



Integrating Biodiversity into Sectoral and Cross Sectoral Plans, Programmes and Policies in Nepal

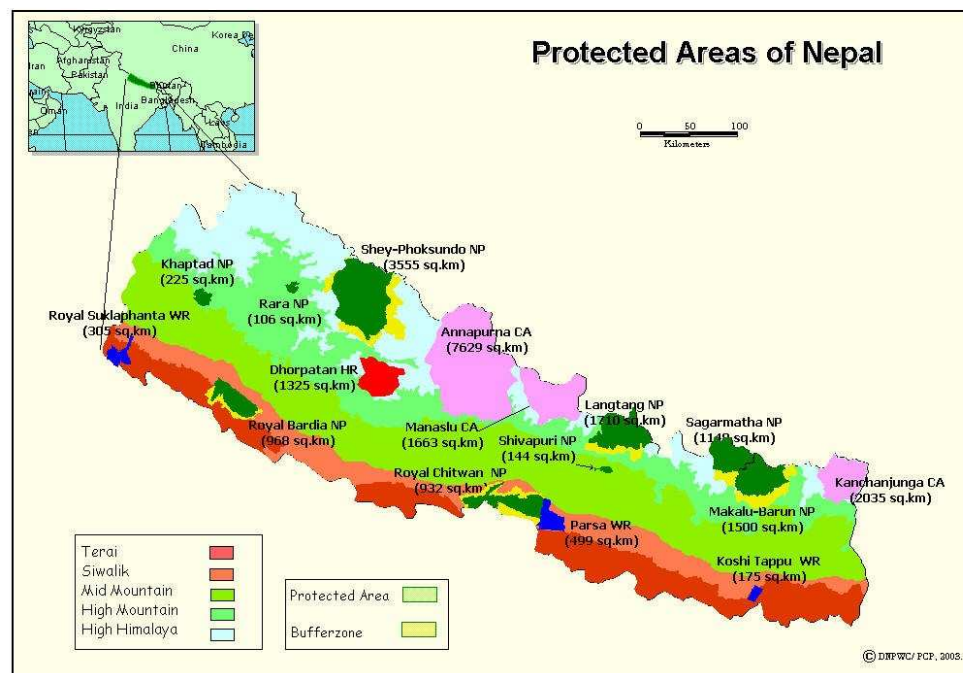
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**Ministry of Forests and Soil
Conservation**

1. INTRODUCTION

- Nepal – Country of cultural, ecological and biological diversity

- Population: 25.8 million

- Area: 14.7m ha,
forests (39.6%),
farmland 21 %,
grassland 12%,
uncultivated 7%,



- Bioclimatic zones: 11 (tropical to nival)

- Ecosystems 118, Vegetation types 75, Forest types 18

National Parks – 9, WL Reserves -3, CAs – 3, HR – 1, WHS – 4,
BZ in 11 PAs,

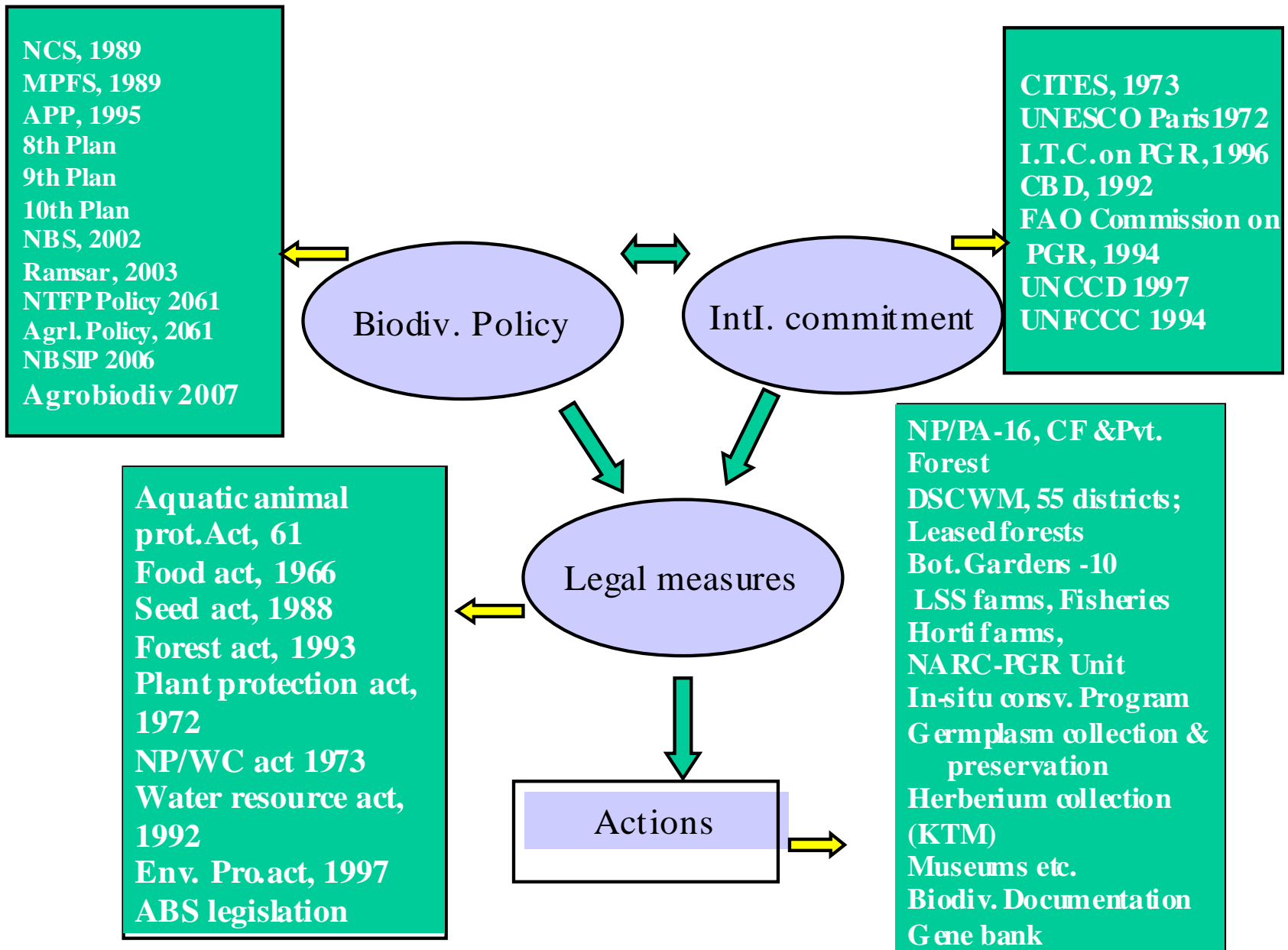
2. Initiatives in biodiversity conservation

-	Farming communities the greatest conservationists
1973	Establishment of Protected Areas
1977	Community based forestry practices
1970s	Establishment of Agri./Horticultural farms (19 stations)
1975	Entry into CITES (16 Sep)
1989.	National Conservation Strategy
1992-1997	8th five year plan

Initiatives.....

1993	Ratification of CBD (entry into force, 21 Feb. 1994)
1994	Entry into UNFCCC (31 july)
1994	FAO Commission on PGRF
1997	Entry into UNCCD (13 Jan)
2002	Documentation and drafting of ABS bill
2003	Ramsar, NTFP Policy
2003	Wild life farming Policy, Agriculture Policy (2005),
2006	NBSIP
2007	Agrobiodiversity Policy, IT ratification, Gene Bank

3. Biodiversity Policy, Plans and Legislations



3. Policies, plans and legislations..

3.1 NBS 2002:

Process : participatory, multi-stakeholder

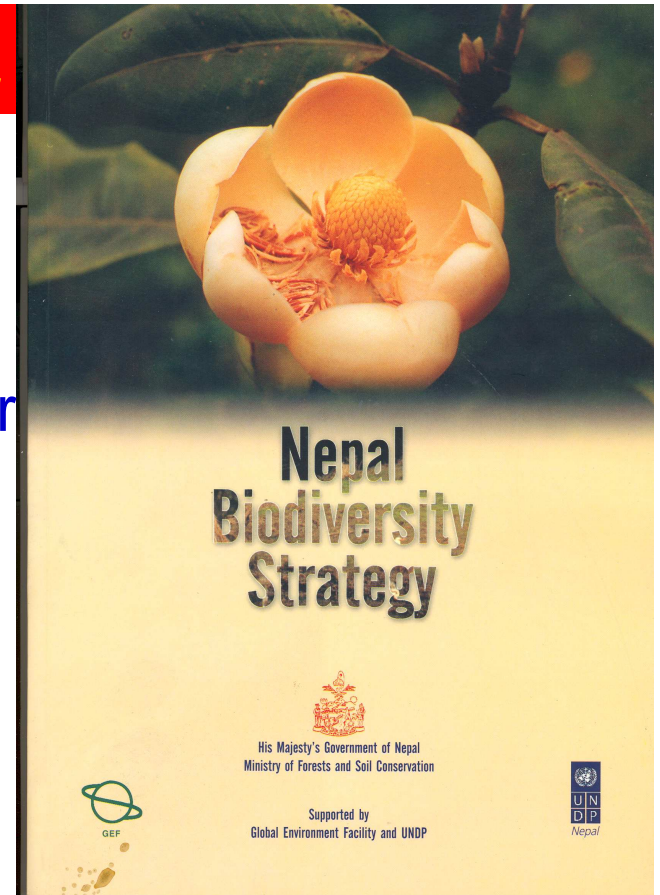
Duration: 2000 – 2002

Funding: UNDP/GEF

Goal:

To provide a strategic planning framework for:

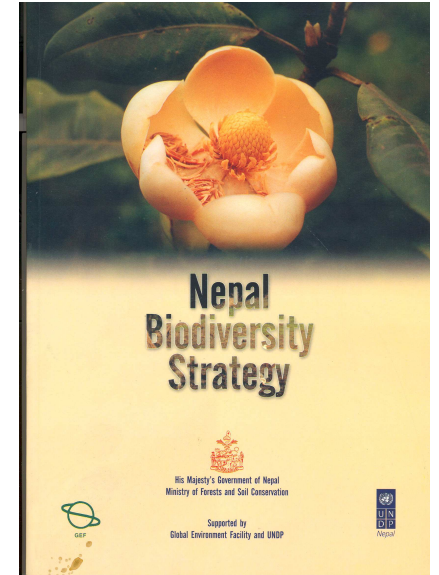
- Conservation of biological diversity
- Maintenance of ecological processes/system
- Equitable sharing of the benefits accrued



3.1 NBS 2002....

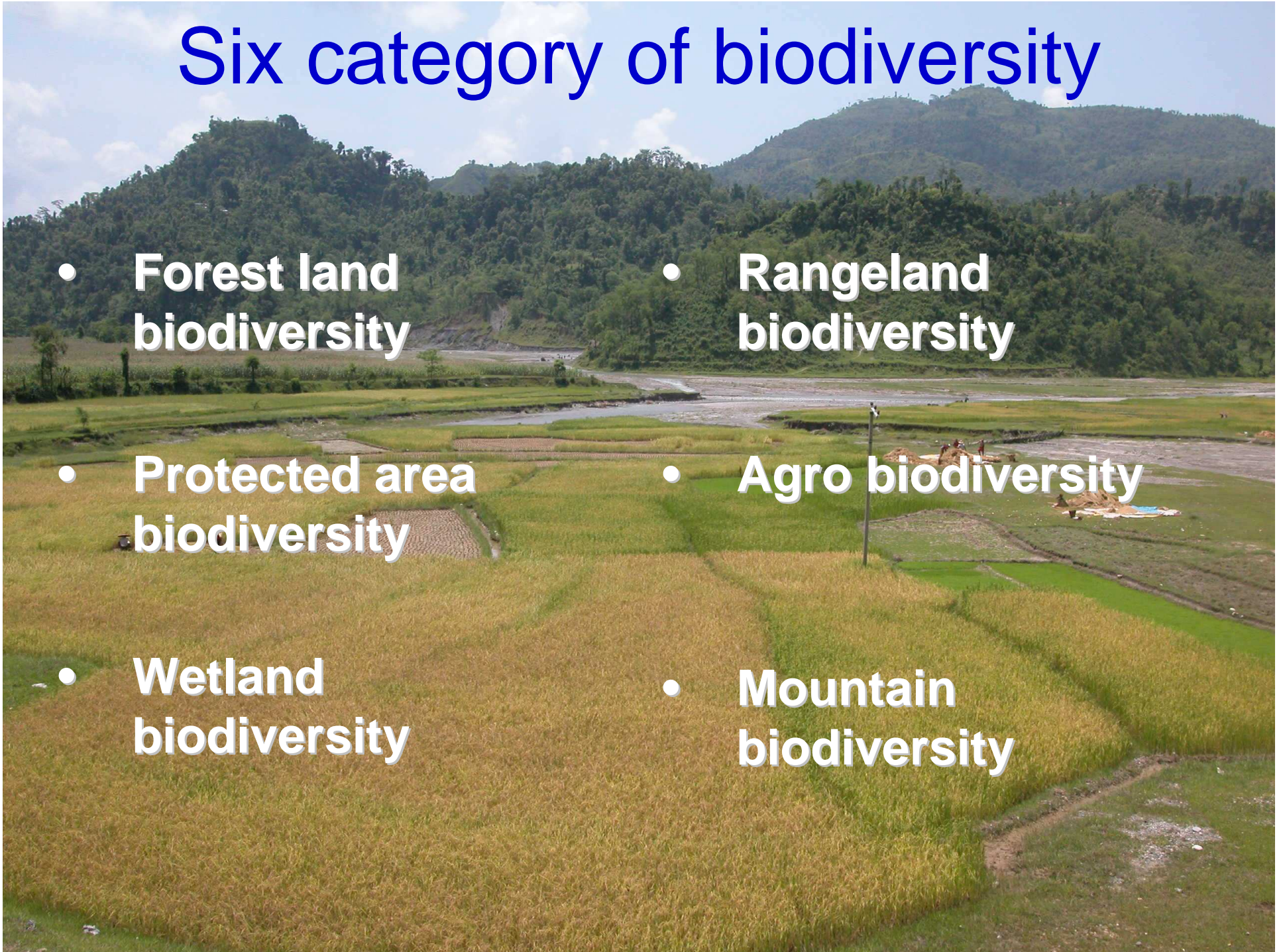
Key Principles:

- **Reduce biodiversity loss**
- **Poverty reduction**
- **Respect innovations, practices and TK of Ind. & local communities**
- **Documentation and monitoring of Biodiversity**
- **Capacity building HRD and institutional**
- **Empowerment of women at all level**



Six category of biodiversity

- **Forest land biodiversity**
- **Protected area biodiversity**
- **Wetland biodiversity**
- **Rangeland biodiversity**
- **Agro biodiversity**
- **Mountain biodiversity**



17 Cross sectoral strategies:

- Landscape planning approach
- Integrating local participation
- Institutional strengthening
- In-situ and Ex-situ conservation
- Strengthening NBU
- Support for BD R&Conservation
- Endorsing TK and innovations
- Cross-sectoral coordination
- Enhancing national capacity
- Securing IPR and Farmers Rights
- Bio-prospecting
- EIA
- Developing Eco-tourism
- Women Participation
- Increasing awareness
- Biodiversity registration

NBS 2002...

27 Sectoral strategies:

Protected areas: (8)

Forests: (9)

Agro-biodiversity: (3)

Rangeland: (4)

Wetland: (1)

Mountain biodiversity: (2)

NBS, 2002

Wetland Policy
2003

Wildlife Farming...
2003

NBSIP, 2006

Agro-biodiv.
Policy 2007

NBF, 2007

Landscape level
strategies

Species Action
Plans

Legislations
(ABS, Farmers
Rights)

3.1.1 NBS Implementation Plan, 2006

Process : 2000 – 2006, 5 meetings, splited form NBS, Different Ministries, Departs, I/NGOs, CBOs involved,

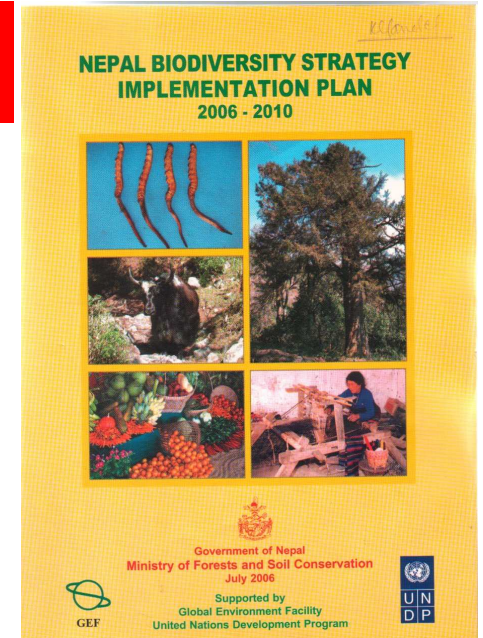
Purpose:

➤ Mainstreaming biodiversity

through various institutions (GOs/NGOs)

➤ Ensure participation of all stakeholders in the implementation process;

➤ Link biodiversity related ongoing and new projects



3.1.1 NBSIP.....

List of Priority Projects (13)

Title of Projects	Status
Forests BD Conservation through Community Participation (outside PAs)	New
Rhododendron Conservation Program in TMJ, Eastern Nepal	New, linked to CS2
Phulchoki-Chandragiri BD Conservation Program	New, linked to CS2
Species Conservation and Habitat Management (within PAs)	Ongoing and new
Poverty Reduction through BD Conservation	Ongoing and part new
Establishment of Kanchenjunga Tri-national Peace Park	New

3.1.1 NBSIP.....

List of.....

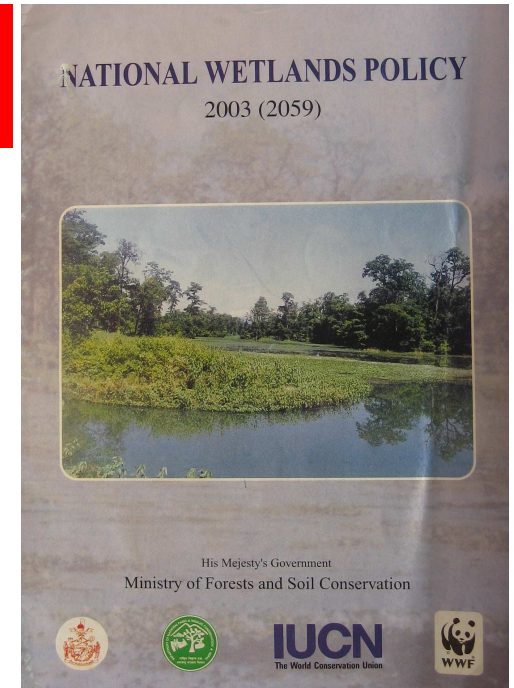
Title	Status
Community Agro-BD Conservation,	New
Management of Pollinators for agriculture	
Integrated Rangeland Management	New
Integrated Wetland Management	New
National Mountain Policy and Research Network	New
Institutionalization of BD Conservation in Nepal	New & part ongoing
Landscape Level BD Conservation	Ongoing & part new

3.2 AGRO- BIODIVERSITY POLICY (2007)

- **Process: 2004 -2007**
- **Lead Agency: MoAC**
- **Linkage with NBCC: through Thematic Sub Committee**
- **Objectives:**
 - **Improve food and nutrition security**
 - **Protection of farmers rights**
 - **Develop benefit sharing mechanism**
 - **Contribution to environmental balance**

3.3 Nepal Wetland Policy 2003

- **Goal:** Conservation and wise use of wetland resources
- **Objectives:**
 - Identification of wetlands – 8 listed in Ramsar
 - Management of wetlands – plans & participation
 - Documentation and use of wetland related TK
- **Policy:**
 - National wetland inventory
 - Conservation of endangered spp.,
 - Awareness raising and capacity building
 - Ensure participation and rights of local and indigenous communities
 - Prepare action plans/projects as per local needs
 - Prevention, control and management of Invasive Alien Species
 - Monitoring of wetland diversity



3.4 Wildlife farming, breeding and research Policy, 2003

List of wildlife allowed for farming, breeding and research:

Crocodile,

Barking deer,

Rhesus monkey,

Wild boar,

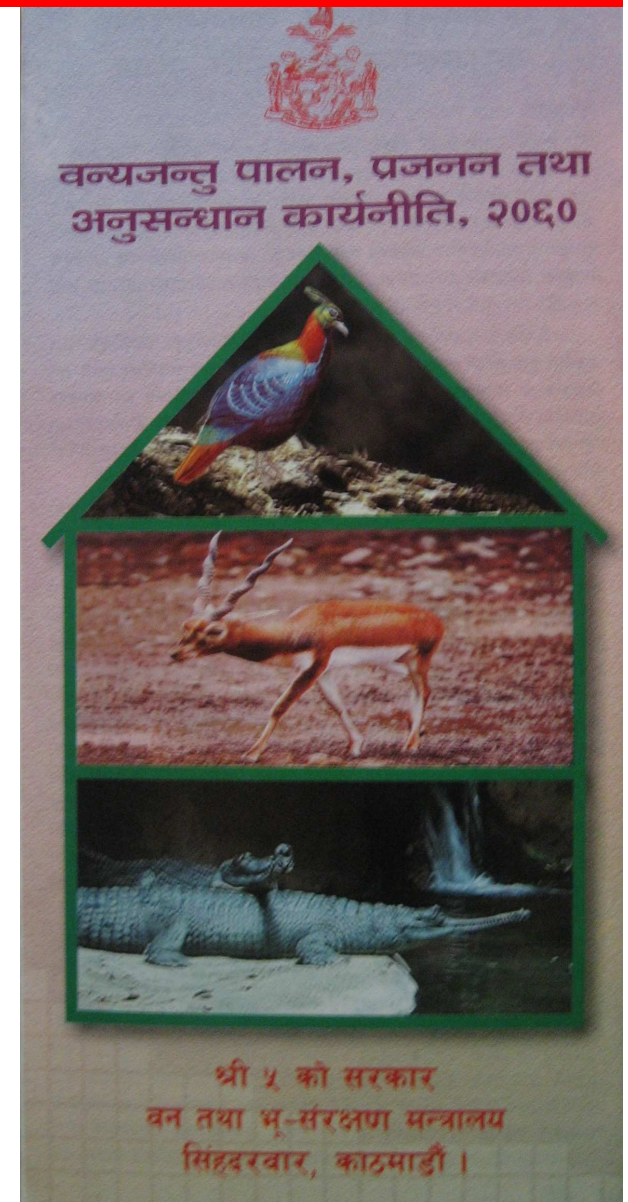
All kind of birds

Black buck

Spotted deer

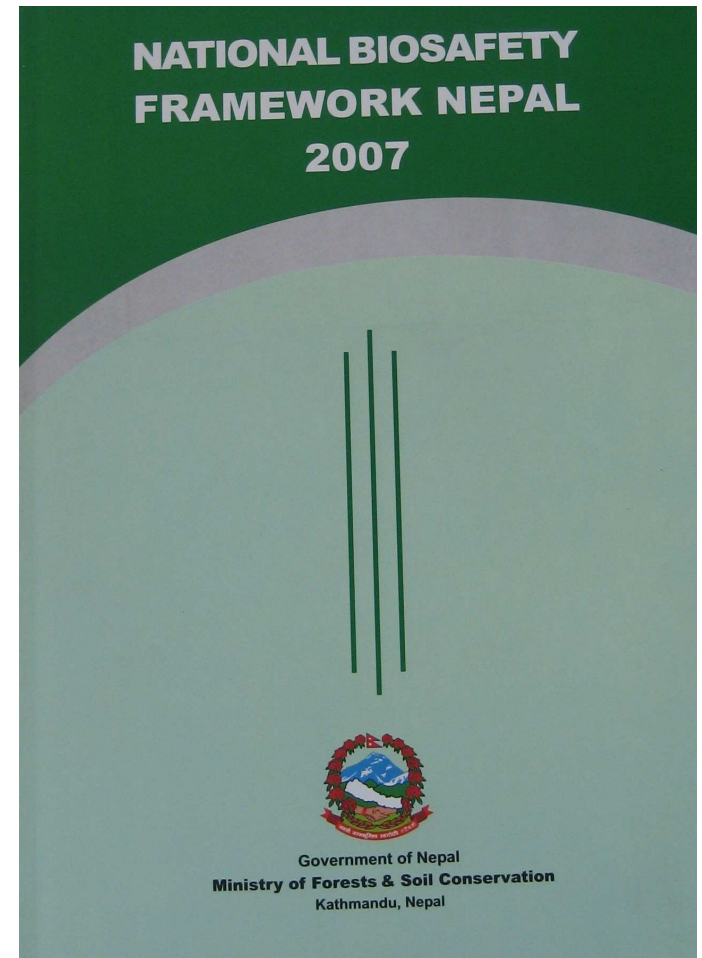
Pheasant,

Snakes



3.5 National Biosafety Framework, 2007

- **Process: Supported by UNEP/GEF**
- **National multistakeholder Coordination committee formed in 2004**
- **Regional consultations**
- **Approval from the government, 2007**
- **Legal aspect yet to be approved**



3.6 Legislative initiatives

Over 24 Acts/regulations touch upon Biodiversity

- Forest Act, 1993
- National Parks and wildlife conservation Act (2029 BS) and Regulation (2030 BS)
- Environment Protect Act (1995) and Regulation (1996)
- ABS draft bill

3.6 Access and Benefit Sharing (draft bill)

Major highlights:

- In the spirit of the Bonn guide
- Encourage bio-prospecting &
Discourage bio-piracy
- The Govt. of Nepal have sovereign rights
over bio-resources (Article 3)



4. Integration of Biodiversity in National Plans

Fundamental Right to clean environment -
Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007

- Forestry Sector Master Plan, 1988 (revising)
- Agriculture Perspective Plan, 1995, 2005
- Periodic Plan - ensure BD mainstreaming
- Strategies and Action Plans

4. Integration of Biodiversity in programs, projects and activities

4.1 Community based forests management programs (CFUG, CDGs, LHF, BZs)

4.2 Management of Protected Areas

4.3 Landscape level conservations

4.4 Species conservation programmes

4.5 Managing agro- biodiversity – In-situ

4. Biodiversity programs, projects and activities...

4.6 Documentation of biological resources and associated TK

4.7 Celebration of International Biodiversity day

4.8 Biodiversity Fare

4.9 Gene bank (Crops, Horti, Livestocks, Fish)

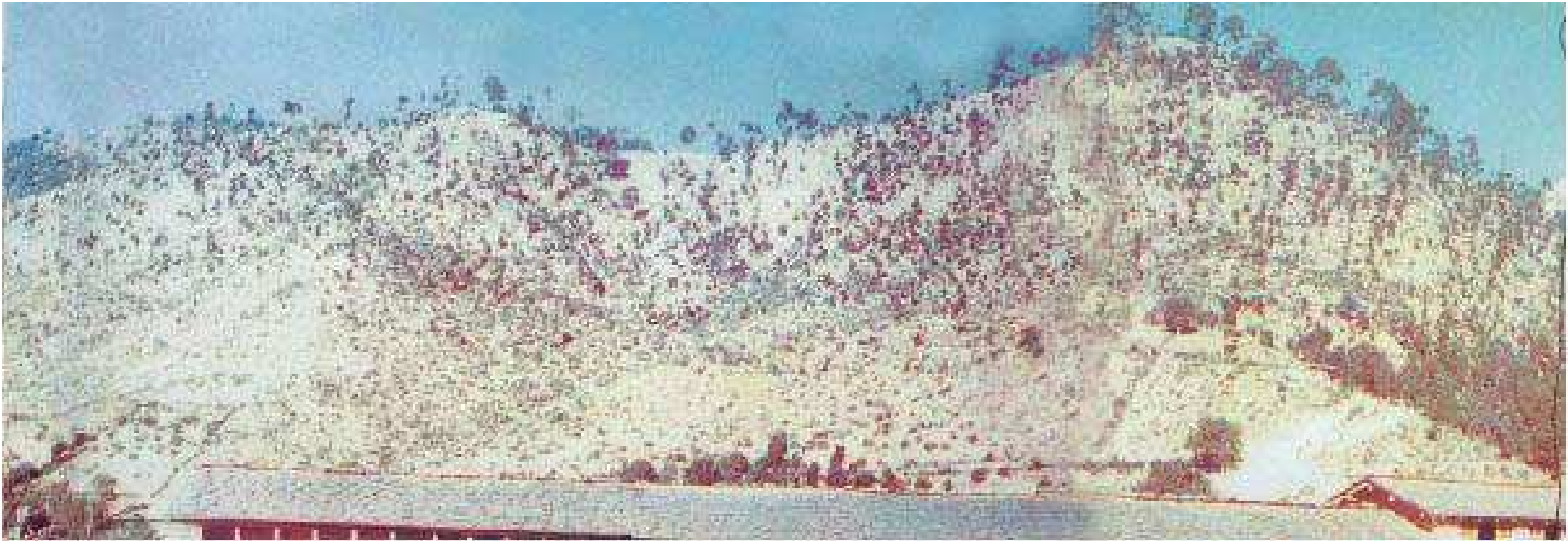
4.10 Wetland project etc.

4.1 Community Forestry

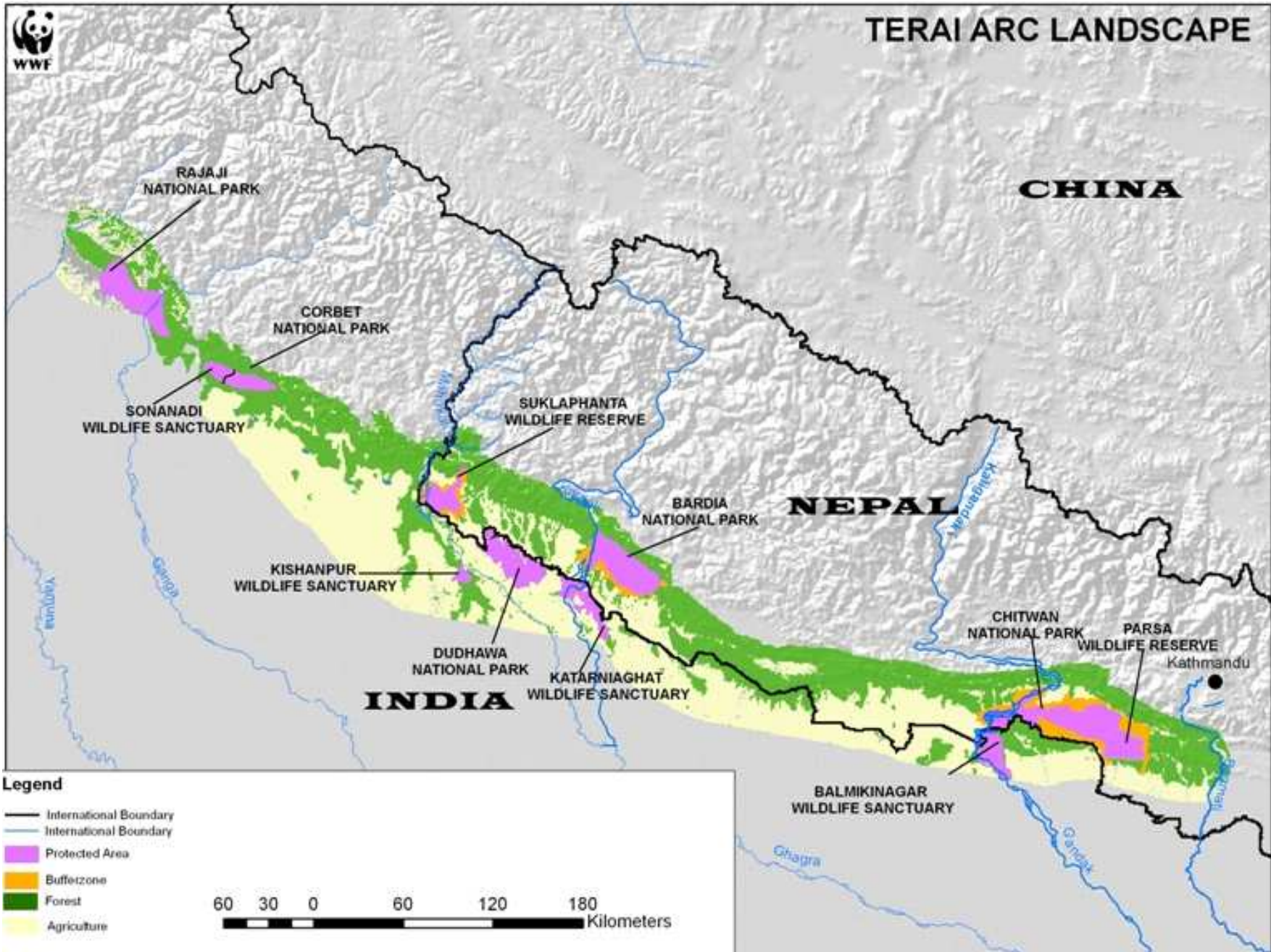
- **Total # of CFUGs = 14,337 (31 % of population)**
- **Total area handed over = 1.22 mill. ha.**
(20.5 % of the National Forest area)
- **Total area managed by women only group = 22,880ha**



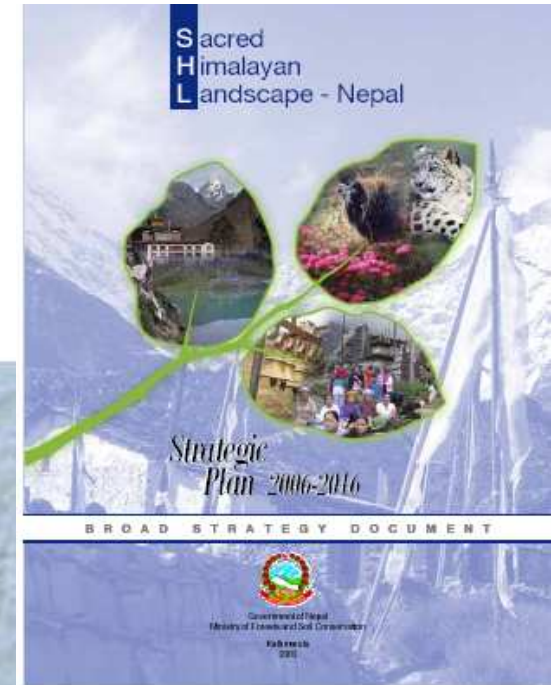
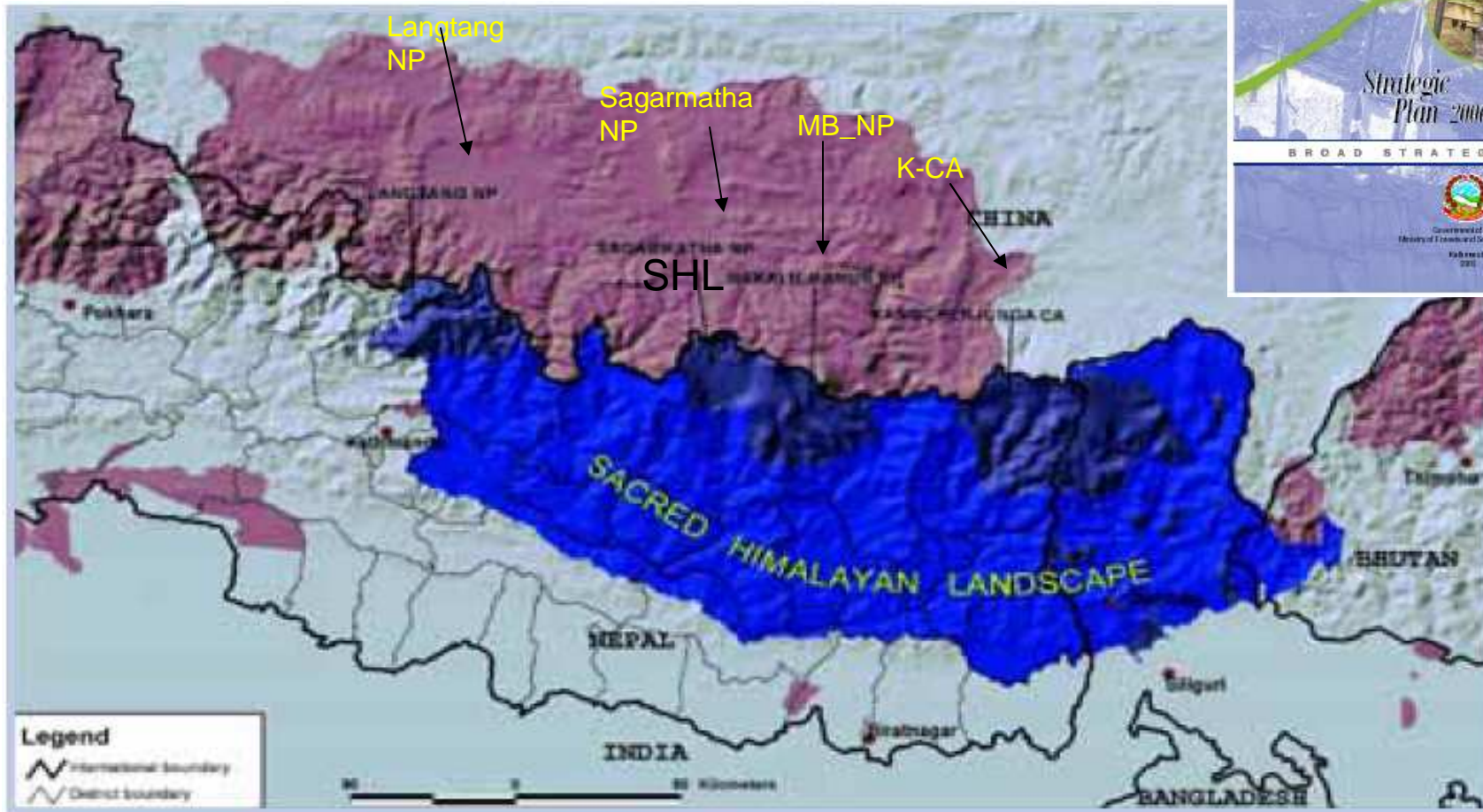
Community forests before 27 years and now



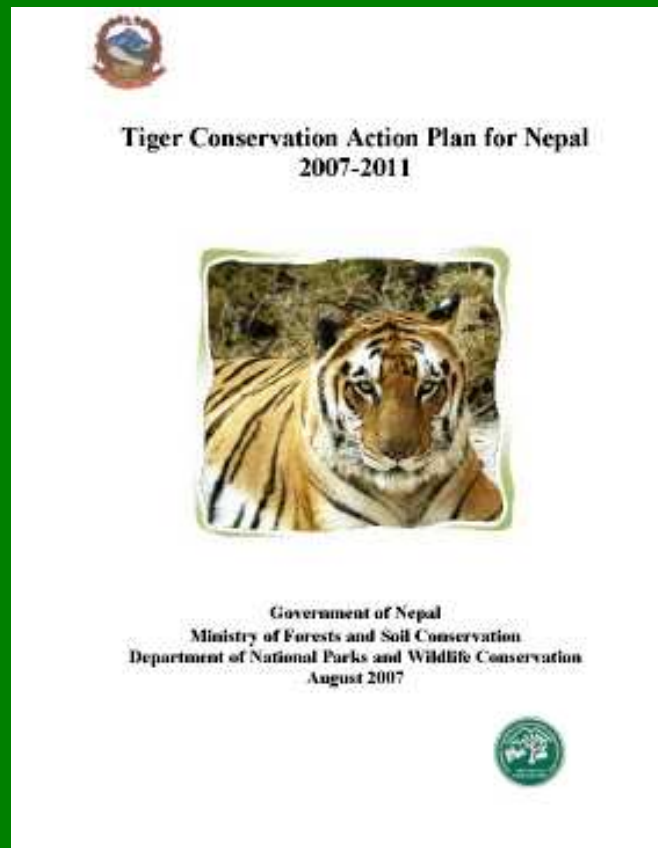
4.2 Conservation at landscape level - 1



4.2 Conservation at landscape level -2



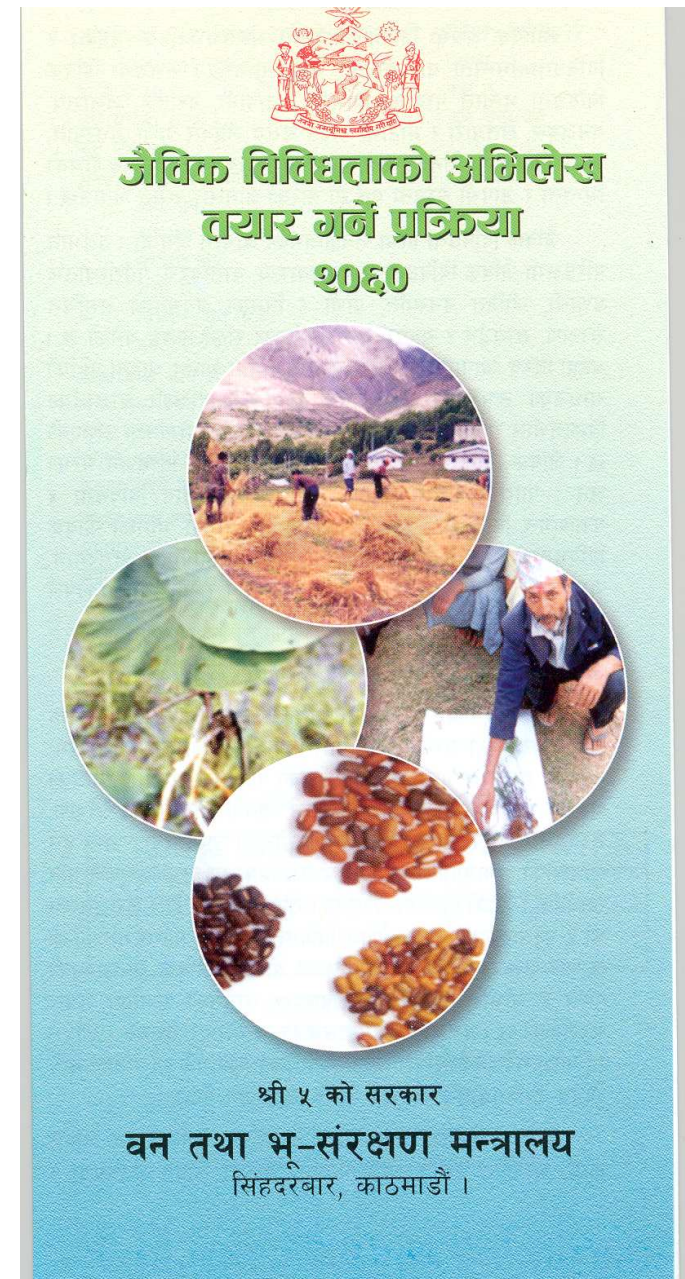
4.3 Implementation of species action plans:



4.4 Documentation of Bio-res and associated TK

Preparation of CBR / PBR

- About the biological resources
- Utilization
- Socio-economic value
- Traditional knowledge

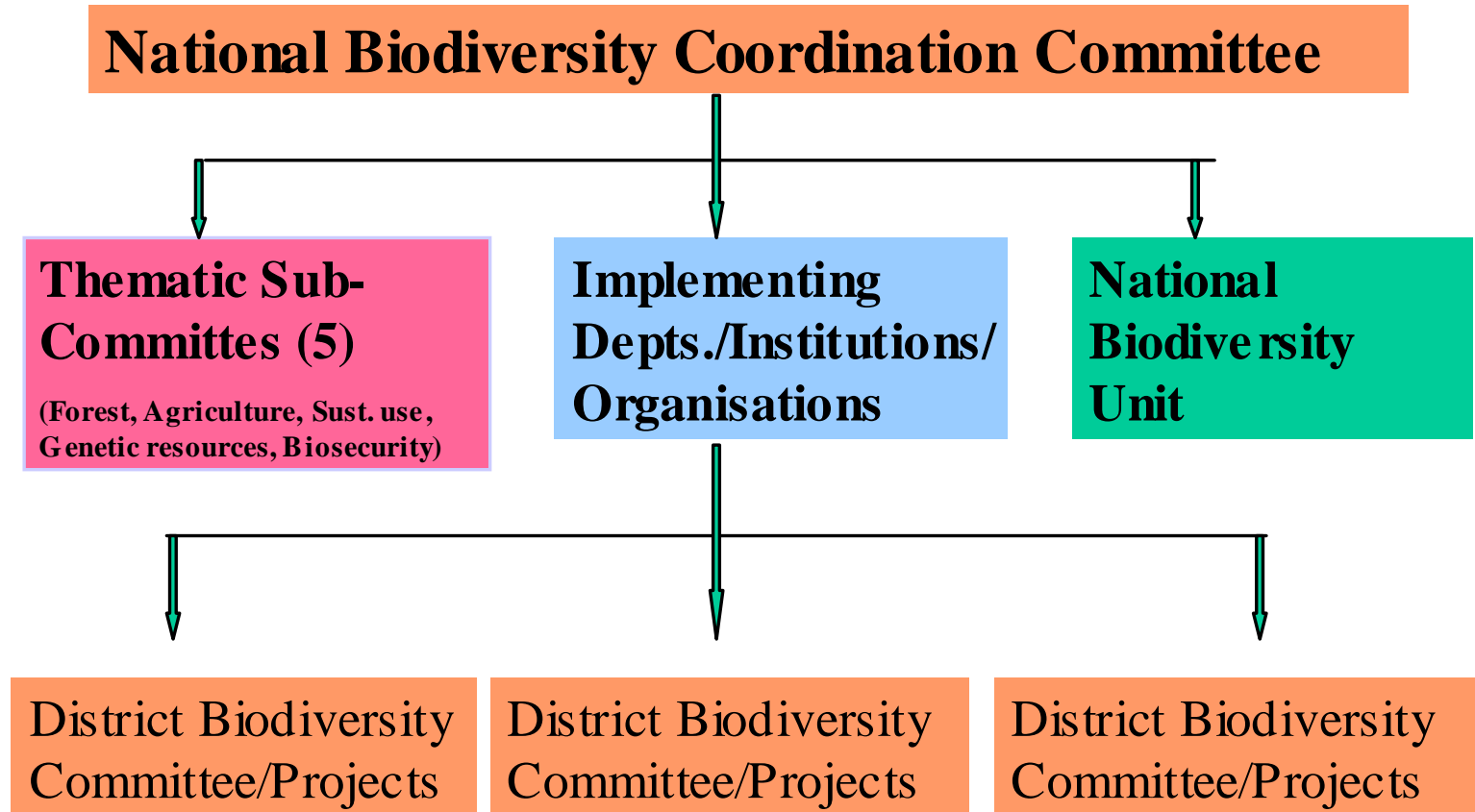


5. Mechanisms established for mainstreaming BD

5.1. Institutional mechanism:

- **National Biodiversity Coordination Committee**
- **Thematic sub committees**
- **District and Local Biodiversity Committees**
- **FSCC and DFCC for Forestry Sector**
- **Local level institutions:**
 - CFUGs, CDGs, BZ council, Farmers groups

5.1 Institutional mechanism...



Source: NBS, 2002

5.1 NBCC Thematic sub-committees*

Thematic sub-committee	Chair person
Forest Biodiversity including PAs Ecosystems	Chief. Env. Div MFSC
Agricultural Biodiversity	Secretary MoAC
Sustainable Use of Biological Resources	Head of Bot. Dept, TU
Genetic Resources	DG., DNPWC
Biosecurity	Secretary , MoST

*(as per the decision made by the first NBCC meeting held on 15/4/2061)

*

5.1 Involvement of local government bodies

District Biodiversity Committee (13 memb.)

DDC Chairman

DFO

Agriculture (max.3)

Forestry (max. 3)

Aayurvedic (1)

VDC Reps (Max. 2)

Municipality Reps

Chairperson

Member Secretary

Members

Members

Member

Members

Members

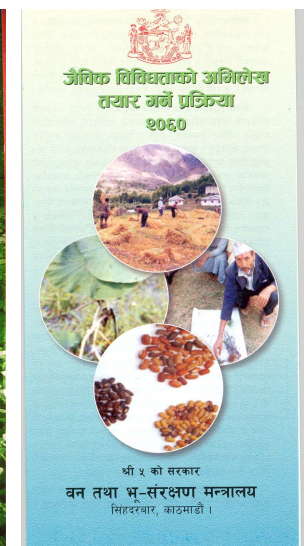
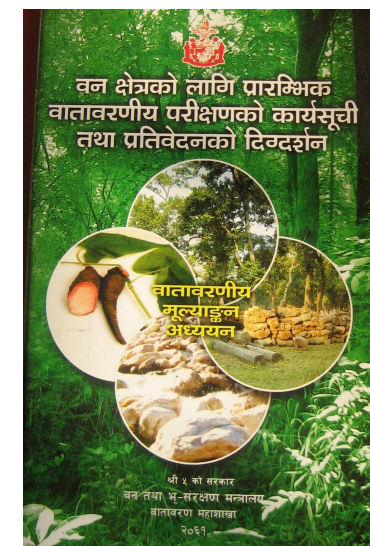
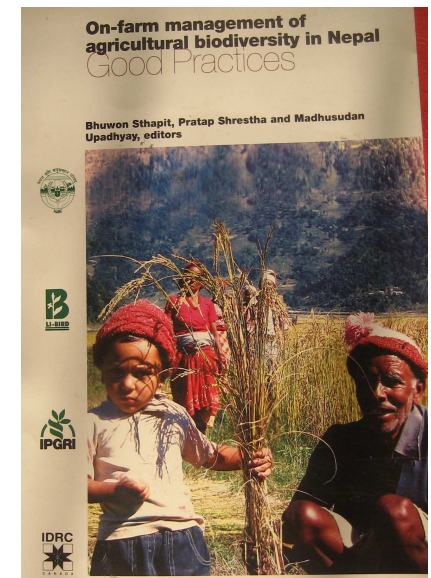


5.2. Awareness and education mechanisms

- **Conservation education by various agencies (20)**
- **University education in agriculture and forestry**
- **Rural radio programme, mass communication**
- **Diversity fare, food fare, demonstration blocks**
- **Trainings/Workshops/Seminars**
- **Environmental assessment / public hearing**
- **Community seed banks, museums etc.**

6. Tools developed for mainstreaming biodiversity

- Guidelines for documentation of biodiversity and TK
- Guidelines for biosafety measures
- Promotional materials
- Community forestry guidelines
- EIA /IEE guidelines
- Species conservation action plans
- Good practices on agro-biodiversity



7. Integration of Biodiversity for Social and Economic Development at various level

- Collection / cultivation and value added processing of NTFPs
(e.g. *Hand made paper, Yarchagumba, Morchella etc.*)
- Processing and marketing of agricultural diversity
(*Rato Anadi rice (price gone up to 4 times higher) Gundruk,*
- Processing and marketing of *Lapsi and Bel* for new products
- Product diversification from Finger millet, Buck wheat
- Use of local resources for livelihood improvements
(*e.g. fishing, collection and marketing of fruits, nuts, fiber etc.*)
- Eco-tourism in the Protected Areas
- Agro-tourism in mountain villages
- PPB in Rice, wheat, maize

8. LESSONS LEARNED

- **Involvement of local people, CBOs, NGOs key to NBSAP preparation and implementation**
- **Multistakeholder partnership realized**
- **Coordination is complex but important**
- **NBSAP has been a tool for mainstreaming biodiversity in a more coordinated way**

9. Challenges in implementation of NBSAP

- Conflicts and political instability
- Conversion of forest land, weak enforcement
- Lack of adequate resources
- Inter institutional coordination and commitment
- Lack of economic incentives to local communities
- Lack of Biodiversity Act and ABS legislation

10. Future priorities

- Preparation of CBRs
- Approval of ABS and CITES bills.
- Replication of success stories /good practices for economic incentives
- Capacity building at all level incl. R & D capacity
- Increase resources

THANK YOU