

Eastern Himalayas bulletin



A quarterly newsletter of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)

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Five grants given out in Nepal

USD 315,000 was given out in grants recently to five NGOs working on conservation-related issues in eastern Nepal. The selected projects will run for one to two years.

Grantee: Ilam Co-operation Council (ICC)
Project: Strengthening civil society on corridor management

Amount: USD 60,000

Duration: 2 years (2007-2009)

This project focuses on strengthening civil society participation in all stages of corridor management in selected sites in the Kangchenjunga-Singalila Complex. The project also proposes to build community capacity on issues of access to and management of forest resources. The project aims to reduce threats to forests from encroachment, over grazing, unsustainable harvesting of forest resources.

Grantee: Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA)

Project: Grassroots participation for biodiversity conservation

Amount: USD 70,000

Duration: 2 years (2007 – 2009)

The main focus of the project is to build partnerships among different stakeholders to incorporate biodiversity conservation in managing forests outside protected areas within the Kangchenjunga-Singhalila Complex. This would include advocacy, raising awareness, and building capacity at the local level to plan and monitor biodiversity in key project sites.

Grantee: Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal (ESON)

Project: Inventory of plant biodiversity

Amount: USD 35,000

Duration: 1 year (2007-2008)

The key focus of the project is to identify endemic or rare and threatened plant species' habitats in the Kangchenjunga-Singalila ridge of eastern Nepal, an area with a rich plant biodiversity. The project also aims to develop strategies to conserve these sites through scientific and participatory community-based approaches. It will generate awareness among communities on sustainable harvesting of plants, and identify policy gaps in conservation.

Grantee: Namsaling Community Development Centre (NCDC)

Project: Livelihood Development

Amount: USD 80,000

Duration: 2 years (2007-2009)

This project focuses on reducing pressure on unsustainable use of forest resources through low-cost livelihood options that are conservation friendly. Activities will be implemented through the local institutions, such as community forest user groups, in coordination with local government bodies.

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Grantee: Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN)

Project: Developing civil society networks to conserve key avian biodiversity areas

Amount: USD 70,000

Duration: 2 years (2007 – 2009)

The project will catalyze the development of civil society networks that manage, monitor and mitigate threats to avian biodiversity conservation in the Kangchenjunga-Singhalila Complex. This will be achieved by piloting innovative, local and sustainable approaches in selected project sites within key biodiversity areas that have already been identified. These approaches will include establishment of local community conservation groups or Site Support Groups with access to micro-grants for grassroots conservation actions, such as demonstration models of natural-resource-use practices compatible with biodiversity conservation.

Project launch workshop in Ilam

A project launch workshop was held in Ilam on 18 March, 2007 to inform stakeholders about CEPF, its objectives and to introduce the first batch of five grantees for Nepal. About 50 people representing grantees and district-level stakeholders participated in the launch.

For more information

Ang Phuri Sherpa

Country Coordinator, Nepal

angphuri.sherpa@wwfnepal.org

For more information on CEPF Grants in the Eastern Himalayas, contact

Sampreethi Aipanjiguly

Communications Officer

CEPF - Eastern Himalayas

sampreethi@wwfnepal.org

Dr. Sarala Khaling

Regional Co-ordinator

CEPF - Eastern Himalayas

sarala.khaling@wwfnepal.org