

Project Update: January 2007

Major achievements

Three wetland clubs have been formed in three schools around Ghodaghodi Lake as follows:

1. Dasarath Wetland Club in Dasarath Secondary School, Sadepani VDC
2. Sitakunda Wetland Club in Sitakunda Secondary School, Ramshikharjhala VDC and
3. Taranath Wetland Club in Rastriya School, Sadepani VDC.

Each club consists of 15 committee members. All students of the school of 5-9 classes are general members of the club.

The 15 committee members were empowered through training-workshop and awareness campaign in each school. The major activities during this workshop and campaign are – indoor training on wetlands and biodiversity, bird watching, wetland walk, drawing competition, essay competition, plant identification race, play card display and wall magazine publication. The indoor training activities were carried out in respected school and the outdoor activities were conducted at Ghodaghodi Lake area in natural environment.

A work plan has been prepared for each club in participatory manner with club members, project team and school teachers. Each club has agreed to celebrate World Wetlands Day (Feb. 2, 2007) with some awareness activities.

Each wetland club carried out one day awareness campaign in Ghodaghodi Lake including students of 5-9 classes. Altogether 450-500 school students have gained introductory knowledge on birds, wetlands, bird watching and wetland environment from this activity.

We obtained very positive feedback of the program. School students have gained exposure to out-of-classroom activities and learned something new in natural settings. Club members and school teachers showed their commitment in conducting similar sort of activities from their own initiative. However, they request facilitation and post-formation support to build the capacity of the newly formed clubs.