Biodiversity Conservation Efforts:, Realities, Challenges and Potentialities

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Presentation Outline

• Introduction
• National and Local Efforts
• Merits and Drawbacks
• Challenges
• Possibilities
Introduction: Nepal at a Glance

- 147181 Sq. Km (0.03% of world area)
- 27 million population
- 29% forest area
- Rich Bio-diversity (Bird 5.5%, Mammals 3%, Butterflies 5%)
- More than 7000 Plants species
- Some endemic to Nepal
- 80% Populace depend on subsistence agriculture
Introduction...

- Altitudinal Variance (65-8848 m)
- Eco-regions: 200
- Ecosystems: 118
- Forest Type: 35
Introduction .......

**Bio-Diversity**: The presence of all fauna and flora in a specific area under consideration

**Major wild lives**: One horned Rhino, Elephant, Tiger, Red Panda, Crocodiles, Pheasants, Butterflies
National Initiatives

- Development of **National laws** and **bylaws** in promoting biodiversity conservation
- **Ratification** of international conventions, treaty and protocols related to biodiversity conservation including **CBD**
- **Nepal Biodiversity Strategy Plan Preparation: 2002**
- **Nepal Biodiversity Implementation Plan: 2004**
- **Access to Benefit Sharing bill** is drafted before 8 years but not yet endorsed.

- Establishment and expansion of PAs including NPs, WR, HR, CAs.
- **Concept of Buffer Zones**
- **Promulgation of Community Forestry Campaign**
National Initiatives... Government
National Initiatives: Forest Management

• Community Forestry
• Leasehold Forestry
• Private Forestry
• Government Managed Forestry
• Religious Forestry
• Collaborative Forest Management
Local Efforts: Communities

- Community Forestry Program recognize local ownership and thus get back the lost greenery
- Multiple effect of CF in biodiversity protection, management and enhancement through implementation of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)
- Frequency, diversity and coverage of valuable wildlife in CF increase in local effort
संक्रान्तिमा अब चरा मारिदेन

हरू क्वेडको वागारातिमा पेश गाँव केसमा धेरै पाँडङ्क बाज आएको हो। त्यस्तै, गाँव परमाणु पतक नारसीकरण सम्म गरेको छ। परमाणु पतक गाँवमा धेरै हल्को धृष्टिकोण भएको छ।

माधुर्य केरी पानी, बस्तीको बर्तमान अवस्था।

सामाजिक सहयोग, अनेक शासन लागूको बजार गराउन भएको हो। गान्सहरू बाटै जातीको आधुनिक निकुञ्जको नियुक्ति भएको हो।

"अरु बाहेक भएको, रामणीय दर्शनमा प्रवक्ता गरिरहेको हो। माधुर्यकालमा पनि हार्दिक, तरै बाहेक, जीवनको साथी शासनको साथमा बिधायी सम्बन्धमा रामणीय सम्बन्धमा तिने हावारिने माधुर्य।"

सकारात्मक सहयोग, नागरिको पाकर, सामाजिक समूहको लागूको पुष्टि, बाहेक तथा अनेक विषयको विवरण गराउन भएको हो।

माधुर्यकालमा प्रावधान पाकर, बाहेक तथा अनेक विषयको विवरण गराउन भएको हो।

परमाणु पतक पानीमा प्रवक्ता नेपाली लागू हुन देखिएको हो। अनेक विषयको विवरण गराउन भएको हो।

संक्रान्तिमा अब चरा मारिदेन
Biodiversity Significance

Over 70% of the potential red panda habitat is outside the protected areas in Koshi Basin

Largest extent of Snow Leopard habitat in the Koshi Basin

Snow Leopard

Small population of Gangetic Dolphins in Koshi Tappu
Present Scenario

• **National Park and Wildlife Reserves**: Major Focus of government with huge investment but yet poaching and declining the numbers

• Trying to **expand** the PAs mostly conservation areas ignoring the peoples’ rights.

• **Buffer zone** concept in the periphery of PAs

• **Community Forestry** is becoming potential area for habitats as it get back its greenery
Policy and Practice Gaps

• Community and local recognition and ownership still lacking

• Government wants to protect biodiversity by patrolling and ignoring the importance of local people yet.

• However, local people provided several examples of protecting biodiversity in their own effort successfully.

• Yet recognize participation of local people in biodiversity conservation meaningfully
Challenges

• Lack of Creating ownership among people
• **Governance**: Biodiversity vs. livelihood and local participation
• **Tenure Right**: Indigenous, forest dependent communities (Chepang, Raute). Both BD and these in trouble
• **Benefit Sharing mechanism** (Government, local community)
• **Payment of Environmental Services**
Challenges...

• **Capacity Building**: Aware why to protect, monitoring skills and documentation system

• **Policy Formulation Process**: Trickle down, no involvement of community and stakeholders. Thus may be unreliable policy, low ownership. Ignore role of IPs and local manager

• **Lack of coordination and Partnership**
Scope

• **Capacity Building**: Community, Stakeholders

• **Biodiversity Monitoring Mechanism Development** (in active participation of local peoples, IPs, forest dependents and government)

• **Recognition** of local skills, knowledge, social and cultural values in biodiversity conservation
Scope

- **Advocacy** campaign from national to grass-root level community (right, incentives, effective biodiversity management mechanism, PES etc.)
- **Piloting** Participatory Biodiversity Monitoring
- **Partnership and Coordination**
- **Consultative Policy Formulation**
Thank for your Patience