

# *Leader with Associates Cooperative Agreement*

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*Sacred Himalaya Landscape  
Semi-annual report  
1/20/2010 - 04/01/2010*

*for*

## World Wildlife Fund

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### **Acronyms**

CBAPOU	Community Based Anti-poaching Operation Unit
CCF	Conservation Community Forests
DFO	District Forest Office
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest User Groups, Nepal
FOP	Forest Operation Plan
ILO	International Labor Organization
KCAMC	Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Management Committee
KCAP	Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Project
KLCCG	Kanchenjunga Landscape Concern Group
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
SCAPES	Sustainable Conservation Approaches for Priority EcosystemS
SHL	Sacred Himalayan Landscape
SLCC	Snow Leopard Conservation Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee

## Eastern Himalayas Program Sacred Himalaya Landscape

### AREAS OF PROGRESS AND SUCCESSES

#### SCAPES Inception and Orientation Workshops

WWF's approach of project implementation is participatory and support of relevant stakeholders from the onset of the project in the Himalaya is crucial to ensure smooth and effective implementation of SCAPES. To inform stakeholders of SCAPES objectives and their roles in supporting project implementation several inception and orientation workshops were organized.

- The SCAPES program for the Sacred Himalaya Landscape was officially launched at an inception workshop organized on March 5, 2010 at the District Development Committee office at Funling. In attendance were representatives from Chief District Office, District Development Committee, District Forest Office, Kanchenjunga Conservation Area Management Council, District Agriculture Office, Federation of Community Forest Users of Nepal, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities People, eight political parties, Village Development Committees, the army, and local NGOs/CBOs. There were altogether 40 participants, three of which were women. The inception workshop garnered great buy-in for the SCAPES program and activities from participating stakeholders. Group work during the inception workshop also identified issues under each objective of the program and the potential roles of stakeholders in addressing those issues.



- An orientation workshop was organized for Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Management Council's (KCAMC) executive members and staff members on February 19, 2010. The objective of the orientation workshop was to make participants aware of the SCAPES program goals, four objectives, expected outcomes, working areas, proposed activities, implementation modality and monitoring process. Fifteen participants including the KCAMC chairperson, the KCAMC member secretary, eight KCAMC members and three KCAMC and two KCAP staff attended the workshop.
- Another orientation workshop was organized on March 7, 2010 in Taplejung for program staff. The objective of the workshop was to facilitate the smooth implementation of SCAPES and was attended by KCA social mobilizers, foresters,





- WWF participated in co-organizing the Himalayan Guide Pathivara Marathon and Tourism Festival. With an aim toward diversifying local income sources and benefiting local livelihoods, we are promoting ecotourism in the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area and the surrounding region, which ultimately will benefit the local livelihoods. This was a large-scale tourism event to attract both international and domestic tourists. During the event paragliding was introduced for the first time in Taplejung, which is anticipated to become one of several avenues of adventure tourism in the Kangchenjunga region. WWF also marketed non-timber forest products and medicinal and aromatic plants with an educational display and sale at the event.

### **Objective 2: Enhance transboundary cooperation and learning.**

- To improve cross-border coordination and information sharing between enforcement agencies, WWF has sent a request to India for a trans-boundary meeting of the law enforcement agencies.
- WWF India and WWF Nepal are scheduling an experience sharing visit for the local communities of Kangchenjunga conservation area to Sikkim, to share best practices of biodiversity conservation and community mobilization.

### **Objective 3: Pilot community based climate change adaptation projects.**

SCAPES supported Ms. Moon Shrestha, Climate Change Adaptation Officer of WWF Nepal, to participate in the 4th International Conference on Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change organized by IIED (The International Institute for Environment and Development) in Dar es Salaam from February, 21 – 27, 2010. During the workshop she shared lessons from a pilot project on “Integrated Community Based Adaptation” in the Langtang area. WWF Nepal plans to replicate and scale up this pilot project in the Kangchenjunga area under the SCAPES program. The feedback and exchange will prove useful in designing improved climate change adaptation projects under SCAPES. Ms. Shrestha also stayed on to participate in a meeting of WWF Network staff working on climate adaptation around the globe to improve coordination, information exchange, capacity building and support from February 28 to March 2, 2010 in Dar es Salaam. During this meeting Moon and other staff working on SCAPES projects discussed interventions that could be undertaken jointly in Nepal as well as future strategy and collaboration within the WWF network.

**Objective 4: Ensure equitable benefit sharing and access to natural resources.**

CARE is leading the activities under this initiative. To date, CARE Nepal and WWF Nepal have met to plan project implementation and build a joint annual work plan and budget. CARE Nepal staff are assigned to support the program and the recruitment of a full time Program Officer is underway. We are also actively recruiting a resource person to conduct a study on status of equity and benefit sharing in the project area.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Nothing to report for this period.

MEASURES AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

As ethnic based organizations in this landscape are active and influential, WWF-Nepal invited those organizations to the inception workshop to get their buy-in and to understand and address their concerns, if any. We will continue work closely with ethnic-based organizations.