

ANNUAL REPORTS (2007-2009)

2007 Projects by TNW

1. Inter-school Environmental Quiz Contest 2007

On 3rd June 2007, TNW Nepal coordinated the Interschool Environmental Quiz Contest 2007 to mark the World Environment Day 2007 organized by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development(ICIMOD), United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP), Ministry of Environment. The Radio Nepal was a media partner. The contest was held for a week.

26 different schools from three districts Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur had participated in the event. Birendra Awashiya Mahavidyalaya of Bhaktapur won the first prize. The first winner received a cup, medals and Rs. 8000 for each team member as the first prize, the second winner (Panga Secondary School) received Rs. 5000 for each member while the three team members of the third winner from St. Mary's received Rs. 3000 as a third prize. The final program was hosted by Mr. Somesh Verma and Mr. Suraj Singh Thakuri, both of Kantipur Television, and was covered live by Radio Nepal and its 11 FM stations. The event has also been widely promoted by all the national newspapers and audio visual media.

TNW Nepal has appointed the three students of the first winning team as a TNW Environmental Ambassador to inspire and involve those school going children on environment conservation. They are working in environmental projects of TNW Nepal at their own school and community.

TNW Environmental Ambassadors from Birendra Awashiya Mahavidyalaya, Bhaktapur are:

Ms. Anju Gurung, Class: 10

Mr. Sanjaya Dev Bista, Class: 9

Mr. Sharad K.C, Class: 10

With the request of TNW, the three TNW Ambassadors were supported by UNEP to take part in the Fourth International Conference on Environment Education, held in Ahmedabad of India since November 24 to 30 2007. The conference was organized by Center for Environment Education (CEE), India.

2. Green Theatre Shows

TNW is the first organization in Nepal to adopt theatre show for environmental awareness. TNW launched its drama show campaign for green awareness on 21st September 2007 to raise fund for TNW's environmental activities. TNW is technically supported by Arohan Theatre (School of Theatre).

On the same day, TNW Theatre Group performed a drama show titled "For Tomorrow". The event was supported by WWF Nepal, ICIMOD and Nepal Nature Dot Com. More

than 300 people have been aware on environmental issues through this drama show.

On the occasion of 24th anniversary of ICIMOD, TNW organized a drama show "For Tomorrow" on 7 December 2007 for school children and the ICIMOD family. TNW has been organizing drama shows for the school children and college youths regularly with the technical support of Arohan Theatre (School of Theatre), Nepal.

3. Environmental Awareness for Miss Teen 2007 finalists

On 31st August 2007, TNW Nepal organized an awareness based talk program on Climate Change. The topic was " Climate Change: A burning Issue!" In the program, Environmentalists from ICIMOD, WWF Nepal and IUCN had given a talk on this issue with slide show presentation. After the program, all the 20 final contestants had made a commitment to work for inspiring other youths towards environment conservation.

In the Miss Teen contest 2007, one of the contestants had given a presentation on global warming which was live telecasted by National television channels.

4. Commemoration in loving memory of Killed Birds

On 23rd June 2007, TNW Nepal organized a commemoration program in loving memory of killed birds .Nearly 245 rare birds illegally imported from Pakistan on March 30 were killed at Tribhuvan International Airports at mid night citing the outbreak of bird flu without any medical examination and consultation with conservationists. Activists of TNW Nepal working for the welfare and rights of wildlife lighted candle lamps in the memory of those killed birds. TNW green activists submitted a letter of request to the government to take strong action against the illegal and inhuman killing of birds.

5. Conservation Education Program jointly with a Government Body (DNPWC)

TNW launched an interaction based talk program on wildlife issues and conservation for the school students in technical support of Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) under Nepal Government; at its office on 6th October 2007. The program takes place on the last Friday of each and every month at 2:00 PM.

Each time, 40 students from a school are invited to the venue and they will be taught with slide show presentation, audiovisual shows (documentary films) and lectures by young wildlife biologists of TNW Nepal, prominent ecologists. This project is started in the request of DNPWC.

6. Interaction Based Talk Program on “Role of Media on Wildlife Conservation”

On 11 October 2007, TNW Nepal organized an interaction based talk program on “ Role of media on wildlife conservation”. At the program several prominent conservationists, wildlife biologists/Activists and Journalists expressed their views on the role of media on wildlife conservation. The program was held to draw the attention of the media people towards environmental issues. On that day, TNW Nepal’s youths and prominent wildlife activists made a commitment to struggle against animal’s cruelty to safeguard their rights to live without any sort of torture. The programme was technically supported by

Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) under the Ministry of Forest.

7. Interaction based talk shows

Since its inception (03/2007), TNW Nepal has been regularly conducting interaction based talk shows for college students and youths on a wide range of environmental issues like climate change, wildlife conservation, air pollution, solid waste management, biodiversity conservation, animal welfare issue etc. The talk show is being held in Kathmandu Guest House (Thamel), Gautam Buddha Sava Hall (Putalisadak) and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) office. The regular talk show is being technically supported by Nepal Nature Dot Com and Vajra Foundation. Till now, more than 2000 youths have participated in the talk show. Most of the participants are found to have led environmental campaigns at college and locality.

8. Global Climate Campaign

On the day of Dec 08, 2007 around the world 72 countries participated on the Global Climate Campaign to put pressure on the UN Climate Convention, Bali Indonesia. TNW along with WWF, CEN, United Mission Nepal, Save Earth Nepal, Green Youth Network and other 12 organization collectively brought around 3,000 youths in the street to mark this day. The main purpose of this rally was to bring consciousness to the youth and local people about climate change.

2008 Projects by TNW

1. 2008 Eco-campaigns in Dolakha district

TNW Nepal launched environmental awareness campaigns at highly rural and backward areas of Dolakha district since 5th June 2008 on the occasion of World Environment Day 2008. The awareness programs were held in all the communities of four VDCs of the district. The program was also organized at some schools. Additionally, TNW distributed seeds of the vegetables and local herbs to the highly poor and disadvantaged people to motivate them in organic farming. The awareness was focused on forest conservation, water and sanitation and organic farming. The awareness campaign was held till November 2008. The campaign was organized with the fund raised through Drama shows organized by TNW. Gaurishankar Village Development Committee (Local governmental body) also supported technically to the campaign.

2. Solar panel distribution and installation

TNW Nepal has helped the rural villages of Dolakha district to get the solar panel for light. Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) under Nepal Government bears the half cost and each individual has to pay the remaining cost for the solar panel. TNW Nepal has helped to distribute and install the solar panels to the homes of the villagers. This program is carried out as a part of Renewable Energy Promotion Campaign of TNW Nepal. TNW Nepal has motivated and technically helped more than 300 households to install solar panel to encourage the people towards clean energy.

3. Electricity through Peltry set system

TNW Nepal has assisted a highly backward community of Ward 3(Riku village) of the Gaurishankar VDC, Dolakha to generate electricity through the Peltry Set System. This project was jointly funded by the Village Development Committee (Local Government Body) which granted NRS 50,000, and TNW which provided the remaining funds. More than 80 people especially the school children of 12 households have benefited from this little initiative of TNW Nepal.

4. Educational resources distribution to the disadvantaged children

TNW Nepal distributed educational resources like pencils, notebooks, pens to 103 school children of Saraswati Vidya Mandir. This primary school is located in Sunkhani VDC ward no 2, Dolakha district. This school runs classes up to five grades. This school is considered as the school of Thami children and the poor children. There is another private school nearby where the children from middle income families study. The gap between the poor and the rich could be seen from the two schools located within the same locality. There are 103 students at the school. Most of the students (35 children) hail from the Thami caste. This caste is considered as one of the socially oppressed ones in Nepal. Four children are from the Dalit community and the remaining 56 are from poor family backgrounds. Most of the students are from poor or socially discriminated backgrounds and some are orphans.

There is no toilet for the students and they do not have access to drinking water. The students have to walk a distance of 30 minutes to fetch water for the school. The parents

of the students are so poor that they cannot afford to buy the notebooks, pens and pencils for the children. The parents still do not have consciousness to send their daughters to school. They do not educate their children after five grade due to poverty. There is no system of scholarship for the Thami children so the number of Thami children attending the school is decreasing.

TNW Nepal is also raising fund for the renovation of this school. Till date, TNW has been able to raise 1200 USD with the help Society of University of Sussex Students Union, UK. The school has got very poor physical infrastructure which has deprived the school children to have an education at a good physical set up.

5. Stakeholders meeting on Dolakha to be the 1st Eco-friendly District

After nearly five months' of environmental awareness campaign at some rural and backward communities of Dolakha district, TNW Nepal came up with the vision of transforming the district into the first environment friendly district of Nepal.

In this regard, TNW Nepal organized a stakeholders meeting on 10 December 2008 in Charikot, the district headquarter of Dolakha. The Deputy Chief District Officer inaugurated the program by planting a tree just in front of his office and signing on the white cloth to extend support in this eco-campaign. The District Administration Office, District Development Office, District Police Office, Nepal Army, Civil Society, four Political Parties, Nepal Federation of Journalists, Dolakha, some other governmental and nongovernmental organizations and general public have made a written commitment to make Dolakha district as an environment friendly district of Nepal.

To make this campaign successful, TNW Nepal has also issued a “Dolakha Eco-Declaration” organizing a press conference held on 12 December in coordination with Nepal Federation of Journalists, Dolakha. In this declaration, TNW Nepal has made public the environmental programs to be carried out for six years till 2015 to make the district free from waste and environmental destruction.

2009 Projects by TNW

1. A Youths' Summit on global warming

Team for Nature and Wildlife (TNW) Nepal, a youths group organized a youths' summit on global warming in order to aware the leading young figures of Nepal on global warming on 15th January 2009. More than 50 leading youths from different sectors like media, film, theatre, sports, human rights, law, arts, culture, fashion and modeling, music, politics etc In the summit, four prominent environmentalists had presented a paper about the adverse impacts of climate change on Nepal.

A leading environmentalist, Mr. Basanta Shrestha from ICIMOD had shared ample information about the impact of global warming on Nepalese mountains. He said that our mountains are the water towers for 10 large river basins which is lifeline for more than 1.3 billion population. The impact on Himalayan ecology will also adversely affect our region which is listed as a global biodiversity hotspot. Science has been a true that global warming is man made so the political commitment, scientific consolidation and massive public awareness with action are necessary to fight it. He stressed on the need to change our lifestyle, minimize fossil fuel burning and deforestation. He warned the youths of possible catastrophes due to glacial lakes outburst floods. There are more than 24 most potentially dangerous glacial lakes formed as a result of global warming in Nepal which could burst at any time and could cause huge casualties. Therefore he stressed the role of leading youths to save our mountains.

Likewise, Environment Health Adviser from UNWHO Mr. Han Haijnen outlined that health impact of climate change depends on multiple factors like geographical factors (baseline climate, abundance of natural resources, elevation), biological sensitivity (developmental stage, preexisting medical conditions, genetic factors) and socio economic factors (exposure to harmful agents, underlying diseases, ability to adapt or respond) about the adverse impacts of climate change on human health.

He presented a view that climate change has caused the disease pattern, availability of food and nutrition, depleted water resources and destroyed natural resources. The change in temperature and rainfall has enhanced the development rate of parasite, development and survival of the vectors and its habitat. This in turn has enhanced the outbreak of vector borne diseases with more vector infection rate, vector abundance and vector's biting rates. He stressed the need generate awareness on the health consequences of climate change and local adaptive measures.

Anil Chitrakar, a prominent environmentalist expressed we have to have a negotiation with the developed or industrialized countries so that we can have fair incentive. He stressed the need of collective voice and action in Nepal so that the voice of our sufferings could be heard by the international communities. In this regard, he said the youths should be empowered enough as youths can be a agent of great change. Our youths are highly capable to advocate globally but they need empowerment on how to tackle this burning issue with scientific evidences.

Mr. Sashank Pandey from VSBK presented a paper on air pollution and global warming. He said Construction sector is contributing massive air pollution so cleaner technology should be promoted so as to minimize the impact air pollution and also global warming.

Finally, B K Dalit Chairman of TNW Nepal shared some information about the sufferings of the poor people due to climate change in Himalayan regions of Dolakha district that he observed during his field research. The event was supported by ICIMOD, VSBK and ECCA.

2. Environmental Awareness through street theatre

TNW Theatre Group organized street theatre "Life in danger" at four different urban locations (major city centers) to spread the awareness on air pollution and solid waste. The show began since 7th February 2009. The first show was observed by more than 200 people.

TNW Theatre Group conducted the second show on 16th February 2009 on the premises of Kathmandu Durbar Square. More than 250 people had watched the drama show. TNW Theatre Group organized the third show on 18th February 2009(Tuesday) on the premises of Patan Krishna Temple at 4:30 pm. More than 150 people had watched the show. TNW Theatre Group staged the fourth and final show on 19th February 2009 on the Bhaktapur Durbaar Square, Bhaktapur.

Project outcomes:

- a. General people were made aware and sensitized on air pollution and waste
- b. People were made aware about the urban environmental issues and environmental consequences

3. Green Talk show for youths

On Baisakh 5, 2066 TNW Nepal and Vajra Foundation jointly organized a Talk Show on the importance of clean and green environment. The chief speaker of the show was Mr. Karna Shakya. Mr. Shakya is a prominent environmentalist of Nepal who has got nearly six decades of experience on environment conservation and management. He is also an author of some of the largest selling books like "Soch", "Khoj". More than 100 youths had participated in the event. He is also a chief adviser of WWF Nepal. The program was technically supported by Vajra Foundation.

4. Climate Workshop for College Youths

8th June 2009

In the recent decades, Nepal has experienced the impacts of global warming. This has increased the threat in many ways in turn affecting the livelihood and survival of the human and other living beings. The climate consequences have started creating problems at unprecedented rates. There have been increased efforts to avert the climate crisis worldwide. But, the central problem in environmental conservation and management in Nepal is a lack of adequate knowledge and skills especially on youths to address the local, regional and national environmental problems.

The need for effective communication, public outreach, and education to increase support for policy, collective action and behavior change for responsible use of valuable resources and ensuring sustainable development is ever present, and is perhaps most pressing in the context of climate change. It has really been important now to have a serious and strong discussion on environmental threats focusing on climate consequences amongst the youths that could affect the sustainable development of our societies.

Keeping all these facts into consideration, TNW has come up with a concept of empowering the youths for climate leadership so that he/she could take a lead for a positive change on natural environment. If we look at the history of huge political and social changes brought about by the youths in Nepal, the college youths seem to have played greater role.

In this respect, TNW has organized an event titled “**Climate Workshop for College Youths**” on 8th June 2009 on the occasion of the World Environment Day 2009.

Objectives of the event:

- To generate environmental awareness amongst the youths (with non science educational backgrounds)
- To encourage the youths to lead environmental campaigns at college level
- To promote green or clean practices and technologies amongst youths
- To encourage the youths to adopt green or clean practices at individual level

Outputs of the event

- The youths having zero knowledge on climate change were made aware on climate change
- The youths have been made familiar with green or clean practices and technology with the help of green building
- Most of the youths made a commitment to adopt green practices from individual level
- Maximum participation of youths with diverse educational backgrounds

Recommendation from the participants:

- Need of at least one week's climate leadership workshop for those college youths who will do something at college learning from this event.
- Medium of presentation to be in Nepali medium

About the event:

TNW Nepal invited youths (with social science studies) from more than 50 colleges of Kathmandu valley. In total 93 youths with diverse educational backgrounds from several different colleges participated in the event. The event was held in Vajra Academy which is regarded as a green building. The visit and briefing about the green building by the

participants also found to have encouraged the youths to adopt green practices and technologies.

There were resource persons like Bidya Banmali Pradhan from ICIMOD, Urs Hagneur from VSBK, Dr. Govinda Basnet (Environmental Anthropologist).

First of all, Bidya Banmali presented a paper on climate change in general so as to give general information about global warming and its different perspectives. She made the participants clear on the issue with simple language. She further made the issue crystal clear by answering the questions of the participants.

Secondly, Urs hagneur from VSBK presented a paper on "Climate change and urban air pollution". He also highlighted about the cleaner technology (VSBK) to the youths. His presentation helped the participants know more about Kathmandu valley's air pollution and its contribution on green house gas emissions. His presentation seems to have made the youths little bit more conscious to control urban air pollution to minimize the pollution related problems on environment, health and other areas.

Finally, Dr. Govinda Basnet (Environmental Anthropologist) presented a paper on "Climate change and its impacts on society". He showed some photographs how the people have been badly affected by the climate change in Upper Mustang region. He urged the youths to advocate against environmental degradation by the governmental authorities and politicians. He also highlighted the issue of future war on water due to climate change and other environmental problems that he found out during his research.

After the presentations, there was a documentary show with title "Earth". The documentary was about how our earth is becoming endangered by us. The documentary made all the participants well aware about the threats that this living planet is having. After the show, there was a discussion on the film and the whole programme. It was clear from the discussion that the youths have become little bit conscious and serious about environmental problems. Most of the youths also made a commitment to do something to protect the earth.

The program was concluded with a closing remark by B K Dalit (President, TNW).

Program Sponsors:

- ICIMOD
- VSBK
- Vajra Foundation