Project Update: June 2019

## World Wildlife Day (3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2019) Celebration in Nepal

World Wildlife Day 2019 was celebrated at Kawasoti, Nawalpur, Nepal to raise awareness of the multitude of benefits that conservation provides to people. On this occasion, we have focused on the most beautiful and valuable creature fauna, i.e. snakes. Snakes play very important role in ecosystem as many other fauna and contribute to the ecological, medical, religious, cultural, educational, recreational and aesthetic aspects of human being and sustainable development but most of the people kill the snakes on the spot due to fear of being bitten and lack of awareness. In this educational awareness programme, more than 130 participants were present. The participants were the students from different health faculties like ANM, CMA, lab technician, JTA etc. and their respective teachers were also present. Dr. Chhabilal Thapa, President of Nepal Toxinology Association (NTA) and Dr. Amod Ghimire have presented their works related to symptoms and treatment of snakebites and conservation biologist Mr. Kamal Devkota has lightened on importance of snake conservation to biodiversity. He has also shared some of his experiences during the campaign "Save Snakes Save Nature" in Rupandehi district. We have distributed educational materials like; brochures, posters, pamphlets, health bulletin, NTA bulletin etc. to the participants. The awareness programme was organised by Kaligandaki Hospital, Kawasoti and supported by Nepal Toxinology Association (NTA) and Save The Snakes (STS).



Group photo after the World Wildlife Day 2019 celebration through awareness program.



Conservationist Biologist Mr. Kamal Devkota sharing his knowledge to the participants.



Dr. Amod Ghimire presenting his works to the participants.





Students participating in the program.

## World Environment Day (5th June, 2019) Celebration in Rupandehi

World Environment Day 2019 was celebrated at Butwal-11, Rupandehi, Nepal to raise awareness about environment. The environmental awareness program was organised by SEEM Nepal and supported by Greenery Nepal, Kupondole, Kathmandu.



Group photo displaying our brochures after the World Environment Day 2019 celebration through awareness program.

Nepal Toxinology Association (NTA) has also participated in this environmental awareness programme. I have shared some of my experiences about the campaign "Save Snakes Save Nature" and also distributed our brochures to the volunteer participants. Snakes can be found in a variety of habitats and play very important role in ecosystem and environment just like other wildlife fauna. Snakes play a key role in the food chain acting as predators and as prey too. Without snakes, the numbers of prey species would increase uncontrollably and the predators that eat snakes would struggle for food. The snakes have become threatened due to many reasons and habitat loss/destruction is one of them. Maintaining a biodiversity is important to all the creatures on the earth and snakes are also a part of this biodiversity which play a significant role that helps to balance the natural ecosystem.