

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- India

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

335bis

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1988, 2005

Comment


1.3 - Geographic Information Table

| Name | Coordinates | Property (ha) | Buffer zone (ha) | Total (ha) | Inscription year |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| | 0 / 0 | ? | ? | ? | |
| | 0 / 0 | ? | ? | ? | |
| | 0 / 0 | ? | ? | ? | |
| | 0 / 0 | ? | ? | ? | |
| Nanda Devi National Park , India | 30.419 / 79.85 | 62460 | 514857 | 577317 | 1988 |
| Valley of Flowers National Park , India | 30.733 / 79.633 | 8750 | 0 | 8750 | 2005 |
| Total (ha) | | 71210 | 514857 | 586067 | |

Comment

The buffer area is 514286 ha. for both core zones and the total area is 585496 ha. There is no change in the areas of the core zones.

1.4 - Map(s)

| Title | Date | Link to source |
|--|------------|---|
| General location of nominated property | 29/01/2004 |  |

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Shri B. K. Gangte
Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks
Director

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](http://www.ndwhs.org)

Comment

<http://www.ndwhs.org>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Biosphere Reserve

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

The Draft SOUV has been submitted to be UNESCO World Heritage Center by the State Party on 31 March, 2011 and is under consideration.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(vii)(x)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

1. Criteria (vii): 'contain superlative natural phenomena and areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance'
2. Criterion (x): 'contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science and conservation'. The justification under the above criteria has been provided in the draft SOUV submitted by the State Party : India

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value has been updated in order to make it comprehensive as Valley of Flowers National Park was inscribed in 2005 in addition to Nanda Devi National Park that was inscribed in 1988.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

none

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

There is a potential threat from the development of hydropower in the mountain State of Uttarakhand as several river originate/ traverse near the World Heritage Property.

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

| | Name | Impact | | | | | Origin |
|--|---|-----------|----------|----------|--------|---------|--------|
| 3.1 | Buildings and Development | | | | | | |
| 3.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | Services Infrastructures | | | | | | |
| 3.3.1 Water infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.4 | Pollution | | | | | | |
| 3.4.5 Solid waste | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | |
| 3.5.3 Land conversion | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.4 Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.6 Commercial wild plant collection | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.7 Subsistence wild plant collection | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.9 Subsistence hunting | | | | | | | |
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | |
| 3.8.1 Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.3 Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.4 Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.5 Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | | | | | | | |
| 3.9 | Other human activities | | | | | | |
| 3.9.1 Illegal activities | | | | | | | |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | |
| 3.10.1 Storms | | | | | | | |
| 3.10.6 Temperature change | | | | | | | |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | | |
| 3.11.2 Earthquake | | | | | | | |
| 3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide | | | | | | | |
| 3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition | | | | | | | |
| 3.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | | |
| 3.12.1 Translocated species | | | | | | | |
| 3.12.5 Hyper-abundant species | | | | | | | |
| 3.13 | Management and institutional factors | | | | | | |
| 3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring activities | | | | | | | |
| 3.13.3 Management activities | | | | | | | |
| Legend | Current | Potential | Negative | Positive | Inside | Outside | |

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

| | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------|--------|---------------------|-------|
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | |

| | | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend |
|--------|--|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| 3.2.1 | Ground transport infrastructure | restricted | one off or rare | insignificant | medium capacity | static |
| 3.3 | Services Infrastructures | | | | | |
| 3.3.1 | Water infrastructure | restricted | one off or rare | insignificant | medium capacity | static |
| 3.4 | Pollution | | | | | |
| 3.4.5 | Solid waste | localised | on-going | significant | low capacity | increasing |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | |
| 3.5.3 | Land conversion | | | | | |
| 3.5.4 | Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals | localised | intermittent or sporadic | minor | medium capacity | decreasing |
| 3.5.6 | Commercial wild plant collection | localised | one off or rare | insignificant | medium capacity | static |
| 3.5.7 | Subsistence wild plant collection | localised | on-going | significant | medium capacity | decreasing |
| 3.5.9 | Subsistence hunting | localised | intermittent or sporadic | minor | medium capacity | static |
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | |
| 3.8.1 | Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses | restricted | intermittent or sporadic | minor | low capacity | static |
| 3.8.3 | Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting | localised | intermittent or sporadic | minor | medium capacity | static |
| 3.8.4 | Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | localised | on-going | minor | no capacity and / or resources | decreasing |
| 3.8.6 | Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | localised | frequent | minor | medium capacity | increasing |
| 3.9 | Other human activities | | | | | |
| 3.9.1 | Illegal activities | localised | intermittent or sporadic | minor | medium capacity | static |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | |
| 3.10.6 | Temperature change | extensive | on-going | minor | no capacity and / or resources | increasing |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | |
| 3.11.4 | Avalanche/ landslide | extensive | one off or rare | significant | no capacity and / or resources | static |
| 3.11.5 | Erosion and siltation/ deposition | localised | intermittent or sporadic | significant | no capacity and / or resources | static |
| 3.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | |
| 3.12.1 | Translocated species | restricted | one off or rare | minor | low capacity | static |
| 3.12.5 | Hyper-abundant species | localised | intermittent or sporadic | significant | low capacity | static |

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Not affecting the property as such but some invasive species in the Valley of Flowers are coming up. This are being monitored and regular intervals

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

There is a well-defined boundary of the property on the ground and in maps. The boundary are known by the management and the local people.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The Nanda Devi National Park was established as a national park with effect from 6 November 1982, the intention having been notified on 18 August 1980, under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Originally established as a game sanctuary on 7 January 1939. Land is owned by the provincial government.

The Valley of Flowers was declared a national park on 6 September 1982, under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. All rights in respect of

land (including ownership) is vested in the Government of Uttaranchal State and, in accordance with this Act, livestock grazing ceased from 1982. The Valley of Flowers was designated a core zone within the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve in February 2000, in addition to Nanda Devi National Park which was designated in 1988. UNESCO approved the addition of NDBR to its World Network of Biosphere Reserves in November 2004.

Mountaineering is regulated under State Government Order No. 997/CS/MT/2004, in accordance with new *Guidelines for Mountaineering Expeditions in Uttaranchal*. Two peaks, Rataban (6,126 m) and Ghorri Parbat (6,601 m), within the Valley of Flowers National Park are open for mountaineering, subject to permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden and special conditions.

Comment

The Nanda Devi National Park was established as a National Park on 6 November 1982, the intention having been notified on 18 August 1980, under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Originally established as a game sanctuary on 7 January 1939. The Valley of Flowers was declared a National Park on 6 September 1982, under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. All rights in respect of land (including ownership) had been settled.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an adequate or better basis for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an adequate or better basis for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides an adequate or better basis for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is excellent capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

There is excellent capacity to enforce legislation/law in the property. There is a need for better and more effective law to deal in the buffer zone and transition zone, some area of which are owned by local people. As on today, the people are

aware of the value of the property and there is some sort of self regulation in these zones.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System


A Divisional Forest Officer, who reports to the Director of Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, manages both the Valley of Flowers and Nanda Devi National Park. The overall management of the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve is based on a Landscape Management Plan for the period 2003/04 – 2012/13. This Plan is implemented through a series of annual plans prepared in consultation with relevant bodies at village, district and state levels.

The Landscape Management Plan for the Biosphere Reserve provides the overall management framework, while focusing on direct interventions in the buffer and transition zones in cooperation with local communities. Direct management intervention inside the core zones is minimal, focusing on biodiversity conservation and tourism management.

Comment

The WHS are National Parks. A ten year Management Plan for the National Parks have been prepared and are being implemented. Recently, in conjunction with the management plan for the National Parks(WHS) Five Year Perspective Plan for the Biosphere Reserve was also submitted to the Government of India for approval.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

| Title | Status | Available | Date | Link to source |
|---|--------|-----------|------------|---|
| Management Plan for Valley of Flowers National Park | N/A | Available | 29/01/2004 |  |

Comment

A ten year (2009-10 to 2018-19) Management Plans for Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks are under implementation. Five Year Perspective Plan are also being implemented in the Biosphere Reserve.

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Local communities / residents | Fair |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Fair |
| Indigenous peoples | Fair |
| Landowners | Good |
| Visitors | Fair |
| Researchers | Good |
| Tourism industry | Fair |
| Industry | Poor |

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities directly **participate** in all relevant decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples directly participate in **all relevant** decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

Many activities are being implemented in the area, especially buffer and transition zones. Participatory approaches of management are the basis of implementing these developmental activities. The village level institution like van panchayats are made the implementing agency. About 80 Self Help Groups are form where there is no effective van panchayats.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

There is no change in the legal status of the property. The property is protected by one of the strongest laws of the country, The Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

| | |
|---|----|
| Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc) | 0% |
|---|----|

| | |
|---|-----|
| International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 0% |
| Governmental (National / Federal) | 40% |
| Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State) | 55% |
| Governmental (Local / Municipal) | 0% |
| In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 0% |
| Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.) | 0% |
| Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.) | 0% |
| Other grants | 5% |

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

Funding for equipment, capacity building and awareness creation were obtained through the WII-UNESCO WHP project (2008-2012)

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **inadequate** for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **some** adequate equipment and facilities, but deficiencies in at least one key area **constrain** management at the World Heritage property

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

There are many inter-related activities done side by side for the management of the property. Many other organizations are also doing developmental activities, which are not directly related with the management of the property but have indirectly benefited the property. Such activities are helping the people in upliftment of their economic conditions

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Full-time | 90% |
| Part-time | 10% |

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Permanent | 90% |
| Seasonal | 10% |

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Paid | 95% |
| Volunteer | 5% |

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Research and monitoring | Fair |
| Promotion | Fair |
| Community outreach | Fair |
| Interpretation | Fair |
| Education | Fair |
| Visitor management | Good |
| Conservation | Good |
| Administration | Good |
| Risk preparedness | Fair |
| Tourism | Good |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Good |

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Research and monitoring | Medium |
| Promotion | Low |
| Community outreach | Low |
| Interpretation | Low |
| Education | Low |
| Visitor management | Low |
| Conservation | Medium |
| Administration | Medium |
| Risk preparedness | Medium |
| Tourism | Medium |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | High |

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is in place and **partially implemented**; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally **but most of the technical work is carried out by external staff**

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

There are vacancies in the post of the frontline staff. These vacancies are being fill-up and promotions are given to deserving candidates

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

Please see website: www.ndwhs.org

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

Please see website: www.ndwhs.org

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In one location, but **not easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

| | |
|--|---------|
| Local communities / residents | Average |
| Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property | Average |
| Local Indigenous peoples | Average |
| Local landowners | Average |
| Visitors | Average |
| Tourism industry | Poor |
| Local businesses and industries | Poor |

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **limited and ad hoc** education and awareness programme

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has **partially influenced** education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Visitor centre | Adequate |
| Site museum | Not needed |
| Information booths | Poor |
| Guided tours | Adequate |
| Trails / routes | Adequate |
| Information materials | Adequate |
| Transportation facilities | Adequate |
| Other | Adequate |

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

Debates, painting competition, drawing competition, awareness campaigns/processions are regularly held not solely related with WHS but with aim to protect and conserve forest and wildlife resources of the area. Pamphlets are made and distributed to visitors at selected locations during tourist season. There is regular interaction of local people and the staff and officers.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Last year | Minor Increase |
| Two years ago | Minor Increase |
| Three years ago | Minor Increase |
| Four years ago | Minor Increase |
| Five years ago | Minor Increase |

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

| |
|------------------------------|
| Entry tickets and registries |
| Accommodation establishments |
| Tourism industry |

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

It is clearly mentioned in the Management Plan for National Parks and Five Year Perspective Plan of the Biosphere Reserve. Do's and Don'ts for tourists while on visits to the property are clearly outlined in both the documents. Besides, signages are placed at vantage points as guides to tourists.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **limited co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

The fee collected are not directly used by the managers for the management of the property. The fee are submitted in the revenue Head and in-turn the government release fund for the management of the parks, which is the property.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated** programme of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff | Excellent |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Not applicable |
| Local communities | Average |
| Researchers | Excellent |
| NGOs | Poor |
| Industry | Not applicable |
| Local indigenous peoples | Average |

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **underway**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

There is separate fund for the management of the property. But, the property being National Parks and the area being a Biosphere Reserve, they are managed. Funds for management are received under the two heads of National Park and Biosphere Reserve. Many other developmental works are dovetailed and blended in the management of the property.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

The Valley of Flowers is one the most researched and monitored sites in the area. Reputed institutes such as the Forest Research Institute of India, Wildlife Institute of India, Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India, Survey of India constantly do monitoring and survey in the area. The Nanda Devi National Park is inaccessible, so monitoring is done once in 10 years.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

| | World Heritage criteria and attributes affected | Actions | Monitoring | Timeframe | Lead agency (and others involved) | More info / comment | |
|---------------|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 3.4 | Pollution | | | | | | |
| 3.4.5 | Solid waste | Environmental degradation of the buffer zones | solid waste collection and removal for recycling by local communities | by management | annually | local communities | Success only in the Bhyundar Valley (Valley of Flowers NP). Requires replication in Badrinath area as well |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | |
| 3.5.7 | Subsistence wild plant collection | There is regulated wild plant collection. Research permits have to be obtained from the Chief Wildlife Warden and the state Biodiversity Conservation Board. So, there is no much subsistence wild plant collection from the area | | | | | |
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | |
| 3.8.4 | Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system | With better economic standards of the people, there will be less dependence on the forests. LPGs are distributed in some villages to reduce pressure on the forests. Non-conventional energy sources are encouraged in the area. | Distribution of fuel saving devices. | Number of household using fuel saving devices. | Annually. | Park Management. | No comments. |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | |
| 3.10.6 | Temperature change | There is will minor effect in the near future. | Meteorological stations need to be established. | Collection of baseline and periodic data on meteorological parameters. | Annually. | Park Management. | No comments. |
| 3.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | | |
| 3.11.4 | Avalanche/ landslide | The area is geologically very fragile. There are sporadic landslide and avalanches in the area. | Soil stabilization measures to be taken. | Assessment of snow cover. | Annually. | Park Management. | No comments. |
| 3.11.5 | Erosion and siltation/ deposition | Erosion is quite a major concern in and around the property but may not have a direct impact on the property in the near future. | Erosion control measures need to be undertaken. | Periodic measurement of soil erosion at 'marked locations'. | 5 years | Forest Department | No comments. |

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

| 4.4 Financial and Human Resources | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------|--|
| | Actions | Timeframe | Lead agency (and others involved) | More info / comment | | |
| 4.4.3 | The budget is inadequate for management needs | Develop proposals to raise funding from other sources. If fund come as per prescription in the Management Plan and Five Perspective Plan, the management can do better upkeep of the property. | 1 year | management | none | |
| 4.6 Education, Information and Awareness Building | | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 4.6.1 | World Heritage emblem not easily visible | Display WHS emblem in signages on the route to the property and in park offices, interpretation facilities etc. One big signage of Biosphere Reserve has been put up at Vishnuprayag. WHS Emblem will be displayed at Govinghat in the near future | 1 year | Management | No comment |
| 4.6.3 | There is a limited education and awareness programme | As stated earlier, fund is always a constraint in the management of the property. There is regular campaign for the conservation of forest and biodiversity along with that of the property. | 1 year | Management and WII | No comment |
| 4.6.4 | World Heritage status has partially influenced education, information and awareness building activities | Due to constant campaigns, the people are very aware about the need for conservation and protection of flora and fauna of the area. WHS education scholarships have been provided to 50 deserving students from poor families living near the WHS | continuing process | Management and WII | No comment |

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

Not applicable (for sites inscribed exclusively under criteria vii to x)

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

The current status of the property is intact. There is well-defined boundary both in the field and on the map. The property is not liable to encroachment and disturbances in the near future.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Conservation | Very positive |
| Research and monitoring | Very positive |
| Management effectiveness | Very positive |
| Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples | Positive |
| Recognition | Very positive |
| Education | Positive |
| Infrastructure development | Positive |
| Funding for the property | Positive |
| International cooperation | Positive |
| Political support for conservation | Positive |
| Legal / Policy framework | Very positive |
| Lobbying | Positive |
| Institutional coordination | Positive |
| Security | Very positive |
| Other (please specify) | Not applicable |

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

The conservation status is of the highest order. Valley of Flowers is one of the most researched area and their is decadal monitoring in Nanda Devi. There is lot of improvement in the economic status of the people. Due to constant campaign, there is good awareness of the people about the property. Of course more and regular funding for the

conservation of the property is required. Conservation is not new to the area. This is the area where the world famous chipko movement was started

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

| |
|--|
| Governmental institution responsible for the property |
| Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff |
| Staff from other World Heritage properties |
| Indigenous peoples |
| Local community |
| External experts |
| Advisory bodies |

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

none

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| UNESCO | Very good |
| State Party Representative | Very good |
| Advisory Body | Very good |

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

| |
|---|
| The World Heritage Convention |
| The concept of Outstanding Universal Value |
| The property's Outstanding Universal Value |
| The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity |
| The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity |
| Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value |
| Monitoring and reporting |
| Management effectiveness |

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| UNESCO | Excellent |
| State Party | Excellent |
| Site Managers | Excellent |
| Advisory Bodies | Excellent |

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

• **Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance**

Reason for update: The Draft SOUV has been submitted to be UNESCO World Heritage Center by the State Party on 31 March, 2011 and is under consideration.

• **Geographic Information Table**

Reason for update: The buffer area is 514286 ha. for both core zones and the total area is 585496 ha. There is no change in the areas of the core zones.

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

none