

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS (COP)

Fiscal year 2067 / 068
(July 2010 – June 2011)

By

Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness
(ECCA, Nepal)



Wise-use House
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About ECCA

Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) has been a leading organization in the sector of social mobilization and community development. It implements various programs so as to raise the quality of life through wise-use of available local resources and application of alternate and renewable technologies.

Mission

- ☞ ECCA will be a Model Professional Volunteer Organization (PVO) dedicated towards natural resources management,
- ☞ ECCA will organize programs so as to secure children's sound ecological future,
- ☞ ECCA will support the development of conservation related entrepreneurship.

Briefs

- ☞ ECCA was established in 1987 as a non profit, non political, non government organization,
- ☞ ECCA is registered with CDO office, Kathmandu and affiliated with Social Welfare Council,
- ☞ ECCA established an Environmental Resource Centre (ERC) in Bhaktapur in 1992,
- ☞ ECCA pioneered the concept of children nature club (in Nepal) in 1992,
- ☞ ECCA first established paper-recycling unit (named Pap Again) in 1994 with the objective of producing recycled paper from waste paper,
- ☞ ECCA Head Office was shifted to its newly constructed building in Kopundol, Lalitpur on March 14, 2004 (Chaitra 1, 2060).

Methodology

The ECCA methodology involves the following five interfaces:

- ☞ The expert-youth interface
- ☞ The youth-to-youth interface
- ☞ The youth-children interface
- ☞ The child-to-child interface
- ☞ The children - community interface



Field of Work

- ☞ Environment & Natural Resource Management
- ☞ Culture & Heritage
- ☞ Education for Sustainable Development
- ☞ Appropriate & Renewable Technology
- ☞ Poverty Alleviation
- ☞ Advocacy

Wise Use House



With the objective of operating different organizations independently for mutual benefit, it is envisaged to house several link-minded NGOs in the ECCA building – named as “Wise-use House” - and in adjacent buildings and develop a new concept in networking. This had been launched not only to make optimum and efficient use of available resources but also to bring together like minded individuals and groups of people to a common platform from where we can launch our best ideas and efforts to secure a sound ecological, prosperous and just future for Nepal and our planet.

Besides ECCA, other offices in the wise-use house complex are: Kathmandu 20/20, Nepal National Committee of IUCN, Center for Renewable Energy (CRE), Versatile Research and Training Academy (VRATA), National Conservation & Development Center (NCDC), Group for Rural Infrastructure Development – Nepal (GRID), Group of Engineers for Appropriate Technology (GREAT Nepal), Society of Mechanical Engineers Nepal (SOMEN) and Future Now Pvt. Ltd. (FN).

Environment friendly practices at the Wise-use House

☞ **Solar photovoltaic system**

☞ **Rain water harvesting**

☞ **Grey water treatment:** Grey water and Black water are separated. Grey water (i.e. water from kitchen and urinals) are passed through the constructed wetland (reed bed) to treat and collected in 500L underground tank, which is then pumped to overhead 500L tank to re-use for flushing of toilet urinals and cubicles. This practice has also saved fresh water.

☞ **Black water management:** Black water (i.e. sewage from toilets) is collected in two chambered septic tank. The overflow enters into the soak pit.

Programs

ECCA Nepal understands that economic development initiatives and facilitations are effective and sustainable only if these initiatives are aligned with business principles. ECCA Nepal believes in global compact's three bottom lines of sustainable development viz: - planet, people and profit. Since its establishment, ECCA Nepal has been working for the conservation and advancement of planet and people.

For the diversity and sustainability of projects and programs, ECCA has conceived the concept of unit and activities are run accordingly. Under the approach three units namely Environmental Resource Centre, Program and Enterprise Initiatives are in existence currently.

Environmental Resource Centre (ERC)

Situated just 17 km from Kathmandu city at the south-eastern corner of the Kathmandu Valley, ERC is an ideal venue for conducting quiet, productive and creative programs away from the hubbub of the city life. Spreading over an area of 3,200 square meters, ERC comprises a training hall, dormitory, dining hall, store and guardhouse. Conservation effort carried out since the purchase of the land in 1992 has resulted in the wide range of vegetation despite of all construction work. The ERC functions as a site for training, research & learning, and experiencing nature.

Program Units

The program unit mainly deals with the development of new programs and projects according to the need of local target area and beneficiaries. Different donor organizations are approached for the funding of the project and programs. Development of new proposal, its smooth execution and follow up activities are the tasks done by the units.

Enterprise Initiatives (EI)

Enterprise Initiatives (EI) is an endeavor of ECCA Nepal (initiated from January 2008) walking-the-talk towards ‘think-like-business’ and adopt business principles in development activities. EI unit has formulated a new professional team to carry out EI activities effectively. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is another approach for EI to explore private sector world for partnership. The CSR approach focuses on the triple bottom line approach which is economic, environment and society.

SRBDN Forums

Socially Responsible Business Development Network (www.srbdn.org) was formed in October 2004 to create awareness on Corporate Social Responsibility in Nepal through discussion focus on different responsible issues. The main objective of SRBDN is to create awareness on responsible business/CSR to businesses in Nepal. ECCA, through EI unit, has been backstopping the SRBDN secretariat and its activities since January 2008. With the theme “Understanding Responsible Business”, 25th and 26th forums were held at Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hospitality Management (January 2011) and the White House School of Hotel Management (March 2011) respectively. Every Wednesday, postings focussing on CSR activities at local, national and international level are also being sent to SRBDN subscribers@yahooogroups.

SAFORB CSO Meet South Asia

With participation of delegates from citizen-sector organizations (CSO’s) from SAARC countries, representatives from Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and the corporate and citizen sectors, SAForB CSO-Meet was organized on 7th of October 2010 at Kathmandu Nepal.



Interaction between South Asian UNGCLN Members

The United Nations Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. ECCA is a Local Member of Global Compact Nepal and is actively participating in the meetings and programs conducted by UNGCLN Nepal. ECCA has been re-nominated as an executive committee member of GCLN Nepal in March 2011.



Workshop on Certification process in Brick Kilns

The EI team along with CoC development expert and Social Responsiveness Program implementers facilitated two days workshop program on November 10th & 11th for Terre Des Hommes Foundation (Tdh) and Chimeki Sanstha for the development of Code of Conduct on Social Responsibility for Brick Industries of Kathmandu and Bhaktapur districts.



NASPIR Workshop

ECCA facilitated the strategy formation workshop of NASPIR (National Association of Service Provider in Physical Rehabilitation) on February 14-16, 2011 at Nagarkot, Bhaktapur. The expected outcomes of the workshop were to enhance the understanding of NASPIR strategy, increasing ownership of members, contribution of the members for finalisation of NASPIR strategy and shaping up NASPIR’s way forward.

Others

Testing Business Models for Selling Chlorine Solution

In partnership with Antenna Technologies, Switzerland, ECCA is pilot testing various business models for selling chlorine solution “WATASol”, produced by partners operating 20 Mini WATA and 5 Standard WATA. ECCA facilitated effective and sustainable linkage between supply and demand by building capacity of stakeholders at both ends.

Meeting with SAARC Secretariat

An exploratory meeting between SAForB and SAARC Secretariat was held on 5th October 2010 on the Secretariat premises located at Kathmandu, Nepal. The main objective of the meet was to familiarize SAARC Secretariat about the work area & scope of SAForB and explore for common working modalities in CSR where both organizations' objectives could be well-matched. *In picture From left Mr. Neeraj Nepali(Director SAForB, Ambreen Waheed (Chair SAForB), Mr Amrit Lugun (Economic Director, SAARc and Drm Faiz Shah (SC-Member SAForB, Pakistan)*



Visit of NASA Administrator

NASA Administrator Mr. Charles F. Bolden, Jr., visited ECCA supported Yasodhara Baudha Secondary School (October 5, 2010). During the visit, Mr. Bolden presented books and interacted with students and teachers. He shared his experiences as an astronaut with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) USA.



Children School Rights and Environment Conservation Follow up Program

This program was launched from February 2006 to December 2010, with the support of Taksvarkki ry, Finland to provide school environment that is child and student friendly and welcoming for a child. School environment not only includes quality curriculum and trained teachers but also clean toilets, safe drinking water, greenery by proper management of open space, and privacy (especially for a girl child). Classroom management and relationship among children, teachers and community also plays an important role in improving the school environment. The project contributes towards UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (DESD), in achieving the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and in "Education for ALL"** campaign of Government of Nepal.

Conservation Education in Southern Lalitpur

Since 1994, with the support from Wilkins Memorial Trust (WMT) UK, ECCA has been working with school children and the nature clubs of 10 VDC's in Southern Lalitpur to make aware / educate the local communities on environmental issues as well as child rights. This year as well, the program was divided into two categories. The first category was the regular program designed by the local counselors and conducted by ECCA whereas the second category was the award winner projects developed by the nature club members during the nature club interaction program.

Placements of DPRK Officials in ECCA

In partnership with United Nation Environment Program (UNEP), three officials of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) were placed in the ECCA office Kathmandu, Nepal from April 9 – May 29, 2011.

Haat Bazaar

ECCA has initiated the concept of Fun fest Haat Bazaar which consists of Documentary Show, Food Stalls, Fun Games and Flea Market (where inexpensive or secondhand goods are sold or bartered; the basic concept being re-use of goods which may be useless for one but useful for others).

T.V Programs

In partnership with Prayas Munch, informative jingles in five different themes were telecasted in children's program "School School Ma" Nepal Television (NTV) every Friday (repeated every Sunday). Safe drinking water and WATASOL related program was telecasted in Nepal Television (NTV) on June 26, 2011

Campaigns

Light-For-All

Objective

- To displace kerosene lamps by solar based household lighting (known as Solar Tuki) through the integrated approach of community mobilization and technological intervention.

Support a child

Objective

- To reduce school drop out rate
- To enhance the school enrollment and education standard for children through care, support and developing capacity of children
- To support Government's "Education for All" campaign and achieve MDGs

Plant a Tree

Objective

- To mitigate CO₂ emission
- To increase the aesthetic value of the locality utilizing available open spaces
- To bring concept of green accounting on youth, children and community
- To make polluters responsible for local and global environment

Safe Drinking Water

Objective

- To provide the communities with safe drinking water and improved sanitation of the surrounding
- To promote the safe supply of drinking water in schools to prevent children from water borne diseases, increase their school attendance and enrollment

Partnerships

Shanti Griha

In partnership with Shanti Griha (an NGO), Safe-drinking-water program was launched in their project area in Chitwan. Accordingly, training on the use of chlorinator was conducted in Bhandara, Chitwan on July 19, 2010 and 10 WATA devices (along with the promotion materials posters, flex, flyers, flip charts, etc.) were provided to 10 different communities. Chlorine solution is now locally produced and distributed in the community.

Rotary Club of Patan

In partnership with Rotary Club of Patan, water, sanitation and hygiene program was launched in 9 schools of Lalitpur. The program aimed to bring the participation of all the school stakeholders to build clean and healthy school environment so as to benefit school students.

Humla Development Initiatives

In partnership with Humla Development Initiative (HDI), separate training program for teachers and students (5-days each) was organized in Humla in April - May 2011. The objectives were to develop local manpower, to increase the awareness on environment conservation and to sensitize the local people in various health and sanitation issues.

Climate Change Information Center

In partnership with Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LIBIRD), the information center located in ECCA Head Office was strengthened by adding publication, audio visual, newsletters, journal etc. related with climate change. The information center is open to all (school and college students, researchers, youth volunteers and others who work in development projects). Besides, every Thursday talk program and documentary show is held to disseminate knowledge on climate change.

Professional volunteerism program

ECCA has initiated life skill and physical education training classes in 5 government schools in Lalitpur City in partnership with Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City Office and Dr. Tanya Ferneries, Assistance Professor of Ottawa University Canada. Research proposal on life skill has also been approved by Nepal Health Research Council. This program was continued with the involvement of Canadian Volunteers to develop life skills among students, ECCA Counselors and teachers

Membership

- ☞ UNEP South Asian Youth Environment Network (SAYEN) – Country focal point
- ☞ Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) – Country coordinator and Member secretary of the National Steering Committee
- ☞ IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Switzerland – NGO member since 1991
- ☞ Nepal National Committee of IUCN – General Secretary
- ☞ NGO Federation – Founding member
- ☞ Nepal Permaculture Group (NPG) – Founding Member
- ☞ Improved Cook Stove (ICS) Network – Member
- ☞ Consortium of organizations working for the child club – Member
- ☞ Coalition for Clean Nepal (CCE) - Member
- ☞ World Toilet Organization – Member
- ☞ Climate Change Network – Member
- ☞ "Wise-use House" Network - 8 organizations working under one single roof
- ☞ Socially Responsible Business Development Network (SRBDN) – Member
- ☞ South Asian Forum on Responsible Business (SAFoRB) - Member
- ☞ Federation of Nepalese Chamber, Commerce & Industries (FNCCI) CSR Forum – Member
- ☞ National UN Global Compact Committee, Nepal – Member
- ☞ Danish Development Research Network – Member
- ☞ UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) - Consultative status
- ☞ Brick Clean Network – Member

CSR TALK ■

CSR awareness low in Nepal

Understanding among businesses about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) concepts and best practices is quite low in Nepal and it demands a strategy for building awareness among companies, reveals a study conducted by South Asia Forum on Responsible Business's (SAFoRB) partners in Nepal, Environment Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) and South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE).

Delegates from citizen-sector organisations from SAARC countries, representatives from FNCCI and participants from the corporate and citizen sectors gathered on 7 October for the 'SAFoRB Corporate Social Responsibility Roundtable'. The CSR Roundtable unveiled the recently concluded study on 'The State of Corporate

Responsibility in Nepal', which is part of a regional CSR review being undertaken by SAFoRB. Presenting a synopsis of the study, conducted by SAFoRB's partners in Nepal, ECCA and SAWTEE, Mochan Bhattarai of ECCA revealed that understanding amongst the businesses about CSR concepts and best practices is quite low, and the situation demands a strategy for building awareness among companies.

He expressed the hope that SAFoRB will work with ECCA and SAWTEE to develop and deliver CSR awareness programmes suited to Nepal's context.

SAFoRB is a SAARC-wide membership organisation of citizen sector organisations working to enable civil society to engage with business coherently and effectively. Launched in November 2007, it has its secretariat in Dhaka and 15 national members across the region.

Workshop on water purification

KATHMANDU: A one-day workshop displaying the measures of purifying drinking water at school highlighted the role of chlorine in water purification.

Amidst the presence of founders and principals of different private schools of Kathmandu, the workshop on June 30 at Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) Nepal, Kupondole showcased chlorine as one of the easiest ways to purify drinking water.

The participants were given demonstration on how to prepare liquid chlorine at school that could be used for purification of water. "If this technology is adopted by all schools, there wouldn't be much problem from checking students from suffering from water borne diseases," Yogendra Chitrakar, director of ECCA Nepal said focusing on the use of chlorine for water purification. "Because chlorine liquid is easy to prepare and use, this tech-

nology can be learnt and put into practice very easily by students and teachers for water purification," he informed.

ECCA Nepal and Prayash Manch have implemented the programme in community schools of the Valley.

Liladhoj Bhattacharya from Prayash Manch shared, "Our target is to make all the schools free from water borne diseases helping them to make good provision of clean drinking water and sanitation." —HNS

Highlights from the Audit Report 2010/11

S. No.	Particular	Amount (NRs.)
1	Assets	7,208,613.57
2	Contribution from Funding Agencies	14,636,043.63
3	Contribution from Local Organization	305,905.52
4	Contribution from Other Program	1,191,669.63
5	Contribution from Local Level	4,539,644.00
6	Contribution in Trust Fund	1,328,929.73
7	Membership Fee	9,802.50
8	Bank Interest	580,054.95
9	Closing Stock	1,653,788.70
10	Program Expenses	11,661,573.18
11	Office Expenses	4,934,465.56
12	IUCN Membership Fee	31,201.90