



**PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE
CONVENTION**

SECTION I

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party

State Party: [NEPAL \(Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation — DNPWC\)](#)

PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated

information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

Conclusion

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SECTION I: APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION BY THE STATE PARTY

I.1. Introduction

- a. State Party
- b. Year of ratification or acceptance of the Convention
- c. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- d. Date of the report
- e. Signature on behalf of State Party

I.2. Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

- a. National inventories
- b. Tentative List
- c. Nominations

I.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

- a. General policy development
- b. Status of services for protection, conservation and presentation
- c. Scientific and technical studies and research
- d. Measures for identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation
- e. Training

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising

I.5. Education, information and awareness building

I.6. Conclusions and recommended action

- a. Main conclusions
- b. Proposed future action(s)
- c. Responsible implementing agency(ies)
- d. Timeframe for implementation
- e. Needs for international assistance.

I.7. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section I

I.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Nepal	001
b.	Year of ratification or acceptance of the Convention: June 20, 1978 (acceptance)	002
c.	Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report: Organisation: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Person responsible: Dr Swoyambhu Man Amatya, Director General Address: Babar Mahal, Kathmandu City and post code: GPO Box 860, Kathmandu Telephone: ++ 977 1 220912, ++ 977 1 220850 Fax: ++ 977 1 227675 E-mail: dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np	003
d.	Date of the report: December 27, 2002	004
e.	Signature on behalf of the State Party Signature: Name: Dr Swoyambhu Man Amatya Function: Director General	005

I.2. Identification of the cultural and natural properties

This item refers in particular to Articles 3, 4 and 11 of the Convention regarding the identification of cultural and natural heritage and the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List.

a.	<i>National inventories</i>	
	Inventories of cultural and natural heritage of national significance form the basis for the identification of possible World Heritage properties. Indicate the organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for the preparation and updating of these national inventories (if different from those named under question 003). Organisation(s) / Institution(s): same as in 003 Person(s) responsible: Address: City and post code: Telephone: Fax: E-mail:	006

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

1.2.a continued

<p>Indicate if and to what extent inventories lists and/or registers at the local, state and/or national level exist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973: List of Protected Species of Wildlife • Royal Chitwan National Park Regulations 1974 • Rhino census 1994 and 2000 • Tiger Database 2002 based on tiger monitoring using pugmarks and camera trap techniques since 1980 • Tiger Conservation Action Plan for the Kingdom of Nepal 1999 	007
<p>Have you undertaken the preparation of lists or of national inventories on one or several of the following levels:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> NATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">STATE / PROVINCE <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> LOCAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </p> <p>NO inventory (list or registry) has been developed <input type="checkbox"/></p>	008
<p>When was (were) the inventory (inventories) compiled, please give date(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 of the NPWC Act 2029 (1973): List of Protected Species of Wildlife • Rhino census 1994 and 2000 • Tiger Database 2002 	009

<i>b. Tentative list</i>	
<p>Article 11 of the Convention refers to the submission by States Parties of inventories of properties suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List, so-called Tentative Lists. Have you submitted a Tentative List of natural and/or cultural properties in your country since your adhesion to the World Heritage Convention:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES/NO</p>	010
<p>Provide the dates of submission of the Tentative List (if any):</p> <p style="text-align: center;">His Majesty's Government of Nepal submitted the details of the properties for inclusion in the World Heritage Sites :</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 4, 1979 : Sagarmatha National Park</p> <p style="text-align: center;">July 6, 1983 : Royal Chitwan National Park</p> <p>The State Party submitted the State of Conservation Reports as follows that were noted by the World Heritage Committee with decisions</p> <p>1998</p> <p>Twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee (Kyoto, 28-29 November 1998) with regard to the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List</p> <p>1999</p>	011

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>Along with the Royal Letter of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, the Twenty-Third session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee (Marrakesh, Morocco, 29 November - 4 December 1999)</p> <p>2001 <i>Twenty-fifth session of the World Heritage Committee held in Helsinki, Finland from December 11 to 16, 2001. The reference to the Royal Chitwan National Park are III.66 to III.70.</i></p> <p>2002 <i>Twenty-sixth Session held in Paris from April 8 to 13, 2002 made a decision (# XII.10) that Nepal would invite a monitoring mission to make field observations on Kasara bridge and high tension line. At present, a reactive team is making its visits to the site. The Bureau of the World Heritage Committee had recommended that the State Party take into due consideration these suggestions and inform the Centre of its decision on the proposed transmission line and routing of the road and provide a detailed report on the status of the projects by February 1, 2002, for consideration at its 26th session in April 2002.</i></p> <p>In 1998, the State Party Nepal submitted details of the Shey Phoksundo National Park to be included in the World Heritage Site</p> <p>Provide the date of any revision made since its submission (if any):</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal made positive revisions in the two properties by declaring buffer zone as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2002 Sagarmatha National Park (buffer zone 275 square kilometer) • March 1997 Royal Chitwan National Park (buffer zone 750 square kilometer) • 2000 Shey Phoksundo National Park (buffer zone 449 square kilometer) 	012
<p>Name institution(s) responsible for identifying and delineating the properties included in the Tentative List (if different from those named under question 003):</p> <p>Organisation(s) / Institution(s): same as in 003</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>City and post code:</p> <p>Telephone:</p> <p>Fax:</p> <p>E-mail:</p>	013

I.2.b continued

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>Describe the process of preparation or revision of the Tentative List and give details (if applicable) concerning the involvement of local authorities and population:</p> <p>His Majesty 's Government of Nepal amended the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act in 1993 to include the policy of buffer zone. The buffer zone policy provides the local residents in the identified bufefr zone area with 30% to 50% revenu7e of the respective park for the community development. The government also formulated the Buffer Zone Management Regualtions 1996 and the Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999 to implement the buffer zone policy through public participation.</p> <p>The buffer zones were declared in the properties as follows :</p> <p>Sagarmatha National Park Buffer zone (WHS 120)</p> <p>Field survey: 2000-2001 Public consultation: 2001 Legal arrangements: 2001 Cabinet decision: 2001 Gazette notification: January 2002</p> <p>Royal Chitwan National Park Buffer zone (WHS 284)</p> <p>Field survey: 1996 Public consultation: 1996-1997 Legal arrangements: 1997 Cabinet decision: 1997 Gazette notification: March 1997</p> <p>Shey Phoksundo National Park Buffer zone (proposed World Heritage Site)</p> <p>Field survey: 1996-1997 Public consultation: 1997 Legal arrangements: 1997 Cabinet decision: 1998 Gazette notification: 1998</p>	014
<p>Were the local authorities consulted for the identification:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES/NO</p> <p>The Village Development Committees (VDC) and the District Development Committees (DDC) were consulted during the process.</p>	015
<p>Was the local population consulted for the identification:</p> <p>(✓) YES/NO</p> <p>The local communities were consulted during the process. Actually, buffer zone declaration in Chitwan, Sagarmatha and Shey Phoksundo was made in response to the public demands.</p>	016

c. Nominations	
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section I: Application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party

<p>List the properties that have been nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List, giving the name of the property, the date of submission and, if applicable the date of inscription or extension. Also include properties that were deferred, referred, withdrawn or not examined by the World Heritage Committee or its Bureau:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Date of submission : May 4, 1979 Name of the Property (#) : Sagarmatha National Park (120) Date of Inscription (session) : October 26, 1979 (3rd Session of the WHC)</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Date of submission : July 6, 1983 Name of the Property (#) : Royal Chitwan National Park (284) Date of Inscription (session) : November 2, 1984 (8th Session of the WHC)</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Date of submission: 1998 Name of the property: Shey Phoksundo National Park (proposed)</p>	017
<p>Please provide an analysis of the process by which these nominations are prepared, indicating also to which degree this was done in collaboration and co-operation with local authorities and people:</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal took initiative upon signing in the World Heritage Convention on June 20, 1978. The government authorities took initiatives and consulted with the local communities. The park administration has regular public consultation meetings built in the annual plans of operation. Also, the local communities are encouraged to participate in the consultation meetings as the decentralisation policy of the country. The DNPWC compiled all the technical information and submitted to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion. In the meantime, the government had already formulated the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act and regulations to manage the protected areas.</p> <p>RCNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field administration was established in 1973 • Formulation of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its amendments • Formulation of the Royal Chitwan National Parks Regulations 1974 • Created as the country's first national park on March 4, 1974 • Nomination submitted on July 6, 1983 <p>SNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulation of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its amendments • Implementation of the Forest Protection Act 1967 • Formulation of the Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 	018

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

I.2.c continued

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created as the 3rd national park of the country on July 19, 1976 • Field administration established in 1976 • Nomination submitted on May 4, 1979 <p>Shey Phoksundo National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park (3,555 sq km) established in 1981 • Opened for the international visitors since May 1989 • Application of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its amendments; the Forest Protection Act 1967; and the Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1979 • Field survey in 1990 for management plan • The management plan finalised upon consultation with the local communities during the public consultation meetings held for the feasibility of buffer zone declaration as well as management plan for the park (1997-2001) • A team of world heritage committee visited the site in 2001. 	
<p>Describe the motivation for entering into the nomination process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural beauty and superlative values of landscape and biodiversity in SNP and RCNP • Conservation of Nepal's unique biodiversity • Appreciation and recognition for Nepal's conservation efforts • Promotion of indigenous culture • Promotion of ecotourism for economic benefits to the local communities • Development of ecofriendly infrastructures such as alternate energy 	019
<p>Detail the obstacles and difficulties encountered in that process as well as the perceived benefits of World Heritage listing and the lessons learnt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugged terrain and harsh climatic conditions in the Sagarmatha National Park • Natural calamities such as flash floods in Chitwan, and glacial lakes outbursts floods in Sagarmatha • Lengthy process due to consultations at various levels, for example, Buffer Zone Management Committee to the Ministries. • Competition for use of natural resources due to subsistence farming systems and over dependence on the natural resources, such as grazing by domestic animals and wildlife • Pressure on the natural resources such as demand for timber and firewood, increasing number of vehicles and visitors 	020

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

I.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

This item refers in particular to Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention, in which States Parties recognise their duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural World Heritage and that effective and active measures are taken to this effect. Article 5 of the Convention specifies the following measures:

a.	<i>General policy development</i>	
	<p>Provide information on the adoption of policies that aim to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community, including the dates of their elaboration and implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments in 1975, 1983, 1990, 1993. • Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 • Buffer Zone Management Guideline 1999 • Royal Chitwan National Park Regulations 1974 and their amendment in 1990 • Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1980 • Sagarmatha National Park Management Plan 1981 • Royal Chitwan National Park Management Plan 1973 (produced during FAO/UNDP Wildlife Conservation Project) • Royal Chitwan National Park and Buffer Zone Management Plan (2001-2005) 	021
	<p>Provide information on the way the State Party or the relevant authorities has (have) taken steps to integrate the protection of World Heritage properties into comprehensive planning programmes. Indicate also the level on which the integration takes place (e.g. national, state / provincial or local):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sagarmatha National Park Management Plan 1981 • Royal Chitwan National Park and Buffer Zone Management Plan (2001-2005) • Five year national development plans of His Majesty's Government of Nepal (5th Plan 1975-80, 6th Plan 1980-85, 7th Plan 1985-90, 8th Plan 1992-97, 9th Plan 1999-2002) • "Building on Success" The National Conservation Strategy for Nepal 1988 • Master Plan for the Forestry Sector Nepal 1988 • Nepal Biodiversity Strategy 2002 • Nepal Biodiversity Profiles 1995 	022

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

1.3.a continued

<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>RCNP: Management of biological corridors and connectivities linking the Royal Chitwan National Park and its neighbouring protected areas namely Parsa Wildlife Reserve, Royal Bardia National Park in the Terai lowland, and the Annapurna Conservation Area, Shivapuri National Park and Langtang National Park in the mountains. The ongoing Terai Arc Landscape is a long term program initiated by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation along with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, and the Department of Forests with the coeoperation of WWF, KMTNC and other donors.</p> <p>Transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation with India linking RCNP with the Valmiki Tiger Reserve (Bihar state of India). The senior government officials representing the Nepal's Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and India's Ministry of Forest and Environment met three times between 1999 and 2002. The meetings concluded with declaration and mutual understandings on sharing conservation experiences, cooperate on poaching control and manage wildlife movement across the Nepal India international boundary.</p> <p>KMTNC with the cooperation of the His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Global Environment Facility, United Nations Foudnations and UNDP has launched the landscape level Tiger/Rhino Conservation Project linking the RCNP with the Mahabharat range in the north.</p> <p>KMTNC with the cooperation of His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Save the Tiger Fund of the US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has launched the Chitwan Habitat Restoration Project.</p> <p>SNP: Management of biological corridors and connectivities linking the Sagarmatha National Park and its neighbouring protected areas namely Makalu Barun National Park, Langtang National Park, Kangchenjunga Conservation Area and along the Himalayan crest and the Tibetan plateau</p> <p>Transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation with China for SNP linking the Qomolongma Nature Preserve (Tibetan Autonomous Region of China). The senior government officials of the Nepal's Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation met with their counterparts in 2001. The meeting concluded with declaration and mutual understandings on sharing conservation experiences, cooperate on poaching control and manage wildlife movement across the Nepal China international boundary.</p>	<p>023</p>
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b.	<i>Status of services for protection, conservation and presentation</i>	024																				
	<p>Provide information on any services for protection, conservation and presentation of heritage within the territories of the State Party which have been set up or have been substantially improved since ratification of the World Heritage Convention, if applicable:</p> <p>Following the declaration of a national park, His Majesty's Government of Nepal deployed the battalions and companies of the Royal Nepal Army in RCNP and SNP. The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority.</p> <p>RCNP</p> <p>A battalion of RNA is stationed at the Kasara headquarters and its 3 companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, RNA's network of 32 posts has been merged into 11 posts of RNA alone operates posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in RCNP is around 792 men of which approximately 25% is out of station either on leave or for training. The presence of the RNA itself has been a major factor in the protection of the property since its establishment in 1973.</p> <p>Anti-poaching operations</p> <p>In RCNP, antipoaching operations have been the major activity of the park administration. The RCNP management has a network of 4 sectors and 56 guard posts (25 under park administration, 7 under park administration and RNA, 4 under RNA, and 10 posts unguarded). The SNP management has a network of 9 guard posts (4 under park administration, 3 under park administration and RNA, 2 under RNA).</p> <p>Information centre</p> <p>Information centres have been established and managed in both the parks. The RCNP has maintained an information centre as well as modified the research stations for visitors information, such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors centre at Sauraha (accommodate around 100 visitors at a time) • Souvenir shop at Sauraha • Wildlife museum at Kasara • Crocodile rearing centre at Kasara • Elephant breeding centre at Khorsor <p>There are several information centres within the SNP operated by the park administration and the partners, such as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 1839 1214 2004"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Items</th> <th>Organisation</th> <th>Capacity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lukla</td> <td>information/souvenir</td> <td>SPCC</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monjo</td> <td>information</td> <td>SNP</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Namche bazar</td> <td>information/souvenir</td> <td>SPCC</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Namche Mandalphu</td> <td>information</td> <td>SNP</td> <td>200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Location	Items	Organisation	Capacity	Lukla	information/souvenir	SPCC	100	Monjo	information	SNP	50	Namche bazar	information/souvenir	SPCC	100	Namche Mandalphu	information	SNP	200	
Location	Items	Organisation	Capacity																			
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Namche Mandalphu	information	SNP	200																			

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Tengboche information/souvenir the monastery 100

The monasteries in the area offer facilities of visitors to pay homage and gather information about the local culture. There is also a privately run Sherpa cultural museum at Mendalphu, Namche.

The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been a major contributing factor in the protection of the property.

Tourism activities by entry tickets

In RCNP and SNP, tourism activities are regulated by the park administration. Individual visitor has to pay a park entry fee (in RCNP Rs 500 per person for 24 hours, and in SNP Rs1,000 per entry).

Public rights of way

At the time of park declaration, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has legally provided the local communities with their traditional rights of way.

In RCNP, the local people have their two traditional rights of way between Dhoba - Ghatgain via Tamar tal (14 km), and Dhruva - Bankatta (10 km). The direct beneficiaries at present are the approximately 60,000 inhabitants of 4 Village Development Committees in the Madi valley. The Dhoba – Ghatgain road is not in use at present.

In SNP, the settlements in the park boundary have their traditional rights to continue their lifestyle such as agriculture. At present, there are 63 villages and small settlements with 3,217 population dominated by the Sherpas within the park boundary.

The park is open for 2 weeks for the local people to collect thatch grass in the winter season.

The park administration of SNP provides timber and firewood for the construction of houses of local communities, and also allows free grazing of their livestock.

Buffer zone policy

Both the parks enjoy the buffer zone policy adopted by His Majesty's Government of Nepal by amending the NPWC Act in 1993. Under the policy, the Buffer Zone Management Committee receives 30% to 50% of the annual park revenue for the community development in the buffer zone.

The Buffer Zone Management Committee of RCNP started receiving park revenue shares as follows:

Rs 280,831 in 1995-96,

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>Rs24,145,331 in 1996-97, Rs24,075,096 in 1997-98, and Rs 27,271,889 in 1998-99.</p> <p>The SNP buffer zone was declared in January 2002. Upon the approval of the work plans, the SNP buffer zone management committee will receive the revenue share from the next fiscal year (2003-04).</p>																																													
<p>Give the number of staff on the national level directly involved in protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>SNP : Under the supervision of the chief warden, there are three rangers, six senior game scouts, 24 game scouts and 4 administrative staff (totaling 38 positions). The office of the SNP is manned with the following positions at present:</p> <table data-bbox="331 667 858 974"> <tr><td>Chief Warden</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Rangers</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Administrative Assistant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Accountant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Storekeeper</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Senior Game Scouts</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Game Scouts</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>Horse keeper</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Total staff members</td><td>38</td></tr> </table> <p>One company of the Royal Nepal Army is deployed for protection purposes. The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been a major contributing factor in the protection of the property. The RNA has been in operation since the establishment of the park in 1976. Their strength was only 56 men in the beginning. In 1977, the RNA started its operation with its full strength of 256 men.</p> <p>RCNP : Under the supervision of the chief warden, there are 4 assistant wardens, one veterinary doctor, one assitaant veterinarian, 18 rangers, 19 senior game scouts, 79 game scouts and 23 administrative staff. Similarly, under the park administration, there are 128 staff members in elephant management in Chitwan (including the staff members of the elephant breeding center).</p> <p>The office of the RCNP is manned with the following positions at present:</p> <table data-bbox="331 1579 858 2011"> <tr><td>Chief Warden</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Assistant Warden</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Assistant Veterinary Doctor</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Rangers</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>Overseer</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Veterinary Assistant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Administrative Assistant</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Accountant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Storekeeper</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Sub Accountant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Senior Game Scouts</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>Priest</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Game Scouts</td><td>79</td></tr> </table>	Chief Warden	1	Rangers	3	Administrative Assistant	1	Accountant	1	Storekeeper	1	Senior Game Scouts	6	Game Scouts	24	Horse keeper	1	Total staff members	38	Chief Warden	1	Assistant Warden	4	Assistant Veterinary Doctor	1	Rangers	18	Overseer	1	Veterinary Assistant	1	Administrative Assistant	3	Accountant	1	Storekeeper	9	Sub Accountant	1	Senior Game Scouts	19	Priest	1	Game Scouts	79	025
Chief Warden	1																																												
Rangers	3																																												
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Total staff members	38																																												
Chief Warden	1																																												
Assistant Warden	4																																												
Assistant Veterinary Doctor	1																																												
Rangers	18																																												
Overseer	1																																												
Veterinary Assistant	1																																												
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Accountant	1																																												
Storekeeper	9																																												
Sub Accountant	1																																												
Senior Game Scouts	19																																												
Priest	1																																												
Game Scouts	79																																												

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>Helpers 2 Drivers 2 Boat driver 2 Administrative Sub Assistant 3 Assistant Storekeeper 1 Chief of Elephant Staff 1 Elephant keepers 128 Total staff members 278</p> <p>One battalion of the Royal Nepal Army is deployed in the park for protection purposes. One company of the RNA battalion is stationed at the Kasara headquarters and its 3 other companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, RNA's network of 32 posts has been merged into 11 posts of RNA alone operates posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in RCNP is around 792 men. The presence of the RNA itself has been a major factor in the protection of the property since its establishment in 1973.</p> <p>The RNA battalion of 4 companies are under the command of Lieutenant Colonel who is under the Ministry of Defence through its Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves. The protection function of the park is conducted under a close coordination between the Chief Warden and the Lieutenant Colonel.</p> <p>At the central level, the Director General of the DNPWC and the head of Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves communicate on a regular basis.</p> <p>Assess their means to discharge their function in terms of influence on policy making and implementation:</p> <p>The park administration and the RNA protection units function as per the NPWC Act and the pertinent regulations. The major activities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in general administration and park management (antipoaching, visitor regulation, operation of research and visitor information centre, elephant stables and breeding centre in RCNP etc) • Annual public consultation meetings and implementation of buffer zone programmes, warden conference • Special activities such as Wildlife Week, World Environment Day • Direct briefing when the policy makers visit the parks • Regular staff meeting • Monitoring and Evaluation including reporting system as developed by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and the DNPWC 	026
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I.3.b continued

Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is	027
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p>working:</p> <p>The main areas of improvements are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing Management Information System • Monitoring and Evaluation including reporting system to be strengthened • Senior staff visits to be regularized • Rewards and punishments to be made more transparent • Database to be made more efficient and systematic with regular updating 	
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c.	<i>Scientific and technical studies and research</i>	
	<p>List significant scientific and technical studies or research projects of a generic nature (site specific information should be reported upon under Section II.4) that would benefit World Heritage properties, initiated or completed. Indicate also how the study results are disseminated and/or how they can be accessed:</p> <p>RCNP</p> <p>During 1970s and 1980s, majority of the research works was concentrated on the species studies. In the recent years when the buffer zone has been conceived, research works have focussed also on socio-economic aspects. Altogether there are about 50 major research works of which some are still continuing.</p> <p>The most significant research activities in RCNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhino census 1994 and 2000 • Rhino translocation to Royal Bardia National Park and Royal Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve (1987-2002) • Tiger monitoring using pugmarks and camera trapping technique • Gharial rehabilitation and release • Elephant breeding • Biological corridor • Ecotourism and Socio economic aspect of conservation in the buffer zone <p>SNP</p> <p>During the last 25 years, nearly 20 major research works have been undertaken in various field like wildlife, forestry, anthropology, high altitude environment etc.</p> <p>The most significant research activities in RCNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musk deer • Vegetation • Ecotourism • Sherpa tradition • High altitude climate 	028

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<p>List the areas where improvement would be desirable and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>The most practical improvement should be to link the scientific and technical studies with the park management. It would be beneficial for the protection of the WHS values of the park also to prepare research priority and protocol. For example, tiger study can be well conducted without using tranquilliser. In case of RCNP, the future research should also be focused on the areas which would help for antipoaching operation, management of wildlife habitat and population. Similarly, research focus in SNP should be on climate change along with vegetation and wildlife.</p>	029
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d. Measures for identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation	
<p>Does your country have specific legislation and policies concerning identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of national heritage?</p> <p>(✓)YES / NO</p>	030
<p>If YES, please give details, paying particular attention to measures concerning visitor management and development in the region:</p> <p>Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990</p> <p><i>Article 26 State Policies</i></p> <p><i>“ (4) The State shall give priority to the protection of the environment and also to the prevention of its further damage due to physical development activities by increasing the awareness of the general public about environmental cleanliness, and the State shall also make arrangements for the protection of the rare wildlife, the forests and the vegetation.”</i></p> <p>National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments in 1975, 1983, 1990, 1993: entry permit required, permission required for operating hotels/lodges/camps, public transport and conducting research</p> <p>Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996: buffer zone management committee to receive upto 50% of the park revenue</p> <p>Buffer Zone Management Guideline 1999: use of the funds such as 10% allocation for conservation education</p> <p>Royal Chitwan National Park Regulations 1974 and their amendment in 1990: entry by paying fees</p> <p>Himalayan National Parks Regulations 1980: entry permit required, permission required for operating hotels/lodges/camps, public transport</p> <p>Sagarmatha National Park Management Plan 1981: promotion of tourism, trekking and mountaineering for the economic benefits to the local people but without having detrimental impacts to the park</p> <p>Royal Chitwan National Park and Buffer Zone Management Plan (2001-2005): review of policies on concessionaire hotels and lodges, reduce tourism pressure on the park, conservation education tourism plan under preparation</p>	031

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation Act of 1982, and KMTNC Rules 1984: conserve, promote and manage natural resources; undertake the development of national parks and wildlife reserves; carry out scientific studies and research on natural resources.</p> <p>The other relevant Acts and Conventions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Protection Act 1996 • Forest Act 1993 and its amendments • Water Resources Act 1992 • Soil and Water Conservation Act 1982 • Aquatic Animal Protection Act 1961 • Ramsar Convention 1971 • Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972 • CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 1975 • Convention on Biological Diversity 1992 • Tourism Act 1977 • Mountaineering Expedition Regulations 1979 	
<p>If such measures have been taken, have they had an impact on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in your country:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, how:</p> <p>The NPWC Act 1973, its amendments and the pertinent regulations have empowered the park authority to take conservation and development programs within the park and the buffer zone. Under the legislation, the DNPWC and the park administration raise voice for the protection of the park. For example, the DNPWC and the respective park administration have voiced against the heavy construction of Kasara bridge over the Rapti river in RCNP, and Syangboche airstrip in SNP.</p> <p>The NPWC Act 1973 and the regulations have empowered the Chief Warden with special judicial powers to conduct trials and punish the poachers and illegal intruders. For example, the Chief Wardens in RCNP and SNP have sent the over 50 poachers to jails. A rhino poacher gets 15 years of imprisonment and fine of Rs100,000 or both.</p> <p>Some significant measures are follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation of visitors in the park • Regulation of the tourist facilities such as hotels/lodges, trekking, jungle drive etc. • Establishment of visitors centres in SNP and RCNP 	<p>032</p> <p>033</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation awareness in the communities and the schools • Resistance by the park authorities on the physical infrastructure development that will have detrimental impacts to the park such as concrete bridge, airports, concrete buildings, motor roads, industrial complex, irrigation scheme etc. • Buildings built to suit the local environment • Indigenous culture respected such as Vikram Baba shrine, and Balmiki Asram legendary site in RCNP, and the Tengboche and other monasteries in SNP • Promotion of Tharu culture in RCNP and Sherpa culture in SNP 	
<p>Are the local communities involved in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓)YES / NO</p>	034
<p>Describe the actions undertaken to encourage the active participation of the local communities in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage and assess their effectiveness:</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal declared buffer zone in RCNP in March 1997 and in SNP in January 2002. Under the buffer zone policy, the buffer zone management committee and the user committees have responsibilities to manage local forests. Similarly they also have responsibility to protect their heritage through public participation. The Buffer Zone Management Committee receives 30% to 50% of the park revenue for the community development.</p> <p>DNPWC with the cooperation of KMTNC, WWF, IUCN, has implemented integrated conservation and development programmes with emphasis on empowering women and disadvantaged groups, conservation education, alternate energy, and ecotourism. The annual activities of public consultation meetings and warden conference are the platforms where the local community members and the park authorities exchange their ideas for promoting the WHS values. Community involvement has enhanced the policy of promoting participation of women and specially target group, integrated conservation and development program, conservation education programs etc.</p> <p>Some examples in RCNP and SNP are as follows:</p> <p>There are 37 user committees formed in RCNP, and 3 in SNP. The user committees have prepared their annual work plans. In SNP, <i>Shingo ngawa</i> (community leader) system has been revived for timber and firewood extraction. In RCNP, there is a reward system for the best anti-poaching units. The Royal Nepal Army has its own rewarding system for their battalions and companies. The national and international media carry conservation success stories in recognition and support.</p>	035

1.3.d continued

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section I: Application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party

<p>Is the private sector involved in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage?</p>	036
<p style="text-align: right;">(✓)YES / NO</p>	
<p>Describe the actions undertaken to involve the private sector in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage sites:</p>	037
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation, recognition and promotion of Hotel Association and community forestry user groups, buffer zone management committee at the RCNP • Formation, recognition and promotion of Lodge Management Committee and community forestry user groups, User Committee, User Group, buffer zone management committee at SNP • Annual public consultation meetings in SNP and RCNP • Formation of a Buffer Zone Forum where all the Buffer Zone Management Committees and the Chief Wardens are represented. At present, there are six buffer zone as follows: <p>Buffer zone areas of national parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal Chitwan National Park 766.1 sq km • Royal Bardia National Park 328 sq km • Shey Phoksundo National Park 1,349 sq km • Sagarmatha National Park 275 sq km • Langtang National Park 420 sq km • Makalu Barun National Park 830 sq km 	
<p>Are NGO's involved in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage?</p>	038
<p style="text-align: right;">(✓)YES / NO</p>	
<p>Describe the actions undertaken to involve NGO's in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage sites:</p>	039
<p>SNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Himalayan Trust: tree plantation, hydropower, conservation education • Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee: cleaning campaign, lodge owners training, cultural promotion, awareness programs • Nepal Mountaineering Association: permission to climb the peaks under 8000m altitude • Royal Nepal Academy of Sciences and Technology (RONAST): climatic study at the high altitude • Hotels/Lodges: undertaking hospitality business • Domestic Airlines: operating small aircrafts and helicopters <p>RCNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation/Biodiversity Conservation Centre: biodiversity research, park staff training, promotion of ecotourism, public awareness • Biogas companies: promoting biogas • Hotels/Lodges: undertaking hospitality business 	

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Trust for Nature Conservation: tiger research and monitoring <p>The following organisations are involved in both the parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF: agroforestry, alternate energy and ecotourism, CITES implementation, antipoaching operations • IUCN: biodiversity conservation, CITES implementation, • Community based organisations (youth clubs, school based eco clubs, religious bodies etc): public awareness, tree plantation, forest management 	
<p>Indicate if, on the basis of the experiences gained, policy and/or legal reform is considered necessary:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>Describe why this is the case and how a new policy / legislation should be conceived:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES implementation legislation has been drafted out by considering the challenges for the protection of endangered species in the current context. A team of experts representing DNPWC officials has prepared a draft of legislation for the parliament to rectify the bill. Public consultation was also carried out at various occasions <p>DNPWC has considered development policy to protect the WHS values of the parks. Such policy will address proposed expansion of physical infrastructures such as buildings, roads, electricity etc, and private properties.</p> <p>DNPWC has considered 5th amendment of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 to include wildlife farming. The process has been initiated.</p>	<p>040</p> <p>041</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>Which other international conventions for the protection of cultural or natural heritage have been signed or ratified by the State Party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 27, 1956: <i>South East Asia and Pacific Plant Quarantine</i> (Nepal implemented the convention on February 21, 1965) • February 2, 1971: Ramsar Convention in 1987 • March 3, 1973: CITES in 1975 • September 20, 1978: World Heritage Convention • November 18, 1983: International Trade in Tropical Timber (Nepal signed on July 3, 1990) • 1983 National Conservation Strategy (framework in 1983 and preparation in 1988, and implemented for 10 years) • January 8, 1988: Asia Pacific Aquaculture Center Network • October 4, 1990: Montreal Protocol on Ozone depletion • June 12, 1992: UNCED (Nepal implemented on February 21, 1994) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) • June 17, 1994: Convention on Desertification (Nepal signed on October 12, 1995) and implemented on January 13, 1997) • July 31, 1994: Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change • January 13, 1997: Wasel Convention 	042
<p>Describe how the application of these different legal instruments is coordinated and integrated in national policies and planning:</p> <p>The legal instruments are integrated into the main strategic plans of the country such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNPWC serves as a Formation of a CITES Management Authority for Fauna. A CITES unit has been established at DNPWC. • Preparation of the National Conservation Strategy Nepal 1988 • Master Plan for the Forestry Sector Nepal 1988 • Plan for the Conservation of Ecosystems and Genetic Resources • Management Plans for RCNP and SNP • Nepal Biodiversity Strategy 2002 <p>Under the guidance of the DNPWC, RCNP and SNP prepare annual work plans to be submitted to the MFSC for budget allocation by the government. The legal instruments are applied in the implementation of the strategic and the annual work plans.</p>	043
<p>Indicate relevant scientific and technical measures that the State Party or relevant institutions within the State have taken for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>RCNP</p> <p>Buffer zone</p> <p>The buffer zone implementation since March 1997 was the major intervention to protect the core area of the park through community based natural resource management in the periphery. The most conspicuous intervention of buffer zone promoted encouraging results in mobilising public participation. The local</p>	044

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

inhabitants have turned from foes to friends of the park in about 25 years of time.

Government administration

The park administration is fully operational with a senior conservation officer as a chief warden. The office of the chief warden and the other field offices are fully established. They have a strength of 46 domestic elephants, 5 vehicles, communication network with a base stations, hand-held sets and telephones, buildings (10 at Kasara, 4 at Sauraha). The Chief Warden administers the park with a network of 4 sectors and 56 guard posts (See box #029).

Protection by the Royal Nepal Army

Since 1975, the presence of the Royal Nepal Army (RNA) has been a major factor for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities within the boundary of the park in coordination and cooperation with the park administration. Under the command of the Lieutenant Colonel, the RNA battalion is stationed at the Kasara headquarters and 3 companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, its network of 32 posts has been confined into 11 posts of which RNA operates 4 posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in the park is 792 men.

Habitat management

The annual activities of habitat management include grassland management 50ha/year since 1996, and rehabilitation of 2 wetland sites per year, plantation and habitat rehabilitation in the buffer zone, relocation of human settlements such as Padampur village.

As a part of the park management the physical infrastructures have been developed, such as over 300 km roads, 50 bridges, 4 watchtowers, visitors centre and souvenir shop at Sauraha, and a museum at Kasara.

Species management:

The park has carried out dozens of significant research works (See box #063 below). The most significant specie related works are translocation of 76 rhinoceros (72 to Bardia and 4 to Shuklaphanta). Of them 38 rhinos were translocated during 1986-96, and the rest 38 after 1997. The rhino population has significantly increased from below 100 in 1960s to 446 to 466 in 1994, and 544 in 2000.

The tiger monitoring has been a regular work in the park. The trend of tiger population is also very encouraging. The total population of tiger has increased from 46 in 1977 to 110 in 1995.

Due to conservation efforts, the population of terrestrial endangered species has improved. The population of sloth bear is 200-250 excluding cubs, and that of Gaur is 300 in the park. However, the status of aquatic species has become bleak. The sightings of Gangetic dolphins have become rare in the Narayani river. Although

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the population of Gharial crocodile was close to extinction, the breeding effort has revived its population.

SNP

Buffer zone

The buffer zone implementation since January 2002 was the major intervention to protect the core area of the park through community based natural resource management in the periphery. The most conspicuous intervention of buffer zone promoted encouraging results in mobilising public participation. The local inhabitants have been highly encouraged with this new policy intervention.

Government administration

The park administration is fully operational with a senior conservation officer as a chief warden. Regular presence of the park staff has helped manage the park, although not all the posts were filled up. The Chief Warden administers the park with the 38 posts available (*See box #033*).

Protection by the Royal Nepal Army

The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority. The Indra Dhwoj Gulm of 235 men has been operational since March 1999. Since November 2001, all the 5 posts have been merged into one post at Namche headquarters. The presence of the RNA has been major contributing factors in the protection of the property (*See box 029*).

Forest management and Tree plantation

The Himalayan Trust (HT), founded in 1960, has been the major driving force on forest management and tree plantation. The trust operates three nurseries at Phorche, Tashinga and Phurte to meet its target of planting 70,000 saplings a year. The trust nurture almost 100,000 trees each year. It has already planted more than 1 million tree saplings in the Sagarmatha National Park.

Other activities the trust undertakes include monitoring of native forest growth and the factors which influencing it (such as wild tahr), plus promoting sustainable use of forest resources to both locals and visitors.

Similarly, under the separate agreement with the WWF, a Sagarmatha Community Agroforestry Project has been launched in the buffer zone to promote community forestry.

A remarkable step taken in favour of forest conservation was the eradication of goats from the park in 1980s. The SPCC, with support of the local people and the DNPWC, purchased all the goats in the park and had them removed. An agreement was then arranged so that no more goats would be kept.

Garbage management

The Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) is a local nongovernment

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<p>organisation established in 1991 with an objective to manage garbage in the Khumbu region. The committee has managed 767,776kg of garbage during the period from 1994-95 to 1997-98, as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>1994-95</td> <td>126,373</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1995-96</td> <td>189,824</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1996-97</td> <td>242,091</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1997-98</td> <td>209,488</td> </tr> </table> <p>Amount of garbage collection has increased over the years. In 2000-01 alone, the committee collected 217,238 kg of garbage. Similarly, several voluntary organisations have carried out cleaning campaigns in the alpine slopes.</p> <p>The park administration in cooperation with the village development committees has banned bottled drinks in the park since August 1998.</p> <p>Species management:</p> <p>The wildlife population in the park has been effectively protected. The population of Himalayan tahr has been encouragingly increased in the 1990s. Its population increased from 86 in 1992 to 190 in 1996. However, the figure dropped to 130 in 1999. The sightings of musk deer and red panda have been frequently reported. Also common leopard and clouded leopards are found in the park. The wildlife population is distributed mostly in the lower elevations. Some individual musk deer have been captured and brought to wildlife research farm at Godawori, Lalitpur.</p> <p>The Sherpa community do not harm any wildlife due to their belief in Buddhism. A gang of over 2 dozens of poachers who killed over 35 musk deer by various techniques were finally arrested and sent to prison.</p> <p>The other regular activities of the park administration in RCNP and SNP include conservation education, infrastructure development and maintenance, public consultation meetings, warden conference etc.</p>	1994-95	126,373	1995-96	189,824	1996-97	242,091	1997-98	209,488	
1994-95	126,373								
1995-96	189,824								
1996-97	242,091								
1997-98	209,488								

<p>Indicate relevant financial measures that the State Party or relevant authorities have taken for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>SNP</p> <p>His Majesty's Government is the main source of funding for the regular administration and protection of the park. The fiscal year 2002-03 budget is Rs5.15 million. The only regular source of funding was the government. The five year picture of government budget, expenditure and revenue is as follows (Rs in millions):</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>1999-2000</th> <th>1999-98</th> <th>1998-97</th> <th>1997-96</th> <th>1995-94</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Budget</td> <td>4.00</td> <td>3.81</td> <td>3.51</td> <td>3.17</td> <td>3.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td>3.71</td> <td>3.46</td> <td>3.32</td> <td>2.60</td> <td>3.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue</td> <td>12.58</td> <td>4.09</td> <td>2.49</td> <td>0.40</td> <td>2.03</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(US\$ 1 = Rs 77.75 on December 27, 2002)</p> <p>The expenditure of the Royal Nepal Army in the protected areas is Rs420 million in 2002-03. The portion of the budget for the SNP is approximately 6% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure for the</p>	Year	1999-2000	1999-98	1998-97	1997-96	1995-94	Budget	4.00	3.81	3.51	3.17	3.67	Expenditure	3.71	3.46	3.32	2.60	3.64	Revenue	12.58	4.09	2.49	0.40	2.03	045
Year	1999-2000	1999-98	1998-97	1997-96	1995-94																				
Budget	4.00	3.81	3.51	3.17	3.67																				
Expenditure	3.71	3.46	3.32	2.60	3.64																				
Revenue	12.58	4.09	2.49	0.40	2.03																				

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

SNP in the year 1999-2000 was approximately Rs22 million (Rs3.71 million for administration/development and Rs18.29 for RNA operation).

Details of RNA budget are as follows (Rs in million):

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
RNA total for all PAs*	420	300	311	311
SNP component	24.71	17.65	18.29	18.29

(* PAs or the Protected Areas include 8 national parks namely Khaptad, Langtang, Rara, Royal Bardia, Royal Chitwan, Shey Phoksundo and Shivapuri; and 3 wildlife reserves namely Koshi Tappu, Parsa and Royal Shuklaphanta).

RCNP

His Majesty's Government is the main source of funding for the regular administration and protection of the park. The expenditure of the park has increased from less than Rs10 million in 1995-96 to over Rs14 million in 2001-02. The administrative expenditures fluctuated between 60% and 84% of the total expenditure. The remaining 40% to 16% expenditures were spent on development works such as buildings, roads etc.

Expenditure in Development and Administration of RCNP (1995-2003) (Rs in million)

Fiscal year	Development	Administration	Total
1995-96	3.8	6.0	9.8
1996-97	3.6	5.4	9.0
1997-98	1.5	5.6	7.1
1998-99	1.8	6.4	8.2
1999-2000	1.7	8.5	10.2
2000-01	2.4	9.2	11.6
2001-02	3.1	11.5	14.6
2002-03	2.8	11.3	14.1

(US\$ 1 = Rs 77.75 on December 27, 2002)

The expenditure of the Royal Nepal Army in the protected areas is Rs420 million in 2002-03. The portion of the budget for the RCNP is approximately 24% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure including RNA component for the RCNP in the year 2002-03 was approximately Rs113 million (Rs14.10 million for administration/development, and Rs98.82 million for RNA operations).

Details of RNA budget are as follows (Rs in million):

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
RNA total for all PAs	420	300	311	311
RCNP components	98.82	70.59	73.18	73.18

Is there an annual budget allowance for the protection and conservation of World Heritage sites in your country?

(✓) YES / NO

046

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<p>If YES, is it specifically for a property or is it part of a regular budget covering culture and environment?</p> <p>Part of the regular budget</p>	047
<p>Give detailed information on the presentation of cultural and natural heritage, which can refer to publications, internet web pages, films, stamps, postcards, books, etc. (please attach examples for all World Heritage properties, if possible):</p> <p>Website: www.dnpwc.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Samrakshan Samachar</i> bi-monthly newsletter in Nepali published by DNPWC since 1980 • <i>Wildlife Nepal</i> bi-monthly newsletter in English published by DNPWC since 1988 • <i>Prakriti</i> monthly newsletter published by KMTNC headquarters, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur since 1996 • <i>Sarasi</i> monthly newsletter in Nepali and English published by Biodiversity Conservation Centre, KMTNC, Sauraha, Chitwan since 1995 <p>The Conservation Education section of the DNPWC supports the RCNP and SNP to develop and produce promotional and educational materials.</p> <p>Films:</p> <p>RCNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Elephant's Eye View (30 minutes) • Follow that Tiger (30 minutes) • Pity the Poor Crocodile (30 minutes) • Marshes of Bharatpur (30 minutes) • Great One Horned Rhinoceros (30 minutes) • Tiger Tiger (60 minutes) • The Living Planet (60 minutes) • A Fragile Mountain (30 minutes) • Tiger Tops Elephant Breeding • Elephant Polo Tiger Tops 1991 (60 minutes) • Hunting the Hunter (30 minutes) • Rhino Translocation (30 minutes) <p>SNP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tough Near the Top (30 minutes) • Star Himalayan Balloon Over Everest Expedition 1991 • Nepal the Land of Adventures (20 minutes) • Wildlife of Nepal (30 minutes) <p>Annual reports: The DNPWC started publication of annual reports since 1991.</p> <p>Currency notes:</p>	048

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>The currency notes carry pictures of various heritage sites. The Rs 5 note carries a picture of Mt Sagarmatha. Similarly Rs100 note carries the picture of the Sagarmatha along with Mt Lhotse and Mt Nuptse. Rs 5 and Rs500 notes carry the picture of Mt Amadablam. Rs 500 note also carry a picture of the Tengboche monastery.</p>	
<p>The Nepalese currency notes are popular for their wildlife pictures. Occasionally the notes are referred to as the name of a wildlife species, such as the Rs100 note is often called a rhino. The pictures of wildlife species and their corresponding notes are as follows:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rs1: musk deer (<i>Moschus chrisogaster</i>); • Rs2: common leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>); • Rs5: yak (<i>Bos grunniens</i>); • Rs10: Black buck (<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>) • Rs20: Swamp deer (<i>Cervus duvaceli</i>) • Rs25: (national animal: cow) • Rs50: Himalayan tahr (<i>Hemitragus jemlahicus</i>) • Rs100: Rhinoceros (<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>) • Rs250: (national animal: cow) • Rs500: Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>) • Rs1,000: Elephant (<i>Elephas maximus</i>) 	
<p>Similarly there are commemorative coins carrying the pictures of various wildlife species. The Nepal Rastra Bank (reserve bank) invites a representative of the DNPWC in its committee of designing currency notes.</p>	
<p>Stamps</p>	
<p>The His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Department of Postal Services have published numerous postage stamps depicting wildlife, plants, landscapes etc of the country. They have an annual plan to publish series of wildlife, plant and landscape. The Department of Postal Services invites a representative of the DNPWC in its committee of designing postage stamps.</p>	
<p>The popular stamps carry the following wildlife species:</p>	
<p>Birds</p>	<p>Black buck</p>
<p>Elephant</p>	<p>Medicinal plants</p>
<p>Musk deer</p>	<p>Orchids</p>
<p>Rhinoceros</p>	<p>Swamp deer</p>
<p>Tiger</p>	

I.3. continued

<p>Identify areas where improvements of the measures taken for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of World Heritage properties would be</p>	<p>049</p>
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	<p>desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of biodiversity especially the indicator species such as tiger, rhino, musk deer • Mobilisation of local communities/ strengthening buffer zone programs • Updating the websites, brochures and other promotional materials that highlight WHS values 	
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<i>e.</i>	Training	
	<p>Provide information on the training and educational strategies that have been implemented within the State Party for professional capacity building:</p> <p>The MFSC has a training wing to organise incountry training for the staff members of the departments including the DNPWC. The KMTNC conducted a series of capacity building programmes for the DNPWC staff members focussing on RCNP management and the outputs are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted for 6 PhD dissertations • Published about 40 research papers • Over 100 students from the Nepal's Institute of Forestry trained in wildlife research • Over 350 local nature guides trained in ecotourism • 616 personnel of DNPWC and RNA trained in park management • 25 community members trained in medicinal herbs <p>On top of the above capacity building programmes, DNPWC has a regular staff training activities under various projects implemented by KMTNC, WWF and other partners. Recently, WWF supported DNPWC for hands on training in information technology to be incorporated in the monitoring system.</p>	050
	<p>Were training needs for institutions or individuals concerned with the protection and conservation of heritage identified?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓)YES / NO</p>	051

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

I.3.e continued

<p>If YES, list the primary needs:</p> <p>RCNP</p> <p>The followings are the training needs at present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Antipoaching operation</i> (the field staff need state-of-the-art training in intelligence on a regular basis to overcome poachers who come up with new techniques of killing animals.) • <i>Community development and conservation awareness</i> (to respond the needs of the buffer zone user committees and the council. The buffer zone residents are very demanding as they are also exposed to the open market and have) • <i>Information technology</i> (to enhance the planning, monitoring, reporting system of the park. The DNPWC has developed a digital system of monitoring, however, the field staff in RCNP need orientation training to cope with the technology.) • <i>Tourism</i> (Tourism is the major source of income of the park. In 2001/02, tourism brought Rs 38,021,352 that were nearly 91% of the total park revenue.) • <i>Elephant management</i> (Elephants are the major vehicles for patrolling in the terrain where no other machinery vehicles are appropriate. In 2001/02, they earned Rs 5,429,100 that is 13% of the total revenue. Compared to the expenses, elephant keeping is beneficial and sustainable. Its earning in 2001/02 was enough to cover 53% of the total administrative expense.) <p>SNP</p> <p>The followings are the training needs at present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community development and conservation awareness</i> (to respond the needs of the buffer zone user committees and the council. The training components should include the topics like community forestry, forest survey and mapping and user group mobilisation.) • <i>Information technology</i> (to enhance the planning, monitoring, reporting system of the park. The DNPWC has developed a digital system of monitoring, however, the field staff in SNP need orientation training to cope with the technology.) • <i>Tourism/Mountaineering policy</i> (Tourism/mountaineering is the major source of income from the park, although DNPWC collects the park entry fees only. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Mountaineering Association collect mountaineering fees.) • <i>World Heritage Site Management</i> (The park staff need orientation on how to manage world heritage sites. They also need to enhance their capacity on proposal/report writing.) <p>The professional staff and the mid-level staff members from RCNP and SNP need training in the following fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring of species and biodiversity, • data gathering and interpretation • habitat and species management 	052
<p>Were existing training opportunities in your State and in other countries identified?</p>	053

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<p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please give details:</p> <p>The DNPWC had a Memorandum of Understanding with the Dartmore National Park in the UK to promote exchange of experience with the Royal Chitwan National Park. The exchange programmes continued for 5 years (1993-1998).</p> <p>Similarly, DNPWC and RONAST have signed on December 25, 2001 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish the Everest K2 CNR research station called Pyramid Laboratory at Lobuche, SNP. Under the MOU, scientists of Nepal and Italy exchanged their experience in the high altitude scientific research. The research was initiated in 1991.</p>	054
<p>Have you developed training modules or programmes for the World Heritage sites?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, give details:</p> <p>Under the GEF support, DNPWC and KMTNC have developed a series of training curricula and trained DNPWC and RNA officials on various aspects of park management and biodiversity conservation.</p>	055 056
<p>Has staff received heritage training in or outside of your country:</p> <p>(✓) YES / NO</p> <p>Provide information on the training and educational strategies that have been implemented within the State Party for professional capacity building:</p> <p>Following the inscription of the World Heritage Sites, two senior professional staff members received post graduate study under the sponsorship of Unesco. Mr Vijaya Kattel and Mr Uday Raj Sharma did their MS in wildlife management from the University of Colorado in 1987 and University of Minnesota in 1981 respectively. Later Mr Kattel did doctoral study in Musk deer in Sagarmatha National Park, and Mr Sharma did the same in park people relation in Royal Chitwan National Park.</p> <p>Altogether 13 Chief Wardens of RCNP and SNP completed MS and or PhD from various universities mainly in the New Zealand the United States. Their names, subjects and countries are as follows (all MS except where mentioned PhD):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gopal Prasad Upadhyaya, recreation, NZ 2. Laxmi Manandhar, wildlife management, US 3. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa (PhD), recreation, NZ and US 4. Megh Bahadur Pandey, recreation, NZ 5. Mingma Norbu Sherpa, recreation, NZ and US 6. Nima Wangchuk Sherpa, rangeland management, US and NZ 7. Puran Bhakta Shrestha, recreation, NZ 8. Sher Singh Thagunna, recreation, NZ 9. Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, conservation education, US 10. Surya Bahadur Pandey, recreation, NZ 11. Tirtha Man Maskey (PhD), wildlife management and crocodile, US 	057 058

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>12. Uday Raj Sharma (PhD), wildlife management and park people relation, US 13. Vijaya Kattel (PhD), wildlife management and musk deer, US</p> <p>On top of the above capacity building programmes, DNPWC has a regular staff training activities under various projects implemented by KMTNC, WWF and other partners. At present two PhD holders and two MS holders had already left the country, and the other two PhD holders hold different positions within the MFSC in a process of regular government transfer.</p>	
<p>Give details on the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training and education in the protection, conservation, and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage (if applicable):</p> <p>The training wing of the MFSC has been transferred to the Department of Forests. The current training section conducts various training programs also for the DNPWC staff members.</p> <p>KMTNC has established a Biodiversity Conservation Centre (previously known as NECTARI and NCRTC) at Sauraha, Chitwan. Its main function is to develop and conduct training and research activities.</p> <p>DNPWC also once established a Research and Training Centre for Protected Areas in the Royal Bardia National Park. However, due to funding problems, the centre did not continue.</p>	059
<p>Describe the degree to which such training has been integrated within existing university and educational systems:</p> <p>The KMTNC training programs are linked with the universities, such as Agriculture University of Norway, University of Minnesota, University of East Anglia, Tribhuvan University and so on. The researchers are affiliated with the universities.</p> <p>The staff training programmes are for the internal capacity building.</p>	060
<p>Indicate the steps that the State has taken to encourage scientific research as a support to training and educational activities concerning heritage:</p> <p>DNPWC provides facilities for the students such as waiving of entry fees, research facilities, access to park data etc.</p>	061
<p>Identify areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>The most pressing research related need of DNPWC is to revive its comprehensive library. At the same time, the DNPWC need to collect reports, journal, documents and books on RCNP and SNP. The park administrations also need to develop their own libraries in the field.</p>	062

I.4. International cooperation and fund raising

This item refers particularly to Articles 4, 6, 17 and 18 of the Convention:

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p>Provide detailed information on the co-operation with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of the World Heritage located on their territories:</p> <p>The major partners of DNPWC in respect to SNP and RCNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID/SNV/UNDP: revise management plan and prepare buffer zone management plan and tourism plan and support buffer zone program • Eco Himal: hydropower in SNP • Frankfurt Zoological Society: Gharial breeding centre • GEF/UNDP: biological corridor linking RCNP, ICDPs in RCNP buffer zone • Himalayan Trust: forest management and education in SNP • ITNC: antipoaching, tiger monitoring • IUCN: CITES implementation, WHS monitoring, wetland policy, and capacity building • KMTNC: staff training, community development, research in RCNP • London Zoological Society: community development in RCNP • Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee: waste management in SNP • Smithsonian Institute: wildlife research • UNDP: community development and conservation in RCNP • UNESCO World Heritage Support is there for renovation of Kasara Darbar and developing it as a Conservation Education Centre • WWF: wildlife conservation in RCNP and agroforestry in SNP 	063
	<p>To summarize the information given above, please indicate the type of co-operation best describing your activities (multiple answers possible):</p> <p>Bi- and multilateral agreements (✓)</p> <p>Hosting and / or attending of international training courses / seminars (✓)</p> <p>Financial support (✓)</p> <p>Distribution of information material (please attach copy) ()</p> <p>Other (please specify): (in kinds such as vehicle, computer, GIS set, communication set etc) (✓)</p>	064
	<p>Indicate which measures have been taken to avoid damage directly or indirectly to the World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties:</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessment has been made mandatory</p>	065
	<p>Do you have World Heritage sites that have been twinned with others at national or international level:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(✓) YES / NO</p>	066
<i>1.4. continued</i>		
	<p>If YES, give details about the form of cooperation:</p> <p>The Royal Chitwan National Park has been twinned with the Dartmore National</p>	067

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<p>Park, UK. Under the twinning program, staff exchange programmes continued for 5 years (1993-1998).</p>	
<p>Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DNPWC and RONAST on December 25, 2001 for the establishment of the Everest K2 CNR research station called Pyramid Laboratory at Lobuche, SNP, there is also an exchange program between the scientists of Nepal and Italy for high altitude scientific research. The research was initiated in 1991.</p>	

<p>Have national, public and private foundations or associations been established for raising funds and donations for the protection of World Heritage:</p>	068
<p style="text-align: right;">(✓)YES / NO</p>	
<p>If YES, give details:</p>	069
<p>There are several efforts of fund raising for the WHS at the national, public and private level. The selected ones are as follows</p>	
<p>Himalayan Trust and the American Himalayan Foundation jointly work together for the SNP.</p>	
<p>The Tengboche Monastery has its own foundation to raise funds for the cultivation of medicinal plants and promotion of traditional herbal doctor.</p>	
<p>The International Trust for Nature Conservation is a foundation promoted by the Tiger Tops. The trust collects donations mainly for antipoaching operations and tiger monitoring in RCNP and other lowland parks.</p>	
<p>The King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC) was created in 1982 with a special Act in 1982 and regulations in 1984. The trust is to help the DNPWC raise funds for biodiversity conservation incountry as well as outside the country.</p>	
<p>The Hotel Association of Chitwan has created its own fund from its member hotels. They support the RCNP as and when necessary. Recently, they have donated a vehicle for antipoaching operation.</p>	
<p>Similarly, several other nongovernmental organisations raise funds for their projects. For example, SPCC raises its funds by itself. Occasionally SPCC also receives funds from the MTCA under the peak fees recycling, and from the Himalayan Adventure Trust of Japan.</p>	

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I.4. continued

<p>Has the State Party given assistance to this end? (✓) YES / NO</p>	070
<p>If YES, give details: DNPWC fully supports the national foundations and organisations to raise funds for the RCNP and SNP. For example, DNPWC recommended IUCN, KMTNC, WWF and the other organisations to raise funds from the international donors on the projects mutually agreed upon with DNPWC. DNPWC has given full access to the KMTNC, Himalayan Trust, SPCC and other organisations to conduct their activities in the parks.</p>	071
<p>Has the government made voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund, besides the mandatory ones, to globally improve the work on the Convention? YES / NO(✓)</p>	072
<p>If YES, give details such as year and amount, and indicate if they have been allocated to a particular site: Not applicable</p>	073

I.5. Education, information and awareness building

This item refers particularly to Articles 27 and 28 of the Convention on educational programmes. Information on site-specific activities and programmes should be provided under item II.4.

<p>Have steps been taken by the State Party to raise the awareness of decision-makers, property owners and/or the general public about the protection and conservation of cultural and natural heritage? (✓) YES / NO</p>	074
<p>If YES, please give details: DNPWC has a special privilege to receive audience from the Royal family members. Recently, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah visited the DNPWC headquarters in Kathmandu, and acquired information on the biodiversity conservation in the country. HRH Crown Prince is the Chairman of the KMTNC. DNPWC briefs to the every new minister with a portfolio of forest and soil conservation. Similarly, during the parliament session, the senior officers meet with the parliamentarians and update them on biodiversity conservation in the country. DNPWC has initiated the Wildlife Week (April 13-20) to mark the Nepali new year since 1995. Similarly, DNPWC always utilises the opportunities of awareness programmes targeted for the policy makers such as the Silver Jubilee Celebration of RCNP in 1998, and Silver Jubilee Celebration of SNP in 2001. In 1998, DNPWC organised a regional symposium on tiger conservation, and in 2001, DNPWC managed to declare a buffer zone in SNP.</p>	075

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

I.5 continued

<p>Provide information on education (primary, secondary and tertiary) and information programmes that have been undertaken or are planned to strengthen appreciation and respect by the population, to keep the public broadly informed of the dangers threatening the heritage and of activities carried out in pursuance of the Convention:</p> <p>Under the National Conservation Strategy Implementation Programme (1989-1997), His Majesty's Government of Nepal with the support of IUCN and other partners developed and implemented environmental education within the government curriculum. The environmental education was thus implemented right from the primary level to the tertiary level. The curriculum contains topics on heritage sites and their values. Several source books were also produced for the benefit of teachers.</p> <p>Similarly, WWF and other partners developed extracurricular activities of eco clubs in schools especially in RCNP, SNP and other selected protected areas. The activities encouraged students to participate in various field activities.</p> <p>In Nepal there are five universities as follows :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathmandu University (KU) established in November 1991 (operation since December 11, 1991) • Mahendra Sanskrit University (MSU) established in December 1986 • Pokhara University (PkU) established in 1996 • Purbanchal University (PU) established in 1995 • Tribhuvan University (TU) established 1959 <p>Except for the MSU, rest of the universities offer higher studies in environmental science. They offer Bachelor and Master level courses in environment. The course includes natural heritage sites as well. RCNP has been a popular destination for the students studying natural science.</p>	076
<p>Does the State Party participate in the UNESCO Special Project <i>Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion</i>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO (✓)</p>	077

I.6. Conclusions and recommended action

<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the identification of cultural and natural heritage properties (see item I.2.):</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal took initiative upon signing in the World Heritage Convention on June 20, 1978. The government submitted details of the properties for inclusion in the World Heritage Sites on May 4, 1979 for the Sagarmatha National Park and on July 6, 1983 for the Royal Chitwan National Park. The SNP was inscribed on October 26, 1979 by the 3rd Session of the WHC, and RCNP on November 2, 1984 by the 8th Session of the WHC. In 1998, Nepal submitted details of the Shey Phoksundo National Park to be included in the World Heritage Site. The government submitted the State of Conservation Reports of SNP and RCNP in 1998, 1999 and 2001 that were noted by the World Heritage Committee with decisions. Inventories of the properties include list of protected wildlife species 1973, tiger database 2002, rhino census in 1994 and 2000 reports.</p>	078
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

I.6. continued

	<p>His Majesty's Government revised the boundaries of SNP and RCNP to include buffer zone, such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2002 Sagarmatha National Park (buffer zone 275 square kilometer) • March 1997 Royal Chitwan National Park (buffer zone 766.1 square kilometer) • 1998 Shey Phoksundo National Park (buffer zone 1,349 square kilometer) <p>The Village Development Committees (VDC) and the District Development Committees (DDC) were consulted during the process.</p> <p>The motivation factors behind application for WHS included promotion, appreciation and recognition of conservation efforts. Similarly, promotion of ecotourism and indigenous culture was also the motivation.</p>	
	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage (see item I.3.):</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal has formulated a series of acts and regulations for the protection of national parks and wildlife. They also promote community participation.</p> <p>The most significant is the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 that has been amended four time to keep abreast of the changing context. Similarly, there are regulations for RCNP, Himalayan national parks and buffer zone. The management plans for RCNP and SNP also spell out government policy on conservation and community development.</p> <p>The government has initiated to further improve the protected areas by introducing the concept of biological corridors and transboundary cooperation for the long term management of the national parks such as RCNP and SNP.</p> <p>The park administrations in RCNP and SNP manage information centres. The RCNP manage a visitor centre, a souvenir shop and a wildlife museum. The visitors are also welcomed at the crocodile rearing centre and elephant breeding centre. The SNP administration manages two visitor centres within the park. There are also three such centres managed by SPCC and the Tengboche monastery. There is also a privately run Sherpa cultural museum.</p> <p>Rights of way</p> <p>Visitors have rights to enter into the park by paying entry fee (in RCNP Rs 500 per day per person and in SNP Rs1,000 per entry).</p> <p>At the time of park declaration, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has legally provided the local communities with their traditional rights of way. In RCNP, the</p>	079

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<p>local people have their two traditional rights of way between Dhruva - Ghatgain via Tamar tal (14 km), and Kasara - Dhruva (3.8km), Dhruva - Bankatta (10 km). In SNP, the settlements in the park boundary have their traditional rights to continue their lifestyle such as agriculture. As per the RCNP regulations, the park is open for 2 weeks for the local people to collect thatch grass in the winter season. The park administration of SNP provides timber and firewood for the construction of houses of local communities, and also allows free grazing of their livestock.</p> <p>Buffer zone policy</p> <p>Both the parks enjoy the buffer zone policy adopted by His Majesty's Government of Nepal by amending the NPWC Act in 1993. Under the policy, the Buffer Zone Management Committee receives 30% to 50% of the annual park revenue for the community development in the buffer zone.</p> <p>Staffing</p> <p>In RCNP, the chief warden supervises 4 assistant wardens, 1 veterinary doctor, 1 assistant veterinarian, 18 rangers, 19 senior game scouts, 79 game scouts and 23 administrative staff. The total number of positions in RCNP is 278. Similarly, under the park administration, there are 128 elephant management staff in Chitwan (including the staff members of the elephant breeding center). In SNP, the chief warden supervises 3 rangers, 6 senior game scouts, 24 game scouts and 4 administrative staff (totaling 38 positions).</p> <p>Royal Nepal Army RNA</p> <p>The Royal Nepal Army has taken the responsibility of protecting the national parks. There are one battalion of RNA with the strength of 792 men in RCNP and one company of 235 men in SNP. The Chief Warden and the commanders of the RNA coordinate each other and operate the guard posts. One of the major activities of RNA and the park administration is anti-poaching operations.</p> <p>The park administration and the RNA protection units function as per the NPWC Act and the pertinent regulations. The park administration organises annual public consultation meetings, and other public awareness programmes.</p> <p>There is a regular monthly reporting system between the park administration and the DNPWC. The main areas of improvements in monitoring include Management Information System.</p> <p>Research works</p> <p>In RCNP, there are about 50 major research works of which some are still continuing.</p> <p>The most significant research activities include rhino census 1994 and 2000, rhino translocation to royal bardia national park and royal shuklaphanta wildlife reserve (1987-2002), tiger monitoring using pugmarks and camera trapping technique, gharial rehabilitation and release, elephant breeding, biological corridor and socio economic aspect of conservation in the buffer zone.</p>	
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In SNP, nearly 20 major research works have been undertaken in various field like wildlife, forestry, anthropology, high altitude environment etc. The most significant research activities in RCNP include musk deer, ecotourism, Sherpa tradition and High altitude climatic.

The most practical improvement should be to link the scientific and technical studies with the park management.

In RCNP and SNP, there are both private sectors and the nongovernmental organisations active in conservation and development works. The organisations in SNP include Himalayan Trust, Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee, youth clubs, schools, Nepal Mountaineering Association, Royal Nepal Academy of Sciences and Technology (RONAST), hotels/lodges, and domestic airlines. Similarly, the organisations involved in RCNP are: King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation/Biodiversity Conservation Centre, biogas companies, youth clubs, schools, hotels/lodges and their association, 7 concessionaires including Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge.

Along with the World Heritage Convention, Nepal is a signatory to several conventions, such as South East Asia and Pacific Plant Quarantine, Ramsar Convention, CITES, International Trade in Tropical Timber, National Conservation Strategy, Asia Pacific Aquaculture Center Network, Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depletion, Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Desertification, Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change and Wasel Convention.

The scientific and technical measures undertaken by the RCNP administration include buffer zone management, antipoaching operations, habitat and species management. Similarly, the SNP administration undertakes the technical tasks of buffer zone management, antipoaching operations, forest management and tree plantation, garbage management, and species management.

Budget

His Majesty's Government is the main source of funding for the regular administration and protection of the parks. The fiscal year 2002-03 budget is Rs5,147,000. The only regular source of funding was the government. The expenditure of the Royal Nepal Army in the protected areas is Rs420 million in 2002-03. The portion of the budget for the SNP is approximately 6% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure for RNA in SNP in the year 1999-2000 was approximately Rs22 million.

The expenditure of the park has increased form less than Rs10 million in 1995-96 to over Rs14 million in 2001-02. The administrative expenditures fluctuated between 60% and 84% of the total expenditure. The remaining 40% to 16% expenditures were spent on development works such as buildings, roads etc. The portion of the budget for the RCNP is approximately 24% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure including RNA component for the RCNP in the year 2002-03 was approximately Rs113 million.

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	<p>DNPWC has used several media for information dissemination. They include a website www.dnpwc.org, and newsletters. Its Conservation Education section supports the RCNP and SNP to develop and produce promotional and educational materials. There are about 20 different films made on RCNP and SNP. The DNPWC has regularly published its annual report since 1991. The Nepalese currency notes carry pictures of wildlife species and landscapes that help disseminate WHS values. Similarly, there are numerous stamps carrying such images.</p> <p>Altogether 13 wardens of RCNP and SNP completed MS and or PhD from various universities mainly in the New Zealand the United States.</p> <p>KMTNC conducted a series of capacity building programmes for the DNPWC staff members focussing on RCNP management. They have assisted for 6 PhD dissertations and about 40 research papers. They have trained over 350 local nature guides and 616 personnel of DNPWC and RNA, and 25 community members.</p> <p>The training needs of RCNOP include antipoaching operation, community development and conservation awareness, information technology, tourism, elephant management.</p> <p>Similarly the training needs of SNP include community development and conservation awareness, information technology, tourism/Mountaineering policy, World Heritage Site Management.</p>	
	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding international co-operation and fund raising (see item I.4.):</p> <p>The major partners of DNPWC in respect to SNP and RCNP include GEF, IUCN, UNDP, DFID, UNESCO, WWF and others.</p> <p>The Royal Chitwan National Park has been twinned with the Dartmore National Park, UK. Under the twinning program, staff exchange programmes continued for 5 years (1993-1998).</p> <p>The other partners involved in fund raising include Himalayan Trust and the American Himalayan Foundation, the Tengboche Monastery, the International Trust for Nature Conservation, the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, the Hotel Association of Chitwan, SPCC and others.</p>	080
	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding education, information and awareness building (see item I.5.):</p> <p>DNPWC receives audience from the Royal family members from time to time. Recently, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah visited the DNPWC headquarters in Kathmandu, and acquired information on the biodiversity conservation in the country. HRH Crown Prince is the Chairman of the KMTNC.</p>	081

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>DNPWC briefs to the ministers and legislators on the biodiversity conservation issues in the country.</p> <p>DNPWC has initiated the Wildlife Week (April 13-20) to mark the Nepali new year since 1995. DNPWC utilises special opportunities like silver jubilee celebrations for promoting awareness</p> <p>Under the National Conservation Strategy Implementation Programme (1989-1997), IUCN has helped the government integrate environmental education courses into the school curriculum at all levels. WWF and other partners developed extracurricular activities of eco clubs in schools. All the four modern education universities of Nepal offer higher studies in the field of environmental science that help promote WHS values.</p>	
	<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>DNPWC has considered working with the universities to use the national parks as an open laboratory. RCNP and SNP have facilities to support students and researchers.</p>	082
	<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 003):</p> <p>Same as in box #003</p>	083
	<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>The timeframe will be of five-year cycle as per the standard procedures of Nepal. The management plans are for five years, such as RCNP Management Plan and the TRPAP. The buffer zone management committee and their plans are also for the period of 5 years as per the legislation.</p>	084
	<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>The World Heritage Fund will be sought for the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation education • Cultural Heritage Conservation • Research and Development • Monitoring and Evaluation 	085
	<p>Please, give an analysis of the process by which the Convention was ratified by the State Party:</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal took initiative upon signing in the World Heritage Convention on June 20, 1978. The government authorities consulted with the local communities. The DNPWC compiled all the technical information and submitted to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion. In the meantime, the government had already formulated the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act and regulations to manage the protected areas (See box # 018).</p>	086

I.6. continued

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<p>Describe the motivation, obstacles and difficulties encountered during this process:</p> <p>The motivating factors are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural beauty and superlative values of landscape and biodiversity in SNP and RCNP• Conservation of Nepal's unique biodiversity• Appreciation and recognition for Nepal's conservation efforts• Promotion of indigenous culture• Promotion of ecotourism for direct economic benefits to the local communities• Development of ecofriendly infrastructures such as alternate energy• Plough back 30 to 50% of the park revenue generated for community development in the buffer zone	087
<p>Detail the perceived benefits and lessons learnt:</p> <p>The WHS inscription of the two sites (SNP and RCNP) yielded awareness and commitments of the government and the local people. The WHS concepts brought the park administration closer with the buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs and the individuals. It helped stakeholders carry out informal self-assessment in respect to the property.</p>	088

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1.7 Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section I

	<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Yes, the responsible authorities received adequate amount of information while preparing the report. However, the information in the questionnaires is not yet sufficient in terms of numerical data. The DNPWC has good storage of information but with individual authorities. The data need to be compiled in a more systematic manner.</p>	089
	<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>The questionnaires are completely different from the regular reporting format in use at the MFSC/DNPWC. The persons who are involved in filling up the questionnaires need to spend considerable amount of time to extract information from various documents/sources to fit in the boxes.</p>	090
	<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the periodic reporting exercise?</p> <p>As mentioned above (<i>box #088</i>), the exercise yielded awareness and commitments that are more than the outputs expected from the questionnaires. The exercise brought the park administration closer with the buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs and the individuals. It helped stakeholders carry out informal self-assessment in respect to the property.</p>	091
	<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>The major expectations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity of capacity building of the stakeholders for the protection of the WH value of the park • Establishment of physical facilities like computer and intranet system for regular monitoring <p>Improvement of information dissemination including visitors centre, website linkage, publications, school programs</p>	092

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).