



RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCES

- PRESERVING NATURE FOR THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BFUC	Buffer Zone User Committee	MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
BWI-NAC	Building and Wood Worker's International	MGV	My Gakidh Village – program (Bhutan)
CAWUN	Nepal Affiliate Committee Construction and Allied Workers' Union	MJUMITA	Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania
CBAPU	in Nepal Community Based Anti-Poaching Unit	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding (agreement)
CBFM	Community Based Forest Management	MPRC	Multi-Purpose Resource Center
СВО	Community Based Organization	MRV	Monitoring Reporting and Verifications
CCRO	Customary Rights of Occupancy	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CEAI	Coastal East Africa Initiative	NGO FION	NGO Federation of Indigenous of Nepal
CFCC	Community Forest Coordination Committee	NPPC	National Plant Protection Centre (Bhutan)
CFUG	Community Forest User Group	ODA	Official Development Assistance
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	PES	Payments for Ecosystem Services
		PFD	Programme Framework Document
CNI	Confederation of Nepalese Industries	PHE	Population, Health and Environment
CSO	Civil Society Organisation	PPMS	Project and Programme Management Standards
CUPPEC	Central Union of Painters, Plumbers,	RBM	Rights-based management
DFNRNR	Electro and Construction in Nepal Directorate of Natural Resources of Zanzibar and Non Renewable Resources	REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
DFRS		RIC	REDD Implementation Centre
DIP	Department of Forest Research and Survey Detail Implementation Plan	SADC	Southern African Development Community
EAC	East African Community	SASK	The Trade Union Solidarity Centre of
ERPD	Emissions Reductions Programme Document	SDG	Finland Sustainable Development Goals
FMU	Forest Management Unit	SHL	Sacred Himalayan Landscape
FPAN	Family Planning Association of Nepal	ShNP	Shuklaphanta National Park (Nepal)
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council	SIDA	Swedish International Development
GEF7	Global Environment Facility	OIDII	Cooperation Agency
HCVF	High Conservation Value Forest	SRH	Sexual and reproductive Health
HCV	High Conservation value	TAL	Terai Arc Landscape (Nepal)
HRBA	Human rights-based approach	TAP	Technical Advisory Panel
HSAP	Hydropower Sustainability Assessment	TMJ	Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale
THUZO	Protocol	TNRF	Tanzania Natural Resource Forum
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict	TRAFFIC	The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
IRMC	Integrated River Management Committee	UFWG	Uganda Forest Working Group
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	UWICER	Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environmental
IWT	Illegal Wildlife Trade		Research
KCFCF	Kenya Coastal Forest Conservation Forum	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
KLHS	Strategic Environmental Assessment	WCCB	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau
KNP	Kaziranga National Park (India)	WRA	Water Risk Assesment
KSK	District Strategic Areas (Indonesia)	WWF-CEAI	WWF-Coastal East Africa Initiative
LHI	Living Himalayas Initiative	WWF GEF	WWF Global Environment facility
LUP	Land Use Plan	VNRC	Village Natural Resources Committee
MCDI	Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative	YDF	Youth Development Fund (Bhutan)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Globally WWF worked hard in 2017 to streamline and focus our numerous priorities into nine global thematic focus areas, so called "Practices", with new leaders and clear strategies in place. As a result of this process all WWF offices around the world are focusing their work to support global goals under Forests, Oceans, Wildlife, Food, Climate and Energy and Freshwater. In addition, to reduce the ecological footprint of human-kind and the threats to environment, WWF will furthermore work with cross-cutting themes of Finance, Markets and Governance. With the re-organizing of the WWF network, the aim is to be even more effective, focused and impactful in the face of growing environmental threats.

Climate change is becoming reality and its impact can be witnessed around the world. In 2017, devastating hurricanes stormed in US and the Caribbean causing huge damage to people and societies. Similarly, severe forest fires in California threatened both people and their livelihoods as well as the environment. South Asia floods killed thousands of people leaving even more homeless. Globally CO2 emissions are still increasing while the exploitation of new oil fields is still being planned – even in the Arctic. However, climate change has become a top concern in the global political agenda and the price of renewable energy, in some instances, is already competitive with fossil fuels. With the exception of the U.S. President (but not the entire U.S. population) the world remains committed to the Paris Climate targets and beyond.

In 2017 wildlife species are still fighting extinction, such as the Vaquita and the Sumatran rhino, which are on the brink. But a key country like China is taking bold actions to protect nature, perhaps most significantly by deciding on a complete closure of its domestic ivory trade, which came into effect on 31 December 2017. A potential life-changer for elephants, which WWF and many others have so strongly supported.

Globally there were several significant conservation successes where WWF played an important role. Long-term funding (Bhutan for Life) for Bhutan's protected areas' system secured over two million hectares of nature in this extraordinary country. A successful campaign reversed the Brazilian President's decision to open the Amazon protected areas to mining – the greatest attack on the Amazon in over 50 years. And the Belize government passed a law that puts an end to all possibility of oil exploration in its waters, a landmark decision in marine conservation. The health of the reef was deemed more important than the prospect of an oil economy.

In WWF Finland year 2017 was time for new bold actions towards more sustainable development. In early 2017 WWF Finland published a Meat Guide which gives consumers information about the global ecological impacts of food and specifically meat consumption. The guide helps consumer to choose alternatives for meat and guidance how to shift towards sustainable diets. The guide and extensive communication around it provided information and insight on how meat consumption in Finland is connected to the global environmental threats like deforestation which is influencing the massive biodiversity loss called sixth extinction. In 2017 WWF Finland together with Aalto University and other Finnish stakeholders launched Finnish Water Stewardship Commitment (vesivastuusitoumus) which has been adopted already now by some Finnish companies and was awarded as "New Approach of the year" in National Sustainable Development meeting. Several other innovative and effective conservation approaches were launched in 2017 which are described in the WWF Finland annual report (Annex 2).

The International development team together with colleagues in Finland and partners in the South developed a new 4-year programme, which Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland approved in early 2018. The development of the new programme involved extensive amount of WWF Finland's experts' time and knowledge. The partner countries had already existing strategies and programmes which were used as a basis for the programme which meant that the creation and finalization of the programme approach could be done in Finland. This enabled partners to continue effective implementation of 2017 workplans. Year 2017 was an additional funding decision from MFA for one year to continue Partnership programme 2014-2016.

In 2017 WWF Finland's partnership programme reached approximately 100 000 beneficiaries, at least 50 % of them women. These people were engaged in managing and conserving community forests, which provide various social, economic and ecosystem benefits and services for them. Forests as well as various agricultural and livestock support activities improved also people's food security. In 2017 we supported also over 20 nature-based small-scale enterprises which create income and employment opportunities for the local people while reducing the dependency on unsustainable forest utilization. Over 5000 people benefitted directly from climate change adaptation solutions in Nepal which again in 2017 was faced with severe natural disaster as heavy floods tormented the southern parts of the country for several weeks. WWF had to also adapt to the shocks by supporting the flood victims, both people and animals.

WWF works with local community-based organizations and civil society organizations to reach the beneficiaries and to achieve our conservation objectives. In 2017 through this programme we supported over 60 local organizations, including our WWF partner offices to take an active role on their civil society nationally and regionally and to promote sustainable natural resources management and protection.

Programme has strong focus on protecting and sustainably managing community forests, and in 2017 we were able to bring additional 9000 hectares under community ownership bringing the total amount of forests under community management since 2014 to over 112 000 hectares. Furthermore, we were able to support one private forest company in Borneo to secure FSC-certification for their forests concessions of 45 985 hectares. Also in Borneo, WWF has had a significant role to support Sintang district government to conduct environmental assessment in 781 788 hectares of valuable forest areas. The aim of the analysis is to decide on the District Strategic Areas which will be conserved for biodiversity, water service and cultural heritage purposes. Under the Living Himalayas programme WWF supported the process where 58 525 hectares of valuable landscape in Eastern Nepal were designated as new conservation areas called Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale Complex. All these protected forest areas provide income and livelihoods for the programme beneficiaries and at the same time the forests have crucial role on maintaining water resources, regulating climate, and providing habitats for threatened species.

Also in 2017 WWF Finland's partner countries contributed to WWF's global species conservation work. In Bhutan doubling the tiger population in Manas National park was celebrated and in Nepal our support helped to maintain the Zero Poaching of rhinos by facilitating community-based antipoaching units. The production of Villien Jäljillä -TV series about WWF Finland's species conservation work started in 2017 with first filming takin place in Nepal. The series will be highlighting the endangered species and WWF's work to protect them.

The programme also reached over 20 000 youth and school children through environmental education campaigns and events such as Earth Hour and World Village Festival both in Finland and in partner countries. Conservation minded, active and inspired youth will be the responsible decision makers of the future, therefore WWF sees that investing in youth is crucial to ensure sustainable tomorrow.



EAST AFRICA REGIONAL FOREST PROGRAMME

In 2017, the main objective of the East Africa forest programme was to support the governments of the East Africa region to develop national, bilateral and regional action plans for the implementation of the Zanzibar declaration. The goal of this work is to tackle illegal logging and timber trade in the region while increasing legal and sustainable trade in timber and forest products through locally controlled community forestry. Work follows the Regional Forest Programme Strategic Plan 2016-2020. During 2017, the work focused on policy and advocacy work on with a regional scale as well as on ground work mainly in Tanzania. National, bilateral and regional high-level government meetings focusing on tackling illegal timber trade in the region have been an effective way to get governments to agree on joint actions and cooperation. A total of 46 712 people (of which 24 421 women) from 17 villages in Ruvuma landscape in southern Tanzania benefitted from various programme activities, such as forest management and governance trainings, during 2017. In addition, more beneficiaries, including government and Civil Society Organizations (CSO) representatives were reached through regional work in five different East African countries. In addition to Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) funding, the regional forest programme also received support from Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) with the main objective to strengthen civil society and rights based approach.

Supporting community forestry for conservation and improved livelihoods

In 2017, programme managed to increase the area under sustainable forest management by 1 374 hectares for Nyamwage village land forest reserve in Rufiji district in southern Tanzania. To date, with direct MFA contribution the area under sustainable forest management has reached to 96 793 hectares in the four Districts of Rufiji, Kilwa, Tunduru and Namtumbo in Tanzania. Since 2014 with multiple donor support, the area under Village Land Forest Reserves is now 441 351 hectares.

In Tanzania, ten villages in Ruvuma landscape generated revenue amounting around 104 000 euros from sustainable timber sales of 864 m3 providing socio economic benefits to 26 563 people (13 846 women) in Tunduru, Kilwa and Rufiji districts. In Kilwa, the revenues earned from these harvests have been used to invest in birthing kits for 51 expecting mothers, finishing for Village Office and Village Guest House, early burning, patrol gears, subsistence for Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC) members during forest patrols, purchase transportation facilities (Motorbikes), health insurance and a First Aid kit for Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC) members. In Tunduru, the revenues have been used to build Village Office in Ngapa, purchase motorbikes for the VNRC for forest patrols, health insurance, training new VNRC members, costs of forest patrol team and for harvesting supervision. And in Rufiji the revenue has been spent to support forest management activities by VNRC. Also, a total of 90 Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCRO) have been issued in Ruvuma landscape following the completion of Land Use Plan (LUP) and training on customary rights.

With the aim to bring together business partners in forest industry to discuss ways of promoting investments, enhancing forest governance, conservation and reward to community forests, a landscape investment forum was organized by WWF in Tanzania. The forum met its key objective, which was to identify and engage the private

sector and determine the potential support for the establishment of private sector partnerships with respect to the sale of timber from the currently supported Village Land Forest Reserves in Ruvuma landscape.

Improving forest governance and law enforcement

As a result from strengthening forest governance in different levels (national, district, village) about 9 reported incidence of illegal cutting of trees to the district authority and police were reported. Three cases were prosecuted at Tunduru primary court using community bylaws and resulted into two judgements that lead to imprisonment and fining on forest crimes. Empowering the local community based groups and networks is one of the best ways of bringing about accountability of natural resource management institutions at both local and national level. Local networks based in Tunduru district have been very pro-active in reporting forest illegalities to higher authorities and mobilizing communities to take actions against irresponsible village leaders.

Records from Ruvuma landscape indicate that there is an increase of about 30 % in the issued permits to harvest timber from legal sources. These permits are issued by District Forest Managers and District Forest Officers in Ruvuma landscape. This is one way to ensure that harvesting happens only in areas with proper management and harvesting plans.

The performance of village land and forest co-management institutions has been improved following capacity building to 207 (70 women) representatives from 10 villages. Through trainings on good governance themes, specifically on conducting patrol, financial management, running quarterly meetings and advocacy skills, good governance has been strengthened. Communities have been empowered to advocate for their rights in forest and land management, increase patrol rates, and at least one VNRC meeting per village has been conducted. Communities in Tunduru have been facilitated to develop simple community conservation projects and connect to funding institutions.

Prior trainings have also resulted in improved financial accounting processes for revenue generated from forest in four VNRCs and two local community networks. The accounting books are properly filled, and financial reports are closed monthly and quarterly. It has been observed that combining auditing and governance monitoring is effective tool for improving village forest governance. Village leaders and communities seem to be more attentive to audit reports nowadays. Audit issues compel the village leaders to take actions on their misconducts. Audit and governance scores were observed to be very impressive simple means of measuring the performance of village governments.

In Madagascar, 61 people from various entities have their knowledge improved and capacities strengthened on several areas related to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) implementation through training of agents involved in the control of exploitation, transport, trade and exportation of precious woods, and on practical identification methods of species with basic equipment such as flash LED magnifiers and cutters. And for the first time in Madagascar, a manual for the identification of 11 traded wood species was produced in collaboration with the national CITES scientific authority. Also, the cooperation and communications between different ministries and organizations has improved around CITES implementation.

In Tanzania, the complete set of National Forests stewardship standards have been approved by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) International policy committee. In November 2017, the FSC International Committee requested minor justification to Standards and re-submitted to FSC International on 30th November 2017. Publication is expected to happen in 2018.

Bilateral and regional cooperation among Eastern African governments to tackle illegal logging and trade

The Steering Committee (or Forest Directors Forum) under the Zanzibar Declaration was officially launched in Nairobi on 13th April 2017 in a joint meeting with the five member countries. Some actions agreed in the meeting are; proposal to CITES for initiating repatriation arrangements under Zanzibar Declaration for timber consignments confiscated at the destination or transit country within the region, development of bloc timber trade agreements between members of the Declaration and China, and interest to pursue the Global Environment Facility (GEF7) funding opportunity with support from WWF. WWF-Tanzania facilitated the Forests and Beekeeping Division of Tanzania Mainland and the Directorate of Natural Resources of Zanzibar and Non Renewable Resources (DFNRNR) to develop an initial concept note to GEF7 with a target funding of US\$ 14.5 Million through funding from WWF-UK. In the same meeting, a publication by TRAFFIC (the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network), called "Overview of the timber trade in East and Southern Africa" was published and it was used as a basis for the discussions.

Later in 2017, the 5th East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders Forum was organized in Zanzibar. In this meeting the members of the Zanzibar declaration had opportunity to reflect on their national performance and develop long-term action plans for the next 3-5 years that would form the basis for governments to apply for GEF7 funding. The forum brought together 43 participants (9 Female) ranging from private sector (8), government agencies (22), NGOs (12) and regional bodies (1). The private sector attended included those involved in forest-based essential oil business (e.g. Arbor Oil) and timber exports (e.g. Sound and Fair Ltd.) from community-based enterprises, and those investing in tree-growers schemes e.g. Uganda Timber Growers Association, Asante Capital EPZ of Costal Kenya.

WWF also participated in the 4th China-Africa Forest governance platform in Pemba, Tanzania. In this meeting it was further explored what is the role and opportunity to engage Zanzibar and other islands states (e.g. Seychelles) on discussion for transit routes and repatriation of timber under the Zanzibar declaration. Also, it was an opportunity to engage with government representatives from Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia to explore links with Central Africa and pursue their interests to join Zanzibar Declaration. This resulted in a meeting between Tanzania, DRC and Zambia in February 2018 for further discussions.

Bilateral meetings, discussions and action plan development to tackle illegal logging and trade were supported for instance between Tanzania and Mozambique and with Kenya during 2017. The focus between Mozambique and Tanzania has dealt the customs operations between the countries and how to improve cooperation. With Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique, the authorities have agreed to include discussions of illegal timber and charcoal trade as part of the agenda within their district security committees and instructed the District Forest Managers to provide quarterly reports and seek support where possible. This process will

ensure political support from the District Commissioners and will continue for next reporting period for Kenya and Mozambique.

In 2017, WWF also worked closely with the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). With the EAC, support was given in forest policy development for the member states. With SADC, a review process was initiated for the SADC Forest Protocol. The report has outlined a few actions to be pursued by the program including current limitations on CITES discussions on timber in Southern Africa and the need for management regime of seized timber consignments.

Supporting civil society organizations to tackle illegal trade in timber

During 2017, the WWF offices in five East African countries have partnered with and supported financially and technically nine Civil Society Organizations. These CSOs have important role in supporting communities in implementation of sustainable natural resources management and promotion of good governance, further they have important role in influencing governments through policy advocacy and lobbying. In Tanzania, WWF supported Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI), Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania (MJU-MITA) and Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) In Uganda WWF supported the Uganda Forest Working Group (UGFWG), in Kenya the Kenya Coastal Forest Conservation Forum (KCFCF) and in Mozambique National CSOs Alliance of Mozambique. With the extension of the programme to Uganda and Madagascar, four forums engaged on tackling illegal trade in timber and promoting sustainable forest management have been added in these two countries. Training on forest governance has been provided to CSOs including WWF staff. It was an opportunity for them to look in depth the new forest policy and the proposed forest laws. Working with CSOs across the region has shown that development of CSOs' capacity is a long process and one that require patience, consistency support, long-term funding commitment and equal partnership. Continued support and good relationship with, CSOs along with Government agencies and private sector has enabled the programme to meet some of its objectives this year.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

The process to make community forest sustainable can take long but once local communities are beginning to receive monetary benefits from forest they will respect their forests and take their own efforts to protect the forest. This is case for villages such as Nanjirinji where WWF and partners have invested for nearly 10 years to a point now that the community is beginning to invest in other long-term businesses to ensure stable in financial resources. The experience from Nanjirinji offers a good lesson to other areas (Tunduru, Rufiji and Namtumbo) which are still at infancy stage in community forestry enterprises. The new MFA funding (2018-2021) will concentrate on the infantry areas to support a more sustainable business approach.

Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) not only helps to curb rural poverty and promote sustainable use of forests, but also brings about a variety of other positive outcomes that cross-cut multiple Sustainable Development Goals. The programme recognizes that linking conservation and social dimensions and widening the involvement of communities in the program cycle is vital for

creating ownership and ensuring sustainability of program outcomes and impacts. In order to ensure that conservation outcomes are linked to the human rights (e.g. land rights, forest use rights) of the people dependent on natural resources including rights of those with disabilities, the programme employed the use of rights-based management (RBM) approach in sustainable forest management interventions e.g. the use of Tanzania national guidelines in ensuring equal representation of various groups (and gender) in forest management decision-making process.

During the transition process of the WWF-Coastal East Africa Initiative (WWF-CEAI) and design of the regional forest strategy, Uganda and Madagascar were added to the original Coastal East Africa Initiative (CEAI) geographical focus (Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique). This was in response to WWF-CEAI mid-term evaluation and evidence from a number of regional studies on the increasing inter-regional and intra-regional trade in timber across the five participating countries. To further respond to this challenge, the programme has contributed effectively to the design of the WWF's Africa transformational project which aims to address illegal trade in timber at Pan-African scale by bringing together WWF's regional forest programmes from Eastern, Southern and Central Africa.

There were limited funds available for the Zanzibar declaration implementation at the government level as the agreement was signed after most government budgets had been approved (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania). In Madagascar, for example, the CITES action plan required considerable funding but little was implemented due to lack of funding allocation from the government. In summary, it has been challenging to influence the implementation of the CITES action plan because the available resources cannot cover all the actions as it is the case for Tanzania (Zanzibar) and Madagascar.

Monitoring trips

In March 2017 Aleksi Heiskanen and Anne Tarvainen visited Tanzania to discuss about the situation of the regional forest programme as part of the visit to Tanzania where also a meeting was arranged to establish a regional Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) hub. The connection between the work what the regional forest programme has done to address illegal timber trade in East Africa has clear connection to the work what the newly established IWT hub will do to address the rapidly growing poaching and IWT in the region. The support for IWT hub was decided to be included to the WWF Finland new Partnership Programme.

INDONESIA, BORNEO

During 2017, WWF continued to support sustainable management and conservation of the mountain rainforests in the Muller-Schwaner area in Central and West Kalimantan, by cooperating with district governments, local villages, CSOs and the private sector. WWF also continued to support the local communities to establish a legal basis to manage their forest and improve their access and control over the forest and other natural resources. In addition, continuous support has been given for community livelihood development models. The program has been successful in ensuring sustainable management of government forests via support

to developing and implementation of forest management plans. The plan is a prerequisite to access implementation fund from the central government. Also, with WWF support, a logging company has received FSC certification, a globally recognized certification scheme for sustainable forest management. Equally important, through consistent capacity building support from WWF, the local communities presenting the indigenous people Dayaks, have gained skills and ability to run an adaptive management system in scaling up the value of the commodities (rubber, coffee and organic crops) produced from in their own villages.

Supporting sustainable forest management in government and private forests

As a result of earlier support and capacity development from WWF, two government Forest Management Units (FMU), in Gunung Mas and Murung Raya districts, are now implementing sustainable forest management activities independently based on the developed forest management plans. They are now also able to use the state budget to implement the forest management plans and are no longer dependent on WWF support. This is a clear evidence of positive impact of WWF programme. In addition, in Gunung Mas, as there are now official forest management plans in place, it's easier to attract new donors (i.e. USAID) to give strategic support for the implementation of the plans.

As a result of multi-year process, WWF has assisted a private forest company, PT. Graha Sentosa Permai (GSP), to be FSC certified (45 985 Ha). The final assessment was held at the end of 2016 and through intensive support from WWF, the management of the company was able to respond to all major and minor corrective actions requests and close all findings and eventually to be certified at the end of February 2017. WWF's contribution started from basic assessment in the early of 2013 and continued with capacity building activities (workshop, trainings) and intensive support during the mock assessment as well as upon the final assessment held by the certification body. The company is expected to gain higher economic benefit without increasing the harvesting level, broader market access and better relations with the communities adjacent to their concession.

Supporting village forest conservation and management

During 2017, through WWF advocacy to the Gunung Mas District Environment Agency, at least 20 000 euros were allocated and has been spent to conduct the High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) assessment within village forest areas (Hutan Desa) in Harowu and Rangan Hiran villages. HCV assessment was aimed to identify the hotspots of biodiversity values that should be conserved. Based on the assessments, a zoning plan will be made in which core conservation zones, utilization zones and buffer zones are determined.

In 2017, the total area of village forests also increased from 5 100 hectares to 12 401 hectares through the legalization of Rasau and Jasa village forests. Rasau village has been split into four new autonomy villages and it is automatically splitting the proposed village forest to the four new areas. However, during the public consultation attended by the representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Provincial Government, the communities from four new villages wanted to be treated as one entity named as "Kelingkang Bersatu". They will be managing the unit of four village forests as one in Rasau.

Supporting livelihood development and community enterprises

WWF facilitated Tanjung village government and communities to establish BUM-DES – a village owned enterprise. It's designed to legalize business activities that can utilize public funding from village budgets as well as improve position of the village and farmers to deal with markets. It's managed by the village government to run multiple business, i.e. rubber, coffee, cocoa, horticulture, ecotourism, etc. First workshop was held at Tanjung village to ensure that communities are having good knowledge and understanding about the concept. In addition, training and capacity building have been successfully implemented for the women groups at Tanjung village, particularly on the development of bakery and other small scale economic activities to support livelihoods. In Tanjung and Harowu villages, some budget has also been disbursed to support rubber cultivation (1380 euros) and Micro Hydro initiatives (10 000 euros). This funding is received from public funding (Indonesia tax payers) and if this can be increased gradually, the sustainability of the programme can be maintained. In Tanjung village, the trading of high-quality raw-material rubber (BOKAR) has continuously been done by the farmer groups while at the same time efforts have been made to diversify the commodity production to include wild honey, vegetables and home-based pastry.

By March 2017, for the third time, a local farmer group (Gapoktan) successfully sold 1 ton of natural rubber (BOKAR) to the market. A buyer, PT Kirana, paid 0,75 euros for 1 kg of rubber. The farmer group earned approximately 759 euros in total. There were some challenges maintaining the quality which led to the reduction of price. As an adaptive management, the Gapoktan will minimize this problem in the future by seeking possibilities to have an agreement with buyers related to the product qualities and specification and to seek possibility getting *purchase guarantee* from the buyers. In addition, updating prices frequently to the farmers will also minimize potential of financial loss, as the Gapoktan will have updated information related to prices when they collect rubber from the farmers.

In Bahitom village, Central Kalimantan, livestock program has been set up by utilizing funding from district government (2 100 euros). WWF's role has been to provide capacity building for the village government to be able to access the program. WWF also ensured commitment from the Regent to support Bahitom as a model for organic farming and agro-tourism. Bahitom-village has now allocated money (at least 2 000 euros in 2017 with the aim to increase it to 4 800 euros in 2018) to support permaculture and agritourism in the village.

Cooperation through local civil society organizations

Cooperation with local CSOs continued at community level in West Kalimantan. A local partner named KOMPASS has been appointed by the programme to conduct a study on etnobotany in Tanjung village. The study is important for the communities, since etnobotany is one of the ecosystem services that benefits directly local people, making it one of the main reasons why they should conserve their village forests (Hutan Desa). The conservation of etnobotany has also been acknowledged by most of the certification systems in Indonesia as high conservation value (HCV). Local partners have played important role in some achievements such as the verification of the proposed village forests Rasau and Jasa, by end of March 2018. Also, rubber development facilitation and village-level land use planning, have successfully been implemented in coordination with partners with a common vision how to make Tanjung village as an ideal model to be developed as a green village.

The programme has also actively participated on the Social Forestry Forum in West and Central Kalimantan together with other NGOs across the regions which have common programs on social forestry issues. As a result of cooperation and capacity transfer, WWF sees the CSO partners have improved their capacities; especially for the CBOs such as Gapoktan, Women Group and village enterprise groups. They work is far more organized through the establishment of farmer groups, knowing their roles and having improved technical capacities.

Supporting conservation through education and communication

Communication programs are delivered to the stakeholders through reports, books and online social media. During 2017 one report was developed to explain programme interventions in Tanjung village and three books were produced related to the programs implemented in Tanjung and Harowu village such as etnobotany and community engagement and village forest. These publications were disseminated to the relevant parties such as government, communities and general public to increase awareness and knowledge on WWF interventions and community development. Communication about the activities and successes is important also when seeking funding from district and government and other donors.

In addition, WWF has encouraged youth participation in Murung Raya district through students' internship program on organic farming, in a partnership with vocational school. During 2017, at least 10 students were participating in the programme. WWF has also organized trainings on Education for Sustainable Development (20 participants).

The aim of education has been to improve knowledge and technical skills of the teachers to implement the program by engaging students and youth and intensively communicating the program with local authorities within Murung Raya District government. WWF and Bahitom village government have been able to convene the Regent of Murung Raya to establish a special working group and secure initial financial resources to develop and improve agro-tourism in Bahitom village.

Promoting the environmental services of forests

Environmental services such as traditional-medical herbs are pivotal to be conserved as local community and indigenous people have been using those products for generations. The importance is even higher for the people living in the proximity and in forests without sufficient access to proper medical facilities, such as healthcare centers. WWF has, therefore, decided to start focusing on this and documenting the diversity of medical herbs. This first step was taken in Harowu and Tanjung villages. In October 2017, 100 books were printed out and disseminated to the stakeholders who were attending the Heart of Borneo Trilateral meeting in Tarakan, North Kalimantan. The studies were done together with local people. Medical herbs were used to illustrate the importance of the forests which are also habitats and a source for their traditionally used species. Losing the natural habitat means they will face challenges to get alternative, affordable and traditional cures closest to their home.

Promoting sustainable land use planning through policy and advocacy

In order to ensure the buy-in of the program initiatives by the local government, by July 2017, WWF performed an intensive advocacy work to the Central Kalimantan Provincial Government to issue a Governor Regulation over the establishment of

forest management units (FMUs) in Central Kalimantan. The regulation can be seen as a political commitment from the Governor to support sustainable forest stewardship within the province as well as to replace a former regulation that has expired due to the change of Law. According to the regulation, 33 forest management units (FMUs) have been re-established and should be managed by 18 organizations under the Central Kalimantan Provincial Government.

Furthermore, by December 2017, Sintang District Government, facilitated by WWF, finalized the Technical and Scientific Assessment Report of the District Strategic Areas (KSK) of Serawai and Ambalau (781 788 hectares, equal to 10 times of Singapore) and completed its Strategic Environmental Assessment (KLHS). The designation of District Strategic Areas is aimed to ensure that the forest areas and its biodiversity which provides important ecosystem services (water supply, micro-climate, cultural identity for Dayak people, etc.) to human well-being can be conserved. WWF, with MFA funding, provided experts to assist Sintang district government in the field assessment (HCV assessment, public consultations) and document writing. Those documents (KLHS and technical reports) are mandatory to be developed prior to the establishment of the District Strategic Areas. WWF sees this work crucial due to strategic position of Serawai and Ambalau sub-districts in the Heart of Borneo Region and core zones of Muller areas, which plays an important role as water regulator for its downstream areas such as Palangka Raya and Pontianak. Recently, based on meeting with Regent of Sintang, he has reconsidered permitting coal mining within this area, followed by the suggestions of the KLHS, even though legally mining would be possible. WWF sees this as a positive outcome from the influencing process.

WWF Indonesia was appointed as a focal point to lead a national social forestry work by Ministry of economic affairs. However, other CSOs considered WWF is not suitable for the position given its environmental NGO. As a result of objection of WWF's position leading this work, WWF decided to step down and giving up the roles the central government was offering, and recently signed MoU was terminated as well. This has led WWF is not part of social forestry development which has been well informed decision to leave room for other NGOs.

Sustainable management of the Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park

WWF and the Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park have worked collaboratively on the biodiversity surveys, focused on the inventory of Hornbill group species in Belaban Ela resort, Melawi district, West Kalimantan. The survey was part of the park's effort to develop a sanctuary for the hornbills, especially for the helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*), which is classified as critical endangered species, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The national Park is home for 8 out of 13 hornbill species in Indonesia. According to the latest data from Special Forest Rangers in West Kalimantan, during 2012-2017, at least 370 hornbill beaks have been confiscated from illegal trading. If the trend remains or continue to increase, it will lead to the local extinction in West Kalimantan. The survey was taken in the same landscape with orangutan release program conducted by the park's authority. The next work in the park will focus on how to carry out further research to helmeted hornbill and create opportunities to obtain financial benefits from the environmental services provided by the national parks.

By providing expertise and technical assistance, WWF has committed to assist the national park authorities to develop community-based tourism that is integrated

with research. In addition to this program, the park's authorities and WWF have also conducted capacity building for communities and the park's rangers to develop community-based ecotourism at Rantau Malam village, Serawai sub-district, Sintang. Rantau Malam has been developed as a tourist destination for trekking activities, considering the appointment Bukit Raya as one of seven summits in Indonesia. In addition, one village situated in the buffer zone of the national park, Belaban Ela, has also been developed as future tourist destination. WWF has supported the village through capacity development activities.

Promoting sustainable small-holder oil palm production

Having success stories on support to small holder palm oil farmers at Merarai Village, WWF started a replication process of the model in other districts. Melawi was chosen as targeted district due to its position in the Heart of Borneo area and as the water catchment area for the cities. In addition, Melawi also shares boundaries with Sintang. Both, in Melawi and Sintang, palm oil plantations have been rapidly expanding by the corporations, leaving out local people of this development and marginalized.

WWF carried out a baseline assessment to identify the current situation of the small holder palm oil farmers in the region. The results reviled that the area of plantations is expected to grow to near 250 000 hectares in total. The area is operated by 16 companies, both private sector and smallholders. There is very weak official ownership determined with the small holder plantations some having no evidence of ownership. None of the smallholders studied did not have the official permit to do small scale plantations. Due to lack of knowledge, some of the farmers were doing farming also in the forest areas. The smallholder farmers are unorganized, managing scattered plantation landscape. Because of lacking the legal evidence, the land-based conflicts are prone to happen, either between the farmers or with the government due to forest encroachment. Also the harvesting processes are conducted unproperly and the quality of production is low in most fresh fruit bunches.

The study showed that there is urgent need to develop practices and actions to be taken to solve the issues raised in the study. Those findings have been followed up through proposal to the WWF network and currently is being responded through funding commitment from WWF Japan worth to 300 000 USD.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

Being focused on specific areas is far more effective than scattering resources to many areas. This was also one of the key findings of the independent evaluation during the monitoring and evaluation of the project at the end of 2016. The programme was expected to lead the change and showcase the concept model of the green village development, safeguarding local/traditional peoples' rights and ensure the good governance principles are in place. The programme, however is not adressed to take tasks and responsibilities of the government, instead to develop demostration activities/model that later can be adopted by the government in order to ensure the sustainability of the programme. Focus of programme resources has now been put in Tanjung village and has made the work more progressive. The next step is promoting Tanjung's progress, achievements and impacts to the government and stakeholders to seek opportunities for the results to be replicated and scaled up in other areas by the government and supported by stakeholders.

The shortage of funding in the government budget has led to the minimum or even at the worst case is the absence of interventions in the project locations. Most of the locations chosen by the programme are those located in the near/close by the forest. The reason why we work there is because of we need to empower them to minimize potential threats to the forest as well as improving their welfare, knowledge and access to information. However, logistic costs of the project are high due to the locations are very remote and travelling considered very expensive, especially in Central Kalimantan.

Programme evaluation

MFA funded programme in Borneo (2014-2016) was evaluated in the spring 2017 by external evaluator. Main purpose of the evaluation was to determine the project's progress and achievements during the 3rd phase of the project (2014-2016) and also to provide feedback to improve the performance of the project for the next funding period (2018-2021). Key findings of the evaluation were positive and constructive.

The project has strong relevance to Finland's policy of development programs, conservation program of WWF Indonesia, forest development policy program at provincial and national level, the development of district and the needs of beneficiaries. Mainstreaming some themes of Finland's ODA policy poverty reduction, gender equality, and good governance was less visible. Project planning tends to use holistic approach rather than comprehensive approach. Holistic approach requires enormous resources and less appropriate for this project due to limited resources.

Basically, project outputs have met the determined targets. Until this evaluation is conducted, most of the results areas have generated some effects but have not shown any impacts that represented the level of project sustainability. Evaluation finds, that Muller Schwaner ecosystem resilience is influenced by land use optimization and problems of social welfare improvement. Three critical factors for the resilience are, land use optimization requires strong support from government, its implementation will improve the effectiveness of forest management and provide sufficient area which allocated for sustainable and equitable forest management. The main goal achievement and project sustainability depends on the extent of project contribution towards improvement or strengthening these three critical factors. Project intervention on these three critical factors is still in the initiation stage and needs to be continued through more systematic, comprehensive, and participatory planning system.

The recommendations from the evaluation were discussed between Finland and Indonesia programme coordinators and used as the basis when planning the new MFA programme phase 2018-2021. The aim is to strengthen the successful interventions in the Muller-Schwaner landscape within the next few years to be able to have sustainable exit for the MFA funding in that area. New interventions will be started in another landscape Arabela having the evaluation recommendations integrated in the strategic planning of the future work.

Monitoring trips

Programme coordinator Aleksi Heiskanen and Head of International Development team Anne Tarvainen visited Indonesia in May 2017. The purpose of this visit was to do joint planning for the Partnership Programme 2018-2021. Together in 3 days workshop WWF Finland with WWF Indonesia experts and newly appointed WWF Director for Kalimantan developed an approach for coming years. The gradual

phasing out of Finnish support to the M-S area was discussed by identifying to each intervention approach the present situation by reflecting to the desired state and estimating time and resources to reach that level if not reached already. After this is was discussed what is needed to maintain the desired level and how the resources or commitment to maintain the status could be sourced for. The shift of the Finnish support to the new landscape, Arabela was also discussed. WWF Indonesia has already some interventions in the area where biodiversity values and indigenous communities' livelihoods are threatened by the timber and palm oil concessions.

It was agreed that in coming 4 years WWF Finland will be used to create landscape approach to Arabela area which also enable better fundraising and coordination of WWF network resources and sources of funding it. It has been noted as Indonesia is not any more OECD's Least Developed Country list which might reduce level of support to WWF Indonesia's work. This has been noted already at WWF Indonesia fundraising plan and this will be kept in mind when preparing the Arabela Lanscape programme. WWF Indonesia has very good examples of private sector cooperation and funding for conservation efforts.

MFA representatives Sirpa Rajasärkkä, WWF Finland desk officer and Senior Adviser on Forest sector Vesa Kaarakka visited the WWF Finland programme in March 2017. Their main findings were, that WWF is working constructively with local partners and improves the capacity of local communities as well as small CSOs and local officials. Availability of public funding has improved as a result of effective community level cooperation and establishment of Hutan Desas. Also, the government has announced its own conservation targets and visited communities seemed to be doing fairly well, hence combined with increased availability of public funding, it needs to be reconsidered how Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding fits in this entity.



Orangutan (Pongo pygmaeus) in Kaja island, Central Kalimantan, Borneo, Indonesia. Orangutans have been released to island from orangutan rehabilitation center. Kaja island is situated near Palangka Raya in Rungan river. Photo: Petri Mulari / APU / WWF-Finland

LIVING HIMALAYAS

In 2017, WWF continued the work with the regional Himalayas programme with the aim to ensure the regional connectivity of both freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems and addressing the threats from unsustainable infrastructure development in the region. To do that, WWF has generated evidence to support its work and influence policy decisions and conservation outcomes at both national and transboundary levels. Through the programme, WWF has been able to provide the regional platform both within WWF and among key stakeholders in the region to share knowledge and information as well as built capacities and foster new partnerships.

Protecting the mosaic of the East Himalayan ecosystems

As a result from multi-year WWF lobbying and support, 58 525 hectares of valuable areas in the Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale (TMJ) Complex in north-east Nepal have been designated as new conservation areas. During 2017 a dedicated task force in coordination of Deputy Director General, Eastern Regional Directorate of Department of Forest in Nepal has been formed along with technical support from WWF Nepal. This task force has been addressed to study on the wildlife movement, study on the modality of conservation approach in TMJ area, to include neighboring areas within its spirit and to report it for necessary actions for way forward towards announcing it as conservation area.

The first regional spatial mapping exercise (known as Impact Monitoring) using satellite imagery data for the period 2000 to 2010 to assess the forest cover and connectivity (fragmentation) in the Living Himalayas region as well as human impact for the decade has been under development and finalization for some time now. It was expected that the study would be finalized and published in 2017, but due to challenges in accuracy and lack of latest satellite data to confirm the results, the study is still pending. Once finalized the results will be used to support policy and advocacy work at national, transboundary and regional levels.

Analyzing climate change impacts in Brahmaputra river basin

The multi-year research work related to hydrology initiated in the Brahmaputra basin in the Beki-Manas river system in Assam, India, led by WWF India is the first of its kind in the basin level. It has helped to document information on Beki-Manas river system especially under climate change influence and develop new partnerships to address the issues in the river basin and also strengthen transboundary collaboration and linkages. The main impact from this work was the recognition of Brahmaputra connectivity by Assam Forest Department which is significant contribution for North South connectivity. Further, to develop better understanding and knowledge base on flood management and desiltation in Assam, WWF India team worked together with two experts from National Institute of Ecology and national park staff to establish wetlands management strategy in the Kaziranga National Park (KNP). The work is expected to be a major contribution to resolve the local practical problems being faced by the Forest Department officials with respect to the wetlands management and would strengthen their capacity in effective management of wetlands within the park area, which are lifeline for the biodiversity of the KNP.

Supporting water work in national context in Nepal and Bhutan

The first National Water Symposium in Bhutan with the theme "Towards Ensuring Water Security for Bhutan's Future" was held to take forward the recommendations from the WWF supported "Bhutan Water Risk Scenarios and Opportunities for Resilient Development". The symposium was organized in collaboration with the National Environment Commission and Ugyen Wangchuk Institute for Conservation and Environmental Research and supported by WWF. Prime Minister opened the Symposium and informed that water has been identified as one of the flagship program in the 12th Five Year Plan. The symposium helped to bring together all key stakeholders (over 60 participants). WWF Bhutan is also engaged in the implementation of the Bhutan Water Risks Scenarios recommendations by supporting National Environment Commission with Water Quality Standard Monitoring Framework and GIS capacity as well as supporting National Biodiversity Center to strengthen the Aquatic Biodiversity Information System which will be linked to Sustainable Hydropower Guideline of Bhutan in collaboration with the Department for Hydropower and Power Systems and the World Bank.

The first Regional Symposium on Natural Capital and Payment for Ecosystem Services – Integrating Ecosystem Services Valuation for Decisions Making was jointly organized by the Watershed Management Division, Department of Forests and Park Services and WWF in Bhutan. The symposium helped to bring the countries in the region together to share experiences on Natural capital valuation, Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) and also helped to create entry points to integrate ecosystem service assessments in development planning, especially for Nepal and Bhutan. Disaster Risk Reduction and Infrastructure Investment Risk Reduction were identified as important entry points for promoting a Natural Capital based planning approach amongst policy makers. The symposium also helped to finalize PES synthesis report for Bhutan and recommended to upscale the existing work in the Chamkharchhu basin and support the implementation of Ecosystem based planning framework. The Bhutan report on the "Valuing Ecosystem Services in Chamkharchhu sub-basin" was also launched during opening session.

In Nepal, two policy dialogues on water resources management were conducted to advocate on free-flowing rivers by WWF Nepal. Also, WWF Nepal collaborated with Nepal River Conservation Trust to organize 2nd National River Summit on the theme "Managing Rivers for Life" at the bank of Trishuli River, Gorkha. The Summit provided a forum for policy dialogue on Water Resources Management attended by 256 participants from different. Important outcome from the Summit was "Trishuli Declaration 2017". Further, to mark World Water Day and World Meteorological Day, WWF Nepal supported in organizing a river basin colloquium under an umbrella event of Nepal National Water and Weather Week 2017. Similarly, three more other events to mark World Water Day were supported.

Environmental flows assessment was initiated in Nepal and Bhutan since 2015 after the E-flows capacity building training by WWF India team. In Nepal, the work is led by WWF Nepal team in collaboration with Kathmandu University in the Gandaki basin. The assessment covered seven important components: hydrology, hydraulics, fluvial geomorphology, macro-invertebrates, fish, aquatic and terrestrial vegetation, and socio-culture and livelihood. The technical workshop to disseminate the results and discuss further setting of E-flows was organized in June 2017 through MFA budget. An expert from WWF India was also invited to facilitate the workshop and to share India's experiences. The discussion from the workshop concluded with

the need to conduct an "E-Flows Setting Workshop" with all the experts, which is planned in FY 18. The current E-Flow analysis did not include flow requirements for freshwater species like Gharial and River Dolphin. Hence, the final E-Flow requirements may change after incorporating the logical comments from the workshop and after including flow requirements for freshwater species. In Bhutan, E-Flow work is being led by the National Environment Commission through Austrian funding and field work has been completed and data under analysis.

Promoting sustainable linear Infrastructure in Nepal

The Guidelines for Construction of Eco/Wildlife – Friendly Linear Infrastructures – the first of its kind in the region has been developed by WWF Nepal with initial partnership with Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI). The process began in FY 16 and the guideline has been prepared and finalized through a series of interactions with stakeholders. In 2017, a core committee was formed to finalise the guidelines and discuss the way forward. The committee organised two consultations and finalised the guidelines which is currently under process for endorsement by the Government of Nepal. The guideline will be used as a reference document in designing upcoming infrastructure in Nepal and in the region.

With WWF Nepal support, the Second Infrastructure Summit was held in Nepal and hosted by CNI in collaboration with Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport and Youth Community for Nepalese Contractors. In the summit, ideas such as Natural Capital Accounting and Financing Greener Infrastructure to contribute to a greener economy and low carbon development were pitched. A total of 159 participants from different organization were present.

WWF also facilitated the participation of three WWF offices and five Government partners from the Forest Department and Infrastructure sector (Roads, Railways) from both countries to attend the "International Forum on Sustainable Infrastructure: Integrating Climate Resilience and Natural Capital into Transport Infrastructure Planning and Design". The Forum was organized in Hanoi, Vietnam by the Asian Development Bank and WWF US in collaboration with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Viet Nam Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment. The outcome was Draft Guiding Principles on Sustainable Infrastructure, which will be incorporated into a paper and case study series on "Principles for Planning, Designing and Investing in Climate Resilient and Ecologically Sustainable Transport Infrastructure along with the Guiding Principles."

Leveraging sustainable funding for Himalayas water work

The three WWF offices (Nepal, Bhutan, India) along with the Living Himalayas team and the WWF Global Environment facility (WWF GEF) team in WWF US office and IUCN India office have been working together since 2016 on the GEF IW regional proposal titled "Eastern Himalayan Glacial Watersheds and River Basins Management Program". Consultations have been held with relevant government ministries in the three countries both at central and state level and draft Programme Framework Document (PFD) developed in early 2017. But due to funding constraints, the initial proposal with focus on two transboundary basins has been downscaled to just one trans-boundary basin between India and Bhutan lead by WWF only without IUCN. The PFD has been revised accordingly and is waiting for government endorsement to be put up for GEF 7.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

The Water in the Economy, Natural Capital Valuation and engagements on Sustainable Infrastructure especially in case of Bhutan with the hydropower sector has helped to bring the environment and development sector to work together and better understand the issues and tradeoffs. We need to continue to engage and keep the policy dialogue going and find solutions to address the issues and challenges.

Engaging and influencing both government and private sector parallelly on eco-friendly and climate smart infrastructure is key to developing sustainable infrastructure.

With the new federal restructuring in Nepal, water resources management will be an important issue for both management and use. Hence engaging on the policy dialogue to ensure integrated water resources management is crucial.

Monitoring trips

In early 2017 head of international development team Anne Tarvainen and CEO of WWF Finland Liisa Rohweder participated in the Living Himalayas programme Shareholder meeting in Bhutan, where country directors and conservation directors from Nepal, Bhutan and India together with WWF Finland and UK representatives discussed about the future of the initiative. It was noted that despite of several delays and challenges the programme has achieved important results by applying regional and transboundary approaches. On that meeting it was decided that the countries will discuss and decide which approaches should be continued and how the management could be arranged in the future. This analysis wasn't done when the new MFA Partnership Programme was developed so the support to continue the most successful components of the regional programme were included to the Nepal and Bhutan country programmes in the new MFA Partnership Programme. The planning of the continuation of the regional and transboundary approaches in Eastern Himalayas wasn't concluded yet in 2017.

BHUTAN

In 2017 Programme support to Bhutan was relatively small and it focused on establishing cooperation with the Youth Development Fund YDF. In addition, carry forward from 2016 support to Human Wildlife Conflict prevention work was used to complete the project. Also planning of new programme with focus on community forests started.

Developing community based eco-tourism

During 2017, WWF supported a cooperation program called "My Gakidh Village (MGV)" with a local organization called Youth Development Fund (YDF), which works to curb rural-urban youth migration through providing rural youth with livelihood skills and employment opportunities within their own communities. WWF supported the development of community based ecotourism plan for MGV. To implement the plan, WWF supported the training of local youth with different entrepreneurial skills (e.g. tourism hospitality, nature tour guide and shop running) as well as infrastructure development of the trail.

The community based eco-tourism plan covers 33 households from 20 villages in Punakha district. The plan is implemented along the 21 km long ancient trail of the divine madman "lam Drukpa Kunley" which hosts cool temperate to warm subtropical flora and fauna (over 150 species of orchids, 220 species of birds and over 15 species of mammals). Plan identifies the needed infrastructure development (trail maintenance, eco-structures, signages, information centre, visitor hub complex, eco-camp site, etc.) and marketing strategies to enhance visitor appreciation and experience within the cultural framework of the community.

Altogether 23 beneficiaries (19 local village youths, 2 park staff and 2 YDF staff, out of which 13 women) received training on different aspects of tourism business (hospitality, tour guiding, art and craft development, homestays, etc.). Participants were also educated on hygiene, garbage disposal, and pricing. Community now runs and is engaged in self-help initiatives such as homestays, tailoring and souvenir production co-operative, herbal tea production co-operative and convenience store. There are four households identified in strategic location to serve the purpose of home stays under MGV. Seven of the beneficiaries – young community representatives (4 girls, 3 boys) – were supported by WWF with a four months stipend to establish skills and entrepreneurship in order to employ themselves in their own villages. These youth will now act as the local resources persons for the project.

Nine local youth guides from MGV and one YDF staff under took a two days of field training aimed at empowering them to be nature guides for MGV. The training was under taken in collaboration with the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environmental Research (UWICER). Participants received basic plant, animal and insects taxonomic training including theory and practically identifying them in the field. Participants were also educated on different vegetation types and how they are affected by elevations. Despite short training participants reported a greater awareness of biodiversity, increased appreciation of the value of natural resources surrounding them, and a stronger sense of resource stewardship by becoming a nature guide for MGV.

To support the completion of the eco-tourism trail development, installation of non-intrusive service facilities such as bridges, canopies, resting spots are under progress. The government officials have assured YDF the support towards maintenance of the trail after the project is handed over to the community. Thus, while the overall aim of MGV project is to build livelihood skills, its success will largely be dependent on successful community-based ecotourism development, which will provide both alternative economic incentives as well as preserve environment.

The eco-tourism component of the project was a good platform of learning for YDF. Staff in YDF are now much more aware of the biodiversity and importance of environmental protection. Ecotourism has now become a new tool for YDF to promote environmentally and culturally friendly tourism in My Gakidh Villages in Bhutan. Both WWF and YDF found cooperation fruitful and are now looking for funding sources for a new project together.

Solutions for Human Wildlife Conflicts

Some components of the project to reduce Human Wildlife conflicts through a SAFE-system approach were carry forwarded from 2016 to 2017. In 2017 capacity development of 18 Agriculture Extension Staff (2 women) of Zhemgang Dzongkhag on the use of GPS and on Basics of GIS was supported. Area is one of the four areas where HWC

Rapid Assessment was carried out and Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) SAFE System strategy was developed. The main strategy is to establish national database for HWC information. To implement this strategy successfully, capacity development of field staff and equipping them with necessary tools is important. With the use of the GPS, field staff will be collecting data on crop loss to wildlife and carry out HWC hotspot mapping to help decision makers and planners can allocate resources accordingly to manage HWC in the area. After the training a solar fence survey was conducted with the help of GPS. Team mapped the actual length of solar fence, coordinates, checked and rectified the connections. The total length of the fence in the area is 73.7 km and all the fences are run by solar power. The team observed wrong connections of battery, energizer and charge controllers that have resulted in failure of the fences.

The knowledge on and skill of using GPS and basic GIS was found very useful by the agriculture staff as none of the staff had this type of skills prior to this project. Now they feel more confident to use this knowledge and skills in assessment of crop damage by wildlife, preparation of hotspot maps and maintaining a GIS based datasets, which are more accurate and reliable the visual estimates (traditional practice). Looking at the usefulness of the knowhow and skill for the agriculture field staff National Plant Protection Centre (NPPC) already includes this activity in their 12th Five Year Plan for rest of the agriculture staff in the country.

Planning of future work under MFA support

In the new partnership programme (2018-2021) with MFA support, WWF Bhutan will be working with Community Forests and aiming towards strengthening their governance as well as increasing capacity of the members. In preparation for this new partnership program and to make it more inclusive and participatory, WWF Bhutan along with the project partners visited and consulted with around 11 Community Forests covering 6 districts in the Southern, Western and Eastern part of Bhutan. The aim was to learn more about the challenges and success of the community forests to help design activities, to establish baselines and help select sites for the New Partnership Program. Keeping the objectives and requirements of the new Partnership programs in mind, the consultation meetings had women representatives in the meetings. Youth representation was also high, and it was noted that a lot of youth are actively engaged in the community forestry management with some youth taking up key positions as the executive members of the groups. The consultation meetings helped to select sites and target selected interventions for the new Partnership Program.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

As of to date MGV project has made a good progress, especially initiatives are now on ground and are in operation. The generation of some income from the initiatives have begun but they are still not financially attractive to young entrepreneurs. Therefore, it crucial for YDF to continue monitoring them and provide timely support till they reach to the point where they are self-contained. This may include supporting critical operational issues, marketing and branding of products, formulation of appropriate bylaws, good book and record keeping, etc.

Monitoring trips

Head of international development team Anne Tarvainen visited Bhutan in early 2017 together with WWF UK representatives. During this visit an update discussion

was done with WWF Bhutan representatives reflecting to their strategic goals and the present situation and possible funding gaps. Also, the organizational development of WWF Bhutan office was discussed with the WWF Bhutan Country Director. These discussions enabled WWF Finland to identify the community forestry as the future cooperation area between Finland and Bhutan.

Status of conservation financing in Bhutan

During 2017, the Government of Bhutan and WWF initiated an innovative project called Bhutan for Life (www.bfl.org.bt) that aims to be the strategic and long-term solution to ensure sustainable financing for conservation of the biodiversity in Bhutan. With multiple donor support, the aim is to create a USD 43 million fund - the first of its kind in Asia - to permanently protect Bhutan's network of protected areas. The funding will be combined with USD 75 million from the Bhutan government, which will be contributed over a 14-year period. The program is also supported in part by a USD 26.6 million grant from the Green Climate Fund. With the long-term funding the aim is to ensure that there is funding forever to properly manage Bhutan's protected areas - which constitute 51 percent of the country, the highest percentage of land designated as protected in Asia. The role of WWF on the implementation of Bhutan for Life will be decided in 2018. Also in 2017, WWF Bhutan was involved in the national Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) readiness project called "National REDD+ Strategy and or Action Plan, Benefit Sharing and Fund Mobilization for REDD+ Program in Bhutan" that was implemented by Indufor in 2017-2018. WWF Bhutan's role has been to provide technical back stopping with limited involvement in the implementation.

NEPAL

In Nepal WWF continued the work in the Terai Arc landscape in southern Nepal with the inclusion of some new areas in the far western Nepal as well as in the Churia midhills in western Nepal. WWF works to restore and protect forests in the buffer zones around protected areas as well as in the connecting corridors between conservation areas. Main approach is to support community forestry and sustainable livelihood development of local communities in these areas. Main interventions in 2017 included restoration, habitat management, youth engagement in community based anti-poaching interventions, and in the Generation Green campaign, and illegal wildlife crime control. Support was also allocated to capacity building of WWF Nepal staff in topics such as results-based management and Human Rights Based Approach as preparation for new partnership program. During 2017, our work in Nepal with MFA funding, benefitted 49 local CSOs/CBOs and 8955 households including 67% of marginalized and indigenous group. Similarly, WWF reached to 10 501 individuals including 2 660 youths and 4019 school kids.

Curbing poaching and addressing human-wildlife conflicts

During 2017, poaching and illegal wildlife trade have been effectively curbed in Nepal and yet again Nepal has "zero poaching" of rhinos for the fifth time (2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015, 2017). The numbers of flagship species such as tigers and rhinos are increasing every year as a result of the joint efforts of conservation stakehold-

ers, including enforcement agencies and communities. This success is exceptional in the global context.

To tackle poaching and illegal activities, 13 community based anti-poaching units (CBAPU), with 155 members (40% female), were strengthened and mobilized in the buffer zone of Bardia National park. Also patrolling equipment like GPS, cameras and stationaries were provided to 8 high priority CBAPUs. For sustainability, endowment fund (US\$12 500) was established in two Buffer Zone User Committees. The interest generated from these endowment funds will be used for CBAPU mobilization. Capacity enhancement has been effective in controlling illegal wildlife crime. Through 17 patrolling events, also river patrolling, altogether 12 cases of illegal activities involving 120 people were reported. CBAPUs also rescued two deers and one python from village and handed over to park authorities. CBAPU members were also engaged in conservation awareness through interaction, plantation, quiz and speech competition on anti-poaching.

As a result from effective conservation, human wildlife conflicts (HWC) have increased rapidly in the past years in Nepal. To address the problem, mitigation measures were applied in 8 sites of Khata corridor and buffer zone of Bardia National Park mainly protecting crops and livestock of 2707 households (331 marginalized, 1888 indigenous). Mitigation measures include e.g. building predator resistant pens and construction of solar fence or other fences around villages. During 2017, two Income Generation Activity revolving funds – particularly targeting Human Wildlife Conflict victims – were established in buffer zone of Banke and in Khata corridor. The funds can help 35 HWC victims each year.

Reducing pressure from forests

During 2017, pressure on forests, especially in critical forest corridors and bottlenecks that connect conservation areas, was reduced through various interventions such as restoration, forest fire management, improved grazing practices and alternative energy options. 333 hectares of degraded forest area is under restoration through fencing, plantation and improved forest management. To control overgrazing in an area of 300 hectares of forests, attention was given to sustainable cattle management and grazing. For instance, stall feeding of cattle was promoted in 235 households with cement troughs and 418 households were supported with artificial insemination equipment for cattle management in buffer zone. Endowment fund of US\$ 200,000 was supported in Amaltari Buffer Zone User Committee for continuation of veterinary services. As local people are now more willing to reduce the size of their cattle herds, they are also more interested in managing their cattle better. This also results in the need of veterinary services. Also to reduce pressure from forests by reducing firewood demand, two revolving funds (US \$ 12,000) were established in Madi valley for biogas promotion for at least 50 household. Further to control forest fire risk in an area of 196 hectares of corridor and 100 hectares of buffer zone, construction of 13 km fire line was supported. We also managed 10 hectares of wetlands in buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. Wetland and fire line management support has helped in expanding quality habitat for wildlife and has also promoted tourism.

Supporting diversified livelihoods and social inclusion

As a strategy to help local people to both benefit from natural resources as well as to reduce the pressure from unsustainable natural resources utilization, WWF has supported the development of various livelihood and income generation schemes in the villages residing around valuable forest areas.

In 2017, eight community enterprises (milk chilling, leaf plate making, mushroom farming, fish farming, women's souvenir shop, homestay, vegetable farming) were strengthened in Chitwan and Kanchanpur benefitting around 4 383 households (over 26 000 people). To ensure sustainable function of the enterprises, majority of support was focused in previously supported enterprises in Chitwan area.

To promote social equity and inclusion, WWF targeted enterprise development support to less advantaged groups as well. For instance, Piprahar homestay is a new site with high human wildlife conflicts causing damage to crop. With good potential to develop successful culture and nature based tourism, support to establish infrastructure was provided together with UK funded PIPAL project and communities' own contribution. Via Leonardo Di Caprio Foundation habitat management for wildlife sighting has been supported in the same area. Also, vegetable training and toolkit support was provided to 25 free bonded labors in Kanchanpur so that they can begin with commercial farming enterprise in future. Further, two endowment funds (US\$ 3000 – 5000 each) were established in labor cooperatives in Kailali and Nawalparasi. The interest generated will be provided as seed money for initiating enterprises/small business to forest workers.

Many of the programme areas suffered from heavy floods in 2017, WWF support was channeled to support flood victims. For instance, women community souvenir shop in Sauraha, Chitwan (previously supported by MFA funded project) was damaged by flood. Reviving this center was important as income generation of at least 676 women of 52 women groups is related with this shop. Women from 52 groups make handicrafts and keep it for sale in this shop as souvenir to tourists visiting Sauraha.

In addition to enterprise development, 266 (10 marginalized, 212 indigenous) forest dependent workers were provided with skill-based trainings in six districts. The objective is to shift the focus from unsustainable forest exploitation to more sustainable forest-based employment or employment in other sector. Many of these trainees have just completed trainings and now starting to utilize their skills. Of them, trainees of earthquake resistant masonry have experienced up to double increase in their salary.

All funds for green enterprises and income generating activities are mobilized through local cooperatives, a micro financial institution, affiliated with community conservation organizations to create transparent and sustainable fund mobilizing mechanism. For this, WWF has supported the institutional capacity of the cooperatives through various trainings, such as account management and proposal and report writing. Institutional support has eased the official work of the cooperative while the training of staff has helped in improving operations, especially in account keeping.

Partnership with trade unions to empower forest workers

WWF continued the cooperation with The Trade Union Solidarity Centre of Finland (SASK in Finland) and their local trade union organizations in Nepal. Through the partnership with trade unions, conservation message has reached the wider community and in other hand policy and advocacy for forest worker's right has been strengthened. In 2017, WWF continued to support Building and Wood Workers

International – Nepal Affiliates Committee (BWI-NAC) for management of green resource center, renewal of outreach platform (website), protection of 14 hectares of plantation and forest management and conservation training for 95 forest workers (40% female). In addition to this, BWI-NAC leadership handover event was also supported. In this event leadership from Construction and Allied Workers' Union in Nepal (CAWUN) was handed over to Central Union of Painters, Plumbers, Electro and Construction in Nepal (CUPPEC). During this event, participating members appreciated that BWI-NAC has inculcated culture of leadership exchange in harmony and this is something that can be learnt and replicated nationally. In the same event BWI-NAC women committee with seven members was also formed to further specify and address women worker's issues.

Sustainability of BWI-NAC can be foreseen as it is continuously graduating and expanding. Its member unions are getting national as well as international recognition. In local government, at least 20 trade union members (minimum 5 female) are elected opening opportunities for forest trade union members to address their issue. Similarly, one member of CUPPEC is parliament member in state government and at central government previous member of BWI-NAC is advisor to present prime minister. Internationally, CAWUN and CUPPEC are now also affiliated with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), opening furthermore exposure opportunities to international forest committee. BWI-NAC are looking forward support and guidance from WWF Nepal to better cash these opportunities.

Supporting population, health and environment approach

WWF also continued its cooperation with the Family Planning Association of Nepal on enhancing the awareness and knowledge of especially youth on sexual and reproductive health and conservation. The approach combining conservation and family planning has contributed to change the mindsets and attitudes of local communities, including youth and women groups, to engage in conservation efforts and understand the importance of both human health and healthy ecosystems. During 2017 sustainable operation and management of Multi-Purpose Resource Centers (MPRCs) and community clinics were supported to implement population, health and environment approach. For this, endowment fund up to US \$ 5 000 was established in each of four MPRCs and community clinics in buffer zones and corridors. The operational guideline has been prepared for mobilization of these funds. As per this guideline, the interest generated will be used for anti-poaching groups mobilization and management of centers and community clinic. A MPRC management training was also conducted in buffer zone of Shuklaphanta National park for 46 youth (31 female). In initiation of MPRC/community clinic in Madi a one-day health camp was organized in which more than 1 066 local people received health services. For this health camp technical support was provided by Chitwan Medical College.

To ensure human resource for Population, Health and Environment (PHE) interventions in MPRC and community clinic, seven local youths (five female) were capacitated and mobilized as local resource person for Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and biodiversity conservation. Four local resource people of Madi and Dekhatbuli further conducted 11 mobile camps on SRH and biodiversity conservation sensitizing 1165 youths (686 female, 146 marginalized, 734 indigenous). In Mahadevpuri Community Forest Coordination Committee (CFCC), Female local resource persons are mobilized particularly to train 16 youth of MPRC on basic computer skill.

Evaluation of the project "Improving sexual and reproductive health and rights and biodiversity conservation through integrated approach in Nepal" was started in late 2017. Project was implemented through an integrated approach by four partners – Väestöliitto, Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN), WWF Finland and WWF Nepal. Evaluation was conducted by Central Department of Population Studies, Tribhuvan University. Results and recommendations will be discussed and taken into account in 2018 when the evaluation is ready.

Improving good natural resources governance

For better implementation of good governance in forest corridor communities, "Good Governance Practice and Assessment" training was conducted for 22 members (9 women; 11 indigenous) from all corridors. They are mobilized as local resource persons to conduct good governance assessment and orientation in 26 Community Forest User Groups in these four corridors. Five indicators of good governance (Participation, Accountability, Rule of Law, Transparency and Predictability) were used for assessment. Overall assessment suggested that majority of Community Forest User Group (CFUGs) had moderate governance with need of improvement. Assessment suggested, such status may be also because of periodic change of executive committee. Thus, orientation and coaching on good governance has to be periodic with change in committee. This assessment and orientation sensitized 678 CFUG members (320 male and 358 females; 89 marginalized, 334 indigenous). Similarly, 6 workshops on good governance practices were conducted in 6 buffer zones of Chitwan National Park with participation of 194 members (55 female). These 6 Buffer Zone User Committees (BZUCs) are now practicing good governance.

WWF also supported NGO Federation of Indigenous of Nepal (NGO FION) to conduct awareness program on Inclusion policy of local government and its implementation status. In this program, 6 local government leaders (from indigenous group) and chairperson of federation highlighted inclusion policy in local government. In total 60 indigenous people (30% female) from four districts attended this program.

Enhancing climate change mitigation and adaptation

In 2017, climate change adaptation activities were implemented in three sites of Kailali, Jogbuda and Phulabari supporting to increase adaptive capacity of 1090 households (166 marginalized, 227 indigenous). Adaptation activities included for instance restoring of degraded forest areas with fencing and planting of fast growing broom grass and cinnamon. Also construction of conservation/recharge ponds which enable recharging water sources as well as help in restoration by increasing soil moisture content and construction of spurs in the river bank of Godawari river which protects river bank cutting and forest land form flash flood.

In the continuation of the national REDD-readiness process, the Emission Reduction Programme Document (ERPD) that outlines the national efforts of the government of Nepal to implement the REDD-program, was submitted to the World Bank for the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) review in July 2017 with an expectation to present the program to the Participant Committee in December 2018. A training program was also organized for government officials from REDD Implementation Centre (RIC) and Department of Forest Research and Survey (DFRS) from the 12-16th October 2017 to roll out the ERPD and carbon accounting for future uptake of Monitoring Reporting and Verifications (MRV). In this training 20 government

officials (16 male, 4 female) were oriented on the ERPD. Due to some issues on the consistency of the methodology between the national and sub-national carbon accounting, changes had to be redone in the ERPD to resubmit it in March 2018. The ERPD could not be rolled out at the community level as changes on the carbon accounting is still ongoing. WWF has been supporting the government of Nepal in the ERPD development together with Finnish company Arbonaut.

Engaging Youth through The Generation Green

As a part of The Generation Green campaign, 1075 people (45% girls), including students, youth and teachers were engaged to create awareness on sustainable lifestyles, consumption ethics and biodiversity conservation in Nepal. This include, 150 mentees (74 female) – from 34 different colleges – in third batch of mentorship program. Through this program mentees were engaged in 125 different activities on waste management, Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), vertical farming, climate change, water quality assessment, cleaning campaign, plantation and other environment friendly events. Similarly, they also got opportunity to reach 5 000 students from Grade 1 to 9 from 48 (33 public and 15 private) schools, 49 organizations (banks, restaurants, government agencies, local communities), 47 local households and 2 orphanages along with their mentors. This has broadened their experience, deepen their thought process and has also helped them inculcate conservation message which were observed in their active participation in each event.

One of the youth supported to attend photography workshop is now working as a photo journalist in the leading English daily, The Himalayan Times. Similarly, Tyre Treasure, a concept developed by winner team in Greenovation program 2016 has turned their dream project into real enterprise venture (https://www.tyretreasures.com/). The team of four (3 girls and one boy) has now established a working company that produces pet beds and show pieces from used/waste tyres. Mass events like Earth Hour, WildWisdom – quiz and social media campaigns have further reached more than 20,000 youths.

Ensuring sustainability of conservation interventions

Four Community Forest Coordination Committees (CFCC) (Mahadevpuri, Kamdi, Khata, Narti) whom WWF supported for more than a decade prepared their sustainability plans to gradually make them self-reliant and sustain conservation interventions. 149 members (24 female) participated in the consultations with engagement of 46% of disadvantaged and indigenous groups. As part of plan implementation, Khata CFCC has established electric fence maintenance fund, Narti CFCC conducted good governance assessment and forest management training and Mahadevpuri CFCC in Kamdi corridor has constructed multipurpose nursery for which they were also able to raise leverage of US\$ 6 000 from local government. Mahadevpuri has envisioned to sustain conservation intervention like forest management and CBA-PU mobilization through income made from this nursery.

For community involvement and capacity enhancement 6 events of conservation awareness and trainings were conducted. In total 233 people (33% female) participated. Of them 13 were disadvantaged groups and 131 indigenous. Of these events, two were intense training and were focused on developing local resource person for forest management and biodiversity conservation and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) topics. In Kailali, 15 local forest workers (6 female) were capacitated on sustainable forest management and now can train their communities. Similarly,

out of 32 people (23 female) trained on biodiversity conservation and SRH, 25 can now conduct awareness programs. In addition, first of May was celebrated in two sites to mark conservation contribution of forest workers and youths. In total 656 youths/trade union members participated (40% female).

WWF has supported nine Integrated River Management Committees (IRMC) in the past decade through the Indrawati sub-basin project. Project support ended in 2016, but from 2017 programme support 50 000 € was allocated to strengthen and support IRMCs in Indrawati sub basin, and to establish a sub basin level institution. Evaluation of this project was completed in early 2017 and conducted by Finnish Consulting Group (evaluation was attached in 2016 annual report to MFA). Based on the recommendations of the evaluation an exit plan was prepared and put into practice in 2017. As WWF support has come to an end, sustainability plan has been developed and implemented to ensure smooth continuation of the institutions. Through various events, such as project closing workshops, different capacity building trainings, institutional support to office set-up and management and establishment of endowment fund the capacity of the IRMCs were supported to start running on their own. In total 131 stakeholders (23 female) participated in this closing workshops.

The sustainability plan also supported to conduct Value Chain Analysis of cardamom and vegetables linking its market and economic opportunities for benefit of local communities. Specifically, current situation of production and supply was assessed and documented. Likewise, existing market chain and linkages of producers with the actors in value chain was identified and its status was assessed. Gaps in production, value addition and marketing were also identified. On basis of this analysis value chain plan of development was also prepared and handed over to IRMCs.

Strenghtening WWF Nepal's capacity

In 2017, organizational capacity was further developed by strengthening e.g. Program Development & Monitoring unit, Infrastructure expertise and water resources capacity. Further management was done to smoothen the leadership transition process in Nepal as the prior country representative Mr. Anil Manandhar switched to other duties in the WWF network and new country representative was nominated only in 2018. WWF Nepal's Sustainability Plan was finalized and a draft action plan was developed where the timelines are being reviewed with respect to the change in the Leadership after which the Plan will be initiated in the WWF Nepal's Annual Retreat in March 2018.

WWF Nepal also provided capacity development and network exposure to staff members in various roles. The development needs were identified as a part of the yearly training needs analysis to strengthen them in their technical capacities and build strong network relations as a past of WWF global network engagement. In total 14 WWF staffs (6 female staff) were capacitated/engaged in network meeting. Of them, 10 staff were from operation team, 2 from communication team, 1 from conservation education and 1 from monitoring team. Following up recommendation of MFA CSO evaluation team, we had planned to capacitate WWF's project staff on result based management to enhance technical capacity and backstopping at field level. As per this plan a five days training workshop was conducted on result based management/Project management cycle for 19 project staffs (of which 4 were female) from both Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) and Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL). This included 2 project officers, 4 program/project associates,

2 M&E associates and 11 community mobilizers. In this training, project staff were provided with practical guide on using Rights-based management approach in conservation projects. On last day orientation on financial compliance were also provided by operation team. At the end of this training they could connect themselves in entire result chain and were also able to see their role in in WWF's and their respective landscape's strategies.

Adaptive management

In 2017, there were two major challenges politically and naturally. Politically, election from local to federal government caused huge engagement of government staff including enforcement agencies throughout the year. Due to this we had to change timeline of two main activities a) strengthening Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) and b) policy and advocacy both of which require intense engagement of enforcement agencies. Naturally, flood in august did cause huge damage to project sites and conservation interventions. Due to this we changed some budget line for flood damage recovery-specially to women souvenir shop in Sauraha where women from 52 women groups were affiliated for livelihood.

Due to transition of WWF Nepal's leadership we were not able to start sustainability plan implementation but we drafted action plan. Implementation of action plan will be initiated in the end of March 2018 during annual retreat.

Monitoring trips

Head of international development team Anne Tarvainen visited Nepal in early 2017 together with WWF UK representative. The purpose of the visit was to jointly discuss about WWF Nepal new strategy and support from Finland and UK to implement the strategy. WWF Nepal had developed also specific results chains to each strategic objective such as forests, fresh water and wildlife. These result chains and possible capacity and funding gaps on the implementation were discussed. Also the political situation and especially defederalization process and its possible implications to WWF's work was discussed. These discussions laid ground for planning of the new Partnership Programme approach in Nepal. It was noted that such joint missions with other WWF network offices which support Nepal are useful for strategic level dialogue with our partners.

Country Representative Anil Manandhar and Director of field programs Shiv Raj Bhatta from WWF Nepal visited Finland in August 2017. They were on a tour to visit and thank their main donors (UK, US and Finland) and discuss about the future as the country director Anil Manandhar shifted to new duties in November.

Field level monitoring visit to Nepal was conducted in October 2017 by Maija Kaukonen and Tanja Pirinen. They visited areas around Bardia, Banke and Dang. Some of the sites visited were new (Phulpari) and MFA supported activities had just started. Some sites (for ex Mahadevpur), where MFA support had continued for a decade were visited to discuss the exit-strategies and sustainability of the interventions. These initiatives are described in more detail earlier in the Nepal chapter. In Kathmandu there were several meetings with WWF Nepal staff about monitoring, Human rights-based approach (HRBA), tv production (Villien jäljillä) in Nepal, etc. New auditor was also met briefly. In December Tanja Pirinen and Katja Rönkkö from WWF Finland visited Nepal with the film crew to film 3 episodes of tv-production "Villien jäljillä".



REDUCING THE ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

During 2017, the work in Finland to reduce ecological footprint focused mostly on influencing Finnish institutional investors to be aware of the climate impacts of their holdings, influencing targeted private sector partners in Finland to shift towards more sustainable production, especially regarding soy, and finally promoting the water stewardship commitment among Finnish private sector partners.

Towards sustainable investments

During 2017, WWF analyzed the public equity portfolios of the 5 largest asset owners in Finland (among 11 other European countries). The analysis revealed that the Finnish pension funds were rather well aligned with the 2-degree carbon budgets when the scope was limited to coal mining, coal utilities and renewable energy. 15 recommendations to investors were also produced, see: https://wwf.fi/mediabank/10573.pdf. The recommendations are a first step as part of WWF's work to drive the alignment of asset owners' portfolios with the Paris Agreement. The recommendations included for instance linking climate change in investment policies and develop tools and metric to set-up climate science-based targets. Investors are also encouraged to invest in businesses that mitigate climate change impacts. The analysis and development of the recommendations included intensive engagement with the sector. Also, a short video introduction to the interconnection of pension savings and climate impacts of fossil investments was published and it reached a public of 42 000 people in the social media.

WWF Finland, together with Finnish research institutes (Aalto -University, Natural Resources Institute Finland, Technical Research Centre of Finland) and ministries (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment) established the Water Stewardship Commitment to advance sustainable water use and governance and support private sector companies to improve their corporate responsibility linked to water risks. The water stewardship commitment challenges Finnish companies and organizations to assess water risks in their value chains, to take care of sustainability of water use at their own and their value chains' operation locations, and to engage in collective action with stakeholders to develop sustainable water use and governance. See the website: https://sitoumus2050.fi/commitment/vesivastuusitoumus. Already two private sector companies have committed their responses in the website (UPM and Finlayson). Delightfully, the water stewardship commitment was awarded as the "New initiative of the year" by the Sustainable development committee and the award "Coherent development" by Kehys ry.

Furthermore, to influence the sustainability of consumption and production sectors, workshops focusing on the sustainability challenges of internationally traded commodities, such as soy and palm oil, were organized with two large Finnish companies. The workshops communicated the sustainability issues to the internal key stakeholders within the companies.

Also, Sustainable Development Goal -relevant commitments regarding sustainable soy production and water stewardship were promoted. In addition to support sustainable soy production, the soy commitment was signed by two committed companies on the commitment2050.fi platform and by six companies (HKScan Finland, Kesko, Arla Suomi, Unilever Finland, Norvida, Fazer, Valio) on the WWF website.

LEARNING FOR CHANGE

In 2017, through its environmental education programme, WWF has been able to improve and strengthen the environmental competence and citizenship of young adults, pupils and teachers in Finland. This has been achieved by supporting the implementation of the national curriculum, by providing educational materials, supporting Eco-clubs in schools, training teachers and by supporting the WWF Youth Team to implement various environmental activities. The overall theme for environmental education work has been food, which is one of the priority areas of WWF engagement in Finland to reduce our ecological footprint.

Influencing environmental education at schools

To enable teachers to implement the new curriculum and support pupil participation WWF built up their capacity and gave them educational tools to support environmental citizenship of their pupils. During 2017 we trained 325 teachers under the topic of children and youth engagement and environmental participation, mostly with our own funding outside programme support. Sustainable food has been a good and tangible example on a subject that can be tackled by pupils as part of Eco-club activities. According to feedback the teachers have reported gaining better competence to support the environmental citizenship of their pupils and getting new tools to their work.

WWF got funding from the National Board of Education to train 100 teachers at five cities during 2017-2018. The topic of this training is "The pupils as environmental actors – support for engaging, multidisciplinary learning". This is a great opportunity to continue the work started with the support from Foreign ministry and take advantage of the WWF Koulussa-community and all the experience and competence we have gained. During 2017, WWF also distributed the last 400 copies of the sustainable food posters that were prepared during previous year.

Empowerment of young people

WWF Finland has continued engaging and supporting youth empowerment by organizing the work of WWF Youth Team. We recruited new members to the team in November and now there are 6 senior and 17 junior members (all together 23) who together carry on with the activities under the topic of sustainable food. The team organized their own Earth Hour event with music, circus, sustainable food and flea market where 2 500 people participated. They also took part in 8 events (e.g. the World Village festival) with their own designed pop-up stand and reached approx. 2 000 people. They also continued producing vegetarian recipes, photos and cooking videos on their website vaikutasyomalla.fi, which had 12 529 visitors in year 2017.

Four representatives of the team took part in the first WWF Youth Summit in Austria in September. There were participants from the WWF youth teams from Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The youth group members were also planning and implementing the Summit programme. As an outcome the youth were planning two projects that they will conduct in co-operation in year 2018.

For the first time ever, the CEO of WWF Finland nominated a representative from the Youth team to WWF Finland's Board of Trustees. This will be a permanent practice from now on.

The study of perceived environmental competence of WWF Youth Team members was started and the data was collected during the summer 2017. All together 30 previous youth team members answered in the survey. Unfortunately, the survey has not been finished yet, but we are hoping to get the final results during 2018.

Supporting Eco-clubs

By the WWF Koulussa community (network of EcoClubs, website, Instagram account, Facebook group for teachers) we have continued supporting Eco-Clubs and pupil participation. During 2017 we had four co-operation schools that received reward for more intensive activities and reporting in social media. The Facebook group WWF Opehuone had 350 members and WWF Koulussa Instagram account had 450 followers at the end of the year 2017. The webpage had 2911 visitors during the year.

The extension of the eco-clubs has been more difficult than we expected. Luckily by the teacher training financed by the National Board of Education, we can now support new schools and teachers to start an eco-club. We expect the number of new eco-clubs to increase by at least 50 during the year 2018.

We decided not to produce a video about SDG, because there seemed to be several videos produced on that topic for the same target group by other organizations.

ENGAGING PEOPLE IN CONSERVATION

Through the partnership programme, WWF has aimed to increase public awareness about WWF's work, such as protecting forest landscapes, empowering communities and securing wildlife in developing countries. In addition, WWF's target has been to raise awareness about sustainable consumption habits in Finland.

Promoting the importance of biodiversity via TV

Year 2017 was another great but very different year regarding the success of communication within WWF. The biggest change to previous years was that in spring 2017 we finally got green light for the television series that we have planned for several years about endangered species. On May 2017 we signed contracts with one of the biggest Finnish production company Rabbit Films and MTV3 about a prime-time series "Villien jäljillä" with 8 episodes (45 min each) for fall 2018. The hosts of the series are nature journalist Kimmo Ohtonen and actress Pirjo Heikkilä. Each of the episodes focuses on one main iconic endangered species. 4 of 8 episodes focus on our programme areas, Nepal and Indonesia, but all eight episodes have a link to our consumption habits through impacts to the climate change and forest loss. In 2017 we produced first three episodes in Nepal and the rest of the episodes will be filmed in 2018. WWF Finland was responsible of all the production arrangements in partner countries and most of the resources of the person responsible for the partnership programme communication were targeted to this work. This also meant that we had to cut down other tasks such as daily communication about the partnership programme topics.

Reaching people through communication

Despite of the decreased work time for daily communication the number of media hits related to programme topics remained around the same in 2017 than in 2016. The total number of media hits was 1 560 in chosen topics. The most important reason for this was WWF Finland's programme related ecological footprint work and communication around those topics, mainly food production and over-consumption. Media hits related to these were the biggest share of earned publicity among programme topics. Earned publicity and news about poaching, forest loss and sustainable development were the topics most covered after food production and over-consumption. This was a positive result for us as in 2017 our aim was to emphasize forests, consumption and sustainable development issues in our communication.

During the year we published news and press releases of many programme related topics. The number of programme related press releases and news maintained in the same level as 2016. In 2017 the number of press releases was 28 compared to 29 in 2016. The topics we covered during 2017 include stories about closing down the ivory markets in China, over consumption day in Finland and globally, positive tiger news from Bhutan and Thailand, climate change conference in Bonn and newly discovered species in South East Asia.

Spreading conservation message through social media

The traffic to WWF's programme related web sites increased further in 2017 compared to the average from three previous years (2014-2016). The total amount of traffic to wwf.fi increased with 100 % (this was mainly a result from Norppalive) (1724743 sessions in average 2014-2016 to 3389322 sessions in 2017). However also programme related sites got more traffic: the biggest raisers were the sites of Borneo rainforests (from 3 036 sessions in 2014-2016 to 4 603 in 2017), climate change (from 9 035 to 29 019), forest loss, African Elephant, Rhino and Orangutan with all at least 50 percent more traffic than in previous years.

An example of single topic that gets a lot of coverage in both traditional and social media is the Earth Overshoot Day in August. For instance, the reach of one single Facebook post was 236 760 (170 181 organic, 66 579 paid). The post gained 5 078 reactions and 13 821 clicks (2 984 link clicks to the press release). This is a great result for a single topic.

The overall number of WWF Finland's Facebook followers increased to 126 299 (compared to 122 949 in 2016 and the number of Instagram followers increased to 26 181 (compared to 23 500 in 2016). WWF Finland's specialists have also actively and strategically started to use Twitter as part of their work. Head of International Development Programme Anne Tarvainen has 492 followers in Twitter and she participates in programme related topics actively. Traditionally the followers of WWF Finland are very active, they comment and share the content frequently. The circulation of WWF Magazine was 27 500 in the end of 2017.

In 2017 we kick-started our new content approach in communication and fundraising. The reason for starting the content approach process in 2017 was to tackle the negative development of algorithm changes, weakening organic reach and increasing competition in social and other digital media. The aim was first to define and understand different target groups. The second step was to create content paths and tactical, measurable objectives as core parts of the content approach. With the help of content approach WWF Finland aims to develop its communication more impressive during the following years. Already now the WWF Finland has more Facebook and Instagram followers than any other Finnish NGO.

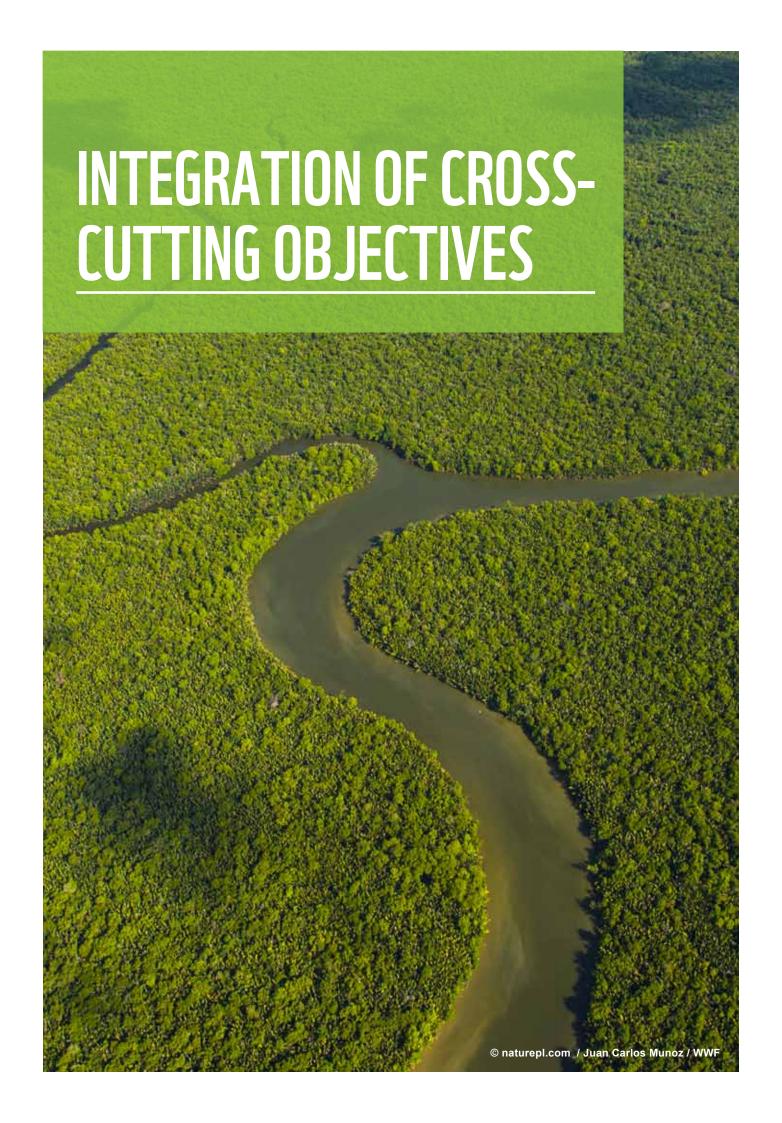
In 2017 Lilli Pukka (University of Jyväskylä) did her Master's thesis "From influencing to engaging: the role of communication in protecting endangered species" in Nepal. Aim was to find out what is the role of communication in protecting endangered species. Case organization was WWF Nepal. Nepal was chosen since the country has shown significant results when it comes to achieving conservation goals. Based on this study, the role of communication is seen as important; communication is everywhere and it affects everything. Findings from the thesis will be used to help WWF Finland's other partners to strengthen their communications. Thesis was published in January 2018: https://jyx.jyu.fi/dspace/handle/123456789/56896

Fund raising

Year 2017 WWF Finland's main fundraising campaign was about WWF's arctic work. In addition to that campaign we had our ongoing face-to-face (F2F) program and online marketing whole year through acquiring monthly or yearly donors to us. In the beginning of 2017 we had 27 200 active (paying) regular donors and at the end of year 2017 their amount had risen to 28 400, which means + 1 200 new active regular donors (monthly or yearly). We have constantly increased our communication towards our regular donors to decrease their attrition and to increase their commitment to our cause through specific regular donor newsletters 3-4 times a year and other automated or personalized e-mailings according to their donorship cause (WWF-general, rainforests, snow leopards etc.).

In 2017 we also had one direct marketing letter in March covering our international conservation work and climate change issues. The target group of this letter was 30 000 persons altogether and it reached its fundraising goal. We also arranged a middle-class donor trip to Nepal to showcase our conservation work in Nepal to influential spokespersons. The goal of this trip was also to raise funds for the self-financing of the programme. We also offer single gift and social fundraising options on our webpage constantly, especially during Christmas time.

During 2017, 15 % of all WWF private supporters (individual monthly donors) were either Snow leopard or Rainforest supporters, which means they wished to support topics that are directly related to the Partnership Programme work. Their share has been the same in the past years. There has been sharp increase in individual donors who wish to support climate change mitigation related work (Climate supporters and "Snow" supporters). However, the biggest share of individual donors are the WWF-regular donors, whose support is allocated on all the WWF work, including the international work under the Partnership Programme.



INCLUSIVE CONSERVATION

During 2017, WWF continued to promote inclusive conservation that emphasizes gender and social equity with all programme partners and in all programme areas. Standard procedures that WWF promotes is the equal participation of women in programme interventions in all levels (in trainings, meetings, campaigns, planning and decision-making bodies and as beneficiaries). Further, emphasis on the traditionally socially excluded groups (such as Dalits in Nepal) has been given to include them in the programme implementation and in Borneo the rights of the Dayaks, who are the indigenous people, have been strengthened to give them ownership and access to their own lands and natural resources. Also, we have been able to facilitate government funding for them to support their tenure rights.

In Tanzania, there has been improvement in terms of women's participation in decision making at community level. While this achievement is worth celebrating, there is still more to be done in making sure that both men and women have equal participation across the landscape. In average, out of 17 villages in which the project has reached directly through trainings and indirectly through the actions of the local networks, there are 16 village natural resources committee members in each village, of which at least 5 are women and in most cases the treasury of the committee is a woman. WWF-Tanzania has continued to work closely with MJUMITA to address these gaps and working with government to implement and revise the national forest policy. Also observed consistent in implementation of village forest governance monitoring process using the dashboard tool in Tunduru has improved. Some improvements are seen on participatory decisions, which are based on human rights and gender that are made at the village assembly and reports are publicly available on notice boards as evidenced by the dashboard report and study on gender spot checks integration of gender equality commissioned by SIDA in 2017. The long-term partnership of local CSOs partners (MJUMITA and MCDI) has been very useful in including and implementing rights-based approaches. Both organizations work on rights issues on daily basis and it has been a very positive advantage for the programme to have their expertise as WWF is often not fully equipped to promote HRBA.

In Nepal, to integrate human right based approach in conservation intervention, an assessment on relevance of HRBA approach and its applicability in WWF's conservation effort was conducted. The report was then developed as a guide to integrate HR concerns into each stage of WWF Nepal' program cycle. This guide also includes checklist for auditing project from HRBA perspective and assessment of HRBA integration status. Similarly, to sensitize WWF staff, grantees and partners, 5 events of HRBA sensitization were conducted. In total 64 WWF staff members were sensitized on HRBA. Of total staff, 16 were female. Similarly, 69 representatives of partners were also sensitized. Of them 11 were female. Of total five events, 1 event was for WWF program staffs at Kathmandu, 3 events for project staff at Chitwan, Banke and Rasuwa (including representatives from major grantee partners) and 1 event for trade union members (BWI-NAC). With such sensitization and guide, WWF Nepal has started incorporating HRBA in new proposals. Further, HRBA guidance is also included in detail implementation plan to ensure human rights during implementation.

In Nepal, specific inclusive activities that were conducted included for instance support to women's souvenir shop with 52 members in Sauraha that suffered badly from flood damage. Also, vegetable training and toolkit support was provided to 25 free bonded labors in Kanchanpur to enable them to start commercial farming enterprise in future.

ENSURING CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY

Climate change mitigation and adaptation are incorporated in WWF's work at different levels, from global to local policy work to the environmental education and to conservation work on the ground. In addition to direct climate change related interventions, the general conservation work that WWF is doing is improving ecosystems and helping people to adapt to climate change impacts.

In Nepal, climate change adaptation activities were implemented in three sites supporting to increase adaptive capacity of 1 090 households. Of them 166 belong to disadvantaged groups, 227 indigenous and 697 others. Adaptation activities included for instance restoring of degraded forest areas with fencing and planting of fast growing broom grass and cinnamon, construction of conservation and recharge ponds which enable recharging water sources as well as help in restoration by increasing soil moisture content and construction of spurs in the river bank which protects river bank cutting and forest land form flash flood. Also WWF continued to support the national REDD-process by supporting the government of Nepal to finalize the Program document for the World Bank for approval for payments for forest conservation for climate change mitigation.



The planning of the next Partnership Programme 2018-2021 played crucial role in 2017 for the WWF Finland International Development team. Team together with the partners and WWF Finland colleagues developed jointly new 4-year program document which was more aligned to the WWF network and our partners' strategies. Also, the planning process was done by using participatory approach where WWF partners and colleagues had a crucial role. Human rights-based approach was used as a basis of the planning process and it challenged us to look our work through different perspective. An external consultant was used to familiarize us on HRBA and help on the planning process especially on Results Based Management of the new programme.

In 2017 Conservation and Development Officer returned from the maternity leave (60 % working time) which made the development team head count to 4 persons. In addition the Senior communication expert contributed to the programme with 80 % of the working time. Due to the limited budget (still influenced by 2016 budget cuts) other WWF Finland experts (environmental education and ecological footprint experts) contributed partially to the programme. Anne Tarvainen, Head of International development participated in the leadership training which was arranged to the WWF Finland management in the autumn 2017. In reality, especially in early 2017, the contribution from WWF Finland experts including the Conservation Director and CEO was big, but the salary expenses were not charged to the partnership programme.

Monitoring trips to the partner countries and regional programmes are specified in the respective chapters of this report. In addition to the monitoring trips Anne Tarvainen participated the Africa Conservation Forum in Tanzania in October. In this annual WWF meeting the country directors and conservation directors from those African countries where WWF is present discuss with the network offices which support these offices together with WWF international sectoral experts. In 2017 the discussion was focused on the role of WWF supporting Protected areas, youth engagement and Africa wide campaigns and communication. WWF Finland's support to the regional forest programme in East Africa is considered important when looking at the whole WWF's forest work in Africa and it has been acknowledged by the International WWF Forest practise as well.

The general monitoring of the work in partner countries was done through regular email exchange, quarterly update calls, quarterly financial reports and through half-year narrative technical reports that partners produce to the WWF network.

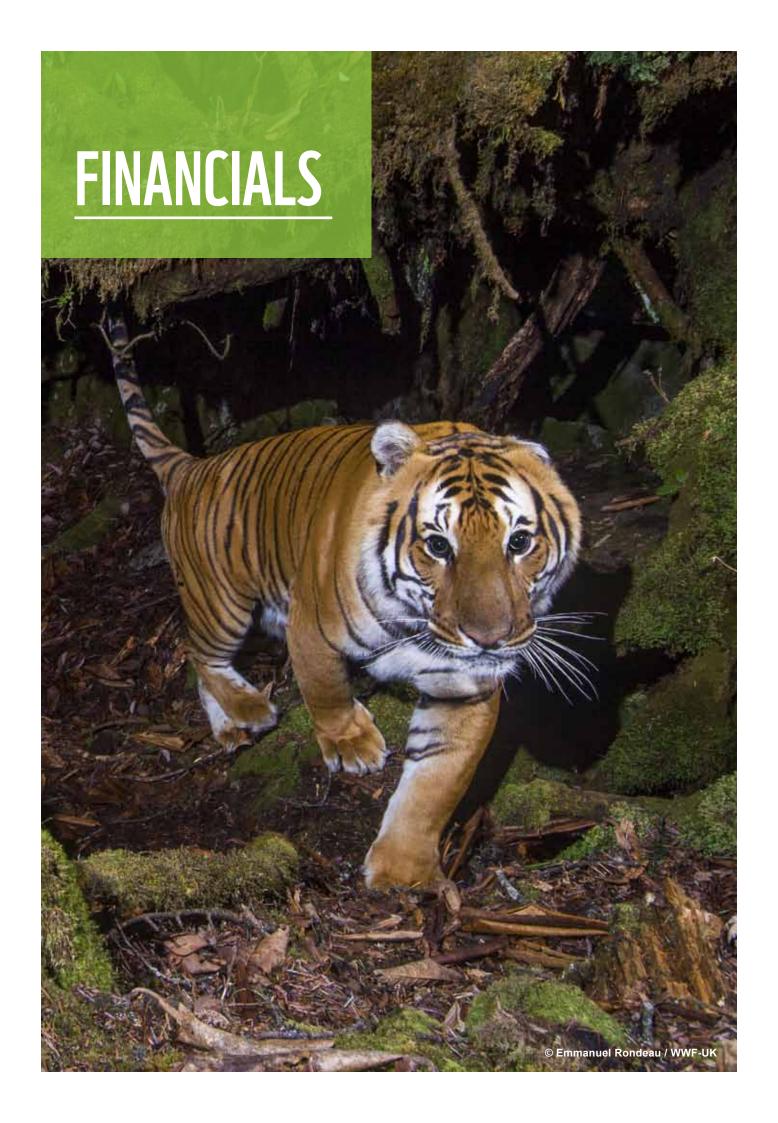
In 2017 WWF Finland provided specific results information to MFA as part of the MFA's trial reporting of development impacts. It was noted that the indicator values requested by MFA were easily available from WWF reports and partners database. Only in case of some indicators specific calculations were needed to verify for example gender specific values.

Cooperation with WWF network continued in 2017 including close cooperation with Nordic+ offices (Sweden, Norway, Denmark and UK). Finland arranged Nordic+ meeting in Finland in February 2017 where expansion of the group to the other EU countries was discussed as sharing knowledge and experiences on public funding programmes is relevant also for other EU WWF offices (Germany, Austria, Belgium and Netherlands). The WWF International conservation strategy areas, practises, provide more focused coordination, knowledge sharing and learning platforms on 6 areas (Forest, Wildlife, Food, Climate&Energy, Freshwater and

Oceans) and 3 drivers (Governance, Markets and Finance). WWF Finland new programme 2018-2021 is well aligned with these global strategic goals especially on inclusive conservation on forest sector and work on addressing environmental crime.

Close cooperation with the MFA continued in 2017 and the country and regional desks as well as sectoral advisors were frequently met. As part of the monitoring missions, the representatives of the Embassies were met every time. During these meetings an update of WWF's work was provided and in 2017 the discussion was focused on 2018-2021 plans and possible synergies with the country strategies.

WWF Finland aims to increase financial support to programme partners in the coming years. This means diversification of the funding sources. In 2017 WWF Finland and WWF Nepal together with Finnish and Nepalese companies developed a proposal to the Nordic Climate Fund, which was unfortunately rejected in on that call for proposals.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2017 WWF Finland International Development programme included only Partnership programme funding as the last projects with project funding ended in 2016. MFA funding for 2017 was a one-year extension to Partnership programme 2014-2016 while funding cycle was shifted. There were no changes on the financial management or the procedures compared to the previous years.

WWF Finland has agreements with all partner WWF offices for MFA funding and partner WWF offices make contracts with local implementation partners such as local CSOs and governments. WWF Finland follows up the use of funds through financial reports that partners send to WWF Finland quarterly. The reports are reviewed and approved by the project coordinator, administrator and the head of programme. If needed, additional questions and clarifications are requested from partners. The expenditure levels as well as balances are monitored and reconciled quarterly with WWF Finland's accounts by the finance department together with the administrator and head of programme. The funds are transferred to partners in two to four instalments per year depending on their expenditure rate. MFA-funded programmes are annually audited in the respective countries. The partners' audit reports, the costs of WWF Finland and the annual partnership level report are audited in Finland by Pricewaterhouse-Coopers Oy.

In early 2017 MFA assigned KPMG to conduct inspection to some development cooperation programmes in Tanzania. WWF Finland's support to the regional forest programme was selected as one of the programmes to be inspected. The inspection didn't find anything alarming.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017

The total available budget for the Partnership Programme for 2017 was EUR 2 006 358 (MFA support EUR 1 705 405), including new support for 2017 and carry forward from 2016. The detailed financial report is presented in annex 1.

The total budget in the application submitted to the MFA in June 2016 and approved in the annual meeting with the MFA (11.1.2017) was EUR 1 843 718. That included EUR 1 440 000 new support, EUR 127 160 unallocated support from previous years and EUR 276 558 co-financing. Later in the spring 2017, when the annual reports for 2016 were ready and the amount of carry forwards was known, the plans and budgets were updated. Carry forwards in partner countries were added to their budgets. Carry forward from Finland was partly added to WWF Finland's budget, partly moved to partner countries. In addition, there were some previously unallocated funds which were added to 2017 budgets. For example, EUR 60 000 from unallocated budget was added to East Africa Forest Programme's budget and EUR 50 000 was moved from Monitoring & Evaluation budget of Finland to East Africa Forest Programme to purchase a vehicle (approved by Sirpa Rajasärkkä, MFA 16.12.2016). EUR 10 854 was not budgeted but was left as a reserve. The total revised budget for 2017 was EUR 1 995 504.

The total costs of the programme in 2017 were EUR 1 684 644. MFA funding was 85% (EUR 1 431 948) and co-financing was 15% (EUR 252 696). Co-financing included support from WWF Finland's private supporters and Finnish companies

The amount of carry forwards from 2017 to 2018 is EUR 321 714 (EUR 273 457 MFA programme support). Spending in partner countries was between 80 and 90 % of the budget, only Living Himalayas Initiative (LHI) had lower spending, 70 % of the budget. LHI carry forward (around EUR 25 000) was because some of the Water Risk Assessment (WRA) Related activities (by partners) were re-scheduled for May 2018 and some activities in India could not be implemented due to challenges in the field. In Finland, about 50 % of the budget on the planning, monitoring and evaluation was spent. We had budgeted 20 000 € to organize a programme planning workshop with partners but it wasn't necessary because partners had made solid plans for new 4 year programme based on their existing strategies. Also, we didn't need to travel to partner countries for planning as much as we had expected. Also some of the monitoring missions were postponed until the funding decision of the new programme was available. 7 500 € was budgeted to cover WWF's share of the evaluation of the PHE work in Nepal, FPAN was responsible for procuring the evaluator. Process was delayed and evaluation was finalized only in 2018. We had also some M&E budget for ad hoc needs in Finland or in partner countries. Spending of Ecological footprint and environmental education in Finland was 34 % of the budget. Study about WWF Finland's youth team (Master's thesis) wasn't completed in 2017. Video "SDGs in schools" was not produced since it turned out there's already a lot of videos about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by youth. Video introducing the interconnection of pension savings and climate impacts of fossil investments cost less than what was budgeted and for SDG related commitments the scope of consultancy work was redefined and more focused, which resulted to lower costs.

In 2017 WWF Finland's staff's contribution to the Partnership programme was much bigger than what was charged to the programme. This is because the budget cut was still influencing our operations. WWF Finland wants to ensure its partners' capacity to implement the programme effectively so instead of limiting funding of the partners the personnel costs of WWF Finland were partly covered from other funding sources. The involvement of WWF Finland experts to the Partnership Programme was bigger than previous years due to the participatory preparation of the new programme.

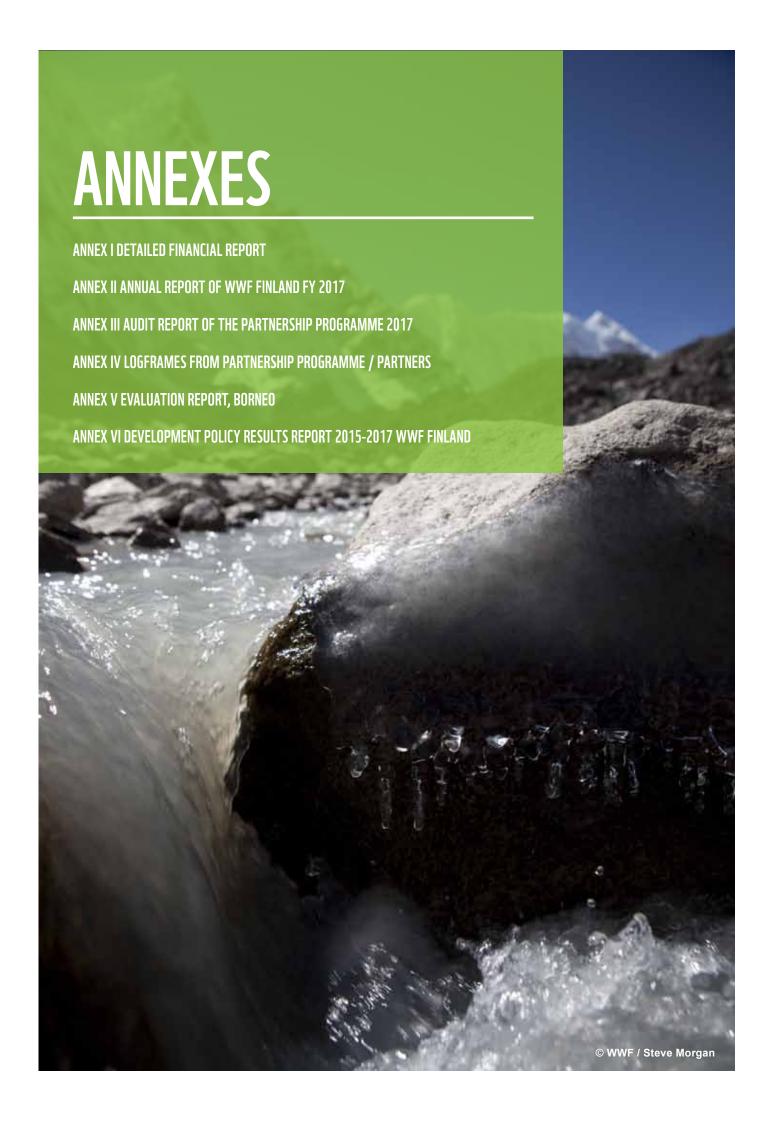
In addition to the Partnership programme WWF Finland pays WWF network levy fee to the WWF network which was EUR 566 302 in 2017. This funding is used to support WWF Network, especially offices in Africa and Asia. In addition, in several partner countries and regions other funding sources were secured to expand and scale up WWF Finland funded activities and approaches.

EXPENSES IN 2017

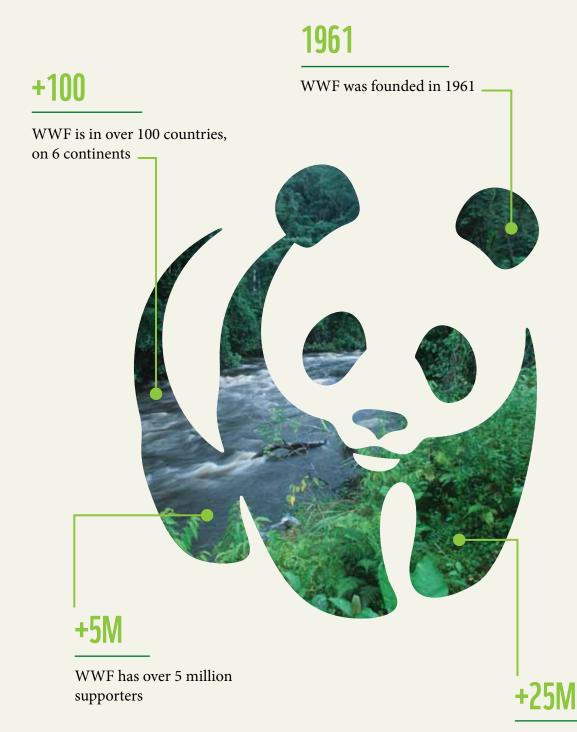
Programmes	Actual costs €
Nepal	602 676
Bhutan	50 105
Indonesia	178 196
Living Himalayas	59 656
East Africa Forest Programme	183 685
Total costs of Programmes	1 074 318

Finland	
Personnel	297 894
Communications	85 477
Ecological footprint and environmental education	12 678
Planning, monitoring and evaluation	67 916
Admin	146 361
Total costs of WWF Finland	610 326

Total costs	1 684 644
MFA Support used	1 431 948
WWF Finland self-financing	252 696



WWF in numbers





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