

Project Update: April 2009

Activities 1: Radio Programme

Radio Programme “Conservation Campaign” is going on smoothly and interestingly. Hot and burning issue of conservation, poaching and wildlife trafficking are being broadcasted. Experts and conservationists of different sectors i.e. environment, biodiversity, wetlands and community development are invited to make radio programme more effective. Radio Jockey: Apsara Silwal and Grantee (Suman Bhattarai) use to prepare the programme through direct field visit and trap local voices to make programme more interactive. The programme focuses rhino conservation and its supplement. Programme also covers the Environment, Biodiversity (including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, local/migratory birds) and social aspect of the Chitwan National Parks and its bufferzone areas. We are conducting this programme in joint venture of two other RSG grantees.

Activities 2: Livelihood Programme

Conservation based income generation activities are also running smoothly. 8 fishponds have been constructed and small fishes were placed in all ponds. We are utilizing gardens which were prepared in our first RSG project. We have suggested farmer to utilize their gardens so that resource can be utilized to maximize cost effectiveness.

For this programme, we have formed a forum on which representatives from Rufford Small Grant (grantee), local government, cooperative, community-based organization, youth clubs, Bufferzone committee and PARC were working as stakeholders.

Bufferzone Saving and Credit Cooperative, a local institution, has taken the responsibilities of programme continuity. Partnership for Rhino Conservation and Bufferzone Saving and Credit Cooperative are responsible to strengthen and extend the activities for large areas. We have supported some resource to farmer on refundable basis and this refunded resource will be provided to next poor as means of continuity.

We are trying to develop this project as a poor oriented demonstration project **“Integrated Livelihood Project”** so that we are consulting with other interested parties.



Activities 3: Student Programme

We (PARC, Chitwan National Park Loiter User Committee, local schools and RSG grantee) have developed a concept to conduct school-oriented activities for one year. We have selected 8 schools

as project site. RSG will conduct all activities during project time and Chitwan National Park Lother User Committee will be responsible for some activities. We had made an understanding to call different parties to join their hand to complete our goals.

We are coordinating with schoolteacher to encourage children to join school. We have managed education materials for poor children for one year. We vision that educating programme will boost up the people thinking on conservation.

Activities 4: Other Programme

Other activities are also going on. To make our project stronger, we are producing extension, drama and rally materials. We are appealing interested parties to join in our project. All people can join and get information by visiting our project site.