

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study <i>(should be concise and within approximately 25 words)</i>			
Strengthening local capacity for conserving medicinal plants and improving livelihoods through domestication and integration of LBSAP in planning process			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
Kathmandu Forestry College			
Other contributing organization(s) <i>(IPSI members and/or non-members)</i>			
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and Nepal Agroforestry Foundation (NAF)			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
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Format of case study <i>(manuscript or audiovisual)</i>	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords <i>(3-5 key concepts included in the case study)</i>			
LBSAP; Biodiversity; Livelihoods; Medicinal plants; NBSAP-Nepal			
Date of submission <i>(or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)</i>	1 November 2016		
Web link <i>(of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)</i>			

Geographical Information

Country <i>(where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even “global”)</i>									
Nepal									
Location(s) <i>(within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)</i>									
Rasuwa District									
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link <i>(if location is identified)</i>									
https://www.google.com/maps/@28.1199993,85.3912452,11z?hl=en									
Ecosystem(s) <i>(please place an “x” in all appropriate boxes)</i>									
Forest	x	Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water		Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain	x	Urban/peri-urban		Other <i>(Please specify)</i>			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area <i>(within 50 words)</i>									
Syafru VDC has a total population of 3,272, and agricultural biodiversity comprises 114 species and forest-related biodiversity 210 species. Tourism is the main economic activity. The rural landscape that encompasses the agrarian economy, fragile ecology and complex and differentiated society is changing rapidly in Nepal, creating new opportunities (road link to China border) and competition among traders for extraction of medicinal plant resources.									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area <i>(land-use, traditional resource management practices etc. – within 50 words)</i>									
The rural economy in Nepal is based on subsistence agriculture. Major occupations are hotel business and agriculture. The cultivation of non-timber forest products (NTFP), especially Swertia chirayita, Paris polyphylla and Valeriana jatamansi, began a decade ago.									

Contents

Status (<i>"ongoing" or "completed"</i>)	Completed	Period (<i>MM/YY to MM/YY</i>)	02/14 to 02/16
Rationale (<i>why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed – within 50 words</i>)			
In order to promote local efforts in biodiversity conservation, there is a need for an institutional mechanism to engage VDC members in the developing and implementing of conservation strategies. To translate the NBSAP's commitments into local action, Nepal required a mechanism that linked biodiversity conservation efforts at the VDC and municipality level as a pilot project.			
Objectives (<i>goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study – within 50 words</i>)			
The main objectives of this assignment were to document the bio-resources, identify issues and threats to biodiversity, and prepare the local (VDC level) biodiversity strategy and action plan in three ecological landscapes of Nepal. This paper aims to demonstrate how the LBSAP can be a useful instrument to consolidate specific activities for biodiversity conservation.			
Activities and/or practices employed (<i>within 50 words</i>)			
This is a case study of the development and implementation of the LBSAP in Syafru VDC, which included promoting the domestication of medicinal and aromatic plant (MAP) species to contribute both to the sustainable use of MAP and to the improvement of local livelihoods.			
Results (<i>within 50 words</i>)			
Syafru VDC concentrated on the domestication of medicinal and aromatic plant (MAP) species to prevent their unsustainable use through illegal and excessive harvesting in the National Park area around the VDC. Overall, the beneficiaries' income has increased by 10 percent in the two-year period. Income from medicinal plants alone was from NPR 25,021 in 2014 to NPR 45,943 in 2016, which is 92% of the total change. The LBSAP contributed to build the capacity of local communities to reduce poverty from 44% to 29% in the study area.			
Lessons learned (<i>factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities – within 40 words</i>)			
The domestication of selected medicinal plants has significantly reduced illegal collection of these and other MAPs in the protected areas and community forest. This is an indication of raised awareness among the local communities, and shows that the MAP domestication and its inclusion in the LBSAP has contributed to MAP conservation.			
Key messages (<i>within 40 words</i>)			
With the development of LBSAPs, various stakeholders from the district level to the local (VDC) level have concentrated their efforts on both biodiversity conservation and the livelihoods of local communities. Stakeholders' commitment is very important for the success of the programme as it creates two main benefits: firstly, every stakeholder has a sense of ownership of the programme, and secondly, this commitment provides the institutional base to further promote the programme's activities.			
Relationship to other IPSI activities (<i>if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.</i>)			
This case study originally appeared in the Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review v. 2.			

Contributions to Global Agendas

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the CBD’s Aichi Biodiversity Targets respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
■	●		■	■		●			
Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
■			●			●	■	●	■

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

■	■						■	
		●			●			