, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 9210, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 5553870
Fax: +977 (1) 5011006
Email: ecca@mos.com.np
URL: www.ecca.org.np
Date Admitted: 1991

Association for Protection of Environment and Culture (APEC)
Biratnagar, Morang
P.O. Box 222, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (021) 534223
HB Complex, Ekantakuna
Tel: +977 (01) 5000273
Email: apec@ntc.net.np
Date Admitted: 1996

Human Welfare and Environment Protection Centre (HWEPC)
Tribhuwanagar, Dang, Nepal
Tel: +977 (82) 560240
Fax: +977 (82) 560240
Email: hwepcdang@ntc.net.np
URL: www.hwepc.org.np
Date Admitted: 1998
Women in Environment (WE)
New Plaza, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 4494, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 4411303
Fax: +977 (1) 4415619
E-mail: we.nepal@gmail.com
URL: www.wenepal.org
Date Admitted: 1998

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
Khumaltar, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977(1) 5003222
Fax: +977(1) 5003299
E-mail: info@icimod.org
URL: www.icimod.org
Date admitted: 2001

Youth Awareness Environmental Forum (YAEF)
Badegaon, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 19355, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977(1) 5560782
Fax: +977(1) 5560782
Email: yaefast@gmail.com
URL: www.yaefnepal.org
Date Admitted: 2001

Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N)
Kumaripati, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 3628, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: + 977 (1) 5537556
Fax: + 977 (1) 5008537
E-mail: info@crtnepal.org
URL: www.crtnepal.org
Date Admitted: 2004

Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN)
Lazimpat, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 12465, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 4420213
Fax: +977 (1) 4413884
Email: bcn@birdlifenepal.org
URL: www.birdlifenepal.org
Date Admitted: 2004

Wildlife Watch Group (WWG)
Pulchowk, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 8975, EPC 696, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 (1) 5550452
Fax: +977 (1) 5011006
Email: wwg@citesnepal.org
URL: www.citesnepal.org
Date Admitted: 2007

Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN)
Bafal, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 20569, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977(1) 4289818
Fax: +977 (1) 4280562
Email: wcn@nct.net.np
URL: www.wcn.org.np
Date Admitted: 2010

Himalayan Nature
Lazimpat, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 10918, Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone: +977(1) 4423225
Fax:+977 (1) 4444527
Email: info@himalayannature.org
URL: www.himalayannature.org
Date Admitted: 2011

SAVE THE PLANET
mission 2020 NEPAL
Kumaripati, Lalitpur
P.O. Box 8975, EPC 5010, Kathmandu, Nepal
Cell: +977 9841334022
Email: info@savetheplanet.org.np
URL: www.savetheplanet.org.np
Date Admitted: 2012

SEARCH Nepal
Chhauni Hospital Road, Swoyambhu
P.O. Box 4277, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977(1) 4271719
Fax: +977(1) 4271719
Email: search@wlink.com.np
URL: www.searchnepal.org
Date Admitted: 2012

Green Governance Nepal (GGN)
Babarmahal, Kathmandu
P.O. Box 11759, Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone: +977(1) 4250827
Email: program@ggnepal.org
URL: www.ggnepal.org
Date Admitted: 2013

Hoste Hainse
Jawalakhel, Lalitpur, Nepal
Phone: +977(1) 5000100/ 5000103
Email: office@hostehainse.org
URL: www.hostehainse.org
Date Admitted: 2015
IUCN’s six expert Commissions are a valuable asset to the organization and provide a global pool of science, research and action. These vital Commissions—supported by a broad and active volunteer network—help assess the state of the world’s natural resources and contribute expert scientific, legal and policy advice used to drive conservation and sustainable development.

The Commissions focus on developing sound environmental laws and policies, linking conservation to social and economic decision making, evaluating the status of species and ecosystems, promoting expanded and improved management of protected areas and natural resources, and strengthening conservation through education, training and strategic communication.

IUCN’s Commissions unite over 15,000 volunteer experts from a range of disciplines around the world. More than 2,000 Commission Members are based in Asia, of which around 120 members are from Nepal.

To learn more about these Commissions, please visit the corresponding website or contact the membership unit in IUCN Nepal.

**Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)**
CEC drives change for the co-creation of sustainable solutions through leading communication, learning and knowledge management in IUCN and the wider conservation community.
www.iucn.org/cec
Members in Nepal: 18

**Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)**
CEM is a network of more than 1,000 volunteer experts from around the world whose focus is on ecosystem management related issues such as climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, Red List of Ecosystems, fisheries and ecosystem restoration and services. www.iucn.org/cem
Members in Nepal: 12

**Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)**
CEESP is an inter-disciplinary network of professionals whose mission is to act as a source of advice on environmental, economic, social and cultural factors that affect natural resources and biological diversity. www.iucn.org/ceesp
Members in Nepal: 16

**Species Survival Commission (SSC)**
The SSC is a science-based network of more than 9,000 volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together towards achieving the vision of ‘a just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to reduce the loss of diversity of life on earth’. www.iucn.org/ssc
Members in Nepal: 49

**World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)**
WCEL advances environmental law by developing new legal concepts and instruments, and by building the capacity of societies to employ environmental law for conservation and sustainable development. www.iucn.org/cel
Members in Nepal: 8

**World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)**
With over 1,700 members spanning 140 countries, WCPA promotes the establishment and effective management of a worldwide representative network of terrestrial and marine protected areas. www.iucn.org/wcpa
Members in Nepal: 14
Our Partners in Nepal

Over the years we have had the opportunity to work with numerous organisations in Nepal. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their support and cooperation.

Funding Agencies
- Agricord
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- European Union (SWITCH-Asia Programme), Brussels
- European Union Delegation Office, Nepal
- Government of Finland
- Government of Germany, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB)
- Government of Sweden
- Government of Switzerland
- Government of United States of America
- Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) Nepal
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- Ramsar Secretariat
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- UK Department for International Development (DFID)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- World Bank
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Welthungerhilfe Nepal
- Winrock International
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Government Agencies of Nepal
- National Planning Commission (NPC)
- Ministry of Agriculture Development (MoAD)
- Ministry of Education (MoE)
- Ministry of Finance (MoF)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)
- Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC)
- Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD)
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)
- Ministry of Population and the Environment (MoPE)
- Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoTCA)
- President Chure-Terai Madesh Conservation Development Board
- Department of Forests (DoF)
- Department of Plant Resources (DoPR)
- Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)
- Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management (DSCWM)
- Department of Water-Induced Disasters Prevention (DWIDP)
- Panauti Municipality
- Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City

INGOs/ IOs/ UN Agencies
- Action Aid International Nepal
- CARE Nepal
- Food and Agriculture Organisation FAO) of the United Nations
- HELVETAS Swiss Intercoparation
- ICRAF- The World Agroforestry Centre
- International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
- Practical Action
- Saving South Asia Vulture from Extinction (SAVE)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Others
- Aapasi Sahayog Kendra, Nepal (ASK Nepal)
- Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU)
- Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)
- Centre for Environment and Tourism Development (CETD)
- Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN)
• Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI)
• Federation of Nepal Cottage and Small Industries (FNCSI)
• ForestAction Nepal
• Green Foundation
• HIMAWANTI
• Machhapuchhre Development Organization (MDO)
• Narma Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.
• Nepal Agroforestry Foundation
• Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)
• Rhododendron Conservation and Management Committee (NORM)
• Sustainable Technology Adaptive Research and Implementation Centre (STARIC/N)
• Tribhuwan University
• University of Adelaide, Australia
• University of Lausanne, Centre for Research on Terrestrial Environment (UNIL-CRET), Switzerland
• University of New South Wales, Australia
• Women Environment Preservation Committee (WEPCO)

Members
We would also like to thank our member organisations, who have worked with us in project implementation, event organisation, workshops and marking national and international environmental important days.
• Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) - State Member
• Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN)
• Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT-N)
• Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA)
• Green Governance Nepal
• Himalayan Nature
• International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
• National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
• Nepal Environmental Journalist Forum (NEFEJ)
• Save the Planet
• SEARCH Nepal
• Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN)
• Wildlife Watch Group (WWG)
• Women in Environment (WE)
• Youth Awareness Environmental Forum (YAEF)
UCN Nepal’s Resource Centre has been an accessible tool for the conservation community for more than 22 years. It is the main repository of IUCN’s institutional memory, housing the database of publications by IUCN Nepal and other related organizations since the early 1990s. The centre currently maintains an archive of over 8,500 titles (5,000 books, 1,000 articles, 2,500 papers and 200 newsletters and journals). The objective of the Resource Centre is to ensure that information related to environment is shared among and beyond the conservation community.

The centre, considered one of the most reliable environmental resource centres in the country, updates its collection by receiving regular publications from environmental organisations in Nepal and abroad. Users include professionals from the environment sector, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, donor institutions, development agencies, students and researchers.

IUCN Nepal produces publications on conservation and sustainable development issues, and is recognised as the scientific authority behind many of the management guidelines, assessments and conservation policies in use today.

IUCN Nepal’s publications are promoted primarily through the exhibitions and national/international conferences, both in print and in digital copies.

To read the publications published by IUCN Nepal, please visit IUCN Nepal Resource Centre or visit country website. (www.iucn.org\nepal)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACIAR</td>
<td>Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCGSAP</td>
<td>Climate Change Gender Strategy and Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EbA</td>
<td>Ecosystem-based Adaptation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIA</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPIC</td>
<td>Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFF</td>
<td>Forest and Farm Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GGCA</td>
<td>Global Gender and Climate Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographic Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GoN</td>
<td>Government of Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICS</td>
<td>Improved Cooking Stove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUCN</td>
<td>International Union for Conservation of Nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoFSC</td>
<td>Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoSTE</td>
<td>Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBSAP</td>
<td>National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCNSFSD</td>
<td>Nature Conservation National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>Non-Government Organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORAD</td>
<td>Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPC</td>
<td>National Planning Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;D</td>
<td>Research and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDD</td>
<td>Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNV</td>
<td>Netherlands Development Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPC</td>
<td>World Parks Congress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>