



WWF

PARTNERSHIP
REPORT

2018



WWF Finland

International Development Programme

RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCES

Thriving Environment – Wellbeing of People

Partnership Programme Report 2018 to Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, copyright WWF 2017.

Nancy Rono, Farmer, on her farm with cameleon on her arm. Bomet County, Mara River Upper Catchment, Kenya.
Photo: Jonathan Caramanus / Green Renaissance / WWF-UK.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACAI	Areas of Collective Action and Innovation	ME	Muller Ecosystem
AD/ART	Statutes/Internal Mechanisms	METT+	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
AUC	African Union Commission	MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
BZ	Buffer zone (of National Park)	MITADER	Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development, Mozambique
BZCFUG	Bufferzone Community Forest User Group	MoFE	Ministry of Forests and Environment
BZUC	Bufferzone User Committee (community forests, Nepal)	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding (agreement)
CAL	Central Annamites Landscape	MSA	Muller-Schwaner and Arabela landscape
CBAPU	Community Based Anti-Poaching Unit	NBC	National Biodiversity Centre
CBFM	Community Based Forest Management	NCF	Nordic Climate Fund
CBFMG	Community Based Forest Management Groups	NEC	National Environment Commission (Bhutan)
CBFRM	Community Based Forest Resource Management	NFGA	State Forestry and Grassland Administration
CBO	Community Based Organization	NFP	National Forest Plan
CF	Community Forest	NFTP	Non-Forest Timber Product
CFCC	Community Forest Coordination Committee	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CFMG	Community Forest Management Group (Bhutan)	NGP	New Generation of Plantation
CFOP	Community Forest Operation Plan	NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
CFUG	Community Forest User Group	NRT	Northern Rangeland Trust (Kenya)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	NSB	National Statistics Bureau (Bhutan)
COMIFAC	Central African Forest Commission	NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
COP	Conference of the Parties	NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Product
CSO	Civil Society Organisation	ODA	Official Development Aid
DAG	Disadvantaged Groups	PAFO	Provincial Department of Agricultural and Forestry
DFO	Division Forest Office (Nepal)	PCP	Participatory Conservation Planning
DHPS	Department of Hydropower and Power Systems (Bhutan)	PF	Protected Forests
DPP	Department of Public Prosecutor's office	PFMC	Protected Forest Management Council
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo	PHE	Population, Health and Environment
DSA	District Strategic Area	PIF	The Project Identification Form
EAC	East African Community	PPP	Public Private Partnership
FLR	Forest Landscape Restoration	PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
FMU	Forest Management Unit	REC	Regional Economic Commission
FPAN	Family Planning Association of Nepal	SADC	Southern African Development Community
FPIC	Free, Prior, Informed Consent	SD4C	Social Development for Conservation
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
GEF	Global Environment Facility	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	SFED	Social Forestry Extension Division
GVL	Greater Virunga Landscape	SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
GVTC	Greater Virunga's Transboundary Collaboration	ShNP	Shuklaphanta National Park (Nepal)
HD	Hutan Desa – Village Forest (Indonesia)	SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
HH	Household	SLCC	Snow Leopard Conservation Committee (Nepal)
HII	High Impact Initiative	SMART	Spatial monitoring and reporting tool
HRBA	Human rights-based approach	SRH	Sexual and reproductive Health
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict	TAL	Terai Arc Landscape (Nepal)
ICS	Internal Control System	TAWA	Tanzania Wildlife Authority
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	TGG	The Generation Green campaign (Nepal)
ITFC	The Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation, Uganda	TNBBBR	The Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	ToT	Training of Trainer
IWT	Illegal Wildlife Trade	TRAFFIC	The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
JJ	Janajati (Indigenous group, Nepal)	TTI	Technical Training Institute
KPH	Government-administered Forest Management Unit (Indonesia)	TWIX	Trade in wildlife information eXchange
KSK	District Strategic Areas (Indonesia)	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service	UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
LHI	Living Himalayas Initiative	UNODC	United Nations Office of Drugs and Organised Crime
LHP	Living Himalayas Programme	UNSPF	United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests
LPHD	Village Forest Management Body (Indonesia)	UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority
MCDI	Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (Tanzania)	WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018 international attention about biodiversity loss and urgency of climate change became even more evident. Nobody can be in any doubt that the relationship between us and the planet is dangerously unbalanced. WWF's Living Planet Report laid bare nature's continuing decline, including the shocking statistic that wildlife populations have fallen by 60 per cent on average since 1970. This loss is already causing profound changes to the ecosystems that all life on Earth depends upon – ourselves included. And unless we change course urgently, serious harm to people around the world is inevitable.

In 2018, there was new evidence from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the world's leading authority on assessing climate science, that backs this up. Their special report on global warming of 1.5°C provides a better picture than ever before of the harmful consequences of letting the increase slip to 2°C. Half a degree may not sound very much but the reality would be devastating for people and nature – with increased risks of natural disasters, lower economic growth, decreased yield of food production and increased impacts on species and environments.

And yet, we should remain optimistic and determined. We have an opportunity in the coming two years to set a new direction for our society – to create a New Deal for Nature and People universally endorsed from political and business leaders to communities and individuals. If we get it right, we will create an unstoppable movement for nature similar to when the world came together to tackle climate change.

Still in 2018 we were able to demonstrate successes of long term conservation work. One of the highlight were extraordinary news from Nepal, it is on track to become the first of the world's countries to double its wild tiger population since 2010. According to results from the country's most recent tiger survey, there are now an estimated 235 wild tigers, nearly twice the number of tigers counted in 2009. WWF Finland has supported the tiger conservation work under MFA funding since 2003. This amazing result shows just what we can do for wildlife when governments, NGOs and communities work together. Nevertheless the good news, there's growing pressure from the local people with whom these incredible creatures share their dwindling forest landscape.

Threats to forests and their unique biodiversity are increasing. The good news is that there is increasing recognition of the role of forests in fighting climate change, protecting the world's most iconic species and improving livelihoods. WWF Finland's new programme is strongly focused on forests and addressing deforestation. Focus will provide better basis for sharing best practices and facilitate dialogue among the partners. In 2018 programme brought more than 40 000 hectares of forests under improved management system. In addition to that, in Borneo three forest management units, total 1 450 649 hectares, have plans for improved management but are not yet implemented. In addition to the practical work with communities on forest management WWF Finland and its partners improved forest management by advocating improved forest management in the regional entities in Africa and in the new federal structure in Nepal.

The partnership programme is also linked to WWF's work in Finland where the impacts of Finnish consumption on global deforestation are addressed. Food production is by far the most resource intensive human activity in terms of land and water use. Food production is the leading cause of deforestation and habitat conversion and biodiversity loss in general. Furthermore, food production is the source of roughly 30 % of global greenhouse gas emissions. WWF Finland has a strong message and approach on Finnish food discussion. In past year the awareness and willingness to increase more sustainable eating habits has increased in Finland. Based on our survey 40% of Finns are planning to prefer plant based diets and their willingness to do that has increased because of environmental impacts.

Year 2018 was the first year of the new four year programme, the work which was started under the last programme continued in WWF Finland's long term cooperation countries and regions (East Africa, Nepal, Bhutan and Indonesia). WWF Finland decided with slightly increased funding to expand the partnership programme to cover WWF's work in East Africa to address the illegal wildlife trade and in the Greater Mekong Region.

The importance on the Greater Mekong area to the global biodiversity was emphasised in 2018 when the report of new species was published. In 2018 we published news that three mammals, 11 amphibians, two fish, 11 reptiles and 88 plants were discovered by scientists in 2016 in the Greater Mekong Region. WWF Finland's support will focus on supporting WWF's forest work in the region and especially in Laos.

WWF and TRAFFIC has established three Wildlife Crime Hub's around Africa to address the rapidly increasing poaching crisis and expansion of illegal wildlife trade. WWF Finland was among WWF UK and WWF Sweden the first ones to support the creation of East Africa Wildlife Crime hub based in Kenya. Already in 2018 the hub succeeded well on taking WWF's national species work to the next level. Joint excursion from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda visited Nepal to learn from their successful zero poaching approach which led that the zero poaching strategies are now developed in the region by the authorities. Acknowledging the need for partnerships to address this international crime new cooperation was established between WWF and UNODC.

It seems that the Wildlife Crime hub continues strengthening the successful regional cooperation between East African countries which has been crucial element of the success of WWF's Regional Forest programme in East Africa. The forest programme continued to support the countries on the implementation of their commitments to end the illegal timber trade. In 2018 the work was also focused on the cooperation with two regional entities, SADC and EAC to revise their forest protocol. This demonstrates WWF's capability to influence also regional political documents.

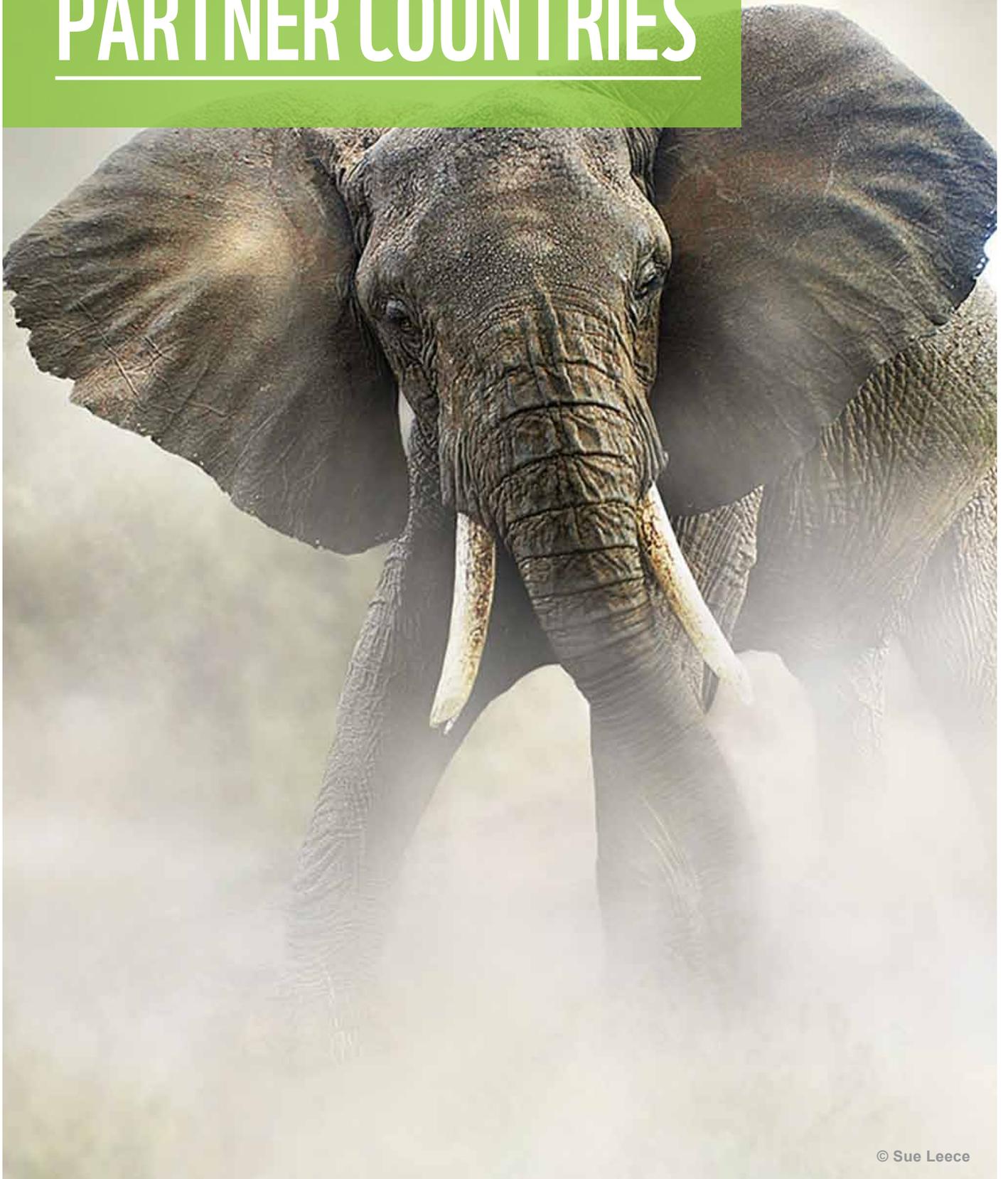
The changes in the government structures guided the work in Nepal to ensure that our successful community forest models and community conservation models are adequately understood and adopted in the Nepal government defederalization process. Inspirational innovative cooperation and engagement with Nepalese youth was continued with the Generation Green programme, which will be outreaching hundreds of thousands of youth through newly launched digital platforms. In Bhutan the Finnish support was focused for upcoming 4 years to support the community forestry outside the national parks.

The wellbeing of the people is in the focus of this human right progressive programme together with the protection of the environment. In 2018 the programme engaged with more than 800 smallholder farmers to improve their farming practices, more than 100 local civil society organizations were strengthened and 34 enterprises were created to support better livelihoods. In total almost 10 000 households benefited from the programme through improved livelihoods, increased climate resilience, knowledge and capacity. Women, ethnic minorities and indigenous groups are normally more vulnerable to the climate change and other changes in their environment and they have challenges of participating the official processes and benefitting the available resources, the programme conducted several interventions which were directed to support these groups. For example in Mekong Region Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) training was provided to civil society organizations to raise awareness of local people's rights.

In Finland WWF got again a great media coverage to its work and the conservation topics. The TV series *Villien jäljillä* reached hundreds of thousands of Finns and mostly new audiences which would not have been reached with traditional nature conservation approaches.

Despite the great successes challenges are also persistent and increasing in our partner countries. For example government of Tanzania is planning to build a new hydro power plant to Selous Nature reserve which is also an UNESCO World Heritage site. WWF-commissioned research on the Stiegler's Gorge project strongly indicates that construction of the dam will have far-reaching negative impacts on the Selous, and beyond. Its construction risks damage to a wetland of international importance, the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Marine Ramsar Site, and could impact on the livelihoods of more than 200,000 people who live downstream. At the present situation in Tanzania the possibilities of CSO to influence this kind of decisions are limited.

PROGRESS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES



EAST AFRICA REGIONAL FOREST PROGRAMME

While the Partnership Programme (2014-2017) strengthened regional and national processes, including building strong CSOs and their coalitions in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique, the new Programme seeks to strengthen the regional coordination and collaboration and scale-up regional interventions by working more closely with Regional Economic Commissions (RECs). The scope was widened to address illegal trade in timber and embrace regional collaboration among countries to improve forest governance. The long-term commitment to provide technical support and facilitating inclusion of civil society in the regional processes materialized into important milestones in 2018.

International and regional commitments achieved to reduce illegal timber trade

To ensure compliance by governments to the reduction of illegal timber and other forest products in Eastern and Southern Africa, WWF engages with the biggest regional intergovernmental organisations such as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and East African Community (EAC). Engagement with SADC and EAC are essential in forging links across countries to seek harmonization of policy actions to strengthen forest governance and increase commitments to deter illegal trade in timber.

The programme facilitated several major dialogues in the region in 2018 and was able to ensure SADC's Member States endorsement and commitment to a regional mechanism to manage and dispose seized timber stockpiles; and to develop a framework agreement between SADC bloc and China on forestry and timber trade.

Although the decisions towards commitment to have regional stockpiles management mechanism was reached by Ministers in late 2017, the unanimous endorsement of its implementation by all Member States was achieved at the SADC Technical Committee on Forestry in November 2018 in Windhoek. Similarly, the endorsement to pursue agreement with China on the timber trade was reached at the Windhoek meeting and further in the SADC Member States on regional common position preparation for CITES COP 18 held in Johannesburg in December 2018.

The endorsement and commitment for SADC to pursue the agreement with China and to control timber stockpiles regionally is a milestone to WWF and a result of long-term engagement with the SADC governments.

To sustain the achievements, the programme continued its' aim to create links between the SADC countries and to get endorsement and action by governments to the SADC Protocol on Forestry, which so far has been acceded by 10 out of 16 SADC member states. The 5 states that are yet to consent the Protocol are Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Comoros (new member to SADC), Madagascar and Seychelles of which majority are transit and/ or source countries of illegal timber destined to China.

In addition to the engagement with SADC countries, WWF supported the EAC in the initiation of the process in 2017 to develop regional Forestry Policy and Strategy that would cover Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and Burundi. To be able to enhance the policy formulation processes the programme supported

the draft policy and strategy review process in the EAC Terrestrial Working Group meeting hosted by the Ministry of EAC Affairs of Republic of Uganda in 2018. Altogether 10 officials from 5 Partner States and 4 WWF forest experts (2 from Uganda, 1 from Tanzania and 1 from Kenya). WWF was invited as the only NGO to participate to this inter governmental meeting to provide technical expertise on policy and strategy review and development.

This policy and strategy development will help EAC countries to align their legislations, and to harmonise regional priorities with similar ongoing processes with African Union Commission (AUC).

In addition to facilitation and technical support in the dialogues, WWF has played a crucial role ensuring the inclusion and participation of the larger civil society to the transformation of policies and decisions related to forest and timber trade processes. WWF facilitated series of CSO consultation and meetings in Uganda, Kenya, Madagascar and Tanzania related to the strategy and dialogue processes and ensured that the community voices are heard in the intergovernmental meetings and in drafting the documents.

WWF and TRAFFIC organised the 6th East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum, which was hosted by WWF Uganda with theme on the Role of Regional Economic Commissions in CITES and Timber Trade. From its inception in 2013, the forum has been instrumental in facilitating dialogue on policy decisions and compliance issues between the public and private sectors and the civil society. The forum brought together 34 participants (7 women, 27 men) representing various government departments e.g. from forestry and revenue, of Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, Madagascar, and Zanzibar, as well as CITES and the East African Community (EAC). Non-governmental organizations (e.g. Care International Uganda) as well as 6 CSOs (from Tanzania, Uganda, Mozambique, Kenya and Madagascar), the private sector or private sector relevant agencies, such as the Forestry Stewardship Council and FAO's Saw log Production Grant Scheme, were also present at the meeting.

To complement the work around government's compliance to international agreements, level of commitment was assessed for 7 national forest authorities at the 6th East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders Forum. On the level of commitment, stakeholders gauged countries based on their activeness in regional collaboration, evidence of legislation changes, and awareness of regional processes targeted at reducing illegal trade in timber. The level of commitment by governments varied greatly across the region with Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania indicating more compliance to international agreements than Madagascar and Mozambique.

Strengthening commitments of national authorities to tackle illegal trade in timber

Tanzania formulated a national committee to follow-up on Government's commitment to Zanzibar Declaration on Illegal Trade in Timber and other Forest Products during Inter-ministerial meeting between Zanzibar and Tanzania mainland hosted by the Vice President in 2018. This is a very positive commitment by the Government of Tanzania towards implementation of the Zanzibar Declaration as it will involve self-financing and follow-up on key actions. WWF in collaboration with TRAFFIC provided technical support in designing the action plan for Tanzania in 2016 which formed the basis for the national committee's action plan established in 2018.

Tanzanian government adopted a process to initiate discussions with Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo on transit of timber consignments as a result of WWF's presentation at the 4th China-Africa Forest Governance Learning Platform meeting in Pemba, Mozambique (23rd to 25th October 2017). WWF Tanzania was invited by the government representative, Tanzania Forest Service, to provide technical support in the negotiations with Zambia and DRC.

The MoU between the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER) of Mozambique and State Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA) of China was signed in Beijing on 18th June 2018. This achievement is contributed by WWF's commitment over the past nine years in engaging the governments especially regarding timber control procedures and forest-related business opportunities, provision of training to Chinese and Mozambican companies on the Mozambique Legislation and Chinese Guidelines on sustainable forest management (SFM) and timber trade and conducting an assessment of the performance of the Chinese companies operating in Mozambique. The Finnish support has contributed with UK, Sweden and Norway the facilitation of MoU draft, negotiation between MITADER and NFGA, exchange visits between China and Mozambique, and inclusion of the CSOs views to the process through the National CSOs Alliance of Mozambique between 2013 and 2017.

Given that about 93% of Mozambique's annual timber exports are produced to China and mostly through illegal harvesting and trade, the achievement can be considered significant. The MoU sets a stage for two countries to work together to reverse the trend of illegal timber trade and to stop forest destruction and enable Mozambicans to share the benefits from forest production with Chinese investors. The MoU encourages development of a bilateral verification system to combat illegal logging and sustainable managed forests.

Supporting sustainable community forest management

The support for sustainable community forest management concentrated mostly to Tanzania and Kenya in 2018.

Mpingo Conservation Development Initiative (MCDI) in Tanzania has been able to increase the forest area under Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) by 2,9 % from 2017, reaching 268,093 ha in 22 villages. In this achievement, the regional programme has played role in providing technical oversight and support particularly in finding innovative ways to enable sustainable business.

In addition, total 3,713 ha of community forest area under FSC has been added with increase of 1,9% from 2017 in Tanzania. Therefore, the community forest area (CBFM) under FSC Group Scheme Certificate has increased from 186,839ha in 13 villages to 190,552ha in 14 villages (out of 24 in four districts) with addition of Mindu village.

In Kenya, 12,400 ha formerly state-owned forest was identified to be gazetted as community ownership and management. These forests areas are home to rare and endemic tree species, rare and endangered red colobus monkey, classified as Important Bird and Biodiversity Area, source of traditional food and community wild foods.

The programme's aim to reach a target of 100,000 ha new area under sustainable forest management was set-up inline with the Regional Forest Programme strategic

plan (2015-2020). However, the feedback from local partners and country offices over the past years, indicate that the target set for the programme is too ambitious and may need revision. Instead, based on the learnt there is a need for the programme to invest more in areas that are already under SFM to ensure communities have financial incentives and capacity to operate as independent enterprises.

The fact that some areas in Tanzania have taken nearly 10 years to start operating as enterprises, prompted the need to re-look at the strategy on how community-managed forest areas are supported.

For the existing area under sustainable forest management the programme has continued to monitor the progress of management of the forest areas in the target landscapes using “Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool” (METT+). The assessment of the progress was done in Kenya in 2018. In coastal Kenya the measured average score was 48,7%, decreasing 1,8%. The drop in the score was due to low security situation in the areas near Somalia border leaving some planned measures and recommendations for improvement done insufficiently. The METT+ assessment for Madagascar will be done later in the programme implementation and the score figures from Uganda will be further verified in future.

Value chains for local forestry enterprises are identified and supported

In promoting access to knowledge and information on enabling business for locally controlled forest enterprises, the regional forest programme has launched bi-annual regional learning events. The learning events are dedicated to form partnerships, enhance leadership skills, identification of best practices and challenges on incubating and operating community-based forest enterprises.

The first learning event was held in May 2018 in Rubirizi District (Uganda) bringing together 7 WWF forest experts (5 from the region and 2 from Europe), 3 community members from Uganda, and 4 CSOs supporting community enterprises from Uganda and Kenya. The event targeted lessons, gaps and strategies sharing on developing community-led business planning and incubation of community forest enterprises, using restoration as business strategy for communities. The meeting helped to define needs by the community enterprises and their supporting CSOs/CBOs on business related to forestry, and what could be the role of WWF. Application to NCF was prepared to support this initiative in Uganda but unfortunately it was rejected by NCF.

The second meeting took place in Kwale (Kenya) in Dec 2018 bringing 10 WWF forest experts (9 from the region and 1 from Sweden) together. The intention of the event was to review progress of the country interventions and regional programme of 2017, and to share lessons on approaching innovations on unlocking business of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) for cosmetics given the experience from Tanzania.

The learning events concluded that the regional and national programmes should invest in existing community forest areas and to use forest landscape restoration (FLR) as an opportunity for new programmatic work using the experience from Western Uganda. The need to further define the role of WWF in enabling community-based forest enterprises and to prioritise a number of community-forest business enterprises to be supported and included in the learning process was also concluded.

Local businesses on forestry was strengthened to access market and finance in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

MCDI was able to support local communities in Southern Tanzania (Tunduru Rufiji and Kilwa districts) to generate TZS 248,657,900 through sale of sustainable timber benefiting 28,513 people (13,626 men and 14,887 women).

The revenue gained from the timber sales form important income for the community development. Part of the revenue was used by the communities to sustain the forest management activities such as patrolling, forest inventory, motorbikes as well as health insurance and safety gear for community members performing forestry activities. In addition to forest management, the revenue was used to cater for several community needs especially improving community water and sanitation services like construction and rehabilitation of boreholes; improving health services through rehabilitation and/or construction of health centers, provision of support to get basic health treatment and maternal health care for community members and provision of village level nursing services; improving electrification of village facilities by installation of solar power; and improving schooling by provision of bursaries for pupils to attend secondary schooling, rehabilitation and/ or construction of classrooms and purchase of school books.

Private forest farmers from Lamu and Tana counties in Kenya were supported to establish a Farm Forestry Association. The association will help to ensure market access by the forest products (fuel wood etc.) producers, improve their negotiation power in the market, and capacity to meet demand of products.

Whereas, in Uganda a multi-stakeholder process (government, forest sector smallholder, private sector, CSOs) for developing the Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Strategy for Rwenzori and Kalinzu-Imaramagambo Landscapes in the Greater Virunga was established. This was a result of Uganda Study Tour on New Generation of Plantations (NGPs) hosted in June 2018 under the theme “Plantations for Africa’s Prosperity”. The restoration strategy will aim to build business cases for smallholders in the Virunga landscape through existing and new tree growing schemes.

Furthermore in Uganda, four District local governments (Rukungiri, Bundibugyo, Fort Portal and Mitooma) in the Albertine rift have committed to develop district-level forest business plans as part of the National Forest Plan (NFP) implementation which underlines the need for promoting Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). This commitment was a result of a meeting convened by WWF-Uganda in May 2018.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

Working with CSOs across the region has demonstrated that development of CSOs’ capacity is a long process and require patience, consistency in 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 achieve some of the long term milestones in 2018.

Long term investments and commitment is furthermore crucial on policy processes to ensure influence to governments and their associated regional bodies. The regional engagement with SADC and EAC has increased respect of WWF by governments in the region and other regional bodies particularly African Union (AU) on forest management issues. This has been the result of the long term WWF regional influence.

The trust from governments has enabled WWF to be invited to provide technical support in developing policies, supporting bilateral negotiations and in some cases extending support to other countries in the region where the programme does not operate e.g. Zambia. In 2018, the regional programme hub supported WWF-Zambia in its response to the request by the parliament to provide technical views on the loss of revenue from forest resources including provision of best practice examples from the Zanzibar Declaration on Illegal Trade in Timber and other Forest Products process, which WWF supported in East Africa.

Differences in pace of working with different stakeholders e.g. government due to bureaucracy, inconsistency, ownership and commitment can sometimes delay implementation. This is the case especially for activities targeting EAC, SADC and engagement with national governments. In 2018, the programme engaged in frequent lobbying and providing technical support to ensure that activities move according to the agreed timeline.

Regional programmatic interventions take time to form and to keep national commitments towards regional targets, the programme needs to keep the programme aims clear and high in agenda at all times. In recognition of sustainability and to keep commitment strong for regional forest programme, implementation set-up was arranged to make sure that national forest programme coordinators are taking lead and fully involved in the regional processes.

In 2018, Madagascar and Tanzania forest programme coordinators have participated in the SADC policy process; Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya national forest programme coordinators have taken lead in the EAC policy process; and Kenya and Uganda national forest programme coordinators have taken lead to prepare and host the regional learning events. This mechanism is set-up to allow ownership, country empowerment and shared-responsibility on regional priorities.

To improve the monitoring and reporting for the programme, the capacity and commitment of the WWF national offices will be strengthened.

The national offices with the support from the regional programme funding are able use the programme work to leverage additional funding from other sources. WWF-Kenya submitted a proposal for large-scale Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) programme for four African countries including Cameroon, Kenya, Rwanda and Malawi (4.5 million EUR). WWF Tanzania provided technical support for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism together with other ministries and governmental institutes to submit a Global Environment Facility Round 7 (GEF7) proposal “Integrated Land Use and Restoration Program for Productive Forest Landscapes” for Tanzania (5.5 million USD). Similarly the programme funding has enabled WWF Uganda start to identify innovation in forest financing for tree growers around Albertine Rift landscape.

Monitoring trips

The Conservation and Development Officer took part to the annual planning of the East African Forest Programme in May 2018 in Uganda. All national forest coordinators from the regional programme, WWF Regional office representative as well as WWF Finland and Sweden took part to the meetings. The objective was to plan the future interventions, share lessons learnt and plan for improved synergies in implementation between the countries.

The main unanimous conclusions from the meeting concluded that community forest management related forest enterprises should be further supported to improve sustainability of the community forest management and that the focus on regional and reaffirmed that national advocacy work through national and intergovernmental meetings will be further continued to curb the illegal timber trade in the region.

The Conservation and Development Officer worked together with the participants to further integrate the issues of gender and human rights considerations to the programme implementation through practical exercise.

EAST AFRICA REGIONAL WILDLIFE CRIME HUB

WWF started support to the East Africa Wildlife Crime Hub in 2018. The first year of Partnership Programme implementation resulted the official establishment of the WWF's East Africa Wildlife Hub. In addition, the Hub was able to start regional advocacy work with good results in engaging big regional organisations like African Union and East African Community to work together with the Hub to curb illegal wildlife trade in the region.

Regional engagement to reduce illegal wildlife trade in East Africa

The Regional Wildlife Crime Hub was established in 2018. The Hub developed regional strategy and due to WWF's and TRAFFIC's long presence and already established status as conservation actors in the region, it was able to establish networks nationally and regionally as well as start advocacy work relatively quickly.

With the experience on Nepal's Zero Poaching strategies from exchange visits between WWF Nepal and the Hub, the Hub supported the finalisation of the regional Zero Poaching strategy for the greater Virunga landscape. The Greater Virunga landscape has the highest biodiversity in Africa due to its combinations a savannah and tropical rainforest. However, this region has faced incredible pressure from conflict and the illegal consumption of wildlife products. The strategy was developed through a participatory process with multiple law enforcement agencies with the three countries (DRC, Uganda and Rwanda) and NGOs working with the landscape. The strategy strengthens the existing framework of Greater Virunga's Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC) to act as a regional coordinator on the strategy and providing a clear direction to develop a more holistic approach to addressing wildlife crime at a transboundary level across the greater Virunga landscape. Greater Virunga's Transboundary Collaboration Zero Poaching strategy was launched in December 2018.

The strategy will provide an opportunity to WWF Uganda, DRC and International Gorilla Conservation Programme to engage more proactively with the governments and local communities in tackling wildlife crime in the region so that the wellbeing of nature and people will be ensured. Based on the strategy an implementation plan is being developed by which the Hub will continue to support until the WWF Uganda can take over the support role as capacity (technical and financial) in the office continues to develop through support from the Hub.

To strengthen governance of protected areas and increase collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders, the Hub provided training courses in stopping

wildlife crime and how to engage communities as part of the solution for the wildlife officials in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) as well as parts of eastern DRC.

WWF and TRAFFIC have actively engaged other regional organisations working to combat illegal wildlife exploitation. WWF and TRAFFIC engaged directly with the African Union's (AU) African Strategy on Combating Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora in Africa and joined part of their technical committee. Working together with AU enables WWF to work on the overarching policy environment across Africa, providing the architecture for regional commissions (SADC, EAC and Central African Forest Commission- COMIFAC) and national policies.

The WWF with TRAFFIC uses latest technology to support wildlife crime management in Africa. The Hub together with TRAFFIC agreed to support the implementation of the East African Commission's Strategy to Combat Poaching, Illegal trade and Trafficking of Wildlife and Wildlife Products by using the TRAFFIC's Trade in Wildlife Information exchange (TWIX) online tool. The tool aims to facilitate information exchange and international co-operation between law enforcement agencies across Central Africa. The collaboration will continue and a follow up meeting with the EAC Deputy Secretary General was arranged for June 4th 2019 to develop a work plan on how and when TWIX could be moved forward.

This engagement has led to WWF, IUCN and TRAFFIC being approached by USAID to develop a joint regional programme to support the East African Community in the implementation of its commitments to conserve wildlife and habitats in East Africa including implementation of the East Africa Anti-poaching strategy. The 4,6 million USD project proposal "Conserving Natural Capital and Enhancing Collaborative Management of Transboundary Resources in East Africa" was submitted to USAID at the end of 2018. The project will help to achieve Hub objectives particularly on advocacy and clarifying the role of youth, gender and indigenous groups in stopping wildlife crime.

To strengthen the effectiveness of the work, the Hub established partnerships agreements with other prominent actors working in the field in East Africa namely, International multilateral actors: United Nations Office for Drugs and Organised Crime (UNODC) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Regional: East African Community and Greater Virunga's Transboundary Committee; national authorities: Kenya (KWS), Uganda (UWA), and Tanzania (TAWA); and national and international NGOs: Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), The Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation (ITFC, Uganda) and Save the Elephants (Kenya) as well as CSOs: Northern Rangeland Trust (NTF, Kenya), Kenyan Wildlife Conservancies Association and Authorised Associations of Wildlife Management Areas.

In Kenya, a total of 43 black rhino births were recorded against 31 mortalities (both 27 natural and 4 poaching) giving a growth rate of 7% (compared to census in 2014) for the second time in a decade and resulting in a national total of 757 black rhinos within Kenya in 2018 compared to 745 in 2017. There has been an overall increase since the review undertaken in 2014 following a stagnation of the population in 2013.

Government awareness and commitment to reduced poaching and IWT

To enable better monitoring of wildlife crime incidents in East Africa and to improve data gathering into TRAFFIC's wildlife crime information database (WiTIS), the

Hub has supported the work of TRAFFIC's East Africa Legal Officer. The primary mandate of the Legal Officer is to monitor high profile wildlife crime court cases, and wildlife crime incidents in East Africa, and to enter the information into TRAFFIC's wildlife crime information database. Once enough monitoring data has been gathered the Hub will facilitate a collaboration with different countries WWF offices and government wildlife officials and partners to review the results. The review of results and stakeholder consultations are planned to be conducted in 2019. This support provides WWF and TRAFFIC with a better understanding of wildlife trade dynamics in the region and judicial response thereby strengthening the effectiveness of wildlife trade interventions in the region in future.

London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife trade was organised in 2018 by UK Government. The conference brought together global leaders to help eradicate illegal wildlife trade and better protect the world's most iconic species from the threat of extinction. Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya signed up to the declaration and thereby made commitments to tackle the illegal wildlife trade as a serious and organised crime, work in partnerships and reduce demand. The Hub supported countries in the process of developing their commitments.

There has been some improvement in CITES compliance on wildlife trade in the region, particularly regarding marine species. Therefore, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda are no longer on the on CITES countries of concern. Despite this result, efforts will be continued to engage with the countries to address actions defined in the National Elephant action plans developed with CITES.

Improved effectiveness of law enforcement agencies to address poaching and illegal trade

A Ranger Perception study across the East African region was conducted in 2018. More than 1800 rangers (Kenya 516; Tanzania 701 and Uganda 610 – approximately 7% women) were surveyed to provide baseline on perceptions of rangers on key issues related to their work ranging from traditional employment indicators and benefits, to training and equipment and then further yet to health, stress, community and interpersonal relationships.

The study provides crucial insight into how WWF can strategically engage to support rangers on a national and site level and highlights key standards that WWF can bring into its work to support protected area management and support to rangers. The regional report on ranger perceptions is planned to be published by the end June 2019 and it feeds into a global review. The global review will be published before the World Ranger Congress in November 2019 arranged by International Ranger Federation.

The Hub issued human rights review at the end of 2018 which was undertaken by an independent human rights expert. The review was conducted in community conservancies and private reserves in Northern Kenya and it will be used with the ranger study to ensure that ranger working conditions and integrity is further enhanced. It also helped to identify how best to address perceived gaps on how to engage communities and ensure their rights are protected. The results of the study will be finalised in 2019. A training of the trainers (ToT) programme is planned to be conducted mid-2019 to ensure the standard operating procedures of rangers consider human rights and reduce the risk of abuses taking place. Although the reviewers highlighted that there was little indication of human rights abuses currently taking place, it should

be noted that this study is treated with caution as this is a snapshot of time. In case any concerns arise, the institutions have policies to address potential cases of abuse in place.

Training of over 450 Police and Public Prosecutor officials in wildlife law and prosecution processes across was conducted in Tanzania. The training focused on improving understanding of wildlife law and in ensuring evidence is collected and presented in accordance with national and international standards to increase prosecution rates.

Public pressure and awareness on the IWT increased including drivers and solutions

The Hub initiated the development of anti-corruption strategies. It has engaged to work with United Nations Office of Drugs and Organised Crime (UNODC) and wildlife authorities to professionalise ranger forces and decrease the risk of corruption. Five anti-corruption assessments, led by UNODC, were conducted in five national wildlife authorities namely Kenya Wildlife Service, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Tanzania Wildlife Authority, Tanzania National Parks and Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority.

The rangers' surveys are being combined with wildlife authority anti-corruption assessments to form a baseline to understanding the enabling environment for corruption and the views of rangers on corruption. Anti-corruption strategies and action plans will be developed for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda during 2019.

Training of trainers in the use of the Point's to prove of wildlife offences took place in Uganda for 30 participants (5 women and 25 men). This joint initiative with UNODC, Natural Resource Conservation Network, Department of Public Prosecutor's office (DPP), Space for Giants and Uganda Wildlife Authority marked the start of a greater effort to improve conviction rates in Uganda. The process was initiated at the request of Uganda Wildlife Authority and the DPP's office and has also resulted in the Launch of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime assessment . This will help the Ugandan government to assess gaps in current legislation and support the review of the exiting national framework and therefore strengthening Uganda's efforts to address wildlife crime.

Youth media campaign was conducted on impacts of wildlife crime to raise awareness of the social impact of wildlife crime. Print and TV medias were used to reach young people in Kenya. As a result of some local media coverage, 500 young people living around the Masai Mara were reached for the messages.

Due to a more targeted communications effort by WWF around IWT, the hub has reported an 10% increase in issues related to wildlife crime was achieved in social media based on WWF communications activities.

The Hub worked with WWF Singapore to develop its demand reduction campaign to raise awareness of the human rights abuses resulting from the ivory trade. Experiences from Kenyan contexts was provided as evidence to Singapore legislators on the impacts of the ivory trade. The campaign resulted in the impending ivory ban in Singapore and increased local awareness of the impact of Illegal wildlife trade.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

Based on the evidence emerging from trafficking and market studies, bush meat is one of the greatest threats to protected area security and wildlife trade in the region. WWF and TRAFFIC needs to review its role in reducing the long threat of bush meat with East Africa in order to attempt to stop wildlife trade. Appropriate action is developed through a series of meetings with WWF and TRAFFIC at national levels.

The capacity of the national WWF offices needs continued support and strengthening in capacity (coordination, collaboration with partners etc.) in order to be able to act as liaison and provide support to national authorities and partners.

Working on wildlife crime, in an environment which is very political and where there are number of different points of view and agendas around sensitive issues, the Hub needs to manage discussions carefully enabling partners to come to their own conclusions based on evidence provided in order to facilitate collaboration. Long term commitment to the work and support to civil society and national authorities are crucial.

Much of our work of the Hub is dependant on external partners and organisations and flexibility in plans and adaptive management thereof is needed especially when stakeholders like the national authorities are in a state of internal changes. The ranger surveys were delayed due to additional levels of sign offs in governments were required but the team managed to complete and collect the valuable data.

The flexibility has also enabled to strengthen the collaboration with UNODC through being able to co-design projects and leverage funding to kick start some activities e.g. related to such as rapid reference guide and prosecutor training.

The Hub is developing a more systematic approach to working with country offices (particularly Uganda and Tanzania) through developing a more structured engagement programme. This is to ensure the hub avoids being reactive and remains strategic. This has enabled a more sustained technical capacity development, such as the support the Hub is providing WWF Tanzania to start up SMART (spatial monitoring and reporting tool) in two wildlife management areas and an additional 5 sites in Kenya and Uganda to upgrade and support the use of SMART on sites, as well as the implementation of zero poaching in GVL and Kenya.

Monitoring trips

Secretary General and the Conservation Director of WWF Finland made a first monitoring visit to Kenya in September 2018. The aim of the visit was to get understanding of the effectiveness of the work conducted under the Programme and to identify any new opportunities and/or challenges. The monitoring report concluded that the work has started well in the region, despite the challenges the conservation agents (collaboration partners) might face in the remote areas. However, during the trip it came obvious that one big risk in the future will be the new oil harbor, which is build in Lamu. Harbour is surrounded by huge mangrove forests in the archipelago.

Regular video conferences were held between the programme coordinator and the WWF offices funding the hub (Sweden, UK and Finland).

INDONESIA, BORNEO

During the early quarter 2018, WWF carried out a validation study in the two sub-districts. The validation study is to verify and update the baseline data. The baseline data is a set of scientific justification that the areas function as: important biodiversity protection areas; important protection landscape, special ecosystem protection, protection of the local needs and protection of important traditional and customary interests. These baseline data are used to develop the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SEA is the basis of developing the operational/detail planning of the DSA and it is subject to be validated by the province.

Prior to the validation by the province, WWF signed an addendum to the existing MoU with the head of Sintang district on 17 September 2018. This addendum is a mandate to WWF to proceed the submission of inclusion of sustainable spatial land use in the Sintang district that is crucial to Borneo, one of the richest biodiversity islands in the world is threatened by unsustainable land use. The island is under serious threats to lose 75 percent of its forest by 2020, compared to the 2005 forest cover. Furthermore, if current deforestation rates continue, almost 22 million hectares of forests are estimated to be lost by 2030. Pressure on forests is especially high in the Central and West Kalimantan provinces. Indigenous communities' (e.g. Dayak) way of living is threatened by unsustainable deforestation on forestry, oil palm plantations, mining and infrastructure. The underlying cause is mainly due to lack a proper risk analysis for nature and people.

WWF Finland, with the support of Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, continues its partnership program with WWF Indonesia for the period of 2018-2021 in addressing the global deforestation front in the Indonesia's part of Borneo: Kalimantan. Seamless to the achievements in the 2014-2016 that was focused in the Muller-Schwaner landscape, the program is set to replicate and expand the success towards Arabela landscape. Sustainable landscape approach for the Arabela is inevitable to ensure sustainable timber production which enables maintaining the biodiversity.

Focus intervention in 2018 are to ensure an impactful exit strategy from Muller-Schwaner landscape through sustainable land-use planning; improving capacity of the local authorities, supporting local communities on sustainable livelihoods and building the capacity of local NGOs/CSOs. WWF initiated the 2018-2021 partnership program through dissemination of the best practices and success stories in the Muller-Schwaner landscape to ensure continuity of the results framework. In Central and West Kalimantan, nine local NGOs have participated to perform participatory conservation planning process independently. While the communities in the targeted villages are able to draw conservation plans in mitigating dire environmental risks to their villages.

Local authorities have undergone a capacity building program on land-use planning. WWF support spatial data collection. another story, the forest rangers perform better monitoring the critically endangered Helmeted Hornbills after joining the SMART Patrol program. Population of the hornbills have been decreasing at alarming rate due to poaching.

The arduous process in safeguarding the district strategic areas in Sintang has resulted in meaningful milestone in 2018. WWF has been able to obtain recommendation

from the governor to proceed with the endorsement from the ministry of land use and ministry of interior. Strong buy-in from the Sintang government has also been the key in completing each step of consultation with different government agencies at different level.

Indigenous communities, local CBOs and CSOs are empowered to engage with private sectors and other stakeholders

One of the underlying causes of deforestation in the Muller-Schwaner and Arabela landscape is inequality over the use of natural resources and lands. The presence of concessionaires' expansion by private sector on forestry and agriculture commodities in Borneo has placed the indigenous and local people in disadvantageous bargaining position to thrive and maintaining their well-beings. This situation is also exacerbated by poor governance of the local government in addressing sustainability in the land use planning that is more economic bias. The inequality has been centered on the lack of their access over education, regulation and economic modalities. With these hindrances, they have been in constraint to build and reach a mutually beneficial and equal engagement with the private sector and the regulators.

A number of local NGOs and CSOs have also been presence to empower the indigenous and local communities in reducing the inequality gaps in the engagement. Despite their strong will in empowering the communities, these NGOs and CSOs also face immediate constraints in making their intervention effective and impactful. There is an immediate need to strengthen their capacity to use an advance technique in the facilitation programs.

WWF is addressing the needs in empowering the indigenous communities, local CBOs and CSOs in the engagement with private sectors and other stakeholders through a systematic approach: ensuring the adoption and building common ground with NGO partners, introducing Participatory Conservation Planning (PCP) methodology and facilitate training of trainers to enhance the implementation and replication of the methodology. PCP is a tool to identify key components in the natural resource management focusing on the development of effective and efficient conservation strategy. It helps analyze the social, cultural and economic conditions as integrated elements in the conservation program. It also can be used to generate indicators to measure and increases effective management system. It is expected that PCP could help the stakeholders from the initial phase of management. There are six elements in the PCP: Systems, Stresses, Sources, Stakeholders, Strategies and (measures) of Success. The following figure describes the theory and interconnectivity of the elements.

In August 2018, WWF carried out identification of villages for the empowerment program through PCP adoption. The village selection is based on their proximity to the Arabela landscape, their natural resource potential, acceptance from the village government and the villagers as well as the infrastructure accessibility. Three villages from Melawi district and two villages from Sintang were selected. WWF conducted simultaneous PCP in these villages on 13-20 September 2018. A total of 35 representatives from the communities, village government and village councils participated in the PCP planning workshop. It was recorded that one-third of the participants are women. The results of this activity are: (i) Community perception were documented on; conservation targets of fauna and flora and the nature events affecting their livelihood; the trend of declining natural resource in their respected

areas; causalities of degradation and the depleting carrying capacity of the natural resources in their villages. (ii) Approaches and communities' actions to improve their existing natural resource condition. (iii) Identification and mapping of interests and objectives from different stakeholders towards natural resources. (iv) Documented agreement to measure the success in improving natural resources conditions.

WWF also held simultaneous Training of Trainer (ToT) on Participatory Conservation Planning (PCP) and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) for broader replication by NGO partners in West and Central Kalimantan in September and October 2018. Nine NGO partners participated in the program. The NGOs take immediate actions to implement the PCP and PRA in the targeted villages under their working areas. The results of the program are that the baseline data related to existing village situations such as socio-cultural, economic, trend of threats, supply chains of community product and conservation opportunities program/activities are already made available. These consecutive activities are to be finalized in January 2019.

To secure wider recognition at landscape level, WWF initiated a coordination meeting with NGO partners and communities' prominent figures in October 2018 to reach a constructive common ground and buy in. The meeting was successful in building a common agreement on the shared roles and contribution of each NGO partners and communities for the WWF partnership program 2018 – 2021. Twelve representatives from NGOs and communities participated in the meeting. All representatives have come into agreement and drawn a workplan indicating their roles, specific activities, timeline and outputs.

By the end of 2018, a total of six villages have been facilitated in developing their conservation plans and nine local NGOs are trained as trainer and facilitator in using the PCP and PRA.

The government extension officers are empowered and engaged to promote green economy model to ensure long term sustainability

The forestry and agriculture extension agents are the spearhead in the provision of direct technical assistance to the villages in the Muller-Schwaner and Arabela landscape. Along with WWF's ambition in mainstreaming green economy model at village level across the landscape, WWF believes that the agents play critical roles in the program. Thus, empowerment of the extension agents is relevant in promoting the green economy model in the landscape.

To test the feasibility of the green economy model, a pilot project was established since 2011. In the previous period of WWF partnership program, WWF Indonesia has facilitated a village, Tanjung, in establishing the BUMDES (village-owned enterprises). The BUMDES is a business entity to manage multiple local commodities in sustainable ways. WWF also has demonstrated an exemplary story of women groups empowerment in the village.

In September 2008, WWF facilitated a learning visit of the extension agents to the Tanjung Village. Nine agents from the districts within the Muller-Schwaner and Arabela landscape joined the 3-days visit. The group had an opportunity to gain first-hand experience and learning lessons from the community rubber, organic farming and village forest programs in Tanjung.

The key takeaways as shared by the visiting agents that they are inspired to replicate internal control system (ICS) model as implemented by the rubber cooperative and agroforestry model in the village forest program. Some of the agents would also investigate the feasibility of allocating the village funds for conservation program in their own villages as they learnt it is possible in Tanjung village.

Muller Ecosystem Areas in Sintang District recognized as conservation areas (KSK/district strategic area), with proper monitoring, evaluation plan and budget

Muller Ecosystem (ME) is an integral area of the Heart of Borneo. It serves as ecological corridor for the wildlife and their habitats viability. The Muller ecosystem connects three protected areas: Betung Kerihun national park, Bukit Baka-Bukit Raya national park dan Sapat Hawung nature reserve. The ecosystem spans within an area of 1.3 million hectares crossing three provinces: West, Central and East Kalimantan.

In West Kalimantan, the ME is situated under the administration of Sintang district. It is stipulated in the district spatial plan established in 2015 that the district is committed to establish the areas included within the ME, that are Ambalau and Serawai subdistrict, as environment and forestry strategic district area. WWF and the district government came into agreement in 2017 to develop, establish and operationalize the district strategic area (DSA).

The SEA is submitted to the provincial government to get official validation from the environmental administration body. On 22 November 2018, WWF presented the SEA to the West Kalimantan environmental administration body. The administration body provided operational guidance to WWF. The guidance was primarily addressing the issues on the targeted subdistricts under the DSA to function properly as an important area for biodiversity conservation and protection of important landscape. The guidance is further detailed in the technical document on the detail planning of the district spatial plan to be developed and finalized by the land administration agency of Sintang District.

On December 2018, the DSA has been submitted by the land administration agency to the district parliament to get their inputs and endorsement. The parliament gave approval to the DSA with an important note that the map shall be made in compliance with the regulation from the Geo-spatial Information Agency with more adequate accuracy. During the closure the 2018, the environmental administration body had given the approval and had it submitted to the desk of Governor of West Kalimantan.

The governor is to sign a recommendation letter as a requirement in obtaining approval from the Ministry of Interior. Following the approval, the district government will request the governor to convene a multi stakeholder consultation at provincial level. WWF is to continue consultation with the district parliament, governor of West Kalimantan, and central government.

The process, despite its arduous and exhaustive consultation, plays a strategic contribution to the protection of Muller Ecosystem. The DSA will be an integral part of the Sintang long term binding district spatial plan and will be valid until 2036. On the bigger picture of the Kalimantan's Island-based Spatial Planning that is issued by the Presidential decree no.3 in 2012, the success of the DSA would

be the first district strategic area for the environment and forestry sector within the Muller Ecosystem. During the consultation at provincial level, WWF received appreciation and substantial acknowledgement from the governor's office for its groundbreaking initiative and persistence in safeguarding the advocacy and facilitation to the Sintang district in making the DSA possible and feasible to protect the environment and important forest areas in West Kalimantan.

The partnership programme involving local communities and private sectors within Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National park (Schwaner areas) is developed and recognized by stakeholders

Bukit Baka-Bukit Raya National Park is one of the key intervention areas under the WWF Finland partnership program 2018-2021. The area spans across 130,000 ha tropical rainforest connecting Bukit Baka nature reserves in West Kalimantan and Bukit Raya in Central Kalimantan. This conservation area represents water catchment for Melawi in West Kalimantan and Katingan river in Central Kalimantan. Of its biodiversity richness, this national park is home for eight of 13 hornbill species in Indonesia. However, it is facing a critical threat from the illegal wildlife trade. Official report recorded at least 370 hornbill beaks have been confiscated from 7 cases of illegal trading during 2012-2017. This species has been stated as critically endangered by the IUCN.

In addressing the imminent threat from illegal wildlife trade and mitigating its recurrence, WWF Indonesia established a formal collaboration with the management body of Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park (TNBBBR) in April 2018.

On 27-28 November 2018, WWF facilitated a training on collaborative patrol. The event was attended by five key figures from the local villages, five forest rangers from a logging company (PT. Sari Bumi Kusuma) and 28 staff of the national park. The trainers are from the International Animal Rescue and Law Enforcement unit of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The training was aimed at strengthening the joint patrol team amongst the locals, private company and the authorities and enabling them to work in collaborative ways. They are expected to reach a common comprehension on the applicable laws and regulations, operational procedures in handling the illegal wildlife trade cases and reach a common agreement on systematic patrol system in securing the national park and at the same time halting the illegal wildlife trade.

The sessions encouraged active participation in exchanging experience, understanding and knowledge in addition to the provided training materials. The materials were made concise and easy-to-understand explaining the litigation procedure in tackling the illegal wildlife crime. A more technical coaching was also delivered to the participants on the use of smartphone-based app (SMART PATROL) and data collection as the basis of eligible hard evidence. This easy-to-use app enables real-time reporting when connected to the internet. The data will be sent to a user with management dashboard for further analysis and law enforcement. The results of this two days training are: the locals, private companies and national park management body have come to agreement to implement joint patrol and use the app for better and effective securing the national park. In addition, a refresher training on biodiversity monitoring of the hornbill was also provided. WWF Indonesia continues its support for the implementation and regularly monitor the effectiveness of the agreed patrolling program in calendar year 2019. WWF also support the provision of tools and safety gear for the patrol team.

In addition, WWF also carried out a series of trainings on eco-tourism and biodiversity monitoring. Local communities surrounding the national park had received trainings on how to be a guide for the tourists and water rafting. A total of 25 representatives of the community participated in this training.

Best practices from community empowerment and livelihood models captured and replicated

WWF provided technical assistance for Village forest management body (LPHD) Bukit Belang in Tanjung Village. It is expected that the LPHD obtains enhanced skills to develop management plan and develop strategy in increasing their institutional capacity.

In capturing the best practices on the village forest management, a set of data were collected for further analysis: map of community land ownership, mitigated land conflicts, agreement between LPHD and the land owners living inside the forest, infrastructure development plan for ecotourism (trails and shelter), agroforestry (coffee) and effectiveness of the patrol team in securing the village forest.

Women empowerment program in Tanjung continued in 2018. The project has assisted the women group in training for making organic fertilizers. In addition, the training in making confectionaries was also provided. There are 33 members of this women group, they come from three sub-villages in Tanjung Village. These activities have had a positive impact related to Tanjung community changes behavior. The organic farming product become new income sources. Almost 30% of the total of Tanjung village population, implement best practices on organic farming. Member of the group and Tanjung community decided to implement organic farming in their private land and they manage the market by selling the products to the middleman in the village and sale to outside the village as well. Based on the last monitoring, each family earned an average of IDR 1 million from one harvest cycle (three cycles in a year). During 2018, The communities have been able to market the organic vegetables three times.

In increasing the livelihood, alternative income sources are essential. Having this issue discussed with the community, the project then facilitated the training of wild bee cultivation for 18 families of Tanjung community member. 1 person from LPHD member in Harowu village, and two FMU staffs from Central Kalimantan also took part. This activity was closely related to the village forest management plan development.

The trainer is a WWF staff and wild beekeeper from another WWF site in Sambas. As the result, community members have practiced beekeeping in Tanjung Village. When it meets a sound business scale, BUMDES will include bees in their business plan.

The project also facilitates activities to enhance the capacity and institutional support for BUMDES Project doing collaborative action with the village government to establish BUMDES. Project and Village government agreed to develop BUMDES in 2017, and the project continuously supports in 2018, until village government signs the BUMDES decree in 2018. The project assisted BUMDES to develop village regulation to provide capital from the village fund. Now, BUMDES was starting to develop two businesses, including building a retail shop to fulfill daily need and rubber business plan in collaboration with Gapoktan Semangai.

Gapoktan and BUMDES were agreed on the business plan strategy that develops in 2018. These documents cited management of production, marketing and benefit sharing between Gapoktan and rubber farmer. In the other hand, the benefit of BUMDES assistance, village groups, and institutions have been capacitated in managing their businesses. To document and showcase the success stories of Tanjung village, a village profile book was also produced as a baseline for social-economic-cultural and livelihood potential sources.

The success of small-scale rubber activity has been already scaled up in several places where WWF works such as Labian-Leboyan corridor, Hulu Gurung sub-district dan Merarai Village in Sintang District. Also, organic agriculture experiences are replicated in another village namely Kayong Hulu village in Ketapang district by using other funding (WWF-US). Through the documentation and book, the success stories are also shared with other stakeholders in several locations by WWF. The new interventions in Arabela (Kayu Bunga Village and Sungai Segak Village) which will begin, and it will need more intensive assistance in order to be able to apply with what has made in Tanjung Village, and therefore these villages are invited to peer learning to Tanjung Village.

In December 2018, the project facilitated a survey of NTFP potential in HD Harowu and Rangan Hiraan areas. As a result, from both of the HD areas, finding Rattan is the main potential then followed with wild honeybee, damar gum (*Shorea*), and water as an environmental service for energy and sources of clean water. These will be used as consideration for developing midterm and annual village forest plan in two village forest (Rangan Hiraan and Harowu). This survey participated by university student (15 people), LPHD member, village government, and according to the report they also involved women (3 people) in the planning processes.

In Bahitom, project intervenes by the collaborative way with district government to provide an agro-tourism master plan. The project contributes with hiring a consultant to conduct mapping, destination management design and policy, and social-economic assessment to enable baseline, data, and information for providing consideration of the agro-tourism master plan. This activity was held in October 2018.

Field technical assistance was also conducted in Bahitom, in Dec 2018 project assisted agro-tourism group to provide internal mechanism (AD/ART) and agro-tourism services standard. This activity involved village own-enterprise and landowner to enable agreement on the governance of tourism destination. The landowner has participated in these activities consist of 6 families and tourism group consist of 15 families. As a result, BUMDES, landowner and tourism group agreed to in place the tourism group is a part of the BUMDES Bahitom.

Timber companies and government (KPH) have adopted improved Sustainable Forest Management practices

A workshop was held with 2 government-administered forest management units (FMUs) and was also attended by local NGOs and community leaders. This meeting aimed at sharing the MSA Landscape program 2019 – 2021. The meeting reported issues relevant to wildlife conservation, such as orangutan and wild Bull (*Bos Javanicus*). The parties agree to increase partnership and collaboration to reduce poaching and trade of protected animals. The FMUs raised expectation to

investigate possibilities for a restoration program on critical lands that overlaps with habitat for key species.

The meeting also arised strategic issues that partner have gap on capacity and ability to strengthening indigenous peoples, institutions and human resources capacity of FMU staff and community. Especially community empowerment program and also encourage customary institutions to be able to play an active role in determining natural resource management in overall MSA Landscape.

Lessons learned

Empowerment of the stakeholders in the landscape is challenging. In 2018, WWF has more exposure on the involvement with local partners (NGOs/CSOs), building their capacity and share experiences on facilitation skill and processes in the communities. Partners were eventually able to implement PCP and PRA as tools to collect and gather the data and baseline.

The story of green economy in Tanjung Village can be a center of excellence for other project areas in the landscape. From the learning visit program, the villagers can inspire others to replicate or modify the approach for better results. Implementation of the Green Economy is adaptive to the local context. The fundamental requirements are from the collective will of the villagers and strong vision from the government.

Another lesson learned is engagement with women's groups also have a positive impact in developing the community in general. This impact can be further developed by strengthening women's role in generating income at household level and this has been done in communities by assisting groups of women, for example (Tanjung Village), to be better coordinated to develop creative economic programs run by women to become more financially independent and take role within the communities.

Adaptive management

2018 is the final year of the current government administration. It also affects the advocacy work that involve different government agencies. In turn, these uncertainties require adjustment to the program and budget. Changes in government policies/regulations have also caused changes and additions to the field. In terms of cooperation with the government, it is necessary to anticipate the changes of regulations so the program planning can be adjusted to the regulations that emerge.

The government's budget at all level has decreased in 2018, it become a challenge in the implementation of program and its sustainability. With detail scrutiny on the implementation and correct prioritization, development at the community level can still meet the results, impacts and sustainability already achieved despite lack of funding.

But especially the government funding gap that happen in Forest Management Units (KPHs) still do not have way out due to many factors, mostly because of regulation changes from Ministry of Environment and Forestry. In the other hand WWF also do not have sufficient fund to fill the gap and how the possible/potential funding opportunity could be covered. This was seen critical. Hence, the position of the FMU is

very strategic and needs to be ensured to be functional and strengthened to achieve impact.

WWF Indonesia enter the new 5-year strategic plan, 2018-2023. The new strategic plan requires a change in the management and implementation office. Under the new strategy, MSA landscape is expected to perform as an independent office under Kalimantan, Forest and Freshwater directorate. WWF Indonesia's management decided to relocate its operating office to Sintang. This situation, to some extents, has an implication to the performance of the landscape in executing the partnership project. Changes in the landscape manager position also contributed as for a certain period of time, the field team needs working adjustment.

Monitoring trips

During 2018 no monitoring trips were made to Indonesia. However, in February 2018 WWF Indonesia arranged a stakeholder consultation meeting in Zeist, Netherlands as a part of WWF Indonesia's process of developing new strategy where WWF Finland's Head of International Development and responsible country coordinator, International Development Expert participated. WWF Indonesia was presenting new organizational structure, all the participants were also discussing about the opportunities and challenges and also the participants discussed about funding opportunities for WWF Indonesia.

In May 2018 International Development Expert of WWF Finland participated as an advisor to filming crew to produce the TV-show "Villien Jäljillä" in Indonesia, Central Kalimantan, Sebangau National Park. The crew also included WWF Finland's Communication Specialist. WWF Indonesia has orangutan survey field station in Sebangau National Park, where the filming crew visited for filming orangutans. Also filming was done around the national park to illustrate for Finnish audience, what are the threats for orangutan populations' survival. More detailed information about the production of "Villien Jäljillä" can be found in the communications chapter.

MEKONG

MFA's support to Mekong region started from the beginning 2018 and therefore it is the newest addition to WWF Finland's current portfolio. 2018 was basically initiating the project and making sure, it has good preconditions to succeed in the future. WWF Finland support is mainly directed to Laos and Central Annamites Landscape. The Central Annamites Landscape (CAL) is a mountain range covering an area of about 300,000 ha in the provinces Salavan and Sekong in the South of Laos as well as in the three Vietnamese provinces. This project is going to be implemented in 6 communities, covering three districts in Salavan and Sekong provinces which situated in the CAL, see the map below (Figure 1). These 6 communities are located in rural remote areas and access during rainy season is difficult because of poor road condition. These communities are also among the poorest communities by Lao poverty line standard. The community members are classified as ethnic minorities in Laos (i.e. non-Lao ethnic groups). Their main livelihoods include cultivating upland rice / shifting cultivation and growing cassava and corn



Figure 1: Location of project target community

as supplementary staple food, collecting non-forest timber product (NFTPs) as well as small game hunting for both consumption and sale for cash income.

Forest corridor monitoring improved and key areas for restoration and protection identified

One of main achievements in 2018 is getting an official agreement document and selection of target communities with local government partner. These are essential elements and steps before launching and implementing project activities on the ground. As this project is carried out in partnership with Provincial Department of Agricultural and Forestry (PAFO) of Salavan and Sekong, the agreement was signed with PAFO of Salavan and Sekong. The agreement signature and target communities' selection were completed in July 2018.

The Baseline Assessment of six target communities took place between October and November 2018. The objectives of the baseline assessment were to (i) map out current land use and forest condition and (ii) to identify potential restoration areas as well as the broad socio-economic situation of the target communities. The socio-economic information was gathered through interviewing key members of communities' authority.

For mapping the current land use, forest condition, and potential restoration areas, it involved analyzing satellite images, ground truthing and consulting with communities. Each identified potential restoration areas was visited; furthermore, a drone was used for taking bird-eye views of the areas for comparison before and after project assessment. A map (figure 1.) shows the geographical

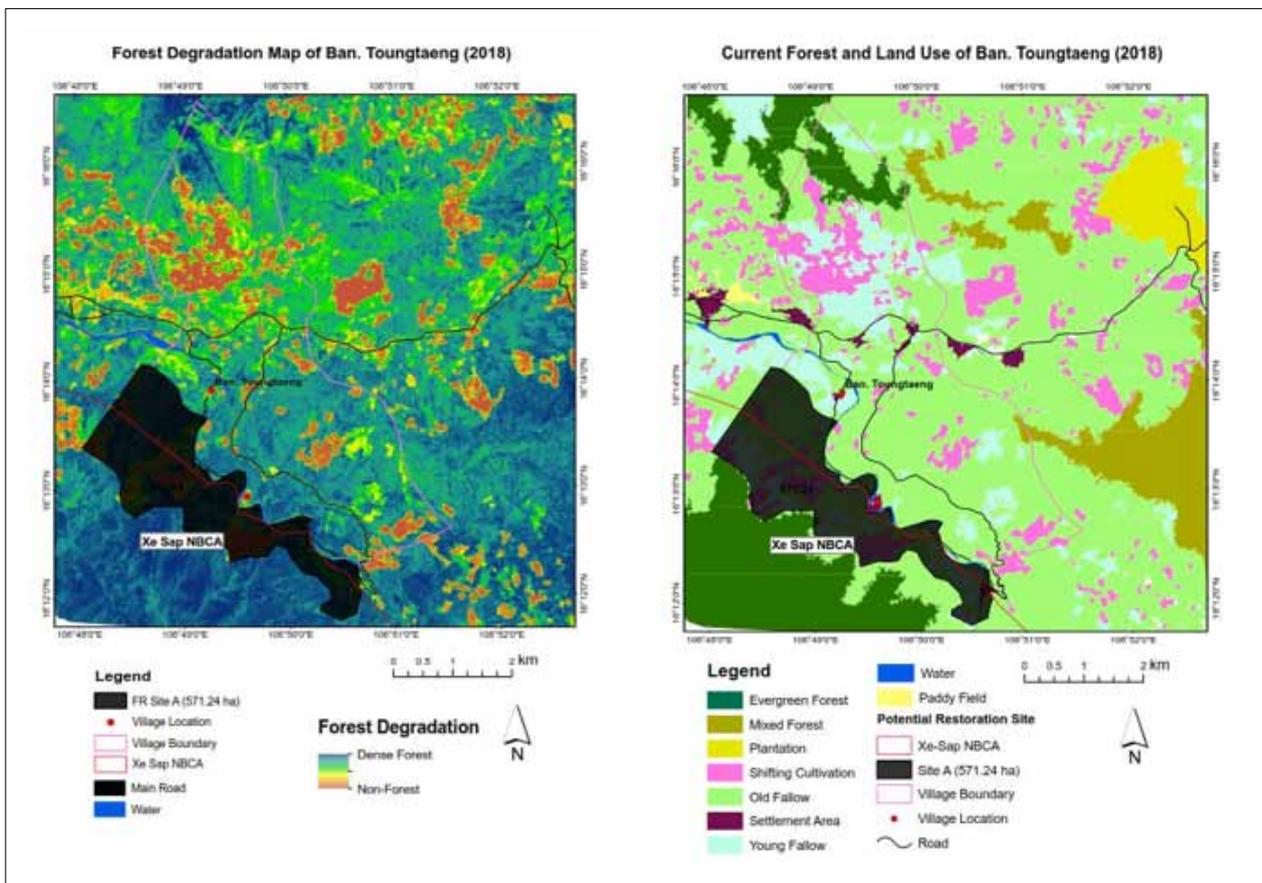


Figure 2: Land use of a target community map for baseline assessment.

location of the six target community, with total land area of approximately 331 square kilometers (33,100 Hectares). The two maps (figure 1. and figure 2.) show forest degradation scale and current forest and land use of a target community. These maps are main outputs of the Baseline Assessment.

Capacity of communities and community based organisations (CBO) to set-up community based enterprises and implement agroforestry restoration models in key biodiversity corridors increased

The target communities for this project are located in rural remote areas and among the poorest by Lao poverty line standard. Significantly, the community members are classified as ethnic minorities in Laos (i.e. non-Lao ethnic groups). They rely mainly, if not fully, on natural resources for their livelihoods. With this notion, recognizing and respecting the rights, both customary and legal, of local communities regarding access to natural resources are especially important for this project. Prior to the project implementation, WWF conducted FPIC (free, prior and informed consent) training to project managers and the project has been using as the guiding principle throughout the project cycle to ensure that people rights are respected. In the work plan for 2019, the project is planning to provide a training on Customary Land Rights to target communities and conduct Participatory Rural Appraisal to have communities’ voices reflected in the design of project activities.

The project certainly will contribute to climate mitigation, specifically benefits derived from restoration. Restoration is going to be promoted both on natural zone and privately own land. On natural zone focus will be on areas with high ecological values such as water source heads, riparian vegetation and protected areas of communities while on privately own land integrating agroforestry on existing community gardens is going to be promoted. Main objectives of restoring degraded land include an increased forest cover and forest connectivity. This would eventually improve ecological function and that it can enhance ecological system particularly regulating service; flood prevention, micro-climate regulation, erosion control and supporting service; conserving biodiversity, nutrient cycling and primary production. Promotion of agroforestry is aimed to increase provision services of landscape; food, fuel and fiber/wood production.

Lessons learned

A key lesson learned since starting of the project is regarding selection of target communities. A principle criterion for the site selection was that they should be same target communities of other WWF-Laos projects specifically transboundary project (Lao PDR-Vietnam) like Carbon & Biodiversity Project (Carbi) that are bordered with Xe Sap National Protected Area. However, the provincial government officials additionally required that the communities to be equally divided among three districts (Kaleum, Ta Oi and Samouy) that are far away from one another. The implication of the dispersed project sites is the high logistic cost for field trips as it takes a long time to travel from one community to another, due to poor road conditions. Future project site selection should expand around the existing target communities, so as to make access easier and create bigger impact.

The second lesson is that community forest restoration requires working on small mosaic restoration sites rather than protecting and restoring a large area. This is due to the nature of scale and pattern of forestland degradation in the project region with shifting cultivation as a main driver, the degradation site is both small scale and fragmented. Therefore, restoration is planned to focus on areas with high ecological values and promoting agroforestry on existing community gardens. This means that restoration plans need to be tailored to the ecological and socio-economic conditions of each community.

Adaptive management

From adaptive management perspective, a main constraints experienced in 2018 was WWF Laos staff turnover. Former forest coordinator resigned in July 2018, and a new forest programme officer joined WWF Laos in September 2018. This resulted in a delay of implementing project activities and consequently led to underspending of a planned 2018 budget. Also, a slight postpone in signing agreements between WWF Finland and MFA caused slight delay in starting the activities in WWF Laos.

Furthermore, the negotiations with local government counterparts, which include signing an agreement with local government partner as well as identifying target communities, took several months and was only accomplished in July. However, since having the new forest programme officer in place the project has been back on track again. The unspent fund had been requested for carrying forward to 2019.

For 2019, WWF Laos has prioritized the development of community forest restoration plan for each community in the first quarter and is on track to kick off restoration activities by June. Communications between forest programme officer and Southern landscape manager have also been strengthened to ensure smooth and effective operation of the project.

Access to target communities is another challenging factor because of poor road condition. Rural roads in Laos including the project sites are unpaved. As a result, transportation during raining season is mostly impossible. Inevitably, main project activities can be carried out only during dry season between October to May.

Regional Forest Hub

The main support in the Mekong region has been directed to WWF Laos. However, small funding is also directed to regional hub that's main function is to support country offices in the region. WWF Finland's support to the regional hub is going mostly to forest work, that also supports the projects in the whole region including Laos providing capacity when needed. The Forest Hub have been able to play its roles and specifically delivered the following. Strategy development supporting the development of the WWF Vietnam Forest Strategy as well as WWF Cambodia Forest Strategy. WWF Lao is starting the process. Capacity building organizing and carried out the WWF Greater Mekong Forest monitoring and analysis training, (3) carried out in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia specific interventions that build smallholders capacity. Also the hub plays a major role helping the country offices in fundraising, e.g. helping to develop 2 projects.

Technical support for WWF Myanmar's EEP Mekong for Solar Sisters

In addition to the Partnership programme support from MFA through WWF Finland's Partnership Programme WWF Myanmar received funding from EEP Mekong for Solar Sisters project. WWF Finland supported WWF Myanmar on EEP management and reporting requirements. The programme was supporting women from rural communities to become a solar engineers. In 2018 235 houses have been electrified by WWF together with the Barefoot College with EEP funding.

Monitoring trips

In November 2018 WWF Finland's Head of International Development and regional coordinator, International Development Expert, participated WWF Greater Mekong's shareholder meeting in Phnom Penh Cambodia. The meeting is annual shareholders meeting concerning the regional governance, funding and management and also giving a possibility to discuss future lines the organization should be developed. After the meeting WWF Finland expert continued to Vientiane Laos to meet new team set up for coordinating the partnership funded by MFA. Few days were spent with the team to discuss about the project and its status and future. Also meetings were held with other relevant departments of WWF Laos such as communications and finances, and MFA requirements and recommendations for project management were conveyed. Also it was discussed with WWF Laos team to develop a proposal for opening SWITCH-Asia funding window in Spring 2019.

LIVING HIMALAYAS

Living Himalayas Programme (LHP) is not included in the current programme, but in 2018 remaining budget from the previous programme was used. During 2017 and 2018, the focus of the programme was to complete the ongoing work based on the Interim Strategy (2016-2018). The process to develop new strategy for the Living Himalayas Programme also began in 2017 and continued in 2018. The three offices (WWF Bhutan, WWF Nepal and WWF India) met in October 2018 in Bhutan and identified six focal areas and a new vision including also China. The first draft was circulated for comments in December 2018 and the second draft is under review by the three offices.

International Waters project concept

The Project Identification Form (PIF) on the Manas Integrated River Basin Management Project between Bhutan and India was approved by the GEF Council in June 2018. This was the first transboundary water project in the Eastern Himalayan region to be approved by GEF. But recently in January 2019, the Government of Bhutan decided not to endorse the project due to anticipated sensitivities around the transboundary project and communicated formally to WWF Bhutan on their withdrawal from the project. Thus the project document preparation process could not be continued and communications on the same to GEF Secretariat is being discussed with WWF US GEF team.

The work on the regional proposal began in 2016 among the three WWF offices including Living Himalayas team, WWF US GEF team and IUCN India office. The initial three country proposal was downscaled to two country proposal focusing only on the Manas basin and finally submitted for GEF 6 funding cycle in March 2018 after getting the necessary endorsements from the governments of India and Bhutan. It was a slow process which took lot of engagements with respective Ministries in the two countries (lead by WWF India and WWF Bhutan) and consultations among the WWF offices. The total budget approved for 4-year project from GEF was 8.9 million USD. Lesson learned is that in the future there has to be full support and commitment from the Governments of respective countries for transboundary/regional projects and sensitivity of transboundary project related to the natural resources. Also WWF's capacity to facilitate such projects needs to be strengthened.

Bhutan Water Risks Scenarios and Opportunities report

Linked to the recommendations of Bhutan Water Risks Scenarios and Opportunities report, LHP was also engaged with NEC on the Environmental Flows Guideline which has been finalized and will be put up to the NEC Commission for endorsement. Along with Eflows LHP is also strategically pursuing the discussions on free flowing rivers to keep at least one river free of dams in Bhutan for the long term sustainability of river ecosystem and aquatic biodiversity.

LHP engaged also with the Department of Hydropower and Power Systems (DHPS), Ministry of Economic Affairs and the World Bank team on Cumulative Impact Assessment of Kurigongri basin. LHP shared the preliminary findings of Bhutan Mahseer radio telemetry research study with the DHPS and World Bank team which served as a valuable input into the Cumulative Impact Assessment. The draft find-

ings were presented to the stakeholders in June 2018 and report is under finalization. LHP also took part in the stakeholder consultation workshop on the Bhutan Power Sector Master Plan - 2040 (developed by the Department of Hydropower and Power Systems and supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency) and provided feedback and information on the preliminary findings of the Mahseer radio telemetry research.

Supporting Bhutan's 12th Five Year Plan Water Flagship Programme Blueprint Development

LHP partnered with National Environment Commission (NEC) to support the development of 12 Five Year Plan (2018 to 2023) Blueprint document for the Water Flagship Programme. Four consultation meetings were held from April to June among the Focus Group and the Joint Working Committee members representing key government agencies with drinking water mandates. The BluePrint focuses on drinking water issues in a holistic manner right from the source (watersheds protection) to the service providers and the users to address the issues and challenges in a coordinated and integrated manner. Besides supporting the development of Blueprint, WWF role will also be to look for partnerships to help mobilize the required resources to implement the Blue Print especially in areas that are of relevance to WWF Freshwater Practice Strategy such as protection of important freshwater species and habitats, watersheds and water source protection and addressing water pollution. The Blue document is currently being finalised by NEC.

India - Climate adaptation strategies for riverine protected areas in Brahmaputra

LHP supported the first ever study on the changes in hydrology and geomorphology and its impacts on the riverine Protected Areas (Kaziranga National Park, Burachapori Wildlife Sanctuary, Orang National Park and Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary) in the face of climate change. The study helped to develop climate adaptation strategies to be incorporated in the management plans of Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks along the active floodplains of the Brahmaputra river through stakeholder consultations and dialogue on hydrology and climate impacts on wildlife habitats along the Brahmaputra. It helped to influence stakeholders to consider climate informed conservation of these riverine parks. The draft Wetlands Management Strategy for Kaziranga National Park has been developed integrating the findings and strategies from this report. WWF India has also merged the North Bank and Kaziranga Karbi Anglong landscapes to form one landscape known as Brahmaputra landscape recognising the importance of Brahmaputra river islands and its tributaries as a result of this work.

Living Himalayas Impact Study

LHP commissioned the Land Use Land Cover analysis of the region to detect forest cover change from 2000 to 2010 that began in 2014-2015. The study results was envisaged to provide evidence for advocacy and engagement on drivers of habitat fragmentation (such as linear infrastructure, urbanization etc). But the findings and maps of the review completed in 2017 were found to be inaccurate and hence could not be shared with stakeholders. The study was redone again for the whole of LHI region for the year 2000, 2010 and also including 2017 data using 30-meter resolution again in 2018 by WWF India GIS team and results are being reviewed and finalised in consultation with three offices.

Evaluation

Participatory internal evaluation/review (Annex VI) of the LHP was conducted between October 2017 and February 2018, and covered years 2012-2017. An assessment of the activities, outcomes and outputs from the last five year of the program provided some of the common, recurring, fundamental approaches that were used in the course of the program. These were achievements linked to capacity building and knowledge transfer, institutional strengthening, strategic engagement, national pilots, learning and sharing and multi-stakeholder partnerships. But there was also failures and lessons learnt in the areas of program scale, regional nature of outcomes, program ambition and resources including human resources and capacity as well as issues and challenges around engagement on sustainable infrastructure especially on the hydropower safeguards, which was very country specific.

Thus taking note of the learnings and lessons learnt, the next phase of the program should focus on following: a) What is truly regional and what is the critical contribution that can qualify as regional instead of national level interventions/pilots. b) The programme could also attempt to align its strategic goals to the WWF Network Practices - Goals and Outcomes linked to regional/transboundary outcomes and impacts. c) Through the regional platform, the focus should be on upscaling of innovative regional initiatives, resource mobilization, knowledge transfer, capacity building, strategic policy level engagement and advocacy to influence both policy and investment decisions in the region to address large scale drivers. There's also need to have adequate capacity in place with all three countries taking full responsibility, accountability and ownership of the programme.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

There is interest and commitment from the three offices (WWF Bhutan, WWF Nepal and WWF India) to continue with LHP but due to changing priorities of WWF network donors and alignment to Global Practices there is no committed resources to support the implementation of the new LHP strategy. Despite the budgetary and transition challenges of LHP, there is momentum among the three offices to work together on regional issues and explore opportunities for resource mobilization. But there are also challenges of working on transboundary projects especially on waters as shown from the GEF IW Transboundary Manas River Basin Management Project between Bhutan and India. There has to be full support and commitment from the Governments of respective countries for transboundary/regional projects with WWF capacities and roles strengthened to facilitate such projects in the future. Also need to approach transboundary projects especially water related projects cautiously after checking all the issues and concerns right from the beginning through a consultative processes and not to rush to meet the project proposal submission deadline.

An assessment of activities, outcomes that emerged with regard to the objectives, gives a sense that the program could not establish a truly regional profile. Some of the regional outcomes were not truly regional and only sum of similar national activities across the region. Also, trainings, capacity building and knowledge transfer were at a regional level, but the impacts and the outcomes were mostly observed and measured nationally. Also, it was found that the programme's focus, intervention and resources were consumed considerably by on-ground activities and engagements. A program of such nature should focus on upscale of on ground initiatives,

creation of a favourable policy environment for upscale and adoption and on large scale drivers.

Monitoring trips

In 2018 there was not monitoring visit from WWF Finland to Living Himalayas Programme. While Senior conservation officer and Conservation and development officer from WWF Finland conducted field monitoring visit to Bhutan in December 2018, they also met with Living Himalayas staff. Meetings with Finland and UK were organized by video conferences.

BHUTAN

In Bhutan, the programme started supporting the community forests in 2018 and envisages to effectively contribute to sustainable management of forests through improved participatory forest management and community livelihood. There have been community forests in Bhutan since 1979 but they've become more common only after 2007. WWF has not supported them earlier. Programme also supported revision of Aquatic Biodiversity Information Portal in 2018.

Aquatic Biodiversity Information Portal to support informed planning and decisions

There is increasing pressure to build hydropower in Bhutan. In order to make aquatic biodiversity information available to support holistic planning and decisions in the country, WWF Bhutan partnered with National Biodiversity Centre (NBC) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests to revamp the Aquatic Biodiversity Portal (biodiversity.bt/group/aquatic_biodiversity/show) linked to the Bhutan Biodiversity Portal (BBP, biodiversity.bt). The partnership was also supported by the World Bank through WWF engagement. The initiative was able to bring the five key aquatic biodiversity data generating agencies together and agree to share the data for wider dissemination and use for especially hydropower sector both government and private parties. In the past the data was not shared among the agencies due to poor coordination and communications. WWF facilitated to break the coordination and communication barrier among the data generators and main users and was able to bring them together to collaborate jointly for common good.

Improved portal integrated with aquatic biodiversity was launched at the stakeholder workshop in March 2018. The features were developed based on the feedback received from the stakeholders' consultations and data audit completed through World Bank TA support.

To introduce the biodiversity portal, demonstrate its use and also to get participants registered to contribute to the portal information base through citizen science based approach, workshops were organized to about 1 450 participants (students, government staff and CSOs). There was also campaigning about the portal, audio-video user manual developed and five new portal curators trained in India. 700 new users have registered since the March 2018 launch. Number of observations submitted increased from 52 000 to 60 000 in 2018. The portal will also be featured in

the Sustainable Hydropower Guideline of Bhutan developed by the Department of Hydropower and Power Systems with support from the World Bank. World Bank supported development of new portal features (Stand Life Sciences, India) while this programme supported enhancement of map module, workshops, capacity building and data back-up.

International Masheer Conference

The programme also supported organization of the first international Mahseer Conference in Paro, Bhutan by WWF Bhutan with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Royal Government of Bhutan and the Fisheries Conservation Foundation, USA. The conference (mahseerconference.org) brought together experts from 12 countries and five continents to discuss the threats and strategies to ensure the survival of these extraordinary fish. As a follow up action from the conference, Mahseer conservation partners in Bhutan will be developing Community Based Recreational Fishing Programme and raising awareness on the threats to Mahseers in Bhutan and to protect some of the key habitats of Mahseers based on the radio telemetry research findings.

Community Based Forest Resource Management (CBFRM) strengthened

The community forest sites were selected based on the poverty status of the districts (information from the National Statistics Bureau NSB) to mainly help empower the local communities. Selection was done in consultation with WWF. Other considerations such as existing projects and prior interventions were also taken into account.

More than 30 community forest and non-wood forest management plans were revised by incorporating results of new method of forest resource assessment, community financial management, gender and governance. The potential volume of timber, which could be sold in the coming years to generate income, was also identified. With this revision, the governance of CBFRM groups will be improved thus contributing to the upliftment of local populace as well as reducing the unsustainable practices of managing community forests. Social Forestry Extension Division (SFED) of Department of Forest and Park Services has monitored 9 NWFP groups and 12 CFs on the implementation of their management plans. Most CF and NWFP groups in the project area lack proper record keeping of their funds and resources, which was attributed to the lack of CF and NWFP groups' office. However, groups have a good record on distribution of forest resources to their members. The CF and NWFP groups in the project areas will be monitored by the field staff as per the monitoring guidelines and communicate to SFED for improvement. The baseline information has been also established not only to measure the impact of the project but also to measure the effectiveness of Community Based Forest Resource Management groups over the years.

Capacities of CBFRM groups and forestry field staff enhanced

219 forestry staff (203 male and 16 female) were trained (Training of Trainer) in various fields and they are now able to train the members of the Community Based Forest Resource Management Groups. WWF encourages women to participate as much as possible, but most of the forest staff are male.

23 forestry staff (male) were capacitated to conduct a resource assessment (enumeration and calculation of timber and NWFP resources) for community forests. This training was conducted with more practical exercises in the forests. It is expected that participants will train other colleagues as well as CF and NWFP group members and subsequently produce inclusive management plans. This training is also expected to bring improvement in the quality of the CF plans addressing issues such as gender, equity, governance and income generation. This new assessment method has been just developed by improving the old method to make it more consistent with national and regional method of assessing the forest resources. This training was critical at this stage when most of the CF and NWFP plans were about to expire and due for revision.

Similarly, a new set of knowledge and skills were acquired by 59 forestry staff (4 female and 55 male) on good governance of CBFMR, 30 field staffs (28 male and 2 female) on sustainable harvesting techniques of NWFP, 49 field staffs (43 male and 6 female) on the principles of sustainable harvesting of wild forest NWFP resources and harvesting methods for some specific NWFP resources and 58 forestry staff (54 male and 4 Female) on silviculture. Subsequently, 26 (24 male and 2 female) Community Based Forest Resource Management group members were provided good governance training to improve the effective and sustainable management of natural resources.

20 participants (all male) from CFM groups including 2 from the project area are undergoing training for 28 days on Basic Furniture Making Course at Technical Training Institute (TTI), Chumey. This time, it was planned to provide training for CFMG having conifer forests. However, in next batch, more participants will be trained in similar areas from project area which has more of broad-leaved forest type.

Community Forest (CF) and Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP) networks established to enable marketing, information sharing and capacity development

Field work on value chain studies on daphne at Trashi Yangtse was completed with assistance of a Master's student. In addition to NWFP value chain studies in the project areas, student also explored value chain of lemon grass oil, Paris pollyphala, chirata, mushrooms and medicinal plants. These NWFP products have huge opportunity to contribute to the income of NWFP group members and improve their livelihood, if proper market linkages are developed. Possibly, it could also be put into sustainable management use if harvesting methods are strictly followed. Thus, monitoring of NWFP products during harvesting by the groups is critical.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

With the budget cut since the initial planning process, there were considerable changes made in the scope of the project as well as in the indicators. The project scope was narrowed down and it now focuses on 100 CBFMR groups covering 5 districts. WWF Bhutan also together with WWF Austria applied funding from Austrian Development Agency in 2018 for the community forestry work, but didn't get the funding.

Revision of management plans normally takes long time. However, it took even longer than expected this time due to new method of resources assessment that was new to most of the forestry staff and Group members.

CF and NWFP network formation being a very new concept, the CBFRM groups were not so keen to come forward and form the network. This particular activity will need more funding support to create more awareness and wait for the groups to come forward to form the network. The Network plan has to be developed as per the guidelines for network formation, which might take longer time since it will be first in Bhutan.

This was the first partnership project between NBC, WWF and the World Bank and it showed how important it is to partner with other agencies like the World Bank to mobilise additional resources to achieve the common goals. Through WWF's engagement with the World Bank, it was possible to mobilise additional resources required to revamp the Aquatic Biodiversity Portal as WWF support alone would not have been able to achieve the goal.

Monitoring trips

Senior conservation officer and Conservation and development officer from WWF Finland conducted field monitoring visit to Bhutan in December 2018. They visited two community forests, Thuenlam and Saeer-Tsho, both in Dagana district. When Thuenlam CF was established in 2009, the soil in the area was poor and there were a lot of landslides. UNDP programme has supported the village earlier (soil protection, agroforestry, planting community forests and social welfare). Now the forests around the village are growing well and village already gets some income from agriculture and forest products. There are still challenges with the wildlife eating crop, lack of water and need for capacity building and trainings, but the village is a good example of how external support and good programme have made a change.

Saeer-Tsho CF was established in 2010 and needs more support than Thuenlam. Majority of the members are women since most men in the area work for the army. Lot of young people have moved out. Management of community forest (for example controlling grass and keeping wildlife away from eating seedlings) is obligatory for all members and takes a lot of their time. This means they have less time for agriculture from which they would get food and income. They don't yet get wood neither for their own use nor for sale because the trees they have planted are still small. This means they don't have any sources of income at the moment. As a solution they try to schedule community forest works for the season when there's less time needed for agriculture. Villagers have also started to grow cardamom but don't yet get income from that.

In Thimphu they visited Department of Forest and Park Services – Social Forestry and Extension Division. Government's aim is to improve institutional capacity of the community forests and to support communities to get more income from community forests. They had also meetings with WWF Bhutan staff and talked with the Head of Internal audit in WWF US, who was conducting regular internal audit in WWF Bhutan office. His perception was that WWF Bhutan's finances are well managed.

NEPAL

2018-2021 programme aims to safeguard the forest ecosystem in one of the most critical biological corridors of Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) – the Laljhadi Mohana corridor in the western part of TAL. This corridor connects Dudhwa National Park in India with Shuklaphanta National Park in Nepal. Programme’s focus is on the sustainable management of forests in and around Laljhadi Mohana Corridor, and also some areas in the buffer zone of Shuklaphanta National Park that are adjacent to the corridor. The project seeks improvement in the health of forests and positive changes in wellbeing of the forest dependent communities. Programme also contributes to the Conservation Education work of WWF Nepal.

Engaging Youth (through The Generation Green)

From policy to practice, the first year of this partnership program has intensified conservation education and awareness program among youths and school children from rural to urban area through live to digital platform. In total 1 429 youths (40% female), including 1 262 school children and 167 youths (101 youth leaders with 51 female), were aware, engaged and empowered on conservation issues through series of live events. 878 335 youths were outreached and 531 new organic followers obtained through digital platform of The Generation Green (TGG). In partnership with SENSE Nepal (eco-club network), WWF Nepal supported Government of Nepal (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology) to launch “Green School Guideline 2018”, a guiding document for schools (particularly public schools) in creating a platform for students to learn, practice and share conservation friendly behaviors and knowledge. As part of this commitment and to ensure implementation of the guideline, WWF supported an orientation workshop for 89 teachers, government officials from education department (state and local level) and local government leaders from four districts of western Nepal.

Programme supported four eco-clubs, (two in buffer zone of Chitwan National Park and two in Laljhadi Mohana corridor), to create practical and environment friendly learning spaces (eco-clubs) for engagement of 438 eco-club members (230 female). To support and promote youths’ engagement and interest with environment, WWF continued national level wild wisdom quiz (WWQ) in which 237 students (48% female) from 124 schools from all over Nepal participated. In partnership with STEM foundation WWF supported “The Dead sea Map: A Guinness World Record Attempt Event” where 546 students from 182 schools gathered and made an attempt to create largest map out of plastics to pledge against plastic pollution. During this event all 182 schools pledged for plastic ban at their school. WWF Nepal in partnership with education company Karkhana, conducted ‘Global Children’s Designathon 2018’ event in which 39 students did a research on the theme ‘Deforestation’ (as a part of the Sustainable Development Goal No. 15: Life on Land- as defined by the United Nations) and built prototypes of their ideas using recycled materials, cardboards, mini-motors, glue guns, LED-lights and sensors among others.

Youths both from urban and rural areas were engaged and empowered on various area of their need and interest. In western TAL WWF organized leadership development training for 39 young people (24 female) who are engaged in community conservation activities to motivate and sharpen their leadership. First aid training was organized together with Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) to 24 Rapid Response Team members to support especially in handling human wildlife conflict injuries.

Programme also organized cross learning visit in NRCS intervention sites in four districts for 26 community members to observe and learn disaster preparedness interventions and volunteerism principles of NRCS. In partnership with Nepalese Entrepreneurs HUB 58 youths (27 female) were engaged in 'Techstars Startup Weekend Kathmandu: Water' where 31 youths pitched their water management ideas and 10 got selected by popular voting. Four youths were supported to attend photography workshop to further help them pursue their career on wildlife photography.

From previous partnership program (2014-2017), there are already 55 000 TGG members and WWF Nepal realized a need of a platform where all these members can continuously and meaningfully be engaged and empowered. A Google analytics conducted through Arbitrary Digital marketing, found that in 2018 five most searched topics on conservation related issues in Nepal by youth were pollution, biodiversity, plastic pollution, energy conservation and wildlife. The analysis also showed that searches on wildlife and biodiversity are highly likely to increase. So there is a need of a digital platform to cater the demand of information on conservation. Thus, to engage and spread awareness among youth across the country through gamification, a TGG web portal (tggportal.org/login.php, tggnepal.org/login.php) and TGG application (can be downloaded from google store) were developed. This platform has three main pillars: educate (impart awareness and knowledge through games and rewards), explore (hands on application of knowledge gained) and empower (ask members to submit project ideas). Through the App WWF aims to engage, communicate and monitor TGG youths in real-time and operate the entire TGG project from a single platform. The platform was developed in 2018 and will be promoted in 2019.

Snow leopard periodic monitoring improved through engagement of local citizen scientists

To strengthen community based snow leopard monitoring nine citizen scientists from five snow leopard conservation committees (SLCC) and five game scouts from Shey Phoksundo National Park were trained to conduct systematic periodic monitoring of snow leopard and its prey base through double observer count and camera trap survey. As the training was conducted at Langtang National Park, SLCC members from Shey Phoksundo National Park and Langtang National Park got opportunities to share their experiences. In addition, SLCC members observed and learnt community conservation interventions at buffer zone of Langtang National Park and Khata corridor. The contribution from this programme in conducting this event was 20% while rest was supported by WWF UK.

The project supported Shey Phoksundo National park with binoculars, GPS and batteries to conduct Snow leopard and its prey base monitoring. Monitoring will start in 2019. Ideally Snow leopard and its prey base monitoring is conducted in two seasons (calving in May/June and mating in Nov/Dec).

Facilitate forest policies processes in new governance structure

To facilitate forest policies processes in new governance structure and put forward conservation agenda in international arena, the program supported technical expertise on policy formulation processes of two policy documents. On request of state 5 and 7, technical expertise was provided for development of State level biodiversity model act (state 7) and State level forest policy (states 5 and 7).

Seven state government leaders (Forest minister and parliament members) and four forest officials from state 7 were sensitized on forest management approaches (community, collaborative and protected), methodology (SFM), biodiversity conservation, opportunities and challenges through cross learning visit across TAL. To ensure policy dialogue in international conventions three high ranking forest officials were supported to attend international conservation forums. Under secretary (female) of Ministry of Forests and Environment attended UNFCCC COP-24 and Director General and Deputy Director General of Department of Forests and Soil Conservation attended CBD COP-14.

WWF Nepal's technical expert has been participating in state level policy dialogues and sensitizing policy makers on revised forest policies, biodiversity value of respective state, need of environment friendly development policies and importance of mainstreaming environment into state and local level policies, acts and plans for achieving sustainable development goals.

Protected Forests (PF) in the corridors under improved management

Protected forest is a national forest declared as a protected forest by the Government of Nepal, considering it to be of special environmental, scientific or cultural importance. Protected forest is categorized broadly into core and fringe area. Core areas are mainly protection oriented while fringe areas (mostly community forests), which surround core areas, are management oriented. Current program is contributing to the management of Laljhadi Mohana Protected Forest covering 37 875 ha area. It was announced as protected forest in 2010 and its management plan (10-year) was revised in 2016. The overall vision of this management plan is "sustainable management of forest, biodiversity and biological corridor and improved livelihood of communities". Laljhadi Mohana protected forest is very important in terms of biodiversity and as a biological corridor. It connects Shuklaphanta National park and Churia Forests of Nepal with Dudhwa National Park, India. Elephant movement has been recorded in this corridor, and 2018 National Tiger Survey detected sign of one tiger in the corridor. The corridor is still facing major conservation threats of forest degradation and fragmentation contributed by encroachment, overgrazing, illegal logging, poaching, forest fire, flood/river cutting, human wildlife conflict and unsustainable harvesting of forest resources. As a result of these threats health and productivity of the forest is degraded, regeneration of forest is limited, and wildlife occupancy is less than expected.

To improve the forest quality of the corridor and to make it more functional, the first year of this program supported the management plan of the protected forest through community based forest management, sustainable management and protection of wildlife and their habitat, ensuring forest dependent communities' livelihood are improved.

As recommended by the management plan the program supported institutional strengthening of protected forest management council (PFMC). As protected forest management practice is still new in Nepal and allocation of government financial resources is still limited, the PFMC is inadequate in performing its full function, role and duties. Programme supported PFMC office renovation and equipment in 2018 to enhance its capacity to become effective and efficient in providing regular and smooth services. Programme also supported PFMC with one forest technician to help PFMC with over all planning, community mobilizing, implementing, monitoring and reporting.

To strengthen enforcement in and around the forest area the programme supported Division Forest Office for additional 26 patrolling events to help enhance patrolling frequency. To control forest fires, increase monitoring and to manage the vehicles moving randomly inside the forest (which negatively affects regeneration), 10 km fire line was maintained. Two watchtowers were constructed for enhancing surveillance inside the forest by DFO staffs, forest guards and CFUG members. Furthermore, to support enforcement agency, three cluster level community based anti-poaching units (CBAPUs) with 33 members (6 female) were formed, oriented and mobilized in fringe areas for creating awareness against forest crime at community level. 353 people (102 female; 249 JJ, 21 DAG, 83 O) were directly engaged and aware during CBAPU meetings and conservation rallies conducted by CBAPUs.

In addition to enforcement, habitat management is must in Laljhadi-Mohana PF for creating suitable habitats for wildlife. As the forests in this PF is dry, two wetlands were constructed and one was maintained to retain water for wildlife and also for forest restoration. 9.5 ha grassland was managed in fringe area for prey species.

Community forests under improved management

Programme supports community forests in the Laljhadi Mohana corridor and in the buffer zone of Shuklaphanta National Park. In 2018, program supported 34 community forests covering 7 758 ha (6 436 ha in Laljhadi Mohana corridor and 1 322 ha in the buffer zone of Shuklaphanta National Park). This includes revision of eight Community Forest Operation Plans (CFOPs) and implementation support for 31 CFOPs. Community Forest Operational Plan is an important guiding document for forest management and they are prepared following Community Forest Development Guideline-2065 B.S. They are periodic plans, prepared for 5 or 10 years and without them management of community forest resources is not permitted. Programme supported revision of eight CFOPs in Laljhadi Mohana Corridor to ensure participatory community-based forest management of 1 020 ha forest area. Programme also supported implementation of 31 CFOPs with total area of 5 287 ha (22 CFUGs with 3 965 ha area in Laljhadi Mohana corridor and 9 BZCFUGs with 1 322.5 ha area in buffer zone area of Shuklaphanta national park).

In 2018, programme also supported CFUGs for forest management and protection from different prevailing threats (overgrazing, forest fire, flood, firewood collection). In total 119.27 ha barren land, degraded forest area and private land are under restoration through plantation (18 580 seedlings), fencing (13,42 km), forest guard mobilization (5) and maintenance of one conservation pond.

Overgrazing is a huge threat for forests in whole western TAL. Large number of feral and domesticated livestock are found in western forests limiting regeneration with empty forest floor. Thus, to control overgrazing, integrated livestock management support was given to 193 HHs (108 JJ, 5 DAG, 80 O) in fringe area of forest in Laljhadi Mohana corridor and ShNP BZ. Stall feeding was promoted by improved cow shed, cement trough and grass cutter. To reduce pressure on forest from firewood collection 10 HHs (7 JJ and 3 O) were supported with biogas in ShNP BZ. As forest fire is another prominent issue in project area, three forest fire prone CFs were supported with fire controlling equipment and three sign boards for awareness on forest fire were installed in forest fire sensitive sites. Laljhadi Mohana corridor is susceptible to flood hazard affecting forest area, agricultural land

and human settlement. To control the riverbank cutting and flash floods effects in area prone to flood by Macheli River, bioengineering structures (gabion boxes and bamboo check dams) have been built in two sites in Laljhadi Mohana Corridor. These bio-engineering structures benefit 675 climate change vulnerable HHs (613 JJ, 8 DAG and 54 O).

For past four decades, communities have been conserving community forests, with limited management practices, mainly focused to fulfill subsistence need of users. With massive success in protection, community forests now explore growth-based benefits from the forests they are conserving. Based on this realization, government of Nepal brought Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) into priority and practice recently through SFM Guideline 2014. Forest Policy 2015 and the position paper 2018 of Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) focused on “Forestry for Prosperity” in which SFM is one of the priorities. To support government’s priority and to bring substantial benefits to community, WWF Nepal through this programme supported SFM for the first time in the corridors. Programme supported SFM plan for five CFs covering 1 450 ha (in the intensive management zone of Laljhadi Mohana protected forest). These plans have been submitted for review and endorsement by 2019.

For active participation of community on natural resource management, it is important to continuously capacitate both CBOs and their members. Programme supported 19 CBOs in Laljhadi Mohana corridor and ShNP BZ. As per need of CBOs, 14 CFUGs in Laljhadi Mohana corridor were supported with office equipment to help them functionalize their office. Three BZCFs in ShNP BZ were supported with forest guard and two BZUCs were supported for office hall renovation and for conducting coordination meeting for restoration. 582 CBO members (298 Male and 284 female) were capacitated on 14 events on forest management, SFM, good governance, social policies, account keeping and financial compliance to support active and meaningful participation of CBO members on natural resource management. Events were as inclusive as possible with 49% of female, 31% of indigenous people and 3.5% of disadvantaged groups.

In addition to community, it is equally important to capacitate government partners and officials so that they can better manage natural resources and also better monitor and mobilize community for natural resource management. Programme thus supported two Division Forest Offices (Kanchanpur and Kailali) with office equipment and supported one Sub-Division Forest Office for renovation of building so that forest officials can smoothly provide services and monitor activities in different sector of Laljhadi Mohana corridor. Similarly, to strengthen park officials, 30 front line park officials (rangers and game scout, 9 female) from ShNP were capacitated on natural resource management. Eight finance and administration officers from four parks in TAL were capacitated on procurement policy, tax system, donor compliance and TAL working modality. To sensitize government officials, local and state government bodies and other relevant stakeholders on the importance of Laljhadi Mohana corridor two coordination meetings were organized in (Kanchanpur and Kailali) in which 105 representatives (23 female) from local municipalities, state governments, DFO, CFCC, CFUG and medias participated. During these meetings participants discussed on prevailing conservation issues in the corridor including encroachment, overgrazing, illegal logging, poaching and HWC and expressed their interest and commitment for conservation and conservation friendly development. During the end of first year of project implementation a joint monitoring with local/state government and

DFO was conducted in the Laljhadi Mohana corridor to show conservation efforts, receive comments and also to maintain transparency. In this joint meeting 15 people participated.

Employment and economic opportunities created through green enterprises/ jobs benefitting forest dependent communities

WWF Nepal Livelihoods Strategic Plan (2017-21) recommends two major livelihoods strategies to benefit and safeguard forest dependent and wildlife vulnerable communities living in and around corridor; a) Improve livelihoods through managing, enhancing, using and capitalizing natural resources and b) Safeguarding source of livelihoods from wildlife and changing climate. As part of livelihood improvement green enterprises were strengthened/established and skill-based trainings and tool kits were provided in Laljhadi Mohana Corridor and ShNP BZ. To safeguard livelihood, wildlife preventive measures (predator resistant pen and mess wire) were supported and green enterprises supported.

Three new green enterprises were established and two strengthened creating direct employment/economic opportunities for 82 HHs and indirectly benefiting 915 HHs. Based on site specific situation and need of the community, three enterprises (broom grass, chamomile/mentha and community saw mill) were established in Laljhadi Mohana corridor and two enterprises (chamomile in ShNP BZ and community saw mill in Laljhadi Mohana corridor) were strengthened.

Chamomile/mentha enterprise is established in southern-east side of corridor (connecting with Dudhwa National Park) where crop depredation and damage by antelopes, blue bull and elephant is high. 34 HHs (3 DAG, 15 JJ and 16 O) were capacitated on chamomile farming (orientation and learning visit) and chamomile and mentha seeds for farming and glass bottles for oil collection were distributed. Programme also supported maintenance of mentha processing plant. Communities will start to extract oil from chamomile plants in March 2019. Community was able to leverage funding (Euro 8,333) for chamomile processing plant installation from GIZ funded program.

Broom grass enterprise is in the northern part of the corridor where broom grass production is very good, and CF was already engaged in broom grass farming, but enterprise was not institutionalized. Programme thus supported to conduct value chain analysis of broom grass and also supported with 22,000 seedlings of broom grass to scale up production. As recommended by value chain analysis report, this enterprise will be further institutionalized/strengthened in coming years. As broom grass enterprise is in its initial stage there are no direct beneficiaries till date but it is expected to benefit 777 CFUG members (135 DAG, 16 JJ and 628 O). Furthermore, 12,000 grass seedlings (for stall feeding for cattle) are also planted in this CF to explore possibility of dairy enterprise.

With lessons learnt from community saw mill (established with support from partnership program 2014-16), a community saw mill is established in south western part of corridor with engagement of 15 CFUGs and 2 cooperatives. Programme supported community with equipment, orientation for 38 CFUG members (3 female) and interaction with 29 local stakeholders including local government (2 female) on importance of community saw mill on conservation and livelihood opportunities. As a result, programme supported 53% of the total investment (21 613 €) and remaining was leveraged by local government (rural municipality) - 39% and CFUGs

- 14%. In addition, safety equipment for workers in saw mill was also provided. This community saw mill is expected to generate employment opportunities to 10 individuals and provide services to approx. 3,500 CFUG members affiliated with this saw mill.

Community saw mill established with previous partnership program was further strengthened with equipment to make saw mill more efficient and also with equipment to make furniture from remaining waste wood. This community saw mill is providing employment opportunity for 7 individuals (4 JJ and 3 O) and has provided services to 915 HHs during last fiscal year. So far from the date of establishment it has already provided services to 1985 HHs. Chamomile enterprise which was already established in ShNP BZ with support from TAL program was strengthened by supporting maintenance of processing plant and then seed was distributed to 33 HHs. In total it is directly benefiting 41 HHs (1 DAG, 7 JJ and 33 O).

To provide alternative income generation opportunities, 92 forest dependent individuals (42 from Laljhadi Mohana corridor and 50 from ShNP BZ) were provided with various skill-based trainings. Of total skilled based trainees 49% were female, 65% from indigenous group and 3% from disadvantaged group. An entrepreneurship development training was also conducted for 29 youths (14 female) from 8 CFUGs engaged in green enterprises and skilled based training to help them develop their own enterprise by building their understand on making business plan, analyzing profit and loss and other aspects of entrepreneurship.

PHE evaluation and seminar

Cooperation between WWF, FPAN and Finnish Family Federation (“Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Biodiversity Conservation through Integrated Approach in Nepal”) was evaluated in 2017-2018. Cooperation started in 2011 but the evaluation focused on 2015-2017. Evaluation (Annex V) was conducted by Central Department of Population Studies, Tribhuvan University (CDPS/TU) assigned and expenses paid by the Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN). The specific objectives of the evaluation were to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices of young people and NRM communities on SRH and biodiversity conservation including identifying the problems/constraints and needs pertaining to sexual and reproductive health among the young people and NRM communities.

According to the evaluation, “the project has successfully achieved its goals and objectives mainly because of commendable leadership of FPAN Branch Managers, mobilization of large scale youth through establishing and strengthening the youth networks, well-networking between the FPAN and WWF Nepal in the field by establishing the service centers in the same building, establishing the well coordination with the schools to run the BCC classes to hundreds and thousands of students. The project created a widespread stewardship in protection of biodiversity by mobilization of a range of young people networks in anti-poaching activities. Young people’s forums were also organized for plantation. People’s behavior towards wild-life has changed: before people used to go to forest to kill the birds, now such events cannot be seen. The awareness level to protect the endangered birds and wild animals has also increased.

The project created a forum for women’s participation in biodiversity conservation. This is an outstanding added value of the integrated project of FPAN and

WWF Nepal. Further, the project created a movement against child marriage through schools and through the community. And in some cases, the young people networks have become the key agent for prevention and combating child marriage. Further, the attitudes of boys towards looking at girls have greatly changed – the sexual abuse to girls has reduced because of the BCC Classes run in schools and because of the youth networks formed in the community. “

Project closing workshop was organized in Kathmandu in December, where results of the evaluation were presented. The key learnings and experiences of combining environmental conservation with sexual and reproductive health education, and services, were also shared. The aim of the workshop was also to promote cross-sectoral cooperation.

Lessons learned, challenges and adaptive management

In new federal system in Nepal, government is now in three tiers which demands more coordination effort. Also, there have been changes in government's structures including forest institutions. District Forest Offices are now under state government as Division Forest Offices. With this change, financial transaction system also changed, and forest offices remained without official account for more than six months. This created difficulty in financial transaction and hence in the implementation of activities.

As SFM is still new in Nepal, understanding on SFM varies at different levels (from government to local users). Thus, bringing them on one page is challenging. In addition, technical capacity on SFM is limited among communities as well as government partners. This demands more capacity building and follow up orientation.

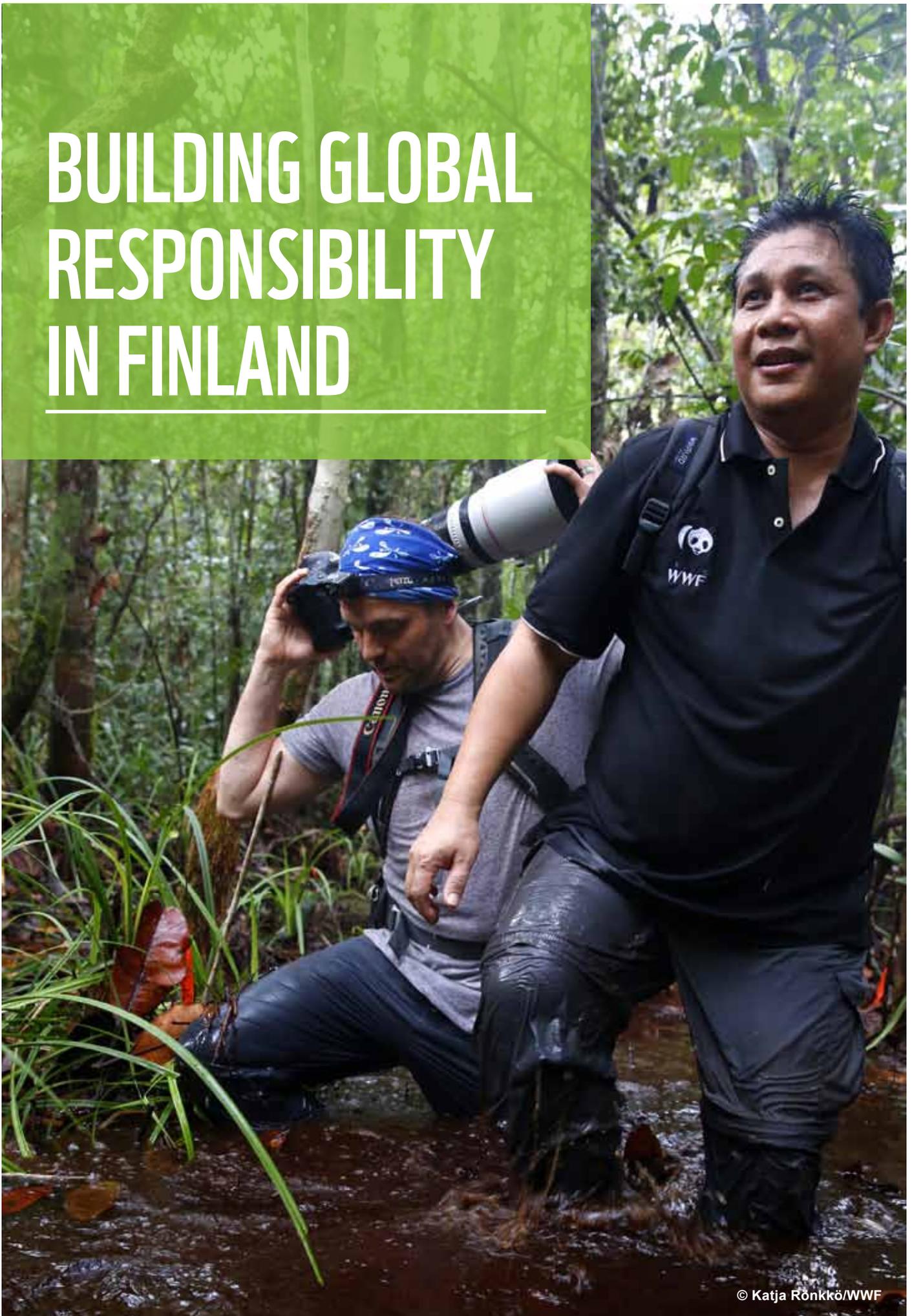
Work plan was revised once in 2018 with some adjustments on budget and activities. As output 2.1 is focused on strengthening protected forest management, budget (Euro 76,450) for activities (SFM, implementation of CFOP and GESI) which are to be implemented in the community forests, was moved to output 2.2 which is for improved community forest management.

Towards the end of the year there was some carry forward budget due to change in government structures. Thus, with approval of WWF Finland, some fund (Euro 4,000) was channelized to the climate refugia site (Phulbari, Dang) for forest restoration. Climate refugia is extended area of TAL where intervention was initiated in 2016 with support of previous MFA program and it was in need of some additional support to continue protection/management/expansion of restoration site.

Monitoring trips

There was no field monitoring visit to Nepal by WWF Finland in 2018. Senior conservation officer and Conservation and development officer from WWF Finland spent 2 days in WWF Nepal's office and participated PHE seminar in Kathmandu on their way back from Bhutan in December.

BUILDING GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY IN FINLAND



REDUCING THE ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

Towards sustainable consumption

The awareness of Finnish public on global environmental threats and impacts of food consumption has increased. WWF issued a study in 2016 to be made by Kantar and asked from representative sample of Finnish citizens what is the most impactful choice to reduce environmental impacts of food. 52 % of Finns considered replacement of meat with vegetables as one of the most impactful choice in 2016. The study was repeated in 2018 and the results revealed that 61 % of the survey respondents considered replacement of meat with vegetables as the most impactful choice in reducing the environmental effects of food.

The active discussion around sustainable diets in Finnish media in 2018 can be seen contributing to the increased awareness. WWF Finland communicated actively in media about the environmental effects of food, and the possibilities to decrease those Sustainable diets and WWF's role in promoting these have been widely covered in the Biggest Finnish media like YLE and MTV. WWF Finland has furthermore gained expert position in the field and are commonly asked to comment the issue. The biggest peaks in food discussion were during Earth Hour week (refer paragraphs below) and within publication of Climate panels 1.5 degrees report. The transformation from awareness to action will be seen in the meat consumption statistics from the year 2018, which will be published by Natural Resources Institute later in June 2019.

Sustainable food pledge proceeded in 2018 and the publication of the pledge is planned for Autumn 2019/ Spring 2020. The pledge will be built on EAT-Lancet Commission's report on sustainable and healthy diets to be published in January 2019. The EAT-Lancet Commission report is an independent comprehensive assessment of existing science on health and sustainability. In total, 19 independent scientists led the preparation of the report, supported by 18 co-authors.

Work for soy commitment has continued and negotiations with new potential companies are ongoing. However, there are challenges to get responses from companies to proceed with their commitment. The negotiations with the companies continue and more effort is put to get the responses.

LEARNING FOR CHANGE

Influencing environmental education at schools

Supporting environmental education at school has continued by training teachers and by actively engaging them in social media. WWF Finland started to support pupils eco clubs and established a new website "WWF Kouluussa" with MFA Partnership Programme support in 2014-2017. The long term commitment and work conducted under the Partnership Programme enabled WWF Finland to leverage additional funding from the National Board of Education to teacher training "The pupils as environmental actors – support for engaging, multidisciplinary learning". More than 100 teachers from different parts of Finland were trained during

two years (2017-2018). These trainings enabled establishment of 25 new pupils eco-clubs and enhanced the sustainability and continuity of the environmental education work started during the first Partnership Programme period. “WWF Opehuone” in Facebook and “WWF Koulussa” in Instagram have continued growing and these channels continue to be important ways to market WWF Finland teacher trainings and environmental learning materials.

The information content for the Food Tour for schools, vocational schools and universities was collected and the timetable and outline for development of the Tour was compiled. Tour will start in 2019.

The work to develop a food guide for teachers was initiated. The Union of biology and geography teachers was engaged to write a food guide, which will inform the main food related facts to be taught under 10 subjects. The launch and communication on the guide are planned together with the Union also to support the WWF Food tour. New version of food card game was published and will be delivered during the Food Tour.

Empowerment of young people

WWF Finland has continued engaging and empowering youth by organizing the work of WWF Finland’s youth team i.e. “WWF Nuoret”. The same team of 22 young people recruited in November 2017 continued to volunteer actively and they have been involved in numerous activities and events. For the international climate change campaign, Earth Hour, held on 24th March 2018 the youth team produced their own video “Consume happiness” that was shared in social media in Finland and in Germany and Austria. They also arranged second time their own Earth Hour event “Bruno goes Earth Hour” that followed last year’s concept with music, circus, short speeches, flea market and vegetarian street food. More than 2000 people participated to the event.

To increase the awareness and promote choices on sustainable food, the youth group facilitated several workshops for school kids with total 500 participants and they also participated the World Village event working at WWF tent. During 2018 the youth group posted dozen vegetarian recipes in social media (Vaikuta syömällä in Facebook, WWF Nuoret in Instagram and the [webpage](http://www.vaikutasyomalla.fi) www.vaikutasyomalla.fi) and their own Christmas calendar on sustainable lifestyle in Instagram.

In August four team members participated WWF Youth Summit in Berlin, with the topic of Plastics. The aim was to innovate activities to be conducted in all summit member countries to promote ban on single used plastics.

In addition to the Programme activities WWF Finland was able to leverage additional funding Nordic Council of Ministers Arctic Co-operation Programme to organize Arctic Youth Summit in Rovaniemi, October 2018. Six young people from the youth team played a significant role in arranging international this one-week event for 35 young people from all Arctic countries and Arctic Council observer countries held parallel with the Arctic Biodiversity Congress. The objectives of the Arctic Youth Summit include capacity building concerning arctic biodiversity and its protection, creating spaces and opportunities for a dialogue between youth, political influencers and scientists, as well as empowering and engaging the young people in the arctic nature protection activities. This process will continue until June 2019.

The youth team work has proven to be very successful in engaging young people as agents to act and raise awareness on environmentally sound and sustainable choices. Extension of the youth group was initiated in 2018 due to the increased need for new participation opportunities by youth. The youth team has been integral part of the planning of the extension. In 2019 three new youth teams will be recruited: one in Helsinki and two in other big cities. The study of perceived environmental competence of WWF Youth Team members was also initiated and planned to be ready in 2019.

ENGAGING PEOPLE IN CONSERVATION

2018 was a very special and successful year in WWF Finland's communication and fundraising. Especially the Programme related topics were covered and communicated in a completely new way and for new audiences. *Villien jäljillä* TV show was aired at the end of 2018. The concept can be considered as the most engaging and effective new way of communicating about conservation. In addition to *Villien jäljillä* production a lot of media coverage was gained with programme related topics, and people engaged in our own channels with topics including food and food production, sustainable diets, biodiversity and climate change.

Villien Jäljillä Production

WWF Finland's co-produced *Villien jäljillä* production started with planning already in 2014 and finally in 2018 the eight episodes were aired in prime time in MTV3. The show is an entertaining reality/ travel/ nature series with a strong connection and coverage for WWF's conservation work. The TV show was hosted by one of Finland's most loved comedienne Pirjo Heikkilä and a well-known nature journalist and photographer Kimmo Ohtonen. In each episode the hosts are guided by a local WWF specialist and each episode is focusing on one specific endangered species.

The aim was to reach completely new audiences with our messages. The TV show targeted primarily people who are not that familiar with WWF's work, the topics relating to biodiversity and our consumption's impact for nature especially in developing countries. WWF Finland's content strategy (see more below) provided a framework for the selection of the main target groups for the TV show and the communication around it. Families with kids from so called "home and family" target group was mainly targeted, while "cultural and travelling citizens" formed secondary target group. A fundraising campaign was also built around the same topics to reach WWF's fundraising aims (see more below).

The TV show was a success regarding the viewer figures, reached people and fundraising targets. The opening episode in November 6th 2018 got almost 350 000 viewers. The viewer figures are considered as very successful as *Villien jäljillä* was the second watched TV program on that Tuesday slot. In total these eight episodes have already been shown 47 times (including all the re-runs in MTV3 and in SUB). In addition to this, new re-runs for the episodes are also planned for 2019 and all the episodes can be watched in mtv.fi for several years. In total the episodes have been so far watched more than 2,2 million times. We also got several new Instagram followers during the first airings in 8 weeks time.

The TV show was extremely cost-effective way to reach the target groups. With less than five cents (0,045 euros) we reached one viewer in TV with topics of biodiversity, WWF's work in developing countries and the effects on climate change.

Reaching people through other communication

Despite of the worrying news on climate change and biodiversity globally, year 2018 was also a year of great success stories and good news relating to our programme communication:

- From Nepal an inspiring story was told together with some stunning satellite images on how the forests and wildlife returned to Southern Nepal where WWF has been working a long time.
- From Nepal a success story was shared regarding Nepal being the first country in the world to double the amount of their wild tigers.
- From China and Hong Kong great news on closing down the ivory markets was communicated. The decision has long-lasting effects for both people and wildlife in Africa.
- From Mekong region inspiring news on 150 new species found from the forests was told. We also shared good news about the critically endangered Mekong river dolphin: The population grew the first time in measure history.
- The success on protecting the critically endangered mountain gorilla, now at last with rising numbers of the animals, was communicated from Africa. This success story have positive effects for the eco-tourism and the local communities.
- From Kenya good news about the new ways of tackling the illegal wildlife part markets with sniffer dogs was communicated.

Promoting sustainable consumption

Regarding consumption, the main communication was done around sustainable food consumption and reducing meat consumption. In WWF Finland's message, food consumption in Finland is linked to the effects on biodiversity around the globe.

An info-packet on environmental effects of food was produced to support the message. Packet consists of info graphs illustrating the dominance of animal-based products on environmental effects of food, as well as the land use for Finn's food consumption in other countries. This information was shared with journalists and life-style bloggers in three meetings with a reach of approximately 30 journalist and 20 bloggers. This resulted in visibility of the food issues in media. WWF Finland shared the same information with few big food companies in their future vision workshops to advocate and support change towards more sustainable food service.

In April and May WWF worked with the Mad Cook prime time TV programme aired by Nelonen. WWF Finland partnered in content in three of the episodes. The episodes included content marketing to promote sustainable food choices and inform about the link between our choices and biodiversity loss outside our borders (mainly developing countries). The aim was to inspire school pupils to express their wishes to get more sustainable school lunches. These messages were presented by the hosts Tunna Milonoff and Riku Rantala and they were discussed with the guests. The three episodes reached altogether around 250 000 viewers. We also created content together with the TV show production team regarding the conservation messages for social media channels to enhance the effectiveness.

An overshoot day denotes the day when a nation has consumed its share of the natural resources that the planet provides in one year. The Finnish overshoot day in April and the global overshoot day in August were communicated successfully. Both achieved good media coverage in biggest media like YLE and Helsingin Sanomat. The main message was that Finnish consumption has significant effects outside our borders and in developing countries. Overshoot day is also one of the main moments to draw visitors to our wwf.fi site annually.

In May WWF Finland took part to Maaailma Kylässä festival with the message of sustainable food choices and biodiversity. Our call to the festival visitors was to send love letters to the policy makers in their municipality to encourage them to provide more sustainable food choices in public institutions such as schools. In total the festival was visited by 80 000 people and hundreds of love letters were sent.

In addition to the programme communication, WWF Finland communicated and raised several topics and talking points linking closely and supporting the communication around the programme topics such as climate change mitigation and adaptation and halting biodiversity loss. In 2018 two major outputs under climate and biodiversity communication were produced, namely WWF's Living Planet Report and WWF comments on the IPCC report.

The Living Planet Report 2018 emphasized the effects and connection of climate change and biodiversity. The report was widely covered in Finnish media with stories and interviews in all biggest newspapers, online news as well as TV and radio broadcasts.

WWF's commenting on the IPCC report was also covered in all the biggest Finnish media including the TV morning shows of YLE and MTV3.

Reaching the public in WWF's own channels

WWF Finland's social media channels continue to be the main channels for public engagement. In 2018 WWF Finland continued to be successful in reaching and engaging the public in Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube and LinkedIn.

The effectiveness of our communication in social media is monitored both with the number of followers and with the number of reached people with WWF's individual posts. The number of followers in Facebook increased with more than 10 000 from the previous year being more than 134 000 followers at the end of 2018. The number of Instagram followers also increased significantly reaching 40 862.

WWF magazine is a quarterly magazine for our supporters and shareholders, and it has a wide selection of stories and news of nature, sustainable way of life and WWF's work globally. The magazine is also available in several Finnish libraries. The circulation of the magazine was around 31 500 in the end of 2018.

The amount of WWF newsletter subscribers increased compared to the previous year. At the end of 2018 there was 67 121 subscribers compared to 64 952 subscribers in 2017.

The amount of press releases, news and stories in our web site wwf.fi was almost doubled in 2018 comparing to the previous year. In total we published 46 news and stories about the Programme related topics in 2018. Almost all of the articles were

also sent as press releases for the media. In addition to these press releases and stories WWF Finland also published a wide number of news about e.g. climate change and its' effects on nature.

Media coverage

WWF's coverage overall in Finnish media has been very wide in recent years and the number and variety of stories about WWF's work is increasing. The most covered WWF related topics in Finnish media in 2018 were WWF's Living Planet Report, commenting on the IPCC's climate report and topics relating to Villien jäljillä TV show.

Again in 2018 the earned media coverage related to the programme topics increased compared to years 2017 and 2016. In 2018, total 1826 stories or news in Finnish media were published (printed and online hits only, radio and TV coverage is not reported), while in 2017 there were 1560 stories. The most covered Programme related topics were food and food production, poaching and illegal wildlife trade and Villien jäljillä TV show. Also topics relating to sustainable development, climate change and palm oil were increased comparing to previous year.

Lessons learnt

The need to better understand and meet the needs of our partner countries communication teams was noted during 2018. In the future WWF Finland will always map the needs from the partner countries communications teams before planning to produce any communication assets from these countries. For better communication products and to increase cooperation with the WWF network WWF Finland joined a the WWF network's "Storybuzz" working group, which aims to coordinate upcoming production trips on communication asset gathering better and to share of produced material with the network more effectively. The aim is also to lighten the workload in the partner countries.

Fundraising

WWF Finland has usually one main integrated multimedia fundraising campaign per year. During 2018 the main fundraising campaign was about biodiversity. The aim was to strengthen the communications regarding biodiversity and to gain funding for the conservation work from Villien jäljillä TV show.

Fundraising campaigning includes conservation messages that reaches big audience. Chosen main media in the fundraising campaign 2018 was TV in many different tv-advertisements and ident formats. The intended reach was achieved. TV spot campaign reached 485 TRP (target rating point) versus planned 348 TRP. Spot campaign in mtv.fi -service (TV on demand), biodiversity ident campaign on TV and mtv-fi -service, split screen advertising on TV and pause ad advertising in mtv.fi -service got 4 485 600 impressions altogether. Including the online banners, Facebook and YouTube advertisements to the main media channels impression, the total impressions reached 5 680 400.

Chosen additional medias were online in many different online advert formats like Opportunity to Contact (OTC with reach altogether 14,9 million), 107 digital outdoor screens in four cities (Helsinki, Espoo, Turku, Tampere), two print advertisements (Helsingin Sanomat -kuukausiliite with 176 000 net contacts in target group, and Mandatum Life Magazine with distribution of 80 000) and our own channels and

social media. The reach of the campaign's target group was excellent and the planned reach amounts were exceeded. The campaign also converted well: approximately 1 300 new active, paying regular donors was gained.

In addition to the main fundraising campaign, face-to-face (F2F) program (mostly at the stands in shopping centers and traffic places) and online marketing in various channels were ongoing the whole year through acquiring monthly or annual individual donors.

In the beginning of 2018 WWF Finland had 28 400 active (paying) regular individual donors and at the end of year 2018 their amount had risen to 30 800, translating to total 2 400 new active regular donors.

Increased communication towards regular individual donors is done constantly to decrease their attrition and to increase their commitment to WWF's conservation cause. Donor newsletters "Kummiutiset" is sent out 3-4 times a year, through regular donor e-mailings and other automated or personalized e-mailings according to their donorship cause (WWF-general, rainforests, snow leopards, climate etc.).

Three direct marketing letters covering our international work was sent out in 2018. Direct marketing letters are important not only to raise funds to the conservation work but also to communicate about contents of WWF's work to the public. The first one was in March with 30 000 persons as a target group. The subject of that direct marketing letter was climate change and it reached slightly it's fundraising goals. The second one was in October covering our international conservation work and illegal wildlife trade especially on elephants. The target group of this direct marketing letter was 30 000 persons altogether and the fundraising results were excellent; it exceeded its' fundraising goal by 55%, which means that the topic is very appealing to WWF Finland individual donors. The third one was in December about biodiversity and a part of our main multimedia campaign. The target group of that DM letter was bigger than usually; 50 000 persons and the results exceeded the expected fundraising outcome by 33% with the support of all other campaign activities in media (TV, outdoor, print, online).

A single gift and social fundraising options are also offered on our webpage constantly, especially during Christmas time.

Advocacy and lobbying in Finland

The head of the International Development team participated WWF Finland's election campaign and its planning process. WWF experts prepared WWF's views (<https://wwf.fi/vaalit/>) on the issues which should be addressed by the new coming parliament and government. This includes WWF's goal to increase development cooperation funding to 0,7 % in Finland. In the discussion about the justification of the development aid WWF brought up the impacts of the Finnish consumption globally and especially in the developing countries. The recent study (https://issuu.com/suomenymparistokeskus/docs/pb_a-future-the-planet-can-accommod) findings of University of Helsinki (Sandström) and the SYKE's policy brief A future the planet can accommodate on the Impacts of Finnish consumption created a scientific background for these messages.

WWF met all Finnish parties, their chairpersons and key candidates as well as participated some of the party meetings in 2018. Also direct discussion and influencing

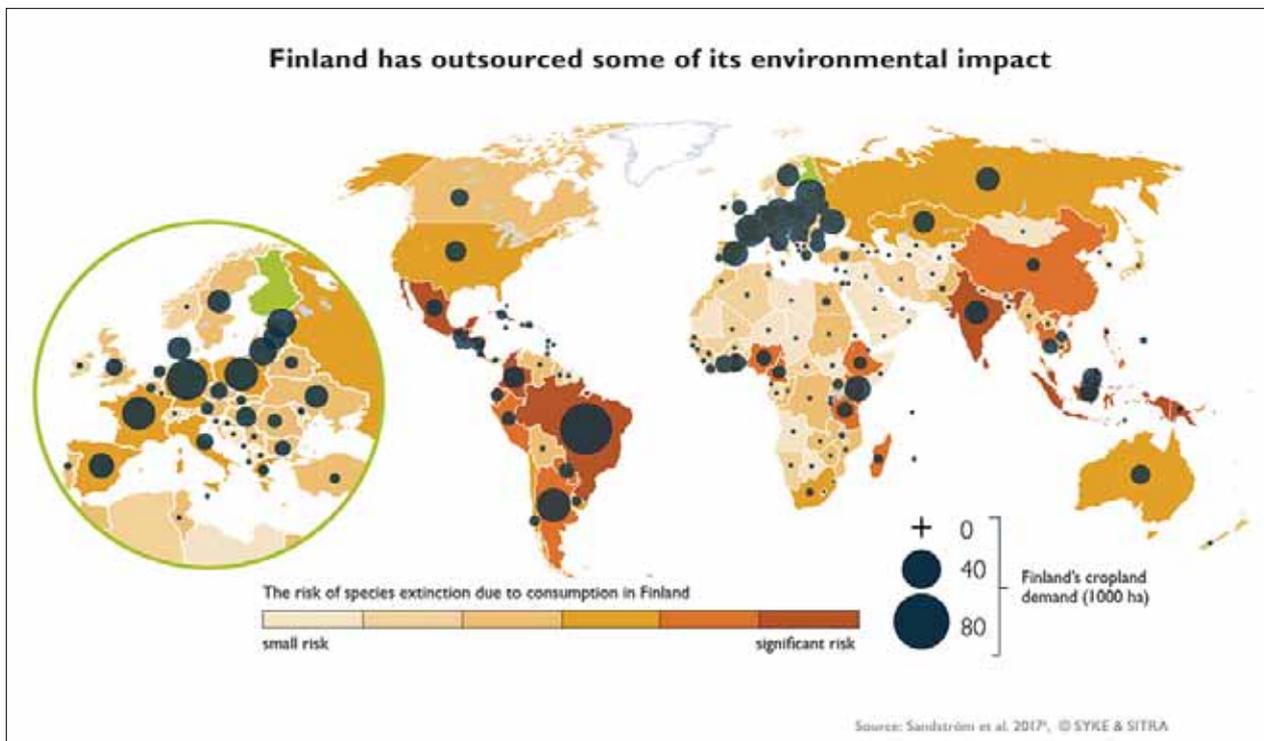


Figure 3. Land area required around the world by foods consumed in Finland. Clearing forest for agricultural use leads to the risk of a loss of species especially in tropical countries. For example, areas where coffee and cocoa are grown have many domestic species that are susceptible to extinction. Copyright: SYKE & SITRA

parties own election statements was done. It was to be noted that the main focus of the WWF's advocacy works was related to the Finnish forest, water sector and climate policies. WWF was able to have several meetings and profound discussion with the parties and politicians. The results of this work will be seen in the elections and work of the the new government in 2019.

WWF Finland arranged several meetings also with MFA representatives to discuss about the global biodiversity loss connected to the recent Living Planer reports and about decline of the Finnish development cooperation funding to the the global biodiversity conservation. The dialogue with the politicians and MFA representatives and other development cooperation sector organizations about the future of Finnish development cooperation started in 2018 and continued in 2019. This work was mainly done by the CEO and the Head of International Development.

The importance and role of global biodiversity were also addressed with IUCN, when IUCN Finland celebrated its 50 years of establishment. WWF Finland representatives had presentations describing WWF's work on the protection of endangered species in the Partnership Programme. WWF contributed their views and Partnership programme achievements in several other occasions in 2018 including Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry strategy work and nexus workshops around Food, Water and Energy as well as the events organized by the University of Helsinki. The views of international forestry and sustainable forest management were also brought to the Finnish forest academy as the Head of the International Development participated the Finnish Forest Academy in September 2018.

INTEGRATION OF CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES



The Thriving Environment- Wellbeing of People Programme integrates the principles of gender equality, climate sustainability and reduction of inequalities in the programme implementation following WWF network guidelines and policies. The programme works to improve social sustainability and forest health in the programme areas to complement climate change mitigation through carbon sequestration and to sustain the ecosystems that provide food, fibre and water resources for people and habitats for wildlife under changing climate. The programme in 2018 is human rights progressive and the interventions support the rights of the right holders and accountability of the duty bearers. Analysis made based on the HRBA monitoring and learning tool summaries reveal that further strengthening of the monitoring systems to capture impacts on programme beneficiaries in aggregated manner is needed.

INCLUSIVE CONSERVATION

Human rights monitoring and learning tool was developed to capture the level of human rights aspects considered in the programme implementation in practice. The aim is to use the tool to conceptualise where and how the programme can enhance its performance to transform from human rights progressive towards human rights transformative programme. Annual analysis based on the monitoring information, information on risk and human rights monitoring tools are used for identifying best practices and gaps in performing inclusive and rights-based conservation and to monitor how possible strategic changes, materialized risks and/or changes in the civil society's space in given programme country and context may affect the beneficiaries' rights. The dialogue between WWF Finland and its partners is continued in 2019 to strengthen human right aspects of the programme especially during the mid term review of the programme. It was to be noted that also other Nordic WWF offices are supporting human right based programmes. WWF Sweden's SIDA funded programme is organizing capacity building sessions to WWF network offices which are also included in WWF Finland's programme.

In 2018 WWF Finland's Conservation and Development Co-operation Expert participated in the World Bank Profor programme's "Gender and Forests" seminar organised by the MFA. WWF presented aspects on how inclusive community forest management has been conducted in Nepal for the past 15 years. Practical examples on gender empowerment, and development of targets and indicators were shared with the seminar participants.

Participation and accountability

Inclusion and promotion of the participation of the right holders to natural resources decision making from community to national and regional level, development of equitable benefit sharing mechanisms and acknowledgement of traditional customary rights in natural resources management and governance are crucial for achieving the overall programme outcome *"Communities, citizens, governments and companies engaged in sustainable natural resource management to address deforestation and secure equal benefits for people and sustain wildlife habitats"*.

The programme used several methods to include the right holders in the natural resources decision making and governance during the programme implementation in

2018. Joint forest management and business planning, tailor-made trainings (skill-based trainings, etc.) to diversify livelihoods, South-South learning events to exchange best practices between communities, meetings and workshops to develop and implement sustainable community forest management approaches as well as joint advocacy and engagement on forest and natural resources management policies development processes up to regional level have been promoted and conducted. E.g. In the support to EAC illegal timber trade policy harmonisation process WWF facilitated series of CSO consultation and meetings in Uganda, Kenya, Madagascar and Tanzania to ensure that the community voices are heard in the intergovernmental meetings and strategies. The programme ensured that local language was used in the work with communities and local CSOs/ CBOs. Translators were used when required especially regarding the dialects in Laos.

The engagement of youth, women and indigenous peoples in conservation actions is crucial to inclusive conservation and to achieve sustainable conservation results. Indigenous groups were engaged to the community forest management related trainings and meetings especially in Indonesia, Nepal and Uganda. The aim is to take the customary rights into consideration in the community forest management plans and to provide equal access to and decision making on the shared natural resources as well as develop equitable benefit sharing systems. The participation of women and indigenous groups is promoted and monitored closely in Nepal following specialised WWF GESI (Gender and Social Inclusion) guidelines and governmental strategies. In addition to Nepal, specific targeted actions to improve women's rights are conducted e.g. in Indonesia where the programme supports women and women's associations by training and supporting income generating activities such as handicraft making.

The importance of engaging the youth as next generation of conservationists and decision makers is foregone conclusion. Thus empowering youth is in the heart of the activities especially in WWF Nepal and Finland. Youth team "WWF Nuoret" continued to volunteer actively to advocate sustainable food consumption and its' impact to climate change in Finland. The Generation Green expanded its reach with Nepal's youth by development of web portal and mobile application to educate and empower youth for conservation. Similarly, support to eco clubs in the areas adjacent to community forests and conservation education and awareness program for youth and school children continued in Nepal (refer to chapter Nepal/Engaging Youth). A campaign directed using print and TV medias to youth was also conducted in Kenya to raise awareness of the social impact of wildlife crime.

The programme promoted the accountability of the duty bearers to implement inclusive management of natural and forest resources. The duty bearers of the programme include district, national and regional authorities responsible e.g. for natural resources, forests, environment and land and private sector actors. The programme included the duty bearers to joint planning, implementation, coordination and monitoring. The authorities and law enforcement are provided with information e.g. regarding the magnitude of illegal activities to tackle illegal timber and wildlife trade in the East Africa. In this regard the programme's East Africa Wildlife Crime hub initiated monitoring of high profile wildlife crime court cases, and wildlife crime incidents in East Africa and aggregates the data into wildlife crime information database. The information will be used to understand the illegal wildlife trade dynamic in the region and to develop initiatives with the authorities to tackle the problem.

To enforce accountability at the district level in Tanzania, Uganda, Bhutan and Nepal, the authorities are included to the joint planning regarding the community

forest management with CSO partners, lessons sharing events on the performance at landscape level and other coordination meetings.

The accountability was furthermore monitored using the WWF commitment and engagement tool. The level of commitment to curb illegal timber trade in East Africa was assessed for 7 national forest authorities at the 6th East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders Forum. The activeness in regional collaboration, evidence of legislation changes, and awareness of regional processes targeted at reducing illegal trade of timber was assessed (refer to chapter on EAFP). The measures for compensation to right holders for loss of property due to human-wildlife conflicts is promoted in Nepal. E.g. Diversification of income sources by cultivation of plants to produce essential oils is supported by training in communities which have lost part of their crops due to wildlife. Similarly, first aid training for communities adjacent to wildlife corridors was provided.

Strengthening capacities of rights holders and duty bearers

Building capacity of the right holders' capacities is at the core of the programme. The programme builds capacity of communities to manage their forest resources sustainably and share benefits equitably.

Altogether 116 CSOs and CBOs were supported in 2018. Programme provided support on natural resource management, sustainable forest management, forest fire management, wildlife management, good governance, claiming land rights, implementation of social policies and account keeping as well as financial management. Implementing interventions ranging from forest management to the livelihood improvement has helped enhancing the CSO/CBOs overall institutional capacities to diversity livelihoods or improve the existing ones. Similarly CSOs/CBOs were supported to get legally established and organised to practice sustainable forest management. Establishment of community forest management organisations, forest owners associations and development of business plans was supported. Timber and NTFP commercialisation and market access was further supported to improve the sustainability of the community based businesses and green enterprises.

In efforts to create conducive environment for investments, WWF Kenya undertook an assessment to depict the current status regarding the gender gaps, challenges, gender roles as well as the opportunities in locally controlled forestry enterprises. Despite women providing the bulk of labor in these farm forestry enterprises, they face challenges such as access and control of productive resources such as land, extension services, inputs and markets, participation and decisions making among others. As part of improving the wellbeing of women, the programme supported three women groups in this location to establish nurseries for sale of seedlings to other tree growers. The groups have started to realise some small income from the sale of the seedlings.

In Indonesia, villages were facilitated to develop their conservation plans and local NGOs were trained as trainers and facilitators in using Participatory Conservation Planning (PCP) and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), which are tools that assists in analysing the local social, cultural and economy conditions as integrated elements in the conservation interventions.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) training was provided to civil society organizations to raise awareness of local people's rights. As the Mekong is a new area

under the programme, FPIC training was also provided to WWF programme members to ensure the principles are integrated in programme life cycle and to ensure FPIC engagement. Capacity assessments were conducted to CSO/CBOs to identify areas of capacity need.

The capacity of the duty bearers was strengthened through several trainings to enhance the authorities' capabilities to enforce the laws and regulations to benefit the right holders. Technical support was provided to authorities on development and review of sub-national, national and regional policies and regulations related to curbing illegal timber trade, biodiversity and forest management. E.g. Three regional dialogues for SADC, EAC that included the national forest authorities of the member countries to ensure commitment to implement policy reforms on timber trade. For further details refer especially chapters on East Africa Forest Programme and Nepal.

Several assessments were conducted to authorities to identify gaps in knowledge to be basis for capacity building and training. Ranger perception survey on ranger work conditions was conducted in East Africa and human rights violation risk assessments were conducted in Northern Kenya by independent human rights expert. Survey identified need for basic training on HRBA for rangers. The training will be developed and conducted in 2019.

ENSURING CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY

To improve the climate resilience and to advocate climate sustainable approaches, the programme has addressed several climate change adaptation, mitigation and governance interventions during 2018.

Climate change mitigation is addressed by the programme by e.g. forest restoration and through the community forestry activities. To address the human pressure on forests in Nepal, such as firewood collection and cattle grazing, mitigation measures were conducted by restoring total of 119 ha barren land, degraded forest area and private land through plantation, fencing, forest guard mobilization and maintenance of one conservation pond. Additional 44,136 ha of forests were brought under improved sustainable forest management by the programme in 2018. Additional 12,400 ha in coastal Kenya and 1,173,625 ha in Indonesia have been identified and are in the process to be managed with sustainable forest management approaches. Revision of 30 community forest and non-wood forest management plans was supported in Bhutan. In the Mekong region land and forest restoration plans focus on areas with high ecological values such as water source heads, riparian vegetation and protected areas of communities.

Main objectives of restoring degraded land include an increased forest cover and forest connectivity is done through improving ecological function and enhancing ecological systems particularly the regulating services such as flood prevention and erosion control as well as supporting services like nutrient cycling and primary production.

As part of the support provided to community forest user groups in Nepal, areas susceptible to climate change induced threats such as forest fires and floods were

supported with climate change adaptation measures. The forest fire prone community forests were supported with fire controlling equipment and sign boards for awareness on forest fire. Whereas, corridor susceptible to flood hazards affecting forest area, agricultural land and human settlement, bioengineering structures were built for two sites. These bio-engineering structures benefit 675 climate change vulnerable households in the area. In Mekong region, promotion of agro-forestry is aimed to increase the ecosystems provision services of landscape in the form of food, fuel, fiber and wood production and thus help to adjust to the climatic induced hazards and threats.

The programme supported diversification of livelihoods of forest dependent communities by supporting creation of green enterprises and jobs. Skill-based trainings, business planning and commercialisation of non-timber forest products were supported. In Nepal, livelihood supporting activities and skill based training reached altogether 915 households dependent on forests and three green enterprises in 2018. Whereas, the local CBOs and CSOs were supported in Tanzania, Uganda and Madagascar to improve livelihoods from non-timber forest products (NTFP). 21 CBOs/CSOs were supported to identify gaps in their knowledge to develop NTFP based businesses in Madagascar and commercialisation and marketing of NTFPs in Tanzania and Bhutan were supported. Furthermore, district level forest business plans were developed in Uganda.

Climate change advocacy to improve the forest governance in East Africa was done through the support provided to EAC and SADC on the regulation and harmonisation of regulations of illegal timber trade in the area. The programme provided technical support to two new states under Nepal's new governance structure to develop their policies especially related to biodiversity and forest management approaches. Similarly, to ensure the conservation values are taken into consideration in the regional regulations, the strategic planning of the Sintang regional government was supported in Indonesia.

A lot of advocacy on climate change was done in Finland through communications and meetings with the political parties. The communications in WWF Finland addressed climate change through various campaigns and media in 2018. "*Villien jäljillä*" tv production addressed topics of biodiversity, WWF's work in developing countries and the effects on climate change reaching large audience in primetime television in Finland.

EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT FOR RESULTS



There was no changes of the programme management of the Partnership Programme at WWF Finland in 2018 when the new programme period, 2018-2021 stated. Starting the new programme period meant new contracts with the partners and some discussions of the management practises with the new partners.

In early 2018 the programme was adjusted to the level of the available funding as the WWF did not get all funding which was applied. But as the level of funding increased by 20 % compared to the previous years WWF Finland decided to extend the programme to the two new partner areas, Greater Mekong Region and expansion in East Africa to work also on IWT sector.

The monitoring and evaluation framework and lines of monitoring and reporting were established and reaffirmed with partners at the beginning of the programme. For the parts needed the partners established baselines, set targets and indicators for the results framework for their respective countries/ regions. The results framework for the programme with progress for 2018 is presented in Annex IV. Learning tool to capture human rights considerations in programme implementation was developed (refer to Chapter on Inclusive Conservation) and separate distance training sessions were organised with partners on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL). The training concentrated to Theory of Change and results based management, human-rights based approach, baseline data, annual work plans, quarterly update calls, quarterly financial reports, relation of fiscal year technical progress reports to network and annual calendar year reports to MFA as well as, WWF Finland monitoring trips. Based on the programme's MEL plan regular quarterly calls with partners were held.

The risk matrix of the programme was updated when the implementation of the programme started and estimation of the risk likelihood and impact was estimated as guided by MFA on the feedback on the application. The risks are frequently discussed at Partnership Programme update meetings at WWF Finland together with financial situation and implementation of activities in Finland.

WWF Finland used a new video conferencing tool called Zoom to organize frequent meetings with the project partners. This new tool has proven to be reliable in challenging internet connection conditions and allowing possibility to use also video connection. Quarterly calls were organized with the partners to discuss about implementation of MFA funded activities and other issues. WWF Finland staff also participated the video conferences organized by the partners which included also other WWF offices providing support to that country, region or programme. WWF sees that good and reliable video conferencing facilities are providing an opportunity to have more close cooperation with partner countries and other WWF colleagues and in some cases in can also reduce the need for traveling.

The trips to the partner countries are described in the country or region specific chapters. In total 17 trips were conducted in 2018. All the emissions from these flights were compensated according to WWF rules. In addition to the monitoring trips WWF Finland representatives participated the WWF network meetings and shareholder meetings with other WWF offices which fund the same initiatives.

WWF Finland's Forest Focal point attended the WWF network Forest Practice meeting in Tanzania in February 2018. This meeting was the first one where WWF network's focal points on forest work were able to come together since the transition to the practice structure of WWF. The objectives of the meeting were jointly

develop tactics to bring the Practice Strategy to life and implemented through offices' critical contributions and the evolving ACAI communities; further develop the Practice community and explore how to work as a team to deliver Forest Practice Outcomes, including respective roles and responsibilities of the key sub-groups (incl. Focal Points, Core & Leadership Teams); exchange experiences, lessons and ideas on key technical issues, including with partners from within and outside the Network and lay the groundwork for taking forward the identified Areas for Collective Action & Innovation (ACAIs), and High Impact Initiatives (HIIs), including defining key next steps and synergies with other Practices.

In May 2018 WWF Finland's International Development Expert was part of Finnish delegation on 13th session of United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF13) in New York at UN headquarter. WWF was invited to be part of the Finland's delegation as an adviser role. UNFF session will take place annually, but based on two-year thematic cycles, with the first year comprising discussions on implementation and technical advice and the second focusing on policy dialogue, development and decision-making. UNFF13 was a political meeting, while UNFF14 in 2019 will be technically focused. One of the main reasons to participate the meeting was the fact that the UNFF just approved a new Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF) 2017-2030 which holds some potential to strengthen the profile of forests at UN level and other UN agendas while being linked and partly aligned to the SDGs. At centre stage of the political agenda of UNFF 13 was the implementation of the UNSPF, including the monitoring of indicators to track its progress. Key outcome of UNFF13 was Omnibus Resolution that was accepted in United Nations High Level Political Forum (UNHLPF) on July 2018. Key items included the Omnibus Resolution were Implementation of UNSPF, Monitoring, assessment and reporting, Means of implementation, UN system-wide contribution to the implementation of the UNSPF, Contribution of the Forum to the High Level Political Forum review of the SDGs in 2018, Preparation for HLPF review in 2019, Communication and Outreach Strategy. WWF's role influencing was partly limited since Finland is part of EU-bloc and EU wide coordination meetings are only for EU member state governmental office-holders. However, delegation's internal coordination meetings were good opportunity to bring in WWF's point of views and advises.

Head of the International development team attended the Nordic+ cooperation meeting to continue the close coordination and cooperation between Nordic and UK WWF offices. She also participated the Public Sector Partnership (PSP) meeting in December organized by WWF's European Policy Office (EPO). The objective of the meeting was to catch up the WWF networks PSP coordination and identify the changes in the ODA (Official Development Aid) funding as well as to discuss about PSP capacity at the network. The Conservation and Development Officer participated the WWF networks Social Development for Conservation (SD4C) group meeting where the the networks social policies and role of social inclusion and human rights on the conservation work were discussed.

WWF Finland's representative from the International Development team participated SLUSH in Helsinki to explore possibilities around innovations. Main purpose for the participation was to help and inspire the use of WWF Finland's budgeted innovation funding starting from 2020 onwards. Year 2019 is crucial to lay ground for funding and also make sure it is effective and delivers results. The event was also enabling create connections between the different actors who could be considered valuable when the innovation fund's implementation begins 2020.

WWF Finland contributed its results of 2017 to the first Finnish Development Policy Results report. The Partnership programme provided indicator information to the all Finnish Development Policy priority areas (Table 1). WWF had an extensive contribution especially on the indicator of sexual- and reproductive health, as the cooperation project with Finnish Family Planning Association ended in 2017, resulting sexual and reproductive health services to 230 000 women and girls in Nepal. It has to be noted that WWF reported only women and girls as requested by MFA, but the Results Report used people as an indicator. WWF's and Family Planning Association's contribution would have been even bigger if we would have reported men and boys as well.

International Development team also assisted WWF Finland Ecological footprint team on preparation of the EU application, Development education and awareness raising (DEAR) window. The application was focused on Sustainable diets in included 12 WWF offices and AIESEC, WWF Finland being the lead applicant. The theme is closely linked to the objectives and work which WWF Finland is doing under the global education of the Partnership Programme. The application was submitted in February 2019 but the preparation of the proposal started already in autumn 2018, which included support from an external consultant.

WWF Finland coordinated WWF's participation on Nordic Climate Facility call and submitted a proposal together with WWF Uganda which was not selected for the full proposal. WWF Denmark and Vietnam's proposal on energy efficiency of the timber processing sector in Vietnam was selected for a full proposal and WWF Finland also provided support on the development of that project proposal.

In 2018, the Partnership Programme was managed and coordinated in WWF Finland by four fulltime experts (Head of the programme, Senior Conservation Officer,

Focus area	Indicator	Civil Society contribution	WWF's contribution	WWF proportion of CSO contribution (%)
Women and girls	Number of women having access to contraception	243 000	230 000 (in cooperation with the Finnish Family Federation)	95
Economy and jobs	Number of businesses	12 700	40	0,3
Well functioning society	Number of CSOs	2 370	121	5
Natural Resources	Number of smallholder farmers	433 270	68 000	16
	Improved access to water and sanitation	44 560	15 000	34
		33 680	8 000	24
	Number of people accessing improved energy solutions	2 800	1 700	61
Area under sustainable management	650 700	215 000	33	

Table 1: WWF Finland's contribution to the Finland's Development Policy Results report with an indication of the proportion of WWF's contribution of CSOs contribution (Source: <https://kehityspolitiikka2018.um.fi/>)

International Development Expert and Conservation and Development Officer) and one full time communication expert who was in charge of the programme's communication. The partnership programme contributed to the salaries of Senior Conservation Officer (Food&FSC), Senior Education Officer and Conservation Director. It has to be noted that their contribution as well as WWF Finland's CEO's contribution to the programme was bigger than the proportion of their salary costs.

Close cooperation with the MFA continued in 2018 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 2018 risk management was implemented continuous basis and discussed in calls with the partner countries and internally in the regular partnership coordination meetings. A wider revision and update of the risk situation was discussed with the partners during the spring 2018 together with other relevant issues to start the programme implementation. Also, another addition to risk management was the development of management responses in the risk matrix. This was done to meet the requirement received from the feedback MFA provided to WWF Finland from the original programme funding proposal.

WWF Finland payed attention for better align the risk matrices of WWF Finland and the partnership programme. Identification of risks arising from the partnership potentially harming the WWF Finland was done during 2018 and discussed with WWF Finland's senior management team. Also cyber security was added in the risk matrix and especially attention was paid to meet necessary measures tackle fund transfer frauds. WWF's working environment and conditions were discussed especially concerning the Tanzania due to the Tanzanian government plans to construct hydropower plan to the World Heritage Site in Selous. Updates to risk matrix will be done frequently in the future as well and all the partners are informed to immediately contact WWF Finland if major changes in the risk horizon occurs.

FINANCIALS



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2018 WWF Finland made contracts covering four years (2018-2021) with all partner WWF offices for MFA funding and partner WWF offices make contracts with their local implementing partners such as local CSOs and governments. WWF Finland follows up 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 information is requested from the 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 costs of WWF Finland and the annual programme level report are audited in Finland by PricewaterhouseCoopers Oy. New audit guidelines from MFA were followed in 2018 audits, except for the audit of Living Himalayas Programme (this was carry forward and last year of MFA funding for this programme) and for the carry forward budget in Nepal (used in January-June 2018 and audited in autumn 2018).

As the new programme started in 2018, WWF Finland organized a call with each partner office separately to discuss admin issues and go through "General conditions for the use of discretionary government transfers granted by the ministry for foreign affairs and additional conditions for programme support".

During October 2018, WWF Regional Office for Africa received allegations from WWF's internal whistleblower system regarding Tanzania Country Office. The investigation of this case was done by Regional office for Africa and WWF International. Investigations were finalized in early 2019 and lead to the management responses including improved internal controls and financial management, it was also concluded that the MFA funded activities were not under the investigation.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2018

The total available budget for the Partnership Programme for 2018 was EUR 2 357 008 (MFA support EUR 2 003 457), including new support for 2018 (EUR 1 730 000), carry forwarded support from 2017 (EUR 273 457) and co-financing (EUR 353 551).

WWF Finland submitted new programme proposal for 2018-2021 to the MFA in June 2017. WWF got funding decision in early February 2018 and the annual meeting with the MFA was held in 13.2.2018. Revised work plans for 2018 were submitted to MFA by the end of February 2018. Funding was less than what WWF Finland had applied for, so it was agreed that WWF updates programme document, budget and result framework by the end of April 2018. Budget and work plans were revised once more in July 2018, when carry forwards had been confirmed after the audit.

EUR 90 000 of WWF Finland's carry forward from 2017 was reallocated to partner countries (EUR 70 000 to Indonesia, EUR 10 000 to Bhutan and EUR 10 000 to East Africa Forest Programme) in 2018.

The total costs of the programme in 2018 were EUR 1 992 331. MFA funding was 85% (EUR 1 693 481) and co-financing was 15% (EUR 298 850). Co-financing included support from WWF Finland's private supporters and Finnish companies.

Programmes	Actual costs €
Living Himalayas	25 229
Bhutan	102 928
Nepal	552 954
Indonesia	240 647
East Africa Forest Programme	299 803
East Africa Illegal Wildlife Trade Hub	75 736
Greater Mekong	40 314
Total costs of programmes	1 337 611

Finland	
Personnel	314 506
Communications	77 685
Learning for change	47 268
Planning, monitoring and evaluation	34 506
Admin	180 755
Total costs in Finland	654 720

Total costs	1 992 331
MFA Support used	1 693 481
WWF Finland self-financing	298 850

Table 2. Expenses in 2018 by countries/regions

The amount of carry forwards from 2018 to 2019 is EUR 364 678 (EUR 309 976 MFA programme support). Spending in old partner countries was around 85 - 90 % of the budget, while new partners had lower spending (IWT hub 69 % and Greater Mekong 45 %). The reason for low spending for new partners was that they were able to start the implementation of the new programme only after the work plans had been revised to match the smaller budgets. New agreements were signed after the revised work plans had been approved. In Finland, about 50 % of the budget on the planning, monitoring and evaluation was spent. 7 000 € had been budgeted for the evaluation of PHE project in Nepal, but FPAN covered the expenses. 20 000 € was budgeted for the preparation of EU proposals, but it was not all needed in 2018, and some of the expenses of the consultant helping with EU proposal were paid in early 2019. There was also some M&E budget for ad hoc needs in Finland or in partner countries.

In addition to the Partnership programme WWF Finland pays WWF network levy fee to WWF network which was EUR 504 848 in 2018. This funding is used to support WWF Network, including 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.

The activities in the East Africa Regional Programme are basket funded by UK, Sweden and Finland, Finnish support being the biggest contributing 70% of the total programme costs in 2018. For Illegal Wildlife Trade hub this programme's contribution was 25 % of the budget in 2018.

The detailed financial report is presented in annex I.

2018	Implementation	Planning, monitoring and evaluation	Assigned experts to partner countries	Communication	Admin	Total
Budget	1 590 140	294 892	0	280 976	191 000	2 357 008
Actual costs	1 390 226	195 113	0	226 237	180 755	1 992 331

Table 3. Expenses in 2018 in the application template (7.3.1.)

Personnel costs Finland in 2018	Total
Budget	360 000
Actual expenses	314 506

Table 4. Personnel costs in Finland

ANNEXES

ANNEX I DETAILED FINANCIAL REPORT

ANNEX II ANNUAL REPORT OF WWF FINLAND FY 2018

ANNEX III AUDIT REPORT OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME 2018

ANNEX IV RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

ANNEX V PHE EVALUATION REPORT

ANNEX VI LHI EVALUATION REPORT

ANNEX VII COMMUNICATION BRIEF ON RESULTS



WWF in numbers

1961

WWF was founded in 1961

+100

WWF is in over 100 countries,
on 6 continents



+5M

WWF has over 5 million
supporters

+25M

WWF has over
25 million followers
on Facebook, Twitter
and Google+



Working to sustain the natural
world for people and wildlife

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