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# ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

RESOURCES HIMALAYA FOUNDATION 

*Securing nature in the Himalaya through "good science" & "informed evidence based decision making"*

Cover Picture: Himalayan Blue Sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*) shot at Birendra Tal,  
Samagaun, Manaslu Conservation Area, Gorkha district, Nepal  
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## NOTE FROM THE CHAIR PERSON

The Annual report 2015-16 reports on the activities undertaken by Resources Himalaya Foundation in the preceding year. It reflects our continued commitment to the mandate of the Foundation and our continued adherence to the vision and ideals that our founder the late Dr Pralad Yonzon had set for us.

RHF was founded with a unique purpose – that of building and nurturing the new generation of professionals in environmental conservation and livelihoods so that the Himalayas can be “secured for future generations”. The Report is also a reminder of the tasks that remain to be addressed – developing a centre for the independent monitoring of biodiversity and conservation efforts, undertaking more and more in-house research as a vehicle for enthusing, involving and mentoring young researchers, creating a network of professionals who can guide and advise aspiring researchers, and, at the same time, expose graduates to critical policy issues and the approaches through which efforts are being made to address them.

As our activities indicate there is a niche for Resources Himalaya between the class room and the field. We have been working in that niche but we have to be able to more effectively claim that niche with innovative programs and ideas. This means further strengthening our links with the Universities and also with the agencies of the government and the NGOs working in the field of environment and livelihoods. As I have emphasized in the preceding years, in order to accomplish our task we need to be able to attract dedicated young professionals who can contribute and grow in the space provided by Resources Himalaya, and in the process make the foundation worthy of the lofty ideals of its founder.

This Annual Report is also an invitation for dynamic, young researchers and professionals to join the efforts of RHF in building the new generation that can secure the environment to meet the livelihood challenges of the Himalayas.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pitamber Sharma".

Pitamber Sharma

Chair, Resources Himalaya Foundation





## THE GOVERNING BOARD



**Chairperson:** Dr Pitamber SHARMA. Professor of Geography at Tribhuvan University for over two decades and vice-chair of the National Planning Commission in 2008. He is a geographer/ regional planner with wide experience in the Himalayas. He holds a PhD in regional planning from Cornell University, USA.



**General Secretary:** Dr Ram B CHHETRI. Professor of Anthropology at Tribhuvan University. His specialization includes community-based resource management. He

holds a PhD in anthropology from University of Hawaii, USA. includes community-based resource management. He holds a PhD in anthropology from University of Hawaii, USA.



**Treasurer:** Mr Dhan B SHRESTHA. Has a master's degree in environmental science and is also the founding member of the Environmental Graduates in Himalaya and the first EGH Coordinator.

## Board Members



Dr Dinesh Raj BHUJU. Academician at Nepal Academy of Science and Technology. Beside his academic work on ecology and environment he has been actively involved in the promotion of science. He holds a

PhD from Chiba University, Japan.



Mr Umesh K MANDAL. Remote sensing specialist and faculty member in the Central Department of Geography, TU. He has an MA in Geography, and an MTech and Post Graduate Diploma in Remote

Sensing and GIS.



Mr Gopal GURAGAIN. Senior journalist and the Managing Director of Ujyaalo 90 Network which, among other programs, informs people about conservation of natural resources and livelihoods to rural families every day through

110 FM radio stations across Nepal.



Mr Madan Rai RATANCHHALI. Native of Khotang, is widely known for his work on mountain rural/agricultural development. He has worked with rural farmers in some 70 countries, and is engaged in mentoring young

students to be the next generation of leading agriculture specialists.

Dr Ash Kumar RAI. Foremost fishery expert in



Nepal. He has implemented several livelihood projects connected with inland fisheries in the Nepal Himalaya. He holds a PhD from Kyoto University, Japan.



Mr Prasanna S YONZON. Leads Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN) working in curbing illicit wildlife trade and promoting conservation education. He is at the forefront of transforming Nepal's image as the guardian of wildlife. He holds an MSc from TU.

## The Executive Office



Ms Patanjali Yonzon Shrestha  
Programme Officer



Ramji Bogati, PhD  
Research Fellow



Ms Sonu Shrestha  
Accountant



Mr BIRAJ SHRESTHA  
Research Associate  
(March - September 2016)



Ms Kalpana KC  
Coordinator  
(Sept 2015 - Feb 2016)



Ms Ishu Sireng  
Coordinator  
(Feb - Aug 2016)



*photo*

*Annual General Meeting 2015*

## **BACKGROUND**

Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF) was established as a research think tank on natural resource conservation by late Dr Pralad Yonzon. Registered with the Government of Nepal, RHF is a not-for-profit research foundation managed by a Governing Board. It has over 25 years of experience in innovative research and capacity building in biodiversity, environment and livelihood in Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim through nearly 200 research projects. The mile stones include: Count Rhino '94, Status of the red panda in the Himalayas, Hornbill ecology, Nationwide database of Chure (Silwalik) ecology, GIS database of Nepal's PA, Annapurna Conservation Area Management Plan, Elephant Conservation Action Plan, Snow Leopard Conservation Action Plan, Nepal Biodiversity Action Plan, and Conservation Plan of the Western Tarai - Churiya Region as the primer for Terai Arc Landscape (TAL). RHF also assisted in developing

“Rapid Biodiversity Survey Framework” for all nine protected areas of Bhutan including Phobjikha Conservation Landscape Area Plan.

Bringing contemporary knowledge to deal with issues of natural resources conservation, and mentoring the younger generation to build the conservationists of the future are the two major thrusts of RHF's work. In the last five years it has mentored over 250 university graduates and enabled over 75 graduates to engage in dissertation studies.

## **MISSION, GOAL AND VISION**

### **Mission**

To conserve biodiversity in the Himalaya, promote sustainable use of natural resources including soil, water, forest, rangeland, and to improve livelihoods particularly of the poor, disadvantaged and marginal sections of society.



### **Goal**

To promote “good science” to facilitate “informed and evidence based decision-making” to secure both biodiversity and resource conservation, and improved livelihoods of the poor.

### **Vision**

Resources of the Himalaya are conserved for posterity and sustainably utilized for improving the livelihoods of its people.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Promote collaborative and innovative research at local and regional levels, and advocate evidence-based decisions
- Promote community-based action-research on issues of contemporary relevance to biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods
- Groom and mentor younger generation of graduates in environmental and social sciences on the path to becoming dedicated conservationists
- Provide platform for scientific exchange, discussion and advocacy on issues of conservation and livelihoods.

## **PRIORITY THEMATIC AREAS**

RHF’s core concerns– conservation of biodiversity and resources, and improving livelihoods of people – cover a very broad canvas. RHF’s strategic plan 2011-2015 outlines a long term vision with coherence of short term programs. Three broad priority thematic areas have been identified: (a) Monitoring of biodiversity and conservation efforts, (b) Addressing contemporary issues in conservation

and development, and (c) Capacity building and mentoring for the new generation.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL GRADUATES IN HIMALAYA (EGH)**

RHF undertakes most of its activities through its sister organization Environmental Graduates in the Himalaya (EGH). EGH is an independent forum for all young graduates, established in February 2008 as a sister organization of Resources Himalaya Foundation with the mission of protection of environment and biodiversity in the Himalaya by building knowledge-based human resources amongst graduates through research, training and mentorship. With 675 members from Nepal, Australia, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, China, Pakistan, Austria, Germany, Korea and United States of America, EGH has established itself as an active science-based youth forum in Nepal. The membership is free and is open to the individuals who have bachelor’s degree in any discipline and who are currently enrolled in master’s degree program. EGH gets support fund from Resources Himalaya and other contributions from on-going EGH research projects. EGH publishes Headlines Himalaya, a weekly e-News to keep global readers abreast with the happenings in the Himalaya. EGH supports RHF in different activities such as trainings, workshops, seminars, graduate open house and various events. It also maintains a digital library for graduates seeking reference reading. Further, it regularly endorses and undertakes research activities.

EGH is led by its coordinator who normally has a six-month tenure. All graduate members are also entitled to compete for nomination/election for the post of EGH coordinator. The EGH Coordinator Honor Roll includes: Mr Dhan B. Shrestha 2008; Mr



Yogesh Dangol 2008; Mr Bhuwan Dhakal 2009; Ms Sangita Maharjan 2009; Ms Barsha Parajuli 2010; Ms Kanchan Ojha 2011; Mr Anuj Pradhan 2011; Mr Raju Jati 2012; Ms Medinee Prajapati 2012; Mr Biraj Shrestha 2013; Ms Anju Rana 2013; Ms Upama KC 2014; Ms Meena Bohara 2014; Mr Chitra Magar 2015; Ms Kalpana KC 2015; Ms Ishu Sireng 2016. Ms Rashmi Kunwar is the present Coordinator of EGH.

## ACTIVITY REPORT 2015/16

### ACTIVITIES

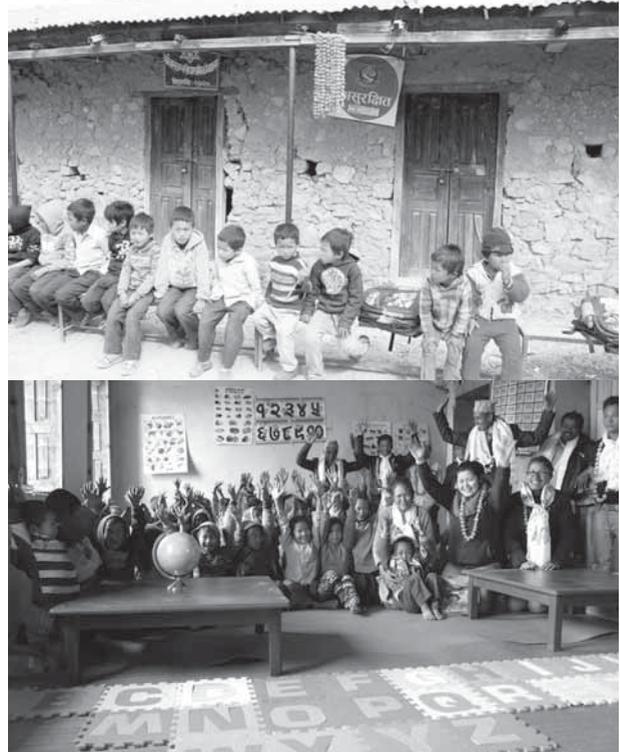
#### A. ADDRESSING CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

##### Library Support for Schools

The devastating earthquake and the following aftershocks of 2015 demolished more than 25,000 classrooms in some 8,000 schools, and more than 8,000 people lost their lives. The thousands of schools that were damaged during the earthquake in Nepal have begun to re-open and re-establish at a gradual rate. Many have been rebuilt on a temporary basis by utilizing materials such as bamboo, wood and tarpaulin.

RHF in partnership with donors provided support to three schools. RHF along with the invaluable support from Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Japan, aided in construction of a library for Shree Bal Unnati Primary School, Shiurani VDC-6, Kavre district located at 3000m of eastern Nepal.

Four representatives of RHF (Program Officer Ms Patanjali Yonzon Shrestha, RHF members Ms Binu Yonzon and Mr Prashidha Yonzon; EGH Coordinator Ms Kalpana KC) were actively involved in the proper coordination of the library building program for the school.



*Library support program at Kavre district*

An event was organized for the RHF team by the Principal of the school – Mr Tej Bahadur Tamang and teachers; Mr Aash Kaji Thing, Mr Pitamber Bhattarai, Mr Rajendra Thapa, Mr Purna Lal Tamang and Mrs. Sun Maya Tamang. All of the school's staffs and locals acknowledged and appreciated Tokyo Medical and Dental University (Japan) and RHF for setting up the library for their school.

Similar library building and support programs were implemented in Shree Kalika Lower Secondary School, Kathjor, Manthali - 6 and Shree Setidevi Higher Secondary school, Salu, Mathali- 8, Ramechhap district. Mr Dipak Subedi, Program Officer at District Development Committee Ramechhap helped identify the needy schools. The Principal of both the schools expressed gratitude for the timely support.



*RHF Library support at Ramechhap district*



RHF is grateful to Mr Umesh Bhuju (USA), Mr Graham Maxwell and Er. Ian Professor from London for providing the funds necessary for the library set up in the earthquake hit areas.

held at Hotel Himalaya and provided an opportunity and a platform for 42 oral presenters to share their research findings under eight different thematic areas. Likewise, 16 researchers disseminated their

## **B. CAPACITY BUILDING AND MENTORING ACTIVITIES**

### **ACTIVITIES**

#### **Second Graduate Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development**

The second Graduate Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development (GCESD) was jointly organized by the Central Development of Environment Science (TU-CDES), RHF and the Institute for Social and Environmental Transitions-Nepal (ISET-Nepal) on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2016. This conference provided a platform for Post Masters level graduates to present their research work and interact with peers, co-researchers and academics in the field.

The second conference follows the first conference that was held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015, which was the first of its kind in Nepal. The Conference was



*Panelists and participants at the Second Graduate Conference*



research outcomes and knowledge during the poster session. Ms Bimala Dhimal from College of Applied Science was judged as the best female oral presenter for her presentation on “Vector Borne Diseases Influenced by Climatic Factors and Vector Control Interventions: Measures for its Prevention and Control in Jhapa District, Eastern Nepal”.

Mr Babu Ram Tharu, a science teacher from Tarai region shared his findings on the topic “Community Practice and Learning” and was judged as the best presenter among the male participants.

Also, Mr Sunil Tamang from SchEMS College was judged as the Best Poster Presenter award for his presentation “Analysis of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanism in Tarai Arc landscape (TAL) and Chitwan Annapurna Landscape”.

The conference was conceived as an annual event as A Himalayan Knowledge Conclave. The Government of Nepal and other organizations working in the field of environment and sustainable development are providing support for the conference. The major motive of the conference is to promote leadership skills as well as to provide an opportunity for networking among peer researchers and experts. It provides an interdisciplinary knowledge-sharing platform for young researchers, with a particular focus on natural sciences including environment, resource conservation and management, and economic development.

### **Dr Pralad B Yonzon Wildlife Research Grant**

On 17th July 2015, Mr Yogesh Rana Magar and Mr Chandra Mani Aryal were selected as research grantees for 2015/16. This is the second year of the annual grant of Rs 100,000 from the family of the late Dr Pralad Yonzon through the “Dr Pralad B Yonzon Wildlife Research Grant”. The grant is intended to support and aid two post graduate students for their dissertation. The grant however, is available only to the students who are competitively selected based on their research proposal relating to Red Pandas in Nepal. The late Dr Pralad Yonzon, the founder of RHF, was a pioneer on red panda research in Nepal.

### **Training on techniques of wildlife research**

A two-days training on wildlife research techniques for graduates was organized by EGH on October 10 and 11, 2016. On the first day Mr Damber Bista, Conservation Manager of Red Panda Network made a presentation on the status, distribution and ecology of Red Panda focusing on the taxonomy of red panda and techniques of studying the home range, activity pattern, feeding behavior, reproduction, conservation threats. He highlighted the importance of research design (including questionnaires and checklists) in the study of wildlife.



*Damber Bista, Conservation Manager, Red Panda Network instructing trainees*



On the second day Mr Prakash Chandra Aryal and Dr Man Kumar Dhamala from Golden Gate International College focused on wildlife survey techniques including direct and indirect survey techniques, field sign survey, trapping and camera trapping methods etc. A brief description and a demo on the process of suitability analysis for habitat identification were also provided. He elucidated the use of GIS in complementing field surveys particularly in the study of wildlife distribution, abundance, habitat preference and threat level. Photographic identification techniques for particular species such as the Red Panda were also discussed.

A total of 15 graduates from various colleges participated in the training.

## **TRAINING AND MENTORING WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG GRADUATES**

### **R Program**

Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) organized a six day training on R-program. This training program was conducted from the 13th of July to 18th of July, 2015. The trainees were instructed on various statistical techniques and procedures including multivariate and cluster



*Dr Chitra Baniya facilitating the R Program Training*

analysis. Dr Chitra Baniya, Associate Professor, CDB-TU was the instructor of the training program. A total of 21 graduates from various fields including Environmental Science, Zoology, Engineering, Agriculture and Forestry participated in the training.

### **Pre-thesis writing training program**

Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF) conducted a training program entitled “Conducting a research project: A pre-thesis writing training program for the BSc fourth year environmental science students”, which proceeded from 9th October to 12th October. One of the major aims of the training event was to empower the students, so they would be able to select research topics, undertake literature review, design research questions, select appropriate research sites and apply relevant research methods and techniques. In addition, the students gained knowledge on various practical and ethical issues while conducting a research project. Students worked individually and in groups to complete given assignments. Time frame, accessibility, feasibility, affordability, and various issues were discussed in details with the students in this session. A total of 7 students from various colleges participated in the training.

The resource persons were Dr Dinesh Raj Bhujju, Dr Ram Devi Tachamo Shah and Dr Kamal Adhikari.



*Dr Dinesh Bhujju, Board Member, RHF with students*



### **Geographic Information System (GIS)**

Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) organized a 7 days training program on Geographic Information System from 19th December to 25th December, 2015. The training program was conducted for the graduates of different educational institutions. The training course included geo-referencing and coordinate system, digitization of raster map, symbology and land use classification, geo-processing wizard, integration of GPS data with map, integration with Google- Earth, 3D analysis, creating map layout, leading map and spatial data analysis. Ms Medinee Prajapati and Ms Anju Rana were the instructors of the training program. A total of 20 students participated in the training.

Similarly, another 7 days (14 – 20 May 2016) training program on Geographic Information System (GIS) was organized by EGH for active learners from different institutions. The instructor was Mr Bishnu Maharjan, MSc in GIS. The training package included geo-referencing, digitization, projection system, DEM, Land use type, Integration of Google earth and GPS data analysis. There were 21 participants in the training.



*GIS Trainees busy with their assignments*

### **Training on Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS)**

Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) organized a 7 days training program on Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS), a software

package utilized commonly for statistical analysis, from 28th January to 3rd February, 2016. The training programme was conducted for the graduates from different educational institutions. RHF Board Member Mr Umesh Mandal (GIS and SPSS specialist) was the instructor of the training program. The 9 trainees were from various backgrounds such as Zoology, Environmental Science, Engineering and Agriculture backgrounds.



*Mr Umesh Mandal, Board Member, RHF instructing SPSS to trainees*

### **PRALAD YONZON CONSERVATION FORUM (PYCF)**

The Pralad Yonzon Conservation Forum (PYCF) was initiated in the year 2012 in the memory of Dr Pralad Yonzon, Founder of RHF. PYCF is a knowledge dissemination and advocacy platform. Open public seminars/meetings/discussions are held on the first Friday of each month to disseminate issues of public interest connected with environmental conservation, livelihoods and sustainable use of natural resources. Efforts are being made to broaden the PYCF as a regional platform that brings together professionals and researchers not only from the environmental sciences but also from ancillary disciplines in the natural as well as social sciences. From July 2015 to June 2016, a total of 15 professionals, experts and researchers have shared their ideas on a variety of themes in the forum.



### List of speakers on PYCF (July 2015 – June 2016)

Date	Guest/ Presenter	Title
<b>Jul 2015</b>	Dr Shanker Raj Barsila, Research Associate, Applied Mountain Agro Ecosystem, Resources Himalaya Foundation	Transhumance Grazing in Nepalese Himalayas: Dilemma in Livelihood Improvement and Nature Conservation
<b>Aug 2015</b>	Mr Manoj Gautam, Executive Director, The Jane Goodall Institute  Dr Narendra Man Babu Pradhan, CEO, Bird Conservation  Dr Maheshwar Dhakal, Under Secretary, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Understanding Communities-Understanding Elephants  Successes and Failures of Elephant Conservation and Human Elephant Conflict Management in Nepal  Human Wildlife Conflict and Government Policy
<b>Sept 2015</b>	Dr David James Molden, Director General, ICI-MOD, Kathmandu	Lessons from Nepal Earthquake, 2015
<b>Oct 2015</b>	Dr Naresh Subedi, senior conservation officer and Terai Program coordinator, National Trust for Nature Conservation  Dr Kanchan Thapa, conservation biologist, senior research officer, WWF	Counting Rhinos in Nepal: Methods & Experiences  Past, Present and Future of Rhino Conservation
<b>Dec 2015</b>	Dr Anil Kumar Shrestha, Senior Research officer and Terai Program coordinator, WWF-Nepal	Conservation Initiatives of Snow Leopard in Nepalese Himalayas
<b>Jan 2016</b>	Ms Nora Wegner	Gender Equality in Education in a Post-disaster Context
<b>Feb 2016</b>	Ms Laura Aino Inkeri Heiskanen	Implementation of The World Heritage Convention in Nepal: Natural World Heritage Sites of Sagarmatha and Chitwan National Parks
<b>March 2016</b>	Prof. Dr Ratna Thapa, Entomologist/Apiculturist	Himalayan Honeybees: Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Alleviation
<b>April 2016</b>	Prof. Dr Dharma Raj Dangol, Botanist, Senior Research Scientist	Mainstreaming Local Innovation Environmental Education: Building Capacity of Environmental Leaders in Innovation System
<b>May 2016</b>	Dr Dibas Shrestha, Senior Research Scientist, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology	Satellite Rainfall Estimation-TRMM Satellite Observation Over Nepal Himalayas
<b>Jun 2016</b>	Dr Andrew Taber, Executive Director, The Mountain Institute	Progress, Opportunities and Constraints for advancing the Mountain Agenda in ways that will benefit Local Communities and Ecosystems



## **POLICY DIALOGUE**

The policy dialogue brings together parliamentarians, academics, experts and high level government officials in relevant fields to discuss policy issues being debated or under discussion in the relevant parliamentary committee. Normally, 3-4 presentations on the same theme from different perspectives are made and then the floor is open for discussion and dialogue. The dialogue helps in clarifying issues, identifying the key elements and policy concerns and possible policy or program responses. Past experience has shown that this is a most effective way of bringing together the experts and the legislators and in particular sensitizing the parliamentarians and flagging the priority policy concerns on relevant themes. This is also a most effective way of inputting into the legislative and policy formulation process.

Policy dialogue was initiated soon after the 2014 earthquake in partnership with Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources, WWF and Resources Himalaya. An MOU has been signed with WWF and the dialogues will continue throughout 2016. The response of the parliamentary Committee and other participants has been extremely positive.

Resources Himalaya Foundation organized a series of two policy dialogues this year. Dialogue V was organized on June 5, 2016. The theme was 'Tarai Ground Water'. Presentations were made by Mr Nagdev Yadav, Dr Suresh Das Shrestha, Mr Sagar Rai and former Minister Ganesh Shah amid Members of Parliament and other subject experts at the auditorium of Dr Pralad Yonzon Memorial Conservation Chautari.

Policy Dialogue VII was organized on June 26 on Integrated Water Resources Management with

presentations by Mr Ajay Dixit, Mr Madhav Belbase, Prof. Narendra Man Shakya and Prof. Ashutosh Shukla and was participated by experts and CA members.



*Policy Dialogue VII in session at RHF*

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **Youth volunteerism to promote participation, development and peace**

Resources Himalaya Foundation partnered with Asia-Pacific Peace and Development Service Alliance (APPDSA) South Asia Sub-Regional Forum in a two day program on Youth Volunteerism to promote Participation, Development and Peace. The program was organized by Economic and Social Commission for Asia (ESCAP) and the Pacific, Government of Nepal, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Global Peace Foundation on 23rd and 24th April, 2016. The discussion round was one of the major highlights of the program as it had three parallel sessions on three clusters, they were: Peace and Harmony; Disaster Management; and Environment Services. During the Action Planning Session, the participants were asked to develop a project model based upon the thematic area that they chose. On 24th April, the participants were required to present their project models.



On each cluster, the best project models, relating in each thematic area, were awarded based on the judgment of the evaluation team.



## EVENTS

### Symposium on Red Pandas: Tribute to Dr Pralad B Yonzon

On 30th May – the occasion of the 65th birthday of Late Dr Pralad Yonzon, founder of Resources Himalayan Foundation (RHF), the annual “Symposium on Red Pandas” was organized. The program was a Tribute to Dr Yonzon, who was the pioneer conservationist for the endangered Red Pandas in Nepal. EGH coordinator, Ms Ishu Sireng introduced the program. Presentation on new research on Red Pandas was made by Mr Damber Bista, Program Manager of Red Panda Network, on Chitwan Annapurna Landscape (CHAL). Mr Yogesh Rana Magar, RHF Wildlife Research Grantee, shed light upon his research findings on the topic “Impact of Earthquake Induced Landslide in Red Panda: A case study of Langtang National Park”. Closing remarks were delivered by Prof. Pitamber Sharma, Chair of RHF.

### Global Tiger Day (29th July 2015)

On the occasion of Global Tiger Day (GTD), 29th July 2015, Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF) successfully organized a seminar. Mr Chitra Magar, Coordinator, EGH welcomed the participants.

Mr Chandra Mani Aryal, EGH member, CDES, made a presentation on “Status and Distribution of Tigers outside the Protected Areas of Nepal”. Mr Aryal is a Dr Pralad B Yonzon Wildlife Research Grant, 2015. Dr Jhamak B. Karki, Associate Professor, NEC and former DNPWC made a presentation entitled “Against the Odds; The Success of Tigers Population in Nepal”. Dr Karki discussed a number of topics including the prey density, status of tigers outside the protected areas of Nepal along and breeding sites. He also stated that the range of tigers was growing, except in the area of Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve.

Mr Shyam Bajimaya, Former director, DNPWC, spoke on the topic “Tiger-Human Wildlife Conflict and Government Policy”. Mr Bajimaya highlighted the various sources and types of conflicts, incidents of these conflicts and the possible mitigation measures.



*Participants paying attention to the speaker during International Tiger Day 2015*



Dr Dinesh Raj Bhujju, Board member, RHF concluded the GTD by highlighted the importance of global tiger Day and encouraged all the graduates to work and contribute in the field of wildlife conservation. Certificates were also distributed to the trainees of the “R Program” (training program), held from July 13 - 18.

### **World Elephant Day**

A talk program was organized to commemorate World Elephant Day, 7th August 2015 and 43rd Pralad Yonzon Conservation Forum (PYCF). Mr Chitra Magar, Coordinator EGH introduced the program.

Mr Manoj Gautam, Executive Director, The Jane Goodall Institute, made a presentation on “Understanding Communities-Understanding Elephants”. He discussed the cost of the prevailing Human-Elephant Conflict; retaliation; community based HEC management; and the causes and risk factors. His conclusion was that it was only by focusing on understanding the communities and understanding the elephants on a local scale, that the HEC can be controlled and mitigated on a desired level.

Dr Narendra Man Babu Pradhan, CEO, Bird Conservation spoke on “Successes and Failures of Elephant Conservation and Human Elephant Conflict Management in Nepal”. Dr Pradhan talked about the past and present elephant distribution pattern and abundance in Nepal; HEC in low land regions, Tarai region; human life lost and injuries caused by the wild animals in the time period 2010-2014; property damage by rampant elephants; harvest loss; and the various possible mitigation measures of HEC.

Dr Maheshwar Dhakal, Joint Secretary, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation spoke

on “Human wildlife Conflict and Government Policy”. Dr Dhakal highlighted the existing status and approaches to wild life management in Nepal from both a policy and program perspective particularly the concept of 4 C’s - Conservation, Communities, Conflicts and Crime. The participants raised interesting queries questions related to wildlife and human-wildlife conflict and its management.



*Experts during International Elephant Day 2015*

Dr Dinesh Raj Bhujju, Board member, RHF made his concluding remarks.

Dr Sujata Sakha from Tokyo Medical and Dental University presented Prof. Pitamber Sharma, Chair, RHF the well wish cards, for the school support program in earthquake affected areas.

### **International Red Panda Day**

A special program along with a community based workshop relating to Red-Panda Research and Monitoring Protocol was held on September 19, 2015 to mark and celebrate the International Red-Panda Day (IRPD). The program was a joint effort by the Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation (SMCRF), with the support of Rufford Small Grants Foundation.



EGH Coordinator Ms Kalpana KC and SMCRF Coordinator Mr Sagar Dahal highlighted the importance of Nepal's participation in IRPD. Ms Kabita Karki presented a draft framework of the community based red panda research and monitoring protocol for Nepal. Dr Maheshwar Dhakal, Prof. Tej Thapa, Mr Damber Bista and Mr Santosh contributed to the discussion. A common concern was the dwindling population of red pandas due to poaching in recent years.



*Damber Bista with his presentation during Int Red Panda Day 2015*

Summing up the discussion, RHF board member and NAST Academician Dr Dinesh Bhujju stated the importance of research in finding ways to save red panda and dealing with livelihood options for the population.

### **National Science Day**

Since the year 2013, Nepal has been marking and celebrating Aswin 1 as the national science day to promote scientific temperament and highlight the importance and value of science in the fields of development. Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Environment Conservation

and Awareness Foundation (ENCAS) put forward a joint effort in organizing a seminar on the occasion of National Science Day (Aswin 1/September 18) at Dr Pralad Yonzon Memorial Conservation Chautari (PYMCC). In the gathering, RHF Board Member Dr Dinesh Raj Bhujju led the discussion on the topic "Practicing Good Science in Conservation". Citing examples, he highlighted why it was crucial for researchers to adhere with research ethics and to uphold the values of science. Furthermore, on the occasion of this special day, "Vigyan Patrika", a publication of Science Teachers' Association of Nepal (STAN) was also distributed. Mr Bijaykant Mishra shed light on the importance of teaching science to the rising generations. The program was moderated by Mr Chitra Magar, former Coordinator of EGH.

### **Cycle rally: Be visible. A tribute to Dr Pralad Yonzon**

On 31st of October, 2011, Nepal lost a humble soul and a leading idol for conservation biologists, Dr Pralad Yonzon, the founder of Resources Himalaya Foundation. In remembrance of Late Dr Pralad Yonzon, Kathmandu Cycle City 2020, Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF), organized a Critical Mass Event: "Remembering Dr Pralad B Yonzon" – a cycle rally to pay tribute to him on Friday, 30th October 2015.

The rally commenced from Basantapur at around 5:30 pm with the slogan being "Be Visible". More than 150 enthusiastic cyclists participated in the event. The cyclists arrived at the premises of Resources Himalaya Foundation at 7:00 pm which was quickly followed by lighting of a butter lamp. Ms Kalpana KC, Coordinator, Environmental Graduates in Himalaya paid tribute to Dr Yonzon remembering his contributions towards



conservation and youth empowerment. A short video which showed Dr Yonzon's contribution was presented to the participants. Mr Shail Shrestha, President of Kathmandu Cycle City 2020 requested Mrs. Patanjali Yonzon Shrestha, Programme Officer of Resources Himalaya Foundation, daughter of late Dr Yonzon to share a few fond and cherished memories of Dr Yonzon. She highlighted her father's passion towards cycling and how his lifestyle had been an inspiration for the youths.



*Critical Mass Riders*

### **World Science Day**

Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH) and Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF) jointly organized a program on the occasion of World Science Day on 10th November 2015 at Dr Pralad Yonzon Memorial Conservation Chautari (PYMCC). RHF and EGH have been successfully conducting impactful programs on the occasion of World Science Day since the year 2012. The theme for the year 2015 was "Science for Sustainable Future". The valued speaker was Ms Pearly Wong, Sustainable Development Researcher/Practitioner, UNESCO.

Ms Wong shed light upon UNESCO's Science Report, which is one of the tools that the countries can utilize to monitor and evaluate their progress

towards the goals of Agenda 2030. Every five years, it analyses emerging trends in science, technology and innovation policy and governance. The latest edition was launched on World Science Day for Peace and Development.

In his concluding remarks Prof. Pitambar Sharma, Chairperson of RHF, shared his ideas on the essential linkage between science and development and encouraged the participants to develop a scientific temper.

### **EGH DAY**

EGH founding day - "The day of all the Environmental Graduates" was observed on 26th February, 2016 by all of the EGH members and guests. EGH coordinator Ms Kalpana KC, gave a welcome address and a brief information about EGH, its missions, total members, activities and funds – guided by a video displaying the activities of EGH in the year 2015. Late Dr Pralad Yonzon established EGH for the purpose of protecting the environment and biodiversity in the Himalaya through development of knowledge-based human resources amongst graduates through research, training and mentorship.

The major highlight of the EGH Day involved sharing the outcomes of researches via "Young Researchers Paper Competition" (YRPC). YRPC was an initiation by the former coordinator- Ms Upama KC, back in the year 2014. This was the third consecutive YRPC event. The cash prize was contributed by Ms Upama KC herself, for which EGH was immensely grateful. The judge panelists consisted of Dr Kamal Adhikari and Dr Ram Devi Tachamo. Ms Sabita Gurung from Central Department of Zoology (Ecology and Environment), was successful in winning the coveted prize with her research "Effects of Land Use and Land Cover on occurrence of Barn owl in Kathmandu valley". RHF Board Member Mr Umesh



K. Mandal, concluded the program with his remarks. Ms Patanjali Yonzon Shrestha made a presentation on Headlines Himalaya, the weekly newsletter of EGH.

### HEADLINES HIMALAYA

Headlines Himalaya is designed to provide a weekly round-up of major environment

*An Environmental Watchdog Newsletter*

## Headlines Himalaya

July 14-20, 2014 No. 312 Editorial Team – Anamika Shrestha & Rakshya Neupane

For the 312<sup>th</sup> issue, we reviewed 23 news reports from 10 sources and selected 15 happenings in four countries. In Nepal, floods and landslides is creating havoc in different part of the nation while in India, industrial effluents are degrading the environmental condition. In Bhutan the country's per capita fuel wood consumption has declined and heavy rainfall and poor drainage system has created trouble in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

Headlines Himalaya, a weekly e-News is an attempt to keep our global readers abreast with the happenings in the Himalaya. Please share it with your colleagues and friends. Also, subscription is free. Enjoy!

related news from the Himalayas. Thus far, 415 issues of Headlines Himalaya have been published. The newsletter has been subscribed by more than 3,500 readers from 78 countries around the world. This weekly e-News is an attempt to keep global readers abreast with the happenings in the Himalaya. It covers the news from Himalayan regions of five countries – Nepal, Bhutan, India, Pakistan and China (Tibet). HH also provides an opportunity for environmental graduates to work as monthly editors.

### List of Editors- July 2015- June 2016

Editors	Issue no.
Karishma Shrestha Ishu Sireng	362
Sangam Rai Khem Raj Khanal	363, 364,365,366
Pratibha Pokharel Subhadra Maharjan	367,368,369,370,371
Kiran Kunwar Luna Thapa	372,374,375
Ananda Kumar Shrestha Bikash Gorain	376,377,378,379
Christina Sharma Saroj Basnet	380,381,382,383,384
Sagar Niraula Krishna Hari Khadka	385,386,



Anu Rai Devashree Niraula	387,388,389,390,391
Deepak Khadka Sagar Niraula	392,393
Anusha Pandey Sabita Gurung	394,395,396,397
Kapil Silwal Hari Basnet	398,399,400,401,402
Shova Pandey Lalita Adhikari	403,404
Lalita Adhikari Karan Dewan	405
Kavya Devkota Namita Joshi	407,408,409,410
Roshan K Thakur Bindu Gurung	411,412,413,414
Reshma Shakya Archana Kafle	415

### Sharing Experiences

“Sharing Experiences” (formerly Gufgaff) is a semi-formal monthly discussion program, which was initiated on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2012 by Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH). Under this program recognized experts in various, mostly environment related fields are invited to share their personal and professional experience with interested EGH

members in an informal setting during the lunch hour. Many EGH members seek suggestions and advice from experts in their own areas of interests and also gain insights into experiences of the “real” world. In 2015/16, various honored guests shared their knowledge and experiences with EGH members.



### List of Guests on the monthly event – Sharing experiences

<b>Jul 2015</b>	Mr Nirajan Rijal, College of Applied Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal
<b>Aug 2015</b>	Mr Rabi Bhattarai, Lecturer, College of Applied Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal
<b>Sept 2015</b>	Mr Shashanka Sharma, Central Department of Environmental Science Tribhuvan University Kathmandu, Nepal
<b>Nov 2015</b>	Ms Pratibha Khatri, Central Department of Environmental Science, Tribhuvan University Kathmandu, Nepal
<b>Dec 2015</b>	Mr Rajan Thapa, Energy and Climate Change Program Officer, Clean Energy Nepal
<b>Jan 2016</b>	Mr Dilli Bhattarai, Research Fellow, the Small Earth Nepal (SEN)
<b>Feb 2016</b>	Dr Madan Koirala, Professor, Central Department of Environmental Science, Tribhuvan University
<b>Mar 2016</b>	Ms Kalpana KC, former coordinator of Environmental Graduates in Himalaya (EGH)
<b>Apr 2016</b>	Ms Sabita Gurung, Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University
<b>May 2016</b>	Ms Pasang Lhamu Sherpa Akita, Mountaineer/Mountaineer instructor
<b>Jun 2016</b>	Mr Chewan Rai, Founding President of Youth Thinkers' Society

### **BUILDING NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERS**

“Building The Next Generation” is a RHF-initiated mentorship program for promoting professional leadership in nature conservation. This involves mentorship in research and support for thesis work at the Masters level.

For the fiscal year 2015-16, Resources Himalaya Foundation had supported fifteen Masters level students to aid them in pursuing their thesis work. These awards were presented on a competitive merit basis, but efforts were also made to be as inclusive as possible in the selection of the awardees.



NAME OF STUDENTS	AFFILIA-TION	TITLE	RHF'S SUPERVISOR/ CO- SUPERVISOR
Ms Bina Ghimire, Bhirahawa	CDES	Breeding Status of Gyps Vulture in Natural Habitat of Gaidahawa, Rupandehi	Dr man Kumar Dhamala
Mr Saroj Pokhrel	CDES	Edge Dynamic at Forest Grassland Ecotone : A case Padampur, Chitwan National Park	Dr Rashila Deshar
Mr Krishna P. Sharma, Baglung	CDB	Shrubs Expansion and Their Effect on High Value Medicinal Plants in the Annapurna Conservation Area, Mustang, Nepal	Dr Bharat Banu Shrestha
Mr Narayan Niroula, Jhapa	CDES	Population Status Estimation and Species Distribution Modeling of Indian Fox ( <i>Vulpes bengalensis</i> )	Dr Ramji Bogati
Mr Shashank Sharma, Kathmandu	CDB	Study on Fishing Cat ( <i>Prionailurs Viverrinus</i> ) in Halkhoriya Daha, Bara, Nepal	Dr Maheshwor Dhakal
Ms Sujata Karki, Morang	CDB	Estimation of Carbon Stock under Different Forest Management System in Tarai Arc Landscape (TAL)	Dr Bharat Babu Shrestha
Mr Puskar Bhusal, Rupendehi	GGCI	Revisiting REDD plus Pilot Project in Khyarkhola Watershed in Chitwan, Nepal.	Dr Man Kumar Dhamal
Mr Kiran K Baram	CAS	Traditional Knowledge and Practice of Chepang Indigenous Peoples From Buffer Zones of Chitwan National Park, Chitwan for Biodiversity Conservation	Dr Bimala Khadka
Mr Subesh Joshi, Kathmandu	CDES	Habitat requirement of two Felidae: Clouded Leopard and Leopard Cat in ACAP	Dr Tej Bahadur Thapa
Mr Suman Prajapati, Bhaktapur	Khwopa College	Effect of Environment Factors on Soil Respiration in the Grassland of Annapurna Conservation Area, Nepal	Dr Deepa Dhital
Ms Subina Shrestha, Lalitpur	IOE	Transplantation of Tress to Combat Climate Change by Conservation of Forests	Dr Dinesh Raj Bhuju
Ms Parbati Gurung, Lalitpur	Khwopa College	Indigenous Knowledge and Distribution of Medicinal Plants of Gurung Community in Illam Pokhara VDC, Lamjung, Nepal	Dr Shankar Barsila



Mr Khem Gurung, Kaski	CDES	Assessment of Effects of Climate Change on Wetland Productivity: A Case Study of Phewa Lake	Dr Udhab khadka
Ms Dibya Rai, Kaski	CDZ	Butterfly Diversity of Ghandruk Area of Kaski	Dr Dayaram Bhusal
Ms Limba Rai, Solukhumbu	Khwopa College	Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation through Gender Perspective	Dr Dhananjaya Regmi

### Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Over the years Resources Himalaya Foundation has developed trusted partnerships with various institutions and organizations involved in the field of teaching, research and mentoring. MoU signed this year include the following:

#### Chandra Gurung Conservation Foundation (CGCF)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Chandra Gurung Conservation Foundation (CGCF) and Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF) on 13th May, 2016. This MoU represents the collaboration for the purpose of training young professionals in order to develop them into able leaders in the future.



*Ms Amanda Manandhar Gurung, Executive Director of CGCF (daughter of Dr Chandra Gurung) with Ms Patanjali Yonzon Shrestha, Programme Officer, RHF*

### TRANSPARENCY

The foundation gets funds, mainly for institutional support and research projects and also from individual donations. Its annual expenditures are audited by registered auditors and reports are submitted to the Government of Nepal and Social Welfare Council. Every year, the audited annual spending of the foundation is printed for public distribution and also posted on the web. This effort has brought credibility to the Foundation as one of the outstanding institutions within and outside the Himalaya.

सुवर्ण लाल जोशी  
एस. जोशी एण्ड एशोसिएट्स  
रजिस्टर्ड अडिटर  
प्र. प. नं.: ४८१८



ल.पु.उ.म.न.पा., वडा नं. २३  
धापाखेल, ललितपुर  
स्था.ले.नं.: ३००८७८९३४  
सम्पर्क: ९८४१३०२६०१

**Independent Auditor's Report**  
**To**  
**Resources Himalaya Foundation**  
**Lalitpur, Nepal**

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet, Income Statement of Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF), Lalitpur, Nepal as on Ashad, 2073 (Fiscal Year 2072/2073). These Financial Statements are responsibility of the Resources Himalaya Foundation. Lalitpur, Nepal's managements, our responsibility is to express an opinion on the these financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Statement on auditing or auditing standards generally accepted in Nepal or relevant practice. These standers require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material miss statement. An audit includes examining on test basis, evidence supporting the amount and discloser in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating overall presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis of our opinion.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanation given to us, the said statement of accounting gives true and fair views.

1. In case of Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the Foundation as at 31<sup>st</sup> Ashad 2073.
2. We have obtained all information and explanation which to the best of our knowledge and belief where necessary for the purpose of our audit.
3. In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by low has been maintained by the RHF management, in so far as appears from our examination of such books, the Balance Sheet, Income statement gives true and fair's view of financial position of as on 31<sup>st</sup> Ashad 2073.

Date: 18/06/2073

  
Subarna Lal Joshi  
Registered Auditor

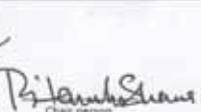


Resources Himalaya Foundation  
NayaBato, Lalitpur, Nepal  
Fund Accountability Statement  
For the Period from 16th July 2015 to 15th July 2016

Particulars	Current Year Amount in Rupees	Previous Year Amount in Rupees
<b>Sources of Fund:</b>		
Opening Balance of Fund	3,521,784.58	4,229,838.93
<b>Fund Received During the year:</b>		
Grant Received from Building Next Generation of Conservation Leaders, Supported by WWF	750,028.00	-
Grant Received from NASA: 2015	2,321,536.34	-
Grant Received from Policy Dialogue, Supported by WWF	65,589.00	-
Grant Received from AECIM Project	-	24,000.00
Grant Received from AECIM Second Phase Project	-	49,250.00
Grant Received from REA Project	178,004.00	496,179.00
Grant Received from Educational Support in Earthquake Project, (Library Set Up)	88,735.00	100,000.00
Mr. Et Jan Pionier	8,701,900.00	-
Japanese Students, from Tokyo Dental Medical College	80,033.00	-
Grant Received from GIZ Project	-	21,150.00
Grant Received from WCN	40,000.00	40,000.00
Grant Received from LAM Grant Dr. Ash K Rai	40,000.00	40,000.00
Grant Received from Dr Pradev Yonzon Wildlife Research Fund	808,350.00	100,000.00
Grant Fund Dr Dinesh Raj Bhoir	1,000,000.00	-
Grant Fund Mr. Madan Rai	1,000,000.00	-
Grant Fund Dr Hirotsugu and Ms Hioko Takizawa	1,06,350.00	-
Incentive Income from Graduate Conference	-	25,000.00
Income from training on Wildlife research survey (Red Panda)	-	4,500.00
<b>Total Fund Received during the year</b>	<b>4,513,842.34</b>	<b>896,079.00</b>
Miscellaneous Income	711,069.51	641,048.87
Bank Interest	57,189.28	42,727.97
House Rent	520,000.00	458,995.90
Contribution from Board member	13,000.00	14,000.00
Contribution from Resources person	105,300.00	7,625.00
Mr. Et Jan Pionier	80,000.00	-
Mr. Binay Shrestha	15,000.00	-
Ms. Subina Shrestha	10,300.00	-
Youth Alliance Enrichment	-	25,000.00
Registration Fee	-	46,200.00
Duty of WHF Notes	-	5,700.00
Post Charge	11,000.00	-
Miscellaneous Income	5,100.00	-
Small Mammals Conservation & Research Foundation	4,000.00	-
Other Liabilities	177,303.48	43,861.63
<b>Total Available Fund</b>	<b>8,929,386.71</b>	<b>5,762,644.45</b>
<b>Uses of Funds</b>		
Expenditure of USAID Project	-	70,000.00
Expenditure of MLARR Project	-	236,833.00
Expenditure of MLARR - DOR Project	-	802.00
Expenditure of IMF Project	-	3.80
Expenditure of AECIM Project	-	36,000.00
Expenditure of GIZ Project	-	5,382.00
Expenditure of ESE Project	477,572.00	6,085.00
Expenditure of Graduate Conference Project	17,300.00	247,234.00
Expenditure of REA Project	-	545,390.00
Expenditure of AECIM Second Phase Project	-	45,000.00
Expenditure of NASA Project	268,500.00	-
Expenditure of Policy Dialogue Project	227,255.00	-
Expenditure of Building Next Generation of Conservation Leaders Project	688,245.00	-
Expenditure of Administration	1,183,898.17	1,596,509.79
Expenditure of Depreciation	3,103,502.77	-
Purchase of Assets	-	92,540.90
<b>Total Use of Funds</b>	<b>4,061,882.94</b>	<b>2,875,758.99</b>
Bank Balance	4,706,163.77	1,731,915.99
Advance	161,854.00	204,823.19
<b>Total Fund Accountability</b>	<b>4,868,017.77</b>	<b>3,937,539.18</b>

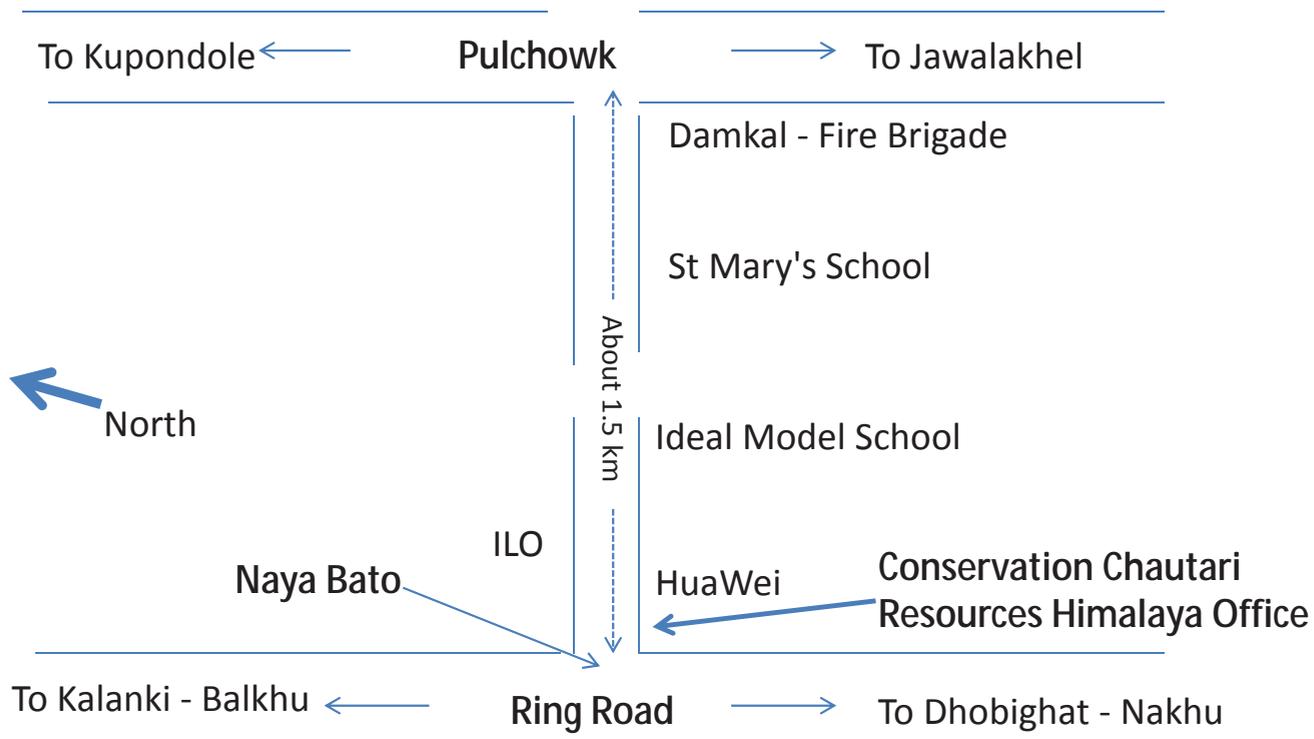
  
 Accountant  
 Sonu Shrestha

  
 Treasurer  
 Dhan Bdr Shrestha

  
 Chair person  
 Prof Dr Pritam Sharma

  
 Secretary  
 Sushila Lal Joshi

  
 R.N. 4518  
 Registered Auditor, Lalitpur



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GPO Box 2448, Kathmandu, Nepal

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Website: [www.resourcehimalaya.org](http://www.resourcehimalaya.org)

